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NEW YEAR SPECIAL NUMBER

MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. V | FRIDAY, DECEMBER 31, 1943 | No. 17

We shall not rest from our task

IN the year that is almost ended many things have happened under God's providence to make us thankful for His mercies

THE generous strength of the United States of America, the tremendous deeds of Russia, the endurance of China under her long ordeal, the fighting spirit of France re-born, and the flower of manhood and womanhood of many lands that share the burdens of our forward march—all these have played their part in the brightening of our fortunes on sea on land and in the air

SINCE I last spoke to you many things have changed. But the spirit of our people has not changed. As we were not downcast by defeat, we are not unduly exalted by victory

H.M. THE KING

WHILE we have bright visions of the future, we have no easy dreams of the days that lie close at hand. We know that much hard working and hard fighting, and, perhaps, harder working and harder fighting than ever before, are necessary for victory. We shall not rest from our task until it is nobly ended

H.M. THE KING, *in his Christmas Day broadcast*

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NEW YEAR GREETINGS TO OUR READERS

The ***Madras War Review*** wishes its numerous readers a Happy an Prosperous New Year 1944.

New Year Special Number

MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. V — FRIDAY, DECEMBER 31, 1943. — No. 17

Fifth New Year's Day of the War

H.E. SIR ARTHUR HOPE'S MESSAGE

H.E. Sir Arthur Hope, Governor of Madras, has, in response to our request, been pleased to send the following message for the New Year Special Number of the *Madras War Review* :—

GOVERNMENT HOUSE
GUINDY,
24th December 1943.

January 1st 1944 will be the fifth New Year's Day of this world-wide war.

As we look back on the year 1943 we have many reasons to rejoice.

The year has everywhere seen the enemies of the United Nations suffering severe defeats and forced to the defensive.

In the Mediterranean, the entire African continent has been cleared. Not a single German or Italian soldier remains on African soil save as a prisoner in our hands. Mussolini has fallen; and the Italian people have shown in no uncertain manner what had long been increasingly clear that they had no real heart for a war of aggression and no real sympathy with the fascist system which deliberately embarked upon it without provocation. The forces of

the United Nations now hold one third of the Italian Peninsula and are slowly but surely driving the Germans from the rest.

In Russia our Allies with incomparable skill, courage and determination have reconquered from the Germans an area as large as the whole of Germany, and are now making deadly thrusts towards Germany herself and her unwilling and uneasy Balkan satellites.

In the East, Japan has long passed her zenith, and is now fighting a grim defensive battle with an ever-increasing strain on her extremely vulnerable lines of communication. The outer ring of her defences has been pierced at more than one point, and there are signs that the inner ring will soon be gravely threatened.

What the year 1944 will bring none can tell for certain, and it would be foolish to prophesy. We trust that it will see the war in Europe won and the war in the East well on the way to a victorious conclusion.

We know that the recent meetings of Allied leaders in Cairo and Teheran, in places which themselves scarcely a year ago were in danger of falling into enemy hands, have laid plans for the final and complete destruction of the Nazi and Japanese forces.

We know too that when the time comes we must be ready to strike those final blows with all our might. There must be no slackening of our efforts. The United Nations must continue, as our leaders have said, "friends in fact, in spirit and in purpose" till we win the war and win the peace as well, so that not merely may Nazi militarism and Japanese aggression be exterminated for ever, but war itself be expunged from the dictionary of mankind.

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Arthur Hope

GOVERNOR OF MADRAS.

ANNUS MIRABILIS

IN 1918 a man was heard to say to the late Bishop of London, "Bishop, it's a glorious thing to be alive in the world to-day!" seeing that the occasion was a day shortly after our nerve-racking and costly battles at Vimy with the Hindenburg Line still looking impregnable, the sentiment must have been somewhat difficult to enthuse about. Nevertheless, it may well be repeated on January 1, 1944, for though death and ruin, cruelty and dishonour, anxiety and privation stalk the earth, it is a positive privilege to be living at this juncture. "What a year!" says one, looking back; and again, "What a year!" as one looks forward.

IN 1943 we have witnessed a series of events which must always be large-print in the world's chronicle; the immensities ahead, amorphous to-day, but ecstatically inspiring in their potential, will surely spell red-letter months in the Calendar of Time. Let us briefly review the one and project the other.

STALINGRAD, Kharkov, Orel, Kiev, Nevel, Bardia, Tripoli, Messina, Naples, Ortona, Hamburg obliterated and Berlin, Bremen, Cologne, Dusseldorf and a dozen other industrial fortresses, almost 'Hamburged'; the whole Atlantic 'covered' by Allied planes and the struggle against the 'U' boat practically won. Fascism, and its inventor, in opprobrious oblivion. The Aleutians and Kiska ours again, and New Britain like New Guinea changing hands in the right direction. Moscow and Cairo and Teheran; the Comintern disbanded and a new Soviet national anthem. The Beveridge Plan and the Hot Springs Conference. The refurbishing of hope in the flames of just revolt in France and Serbia, in Greece and Czechoslovakia and Poland. And to round things off, the Royal Navy have just made a Christmas present to The Devil, of the German battleship 'Scharnhorst.' Indeed, what a year!

WHEN Britain stood starkly alone to face the deadly and triumphant Axis, the spirit of the race embodied in its great leader, Mr. Churchill, proclaimed that we should win the war—against all seeming logic.

THAT mighty man demanded prodigious effort; the country produced it. We nearly lost Egypt; we failed to save Greece; we lost Malaya and Burma; but one-fifth of the war-stuff we sent to Russia might have saved them all. Mr. Churchill's prophecy proved true. As His Majesty said on Christmas Day, "we have tried to be worthy of our fathers." The tide turned at Stalingrad. Victory dawned in 1943. What a year!

AND India? A wise, just and most courageous man, buffeted by fortune and badgered by fortune-hunters, left these shores a few months ago after seven years of prodigious and self-sacrificing labour, too little sung. Those who heard Lord Linlithgow speak at a farewell lunch in this City realised something of his bigness compared with the shortsighted smallness of the men, and parties who with their discordant and centrifugal clamour had for two years hampered India's war-career and compromised her future. His audience were moved, too, by the sincerity of his reference to his successor, Lord Wavell, and already this "great soldier and great gentleman" has shown that at this crisis in history he considers his duty to India and the world to be not to solve academic constitutional tangles, but to unify and intensify the country's war-efforts by treating both her difficulties and ambitions as a *single* exercise ignoring the fissiparous grievances of community and party, of Province and State. In this we descry an important augury for that great desideratum, Unity in this country. Will India allow the mighty destiny to which her resources and geographical position entitle her to go by default for lack of Unity? What Director-power at the board of the 'New World Unlimited,' will bother about a sub-continent still a prey to insularities and cliques, to blatant political hucksterings and suborned agitations; where Acts of God are twisted into political stunts and where business or oratorical opportunism is the chief hallmark of influence or success, and where self-appointed leaders of half a dozen warring factions each brag that they represent the united voice of the country? 1943 has indeed been a great year if realization of this reproach and danger has reached the minds of the people, as it has that of their rulers.

OF the year we greet to-day no one can prophecy with precision or write without risk of having to swallow his words as soon as they are indited. Events immediately impend, however, of such magnitude in themselves and of such consequence to human history that cogitation becomes mere excitement and speculation approaches the vertiginous. Men by the millions, armaments and armadas, wait poised in the Impregnable Island or along the Middle Sea, to deal faithfully with the brigand system that overran Europe four years ago. Not even the Germans doubt that the walls of their Fortress are shortly to be breached; they watch destruction falling daily upon its Keep; and sickness steals into the soul of the Nazis as they await the imponderable from the West and the South, while yet they writhe in their death-struggle in the East.

JAPAN, too, already regards the oncoming year with misgiving. Their leaders speak of "mounting troubles" and implore each man of Nippon to do "five times more than his best"—jingo hysterics induced by the slow but massive Allied threat converging on their paper kingdom from South and West and North. Over thousands of ocean miles, Dominion and Commonwealth fleets collect, "trail their coat" and, their challenge unaccepted, close in on Borneo and the Phillipines, on Malaya and China, on Japan itself. It is the Japanese who now hide and dodge and withdraw, yielding island after island, air-field after air-field, cruiser, destroyer and transport, and a hundred war-planes for every ten they can shoot down.

THERE is the difference between to-day, the beginning of 1944, and the beginning of the years before it. We do not peer anxiously into it, we welcome it; we rush into it, aware of its tremendous potential, joying in the risks and confident of its effect on the history of our times, and of all times.

INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS PRISONERS OF WAR: First group of Indian prisoners of war to return from Germany.—The help and succour rendered to the Indian prisoners of war by the Red Cross will always be remembered with great thankfulness by the recipients. While in Germany the prisoners received from the Red Cross weekly packets containing food and clothing, but for which the prisoners would have certainly starved. The first contingent of Indian prisoners from Germany, whose repatriation was arranged by the Red Cross, disembarked at a port in the Middle East on the 3rd November and boarded a Red Cross train on their journey home. Prisoners of war receiving refreshments from Red Cross workers.

THE HORIZON

By 'ANONYMOUS'

"We do not see that the far horizon ahead curves backward and the lines meet in the distance behind us," says the author in this thought provoking article which deals generally with the problems of peace. He points out that war is "actually nothing but a cowardly and easier way to solve peace-time problems," as "in the social sense, front lines are more comfortable place than bread lines." Referring to the future, he says: "Whether it is days or weeks or months, we are on the verge of having to return to the difficult problems of peaceful living . . . We may soon be obliged to be cruel to be kind, to appear selfish in order to be generous, to assert our pride in order to establish our modesty, to let ourselves be branded as ignoble in order to achieve nobility, to go slowly in order to make rapid progress."

THIS is written on November 5, 1943, for publication on December 31, 1943.

In between these dates is November Eleventh. Who is to say whether history will repeat itself? By the time these lines appear the Germans may have thrown in the sponge. True the great German war machine is so huge that it might not easily collapse even if every German operating it wished devoutly that it would. But the possibility exists. One cannot write an article rejoicing in the downfall of an enemy, if, when the article appears, he is still on his feet. Nor can one shout: "All together, boys; one last hard punch and we've won" if, when the brave words appear in print, we have already knocked the enemy out.

Much of our present woe—with more to come, whatever the outcome of the war—is due to the craze for being up to date. Contemporary events are all but meaningless in themselves, yet how seldom do we relate them to the past. How seldom do we contemplate the continuity of history. We do not see that the far horizon ahead curves backward and the lines meet in the distance behind us.

For example, just this week the commentators have been saying: "There is every sign that the Germans know that they have lost the war". Meaningless. Quite meaningless. The Germans knew when they began the war that they were destined to lose it.

Or, for example, all observers agreed in 1938, that the Germans sincerely wanted peace, particularly after those observers watched the German populace weep for joy when the Munich Pact was announced. The streets were crowded with people shouting: "Praise God, we have peace!" Meaningless—or let us say, misleading.

If sign posts are to be relied upon, one must be sure that no mischievous event has, all unobserved, caused them to twist in the ground and face the wrong direction.

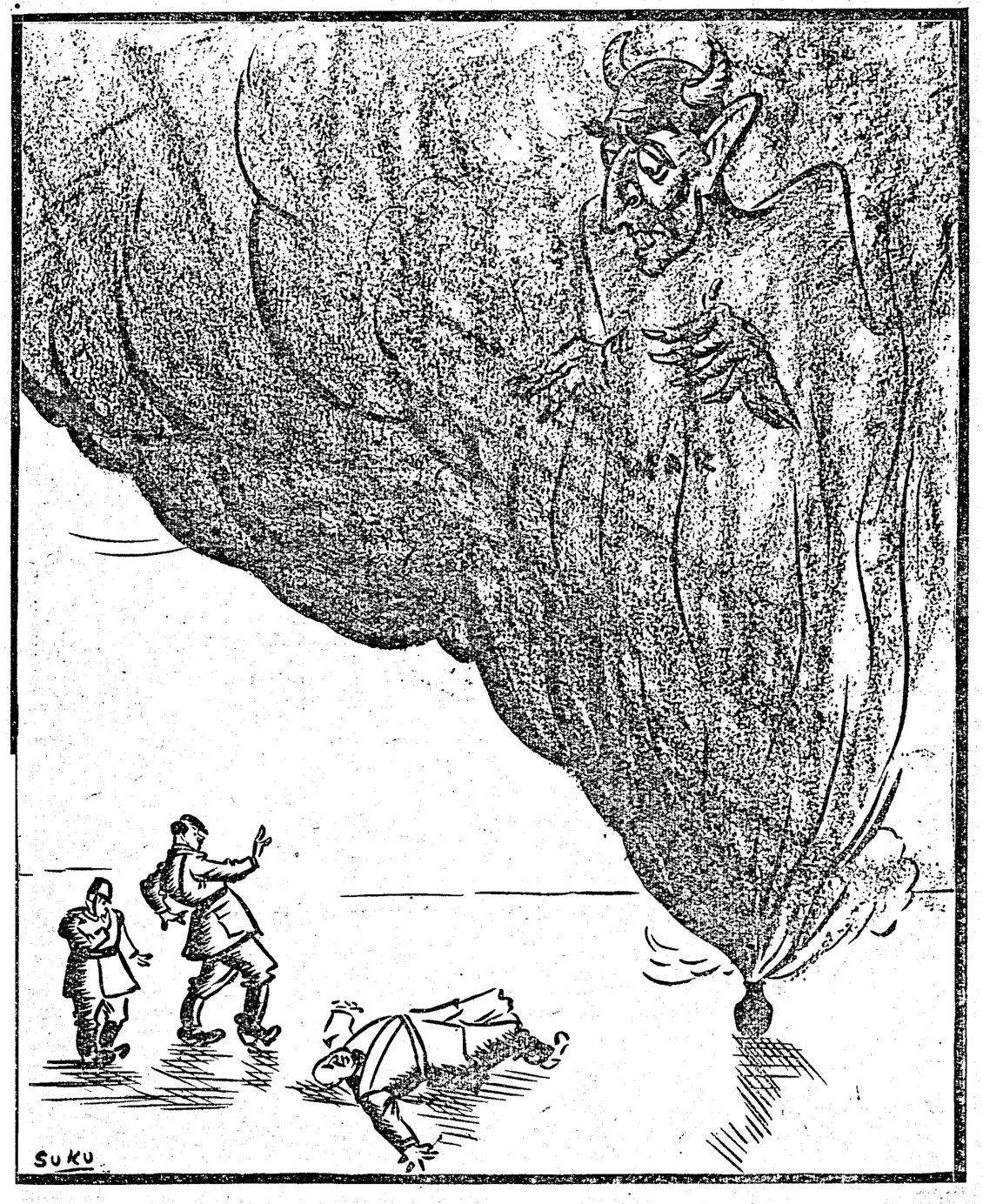
THE GERMAN WANTS HIS OWN WAY

Of course, the Germans wanted peace in 1938, or any other year one cares to name. Despite all the bombastic talk about ancient Teutonic lust for battle, the average German has had no more desire to expose himself to the horrors of war than any of the rest of us. What the average German does want, to a degree incredibly greater than that of other people, is this: he wants his own way. He is incapable of compromise, of yielding a point for the sake of harmony, of granting that other ways than his may be best suited to other people. In wanting his own way, the German wants some good things of universal worth, but he also wants to be acknowledged by his neighbours as their superior. He cannot brook contradiction, whether in petty affairs of daily life or in relation to world events. He prefers to get his own way without risk to his hide. (Naturally the Germans rejoiced in 1938; they had got what they wanted without having to fight for it.) But he wants his own way so profoundly that he would rather suffer and die than to give it up peacefully.

Pervading much of Germany's literature is the pitiful and tragic theme that the godlike German way is perennially challenged by powers of evil, that generation after generation must meet the challenge, that finally the Teutonic way will triumph, but triumph too late, for it will be the end, and the universe will be dragged into darkness with the dying German gods. So imbued with these Wagnerian fantasies are the modern Germans that they sense their doom even before embarking upon a war. They knew, in the midst of their victories of 1940, that their destiny was eventual defeat and in the whole of Germany there was no sight or sound of rejoicing.

Then why start the fight? Again, we others demonstrate our habit of lifting current events from the context. We ignore the fact that German mental processes are not the same as ours. We mawkishly sentimentalize, and say that all humanity is the same, all men are brothers, the Germans are not so different, they have been led astray by a few wicked demagogues even as we have upon occasion. This is completely incorrect. The Germans start a fight, and fight furiously, even though convinced beforehand that they will lose, because the peculiarity of the German soul is that it considers that of the two evils—war or admitting equality—war is the lesser. Many, perhaps most, Germans even take a sort of diseased pleasure in contemplating their national suffering and eventful doom. It may be the reason that they destroy so ruthlessly when they get the chance, for at

THEIR NEW YEAR WISH



OH THAT WE HAD NOT LET HIM LOOSE!

—*Specially drawn for the* MADRAS WAR REVIEW.

POST-WAR RECONSTRUCTION

RAILWAYMEN AND THEIR POSITION: A POSSIBLE REACTION

By J. F. C. REYNOLDS

IT is hardly to be expected that labour in this country will remain unaffected by that growth which has become so noticeable during the last few years, of political and social consciousness amongst people throughout the world; and if this is so in its widest interpretation it is still less to be expected in the case of Railway Labour. Railwaymen as a whole have good reason to feel that during the war years they have taken on a new status of service and duty to the country. There are several factors which have tended to bring this about, factors which have not only tended to increase their sense of importance as public servants, but which have also led them to place a much higher value upon their services to the community and their worth and status as individuals.

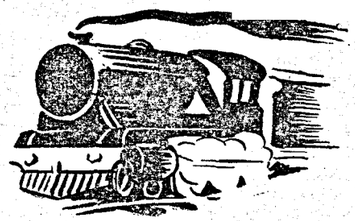
There are perhaps three main factors in our own Province which may be regarded as having been responsible for this change of outlook and which may be considered. First, Railway Labour has seen the threat of invasion of the country by the Japanese, and has come to realize the value of Railway communications from a defence standpoint, it being common now-a-days to hear Railwaymen referring to themselves as the transport soldiers on whom in the first and last resort the defence of the country must depend. From the general trend and events of the war, labour is now realizing more than it ever did before, the extent to which the movement of armies and supplies depends on lines of communication, not only on those supplying, from far to the rear, the front which is being defended, but also on those running in a transverse direction, and it is becoming clear to Railwaymen that the men who work these lines are in a sense at least as essential to the strategy of both attack and defence as the fighting services themselves.

CHANGE OF STATUS

Secondly, a change of status which in the last two years has done a great deal to bring about this appreciation of their position has been the putting of thousands of the Railwaymen of this Province into uniform, as being soldiers subject to military discipline. The value of training coupled with membership of a corporate body such as an Army unit with its common aims and interests—even to the extent to which these points may have made their influence felt in units so loosely knit together as those of the Defence of India—goes I think without saying, and service in these units cannot have been without effect on the bearing and outlook of the men who have formed them.

Thirdly, we have to consider the fact that the raising of the standard of dress as the result of the issue of uniforms cannot have been without benefit, while the extra income derived from the ration and compensatory allowances, apart altogether from amounts which may have been put by, cannot but have brought into more common use comforts and pleasures which previously were beyond the average Railwayman's pocket with corresponding increase in the standard of living. It might be suggested that an offsetting factor here is the all round rise in the cost of living, but this, in the case of the men of the Railway services, has been met by an adequate dearness allowance, a point worthy of note being the fact that the extra income from these two sources, in its tendency to raise the general standard of living, has its greatest effect in the case of the lowest paid of the Railway staff who are naturally in the greatest need of such benefit. For example, is it to be expected that a man categorized as a "menial"—an out-of-date and offensive term when the essential dignity of any honest endeavour is considered—who has been appealed to to enrol himself as a soldier, with all a soldier's responsibilities as also benefits in the shape of equipment and allowances, should be willing at the end of the war just to revert to his old position of inferiority in the life of the community?

It is common now-a-days to hear Railwaymen in India referring to themselves as Transport soldiers. The value of Railway communications to the defence of this vast country is obvious, and the putting of thousands of Railwaymen into uniforms has changed their status and raised their standard of living. What will be the position of Railwaymen after the war is over.? Mr. J. F. C. Reynolds discussses their post-war outlook in this interesting article which bears the imprint of close knowledge and insight. He feels that labour must be in a position to stand out for what it considers rightly its due without unduly affecting other interests, and says that "we may expect to see a general raising and lowering of the standards of life to a general economic level, which would ensure freedom from want and enough for all." The first step in this direction is the development of Constitutional Trades Unionism designed for the purpose of "establishing the closest possible relationship between the employee and the management and to enable its members to take and hold their place in the industrial life of the community." Mr. Reynolds lays stress on the need for acceptance of the principle that if the labourer is worthy of his hire, so also is the industry by which he is employed entitled, in turn, to an adequate return on the wage paid.



NEW IDEAS

Apart, altogether, from these three points, there is the point that the war has not, and cannot have, been without its effects in other directions, and it is certain that labour in India to-day is becoming more and more imbued with political ideals which are opposed to the capitalistic principle. It is only natural that any form of socialism must have great appeal to the vast bulk of the lower paid ranks of labour, and it is in roots such as these that in the main the growth of organized labour anywhere has had its being. Further, it is understandable that all that would appear to have been accomplished in Russia during the last 25 years and still more so apparently during the last two war years, should have an irresistable appeal to Indian Labour, especially when so many grades of labour are paid a rate of wage which is below that necessary to make it possible to maintain even an elementary standard of living. It may be years before such influences make themselves felt in the vast rural areas of the country, but in industry and wherever labour is concentrated in one place or can easily be brought under one control—as in the case of the Railways—it is unquestionable that communistic ideas (by which is meant not only an increasing realisation of the value of the individual, whatever his status, to the State, but also a growing determination that the individual in his service to the State and the community at large should be worthy of his hire), are rapidly gaining influence. It is, therefore, understandable and need to be accepted as a sign of healthy growth and evolution, that labour is becoming increasingly dissatisfied with the standards and conditions of past decades; and, while changes which have developed in other countries may have been slow in reaching India they are now here. Further it must be noted that dissatisfaction with prevailing conditions does not only exist in the higher paid classes of labour but also amongst those whom it has been customary to regard as menial from the standpoints of social status and class of employment.

All this brings us to the attitude which Railwaymen are likely to adopt at the end of the war, when it seems, they will no longer regard themselves as bound (as they claim to be at the present time), not to do anything which in the widest national and communal sense might interrupt the transport services of the country and thereby endanger not only the successful prosecution of the war but also, and in a sense equally important, the movement of foodstuffs, supplies and essential commodities generally.

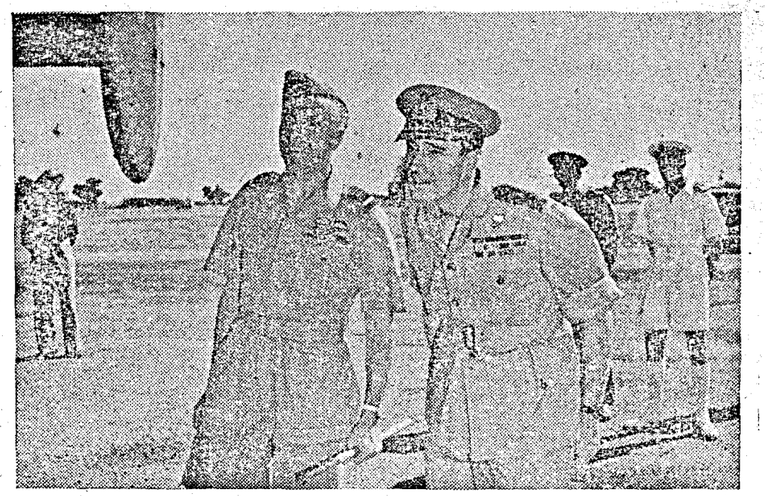
WHAT ABOUT THE FUTURE?

If, then, this is how Railwaymen are feeling about these things—and there is no doubt that they are beginning to feel about them strongly—what can be done to meet their legitimate and understandable hopes for better working and living conditions, especially when it is realized by enlightened opinion everywhere that once this war is over and done with conditions of life which were previously accepted will no longer be regarded as adequate and sufficient? It can hardly be supposed, that some Utopian ideal can be brought into being by the mere waving of a magic wand, or, if it comes to that, that the change of conditions which it is apparent has come about in Russia has been accomplished without trial, endeavour and fortitude which, in all probability, would have challenged the courage and powers of endurance of the hardiest. No man once having been created was intended to survive and evolve by his labour, and since it is certain that hope for the future rests in the increased production of all commodities, it is equally certain that this matter of production is one which admits of no short cut, work and work alone being the agency by which the raw materials available can be converted into articles of use and value.

While, therefore, improvement in conditions can only come about by applied organization, it is equally clear that the cost of production can only be allowed to increase as the result of increased wages, better living and working conditions, better and wider education, etc., as the economic position of the country as a whole is able to adapt itself to changing conditions. Railway Labour must remember that changes which would make it necessary to raise the general scale of charges in order to meet any increase in the cost of working (and it is clear that comparatively small changes could bring such a position about), could not be effected without possibly disastrous results to industry and commerce generally. If Labour were to insist on such changes at too early a stage of the reconstruction period, the consequent increases in charges will have to be borne at a time when industry is trying to establish on a permanent basis the new factories which have come into being during the war. At the same time, labour must be in a position to stand out for what it considers to be rightly its due without unduly affecting other interests, and it would seem certain that amongst the claims put forward will be a demand for a larger share than ever before in the proceeds of industry; and so, as in other countries, we may expect to see a general raising and lowering of the standards of life to a general economic level which should ensure freedom from want and enough for all.

CONSTITUTIONAL TRADES UNIONISM

The first step in this direction would appear to be a Constitutional Trades Unionism, designed not primarily for the purpose of forcing through political changes without thought for other interests, but for the purpose of establishing the closest possible relationship between the employee and the management and to enable its members to take and hold their place in the industrial life of the community. It should be carefully remarked, however, that such a relationship can hardly be brought about by the policy of vilification and public criticism such as is being followed by some labour organizations. Trades Unionism of the requisite type is not yet a common phenomenon; it is not likely to be until labour has decided to elect as its leaders men who are clear of any suspicion of being mere agitators or who wish to make use of labour for the advancement of some political ideology or other purpose of their own. Labour, in its restiveness with existing conditions, should carefully avoid intolerance of discipline and control, and forgetfulness of the axiom that if the labourer is worthy of his hire, so also is the industry by which he is employed entitled in turn to an adequate return on the wage paid, in the shape of work well and efficiently performed. Without the acceptance of this joint principle on the part of both the employee and the management it will be difficult for India to build up, during and after the post-war reconstruction period, that wealth and prosperity which should be hers. Trades Unions are rightly telling their members at the present time to keep up the rate of production in order to ensure a successful conclusion of the war; similar action on their part will certainly be necessary after the war on all its fronts has been won, in order to establish conditions in industry which will ensure future well-being and content. Such conditions cannot be brought into being by the simple expedient of less work and more pay; only hard work and patient endeavour on the part of everyone down to the humblest member of the community, can bring about this great desideratum.



What was it? The cameraman doesn't know, but he caught Lord Louis Mountbatten, the Supreme Commander, South-East Asia Command, and Air Chief Marshal Sir Richard Peirse, interested and amused by an incident recently at an airfield in India.

INDIANS LOOK AFTER POLISH EVACUEES

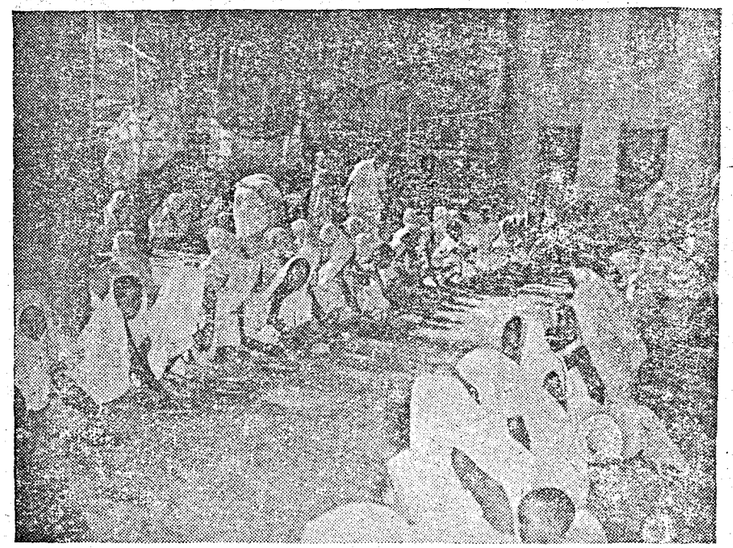
The men of an Indian Army Medical Unit, now back in India after two years' service overseas, were in charge of 60,000 sick and weary Pole evacuees for eight months in a camp on the Caspian coast.

A mere handful, these men had work continuously day and night to attend to the needs of the large number of evacuees who included men, women and children of all ages.

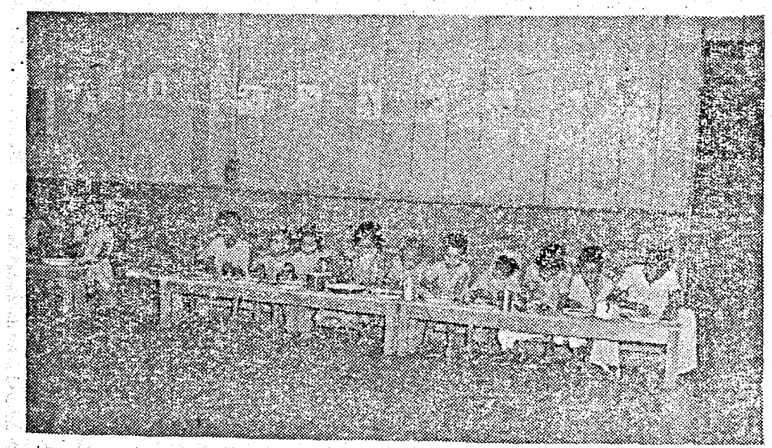
General Anders, the Commander-in-Chief of the Polish Army in the East, paid a personal tribute to the work and success of the Indian unit.

The care of the children was no easy matter and a special camp had to be organized for them. So thorough and efficient was the working of this camp that some Poles remarked, "Indian soldiers made a better job of it than the children's parents could have."

The Officer Commanding of the unit has been awarded the O.B.E. One of the men has received the M.B.E., while the head cook and five others have been mentioned in despatches.



BENGAL RELIEF.—The Ballygunj Relief Home, run under the joint auspices of the Daridra Bhandab Bhandar and the Ballygunj Institute, provides relief for over 1,000 destitutes who are housed in a large and well-ventilated building on Fern Road, Ballygunj. A feature of the Home, which is being run with the aid of funds from the Government as well as from the public, is that the destitutes themselves prepare and serve their food. Photo shows *destitutes being fed in the compound of the Home at meals time.*



BENGAL RELIEF.—The Bengal Social Service League and Friends' Ambulance Unit, Calcutta, are jointly running a canteen intended for the poor inhabitants of a basti round Raja Dinandra Street, Calcutta. Meals are provided on the ticket system, and cost one pice per meal. Eggs and vegetables are served thrice a week and meat, twice a week. They hope to supplement the diet with Shark Liver Oil. Photo shows *Children having their food.*

ALLEVIATING DISTRESS IN BENGAL.—Relief measures are being taken in Bengal which have improved the food situation to a great extent. Official and non-official organizations working in co-operation are doing everything possible to alleviate distress and suffering. Photo shows *boats loaded with rice on a coastal canal in Contai.*

A NAGA ENTERTAINMENT

WILD HEADGEAR that recalled stories of North American Red Indians; shy women wearing short, colourful longyis (skirts); outside, over their heads a fighter plane roaring its way back to its base after a job on Japanese positions.

This was the setting to a dance recently given by the Kabu Nagas, descendants of a former head-hunter tribe in Assam's Naga Hills to a group of patients, British and Indian, in a Base Hospital on the Assam-Burma border.

The Nagas had tramped nearly three days from their village homes in their wild country. Together with their shy partners they danced and entertained the troops in hospital unconscious of the roaring plane above them.

MADRASSIS WIN 880 YARDS.

Sportsmen from the north, south and east of India recently competed with one another at a mammoth army-civil sports meeting somewhere in South India.

Rarely has provincial feeling run so high with so little detriment to national unity, Madrassi soldiers and civilians burning to see their own candidates win, nevertheless cheered victors from the Punjab and Bengal.

When Ftr. M. V. Ramaswami of Orayur, [Trichinopoly District] carried off the first prize for the 880 yards, and Gnr. K. Kotiya of Sadalwara [Guntur District], another Madrassi, ran him a close second, loud applause was heard to come from Punjabis and Bengalis.

An impressive P.T. display in which Indian soldiers of all three provinces participated, was vociferously cheered and the large open playground echoed to mixed cries of Tamil, Telugu, Punjabi and Bengali jubilation.

MADRASSI SOLDIER COOKS

Men of a field company of the Madras Sappers and Miners, somewhere on the Assam-Burma border have solved the problem of how to remain Madrassi, though thousands of miles from home. They turn cook in their spare time and the canteen caters for all Madras.

This is one of the few places where too many cooks do not spoil the 'dossais' or the 'uppuma' or the 'vadai,' for the cooks are all Madrassis and many Madrassi cooks mean many chillies. To the Madrassi soldier chillies are what salt is to his British comrade-at-arms.

The men work hard and eat well, both healthy signs. Great importance attaches to the quality of the food they eat. Sapper Krishnan of Mysore was universally elected Canteen cook on the excellence of his cooking. He is ably assisted by L/Nk. Arokyam who in working hours is a skilled fitter. Cooks in peace, both men are now skilled sappers, but can still ply their peace-time calling with enthusiasm.

The big point about this co-operative feeding is that food costs a good deal less than it would at any public restaurant. No one is out to make a profit, and though the men feed plentifully and well, canteen funds are rising.

On Saturdays, Bhajana having been performed at the men's temple, food is distributed free, which means that the canteen has been hard at work all day turning out sweets and savouries.

Madras's generous donation: Bengal Governor's appreciation

GOVERNOR OF BENGAL

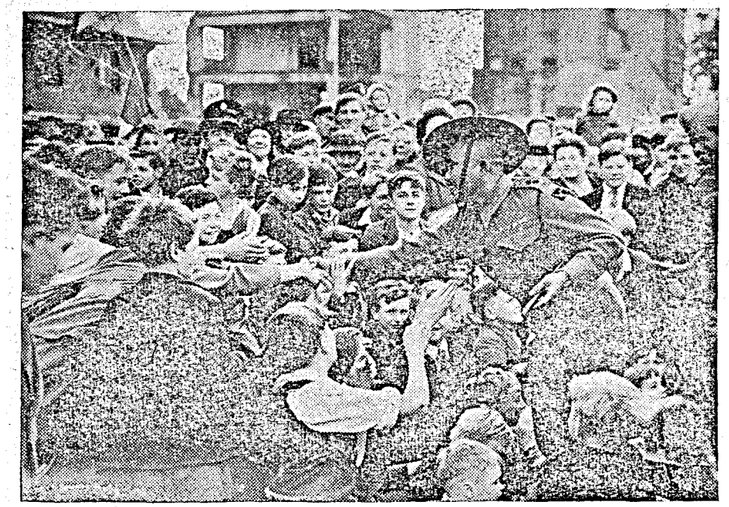
GOVERNMENT HOUSE.
CALCUTTA
The 17th December 1943.

My dear Hope,

On behalf of the Government and people of Bengal, I write to express my very sincere gratitude and appreciation to the Members of the Madras War Fund Committee for their most generous donation of Rs.50,000/- towards the relief of distress in this Province. My Committee has decided to allocate Rs.35,000/- of this sum for the purchase of clothing for destitute children, and a further Rs.5,000/- for the subsidy of milk kitchens in one of the worst affected districts. The remaining Rs.10,000/- is held for similar purposes.

Yours sincerely
T. G. Rutherford

His Excellency the Hon'ble
Sir Arthur Hope, GCIE, MC,
Governor of Madras.



Subhadar Lalbahadur Thapa, Indian V.C., shaking hands with Shoreditch.

LONDON WELCOMES INDIAN HEROES

By JOHN L. YOUNG

TEN thousand men, women and children gathered on an open space in the East End of London to watch a small company of soldiers file on to an improvised wooden platform, and to hear a Cockney mayor make a speech about these fighting men.

To the soldiers the event began as just another item in a crowded programme of receptions, ceremonies and demonstrations for they were being entertained for a fortnight in London before leaving for a tour of the workshops and shipyards of Britain; but it ended, as some of them remarked later, as one of the most enjoyable and thrilling events of their tour.

The soldiers were men of the 4th Indian Division: mainly Moslems, Sikhs, Rajputs and Gurkhas who, gathered together from the hills and plains of India and the independent state of Nepal, had helped to fight the Italians out of Abyssinia, chased the Italo-German forces across 1,600 miles of the North African desert and finally to push the remnants of Rommel's Africa Corps off the tip of Tunisia into the Mediterranean. Thirty of them had been chosen as representatives of the Division to see Britain at work and to let the people of the United Kingdom see in the flesh the heroes of whose war exploits so much had been read and heard.

Most of the Indian troops had never before visited the centre of the Empire; most of them, indeed, had never before seen a western country. Many of them had come, through battle, from quiet farms in the hills and plains of India to this noisy capital of the British Empire.

AMID LONDON'S SHATTERED HOMES

From the platform they looked out on an open space which had once been crowded, even overcrowded, with houses and flats and shops clustering round an old building, the Britannia Theatre of Hoxton, in which, for eighty years before it was smashed by bombs, East Enders had enjoyed broad comedy and strong melodrama. All around the site they saw the battered remains of small homes; one side of the open space was overshadowed by the shell of a great grey concrete block of flats.

Drawn up on the open space before them, in squares, were squads of Air Raid Wardens in their navy blue uniforms, sky-blue-clad boys of the Air Training Corps, women of the Women's Voluntary Services in their olive green and maroon, men of the Home Guard in battle dress; men and women, boys and girls, who had lived in those shattered houses and flats, who had fought the sky-raiders and had rescued their buried neighbours from the debris of broken homes. The balconies of the flats, the roofs of the air-raid shelters, were crowded with children, many of whom—as an American writer has said—had, while still in short pants, experienced more of the clatter and danger of battle than many a fully trained soldier during World War I. On the platform sat the mayors—two of them women—of five of the East End boroughs which had suffered most in the raids.

Until the Indian soldiers arrived in a camouflaged motor-coach, the ensign of the Royal Air Force had flown over the scene. Then, as they filed to the platform amid the cheering crowds, a trumpeter had sounded the call, the Royal Air Force ensign was lowered, and the Indian flag broken to flutter in the breeze.

MOBBED BY CHILDREN

After the Mayor of Shoreditch had made his speech of welcome through microphones which carried his voice to the farthest corners of the open space, each Indian soldier was introduced by name to the crowd, as he marched forward smartly, saluted and shook hands with the Mayor, and then saluted the crowds; and each was given a great cheer from the people, who gave a specially enthusiastic welcome to the little Gurkha who wore the ribbon of the Victoria Cross on his breast. As they stepped down from the platform to be driven to Shoreditch Town Hall to have tea with the mayors, the children crowded round, almost mobbing them for the simple privilege of shaking them by the hand. Later, the same crowd gathered again outside the Town Hall to give them a farewell cheer as, after seeing a cinema show, the men of the 4th Indian Division were driven back through the City of London to their hotel.

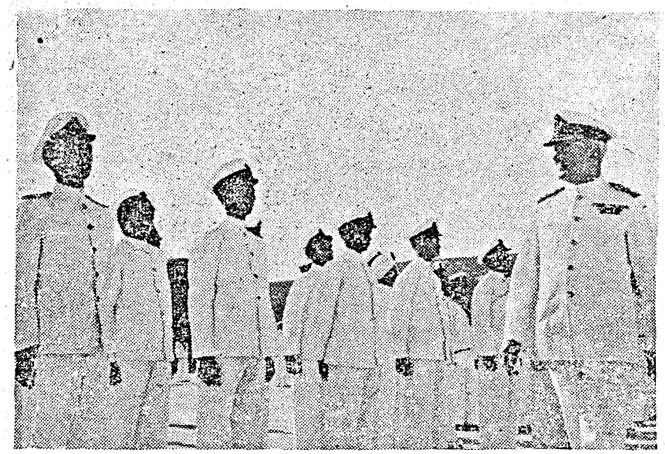
During the preceding days of their tour they had been welcomed and feted by princes and peers, by statesmen and by the Lord Mayor of London in his own Mansion House. But none of these ceremonies gave them such a thrill as this spontaneous reception on their own ground by the 10,000 men and women of five of the most-bombed boroughs of East London.

ON COMMON GROUND

These men of the 4th Indian Division, visiting Britain, have been spoken of as "Ambassadors of Empire." The description is inapt, if not inept. The word "Ambassador" recalls a formal figure, representing States rather than people, courts rather than homes. These men of the 4th Indian Division came to Britain as typical of the ordinary men of India and Nepal, men who have left their quiet farms and homes to fight for freedom; and it was not merely an Empire but a commonwealth—a commonwealth of common life, common aspirations—which met in the East End of London that day. The meeting of the score or so of Indian soldiers with the 10,000 East Enders was symbolic of the meeting of the men and women of East and West on the common ground of suffering and courage. They just shook hands with each other and, where language failed, grinned in fellowship at one another across their differences of faith and creed and race. A bridge between them was formed by a handful of European soldiers of the 4th Indian Division, some of whom had gone from these very East End boroughs across the seas to India, to fight their way back as comrades-in-arms with the fighting Moslems, Sikhs, Rajputs and Gurkhas.

When victory comes, Englishman and Indian, with their brothers of the British Empire, their allies of America, Russia and China and of the liberated countries of the Continent and the Pacific will march in ceremonial parade through the capitals of East and West to celebrate the downfall of tyranny and the beginning of a new world. They will march with pomp and circumstance, flags flying, bands playing, Kings and Presidents taking the salute.

INDIAN TROOPS IN EAST END.—Men of the famous Fourth Indian Division from North Africa were given enthusiastic welcome when they took part in a march in the East End streets. Afterwards they attended a reception in the Shoreditch Town Hall. Picture shows Indian troops of the famous Fourth Division marching through Shoreditch.



NEW R.I.N. GUNNERY SCHOOL OPENED AT KARACHI BY VICE-ADMIRAL GODFREY.—H.M.I.S. HIMALAYA, *the Royal Indian Navy's new Gunnery School at Karachi, was opened at the end of November by the Flag Officer Commanding Vice-Admiral J. H. Godfrey, C.B., R.N. Spacious lecture rooms, equipped with the most modern training devices, are designed to give India's naval gunners the benefit of experience gained in action in this war. Merchant seamen will also attend courses of instruction at H.M.I.S.* HIMALAYA. *Photo shows Vice-Admiral Godfrey inspecting a parade of R.I.N. officers and ratings from all parts of India.*

NEW TRAINING SCHOOL FOR NAVAL GUNNERY

ON a sun-flecked parade ground filled by keen young Naval Officers and men Vice-Admiral J. H. Godfrey, Flag Officer Commanding the Royal Indian Navy, opened at Karachi some time back, the latest of the Navy's new training establishments, the Gunnery School. In accordance with Naval custom the ship is organized and described as a ship, bearing the name H.M.I.S. *Himalaya.*

Ranged around the scene of the ceremony were lofty, impressive blocks of buildings that will be called after men distinguished in Indian Naval history. Here are rooms fitted with the latest equipment for enabling officers and men to master the theory of gunnery in detail. Mechanism of astonishing ingenuity will assist them in their training. Other rooms are fitted for instruction in the various types of ammunition and in the many other subjects with which a Naval gunner must be familiar. The most modern weapons of their type are available for practice in the handling of the Navy's guns. In another part of the establishment classes are taught by means of the most up-to-date equipment to direct unerring fire at hostile aircraft approaching our warships and the merchant shipping they protect. In every branch of gunnery accuracy and speed are essential, and the new School has the facilities and the skilled instructional staff to train a greatly increased number of gunners who will display those qualities in defence of India's shores and sea routes.

The Gunnery School has in the past been located in Bombay. Despite the cramped accommodation, the training given there was, in Admiral Godfrey's words at the opening ceremony, extremely good. India's warships have proved

PAYMENT OF FAMILY ALLOTMENT OF INDIAN TROOPS

The payment of family allotments of Indian ranks serving in the various theatres of war will in future be greatly speeded up. The military authorities will send money orders for such families between the 5th and the 28th of the month prior to the one in which payment is actually due.

To avoid congestion in post offices and to ensure that all payments will be concluded by the last day of the month prior to that in which payment is normally due, the despatch of these money orders will be regulated.

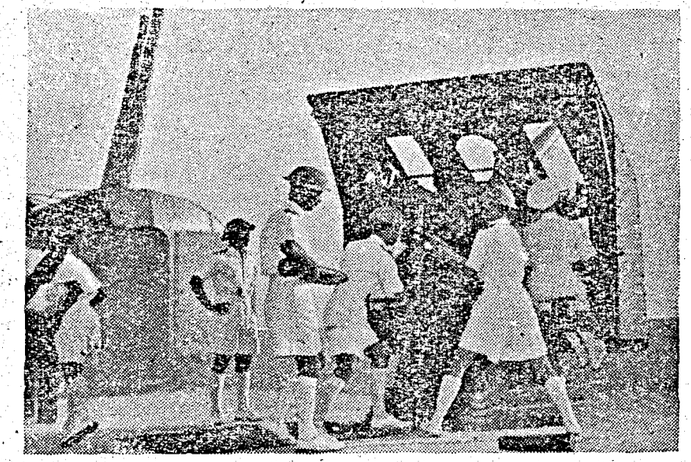
that again and again in the present war. The gallant and successful actions fought by H.M.I.S. *Sutlej*, H.M.I.S. *Jumna* and H.M.I.S. *Bengal* may be instanced. But the Gunnery School needed more accommodation for its greatly expanded classes and equipment—and found it in the impressive set of buildings that are its new home at Karachi.

White and Navy blue were the dominating colours at the ceremony with which the School was opened. The White Ensign and the Admiral's flag flew from a tall mast on the quarter-deck—a platform like structure at one end of the parade ground. In front were officers and men of the School, with a number of young sailors from the Boys' Training Establishments, H.M.I.S. *Bahadur* and H.M.I.S. *Dhawar*. All wore spotlessly white Uniform. When the Admiral had inspected the guard, whose movements were as precise as a machine's, he stepped on the quarter-deck and delivered a short speech in which he said that it was particularly opportune that, at a time when the Allies were able to give more attention to the war with Japan, we had in India a gunnery school equipped with the latest and most modern appliances. The Admiral mentioned that the School also specialised in the teaching of rifle and machine gun drill, as well as all those drills that played a large part in making a disciplined force. The Royal Indian Navy now recruited men from all over India, and in training them the Gunnery School would play an increasing part.

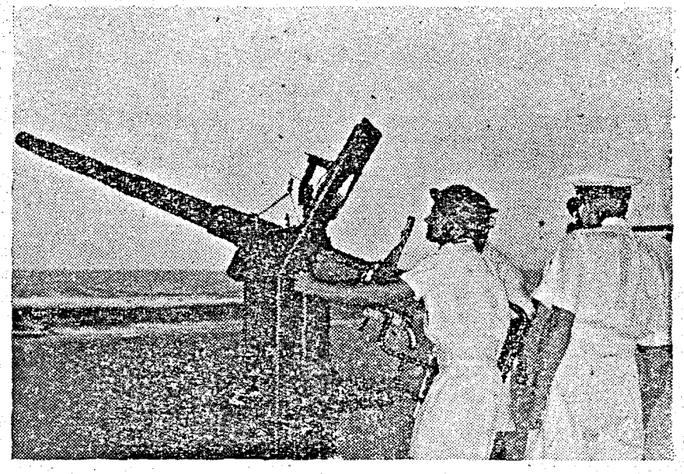
After the ceremony officers and ratings manned some of the guns and gave the guests a realistic impression of the scene on board a warship during an encounter with the enemy. Targets towed by aircraft as well as stationary targets were fired on, and the visitors were able to observe the rapidity and precision with which well trained gun crews go into action.

Later in the evening the ratings from other Royal Indian Navy establishments were entertained to tea by the ratings of H.M.I.S. *Himalaya*. A visit to guests and hosts was paid by Admiral Godfrey, accompanied by the Commanding Officer of H.M.I.S. *Himalaya* (Commander J. E. Cornish, R.I.N.) and other Naval Officers. All who attended the ceremony were able to see that much thought has been given to the welfare of men attached to the school. Ratings have well planned, comfortable sleeping quarters, mess rooms and reading rooms, all providing ideal conditions for off duty hours. In the kitchens everything has been done to promote efficiency in supplying excellent meals. For recreation facilities in plenty exist. The officers, commissioned and warrant, have well laid out quarters with messes, ward room, etc. Every building in the School, and every part of it, is bright and airy and carefully designed for its purpose. The environment is one that will encourage all to do their best.

The opening of the new Gunnery School is a notable land-mark in the development of India's Navy and of India's war effort as a whole.



A demonstration of "action stations" at an anti-aircraft mounting in the school.



Manning a gun at the new R.I.N. training establishment at Karachi.

HATS OFF TO THE SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES OF MADRAS PRESIDENCY!

An appeal sponsord by the JOINT WAR ORGANIZATION OF THE INDIAN RED CROSS AND ST. JOHN AMBULANCE on NOVEMBER 8TH, 1943, has indeed revealed the generous impulses and the soundness of heart of the younger generation of the Madras Presidency. This day was fixed upon as a "ONE-ANNA-CONTRIBUTION-DAY" for the School and College students in all the districts of the Presidency for the provision of X-RAY and other HOSPITAL APPARATUS. Public and private institutions heartily co-operated in this enterprise and helped to return the splendid total of Rs. 29,400 and odd. The amounts that came in ranged from two annas to 400 rupees. Letters received from Headmasters of some of the poorer schools show that even the poorest children contributed their mite in one pie coins or quarter-anna bits. These figures indicate that young folk in South India can discern and appreciate a good cause when it is presented to them.

The whole enterprise was calculated both to give children a chance of helping forward a noble cause and also to educating their impressionable minds on a great humanitarian project. Amongst the parents of these young donors, there are obviously hundreds of the poorest of the poor who are worthy followers of the noble Indian tradition of cheerful and willing giving; the impulse merely has to be evoked by adequate and timely presentation of a good cause.

QUEEN VICTORIA'S OWN SAPPERS & MINERS

By CAPT. E. G. F. WILKS

FROM the report of an officer of the Queen Victoria's Own Sappers and Miners:—

"Orders were received for 300 Sappers to go to Hessarghatta to work under the Mysore Public Works Department and minimise the damage sustained by the bund. The work was carried out."

Behind this bald report is a story of clockwork efficiency, perfect direction, and amazing engineering skill.

Actually 340 men of all ranks were put on to the job. In brief it meant that the water-supply for a very considerable number of consumers in the area was running away, and the Mysore Government wanted it stopped.

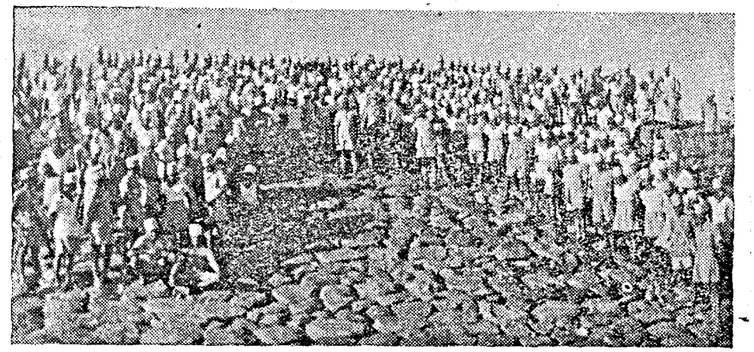
A reservoir, and a slice of revenue was at stake, but the Sappers merely took it as a tribute to their reputation and "the work was carried out."

They worked for 15 days, for the business was not only one of stopping the water from running away, but also of seeing that this sort of thing didn't happen again.

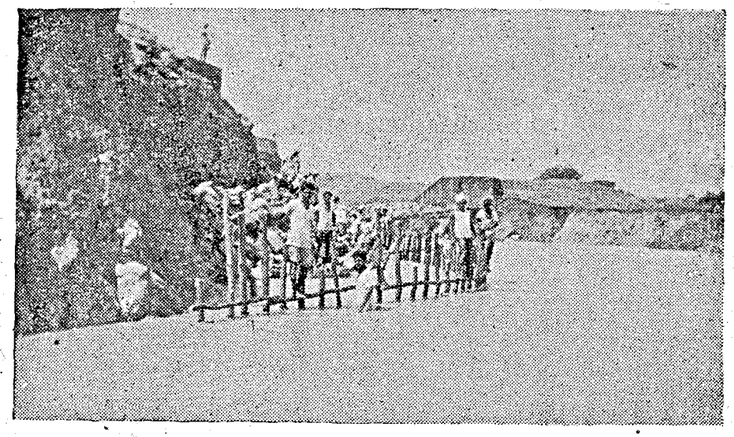
They blew gaps in weir walls, excavated 390 feet of earth for a ten-feet wide canal (about 2,400 cubic feet) most of which had to be lifted about ten feet high to be thrown clear. One group of eight Sappers filled a dumper with 90 sand-bags in 40 seconds. Three Sappers filled and loaded 675 sand-bags in one day.

They made a sand-bag revetment on a scoured portion of the bund 108 feet by 18 feet by 8 feet; a sand-bag bund across the tank 282 feet by 27 feet at an average height of 9 feet; another sand-bag wall to stop the water escaping 93 feet by 10 feet by 6 feet. They filled, loaded and positioned over 120,000 sand-bags, drove 850 miles and the total revetment and bund construction was 75,000 cubic feet—some feet!

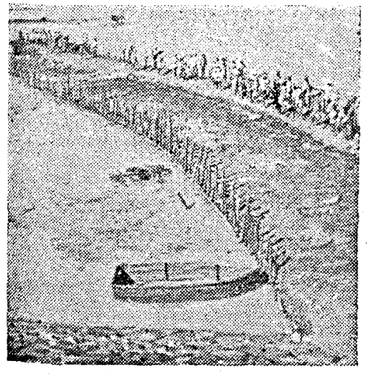
The executive engineer was of the opinion that one Sapper's work was more efficient than three coolies.



QUEEN VICTORIA'S OWN SAPPERS AND MINERS.—There is beehive activity while Sappers dig up the country side for sand.



Though up to the waist, the Sappers and Miners are not worried about it.



It looks a big job—but they did it, and did it well!

MADRASSI SOLDIERS LIVE COMMUNAL LIFE AND THRIVE ON IT

Men of a Madrassi unit somewhere on the Assam-Burma border are fighting a war of their own and winning. The enemies are filth and dirt. The Madrassis' offensive against them starts early in the morning and continues through every spare moment of the day.

Community living has developed all sorts of latent powers in the men. Skilled mechanics discover that they are also skilled launderers, skilled farmers, skilled musicians and skilled cooks.

Cottons and woollens are washed and cleaned and dried by the men themselves. You may meet Havildar Venkatapathy who two years ago had a shop in North Arcot, and is now in charge of boilers but is also a recognized laundry expert.

Or you may meet Naik Arulanadam of Shiyali who though normally in charge of machinery spends his spare time building "bashas" for his comrades. Or Fitter Krishnamurthy of Madura—"Chota Murugi" to his familiars, who is of a musical turn and can entertain his unit with improvisations generally thought to be professional.

The men are keeping in their hands at farming as they do not mean to resist the call of the land when war is over. In their spare time they work hard to supplement their rations. Their work bears fruit, or more correctly vegetables. brinjals, spinach, carrots, cauliflowers and cabbages appear on their mess tables, and the soldiers feast off them with the relish of a farmer tasting of his first fruits.

INDIA'S AIR CHIEF TO BE AIR C.-IN-C. OF SOUTH EAST ASIA COMMAND.

AIR CHIEF MARSHAL SIR RICHARD PEIRSE, K.C.B., D.S.O. A.F.C.

BRIGADIER-GENERAL H. C. DAVIDSON.—Commander of 10th United States Air Force in India, under whose operational control the strategical air force of the Eastern Air Command is to function in the war against Japan.

IT is of interest that the new Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief of the Allied Air Forces, South-East Asia Command,—A Command in which there will be the closest possible operational liaison between all the fighting forces—should be the son of an Admiral.

The Air Commander-in-Chief, Sir Richard Edmund Charles Peirse, K.C.B., D.S.O., A.F.C., began his career as a Midshipman in the R.N.V.R. in 1909. The pioneer flights of Orville and Wilbur Wright had only taken place very shortly before this time, but it was not long before he became interested in flying and in 1912 he volunteered for the Naval Wing of the R.F.C. (later the R.N.A.S.) thus becoming one of the first officers of the Service which in six years time was to be become the R.A.F.

He served with distinction throughout the war, being awarded the D.S.O. in 1915 for attacks on the German submarine bases at Ostend and Zeebrugge. After the war in 1919, he was awarded the Air Force Cross.

His first big operational command came to him in 1933, when he was appointed A.O.C., British Forces, in Palestine and Transjordan. The opportunity to show his abilities as a Commander came in 1936 with the outbreak of the first Arab rebellion. With a small air force and 19 battalions of infantry and the Transjordan Frontier Force Cavalry he succeeded in quelling the rebellion, before handing over his office to Sir John Dill, at present Head of the Joint Staff Mission in Washington.

From this time onwards, one important post after another came his way—Deputy Director of Operations and Intelligence, Deputy Chief of Air Staff, Additional Member of the Air Council, and in 1940 Vice-Chief of Air Staff, in which year he was also knighted. It was at this time that plans began to materialize in connection with the long-range strategic night bomber force, plans which had been laid several years previously, and which could now be put slowly but surely into action against Germany.

Sir Richard Peirse became Chief of the Bomber Command in 1940, and it is perhaps too little realised the important but unobstrusive part which was played in the Battle of Britain by aircraft of his Command. In actual fact the smashing of the invasion fleet, assembled in the Channel ports by the Germans to take advantage of the expected air victory over England, was in a large measure due to the courageous day and night bombing carried out by Bomber Command. The sound and steady development of the new Bomber force which led up to the first of the thousand bomber raids in May 1942—Two months after Sir Richard Peirse had assumed command of the Air Forces in India—was in a large measure due to his ground work.

Early in 1942, when the Japanese were sweeping all before them in the South-West Pacific, Dutch East Indies and Malaya, Sir Richard Peirse was allotted the superhuman task, under Field-Marshal Lord Wavell, of facing the Japanese Air Force with a handful of obsolete aircraft. He arrived in Java too late to hold up the advancing tide of the Japanese, and was forced back into India in March 1942.

Since then while he has been preparing India to receive the enormous air forces which will inevitably flow eastwards when the time comes for the final offensive against Japan, Sir Richard Peirse has organised a versatile and elastic air force of heavy, medium and light bombers with ample fighter support which has kept up a continuous attack against the Japanese in Burma throughout two monsoons and one winter. He has also built up the Fighter Defence of Calcutta and Ceylon and the Industrial districts of U.P. and Bengal. The strength of this shield was well demonstrated last January, when the Japanese night bombers were so ruthlessly shot down. His operational Command in Bengal has co-operated closely with the 10th American Air Force, which augurs well for the future, when Sir Richard will include

WOMEN HELP THE AIR OFFENSIVE

By AIR CHIEF COMMANDANT K. J. TREFUSIS FORBES, *Director of Britain's W.A.A.F.*

THE Women's Auxiliary Air Force —the W.A.A.F.—is a vital part of the youngest British fighting force, the Royal Air Force. It was formed in June 1939 and now the officers and women of the force are replacing men in almost every branch of ground service with air force status.

With the spread of the war effort over every section of the community throughout Britain, the W.A.A.F. has expanded to many times its original size. When it was started, women were restricted to five trades. Now they are working side by side with their husbands, brothers, fiances—and sometimes —fathers. W.A.A.F. officers are serving in Canada, the U.S.A. and in the Middle East, where they have launched a campaign to recruit women to serve with the R.A.F. operating in the theatre of war there.

The official trades in which they operate in the W.A.A.F. are listed at something beyond sixty but the actual jobs done by these R.A.F. women are countless. In the great bomber offensive at present being carried on against industrial Germany, W.A.A.F. are employed not only in the tremendous preparations necessary beforehand but also in the assessment of results afterwards.

EVEN IN THE CONTROL ROOM

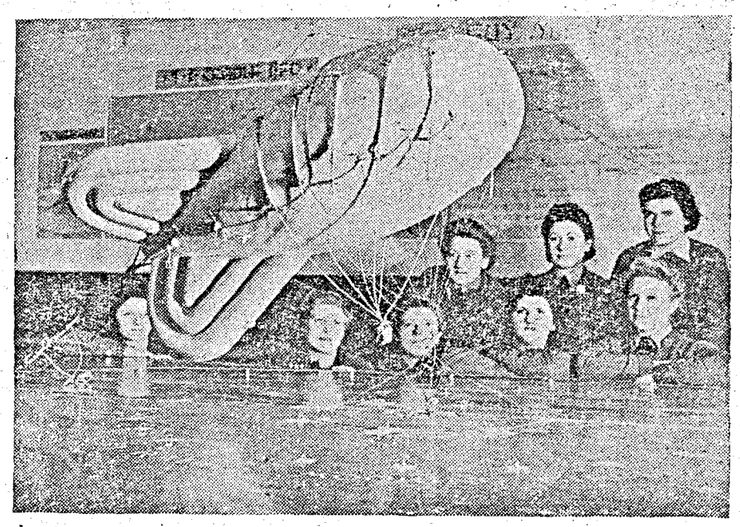
W.A.A.F. meteorologists help to provide weather forecasts without which the bombers cannot take off. Code and cypher officers, wireless teleprinter and telephone operators man the network of communications. Safety equipment workers pack the parachutes on which the aircrews may have to depend for their lives.

Airwomen assist the R.A.F. technicians in the workshops in the very finest of technical work; they clean and test sparking plugs for aircraft; they issue flying kit; they cook flying rations; they drive crews to their dispersal points.

When war was declared, Fighter Command Operations Rooms were exclusive to men—and not only to men, but to men of the very highest qualifications. Now, women are accepted in these nerve-centres of the war in the air as a matter of course. W.A.A.F. at Royal Air Force headquarters and stations play a responsible part in the operational control work involved in R.A.F. sweeps, patrols and interceptions. The same applies to Coastal, Bomber, Flying and Technical Training Commands.

Women of the W.A.A.F. do not confine themselves to work on the ground. Women flight mechanics fly constantly in the course of their duty. They fly as nursing orderlies in R.A.F. air ambulances, fetching patients back to base hospitals. Balloon crews, composed entirely of women, are manning a large number of the balloons which form the protective barrage in Britain. These crews are standing by for duty at all hours of the day and night.

THE WOMEN'S AUXILIARY AIR FORCE carry out many duties at a Bomber Command Station. Photo shows a *W.A.A.F. working on a pictorial map of the aerodrome.*



W.A.A.F. BALLOON WOMEN LEARN THEIR TRADE.—A large number of war sites in Britain are manned by W.A.A.F. Balloon Operators. Airwomen learning the theory and practice of their trade before taking up this skilled and responsible job. Picture shows *W.A.A.F. Balloon operators learning their first lessons in "ballooning." The model balloon which is perfect in every detail was made by N.C.O. instructors at the Balloon Training Unit.*

AIR COMMANDANT TREFUSIS FORBES.

FROM FORGE TO FILMS, THE W.A.A.F.'s ARE THERE

These are some of the more important jobs done by W.A.A.F. personnel. Here are some others: Acetylene welders, armament assistants, armourers, chiropodists, cine operators, clerks, cooks, dispensers, electricians, fabric workers, hair-dressers, instrument repairers, laboratory assistants, masseuse, mess stewards, motor transport drivers, mechanics, optician orderlies, pattern makers, photographers, radiographers, radio-mechanics and operators, radio telephone operators, shoe repairers, tailors, tracers, police, radio mechanics.

The W.A.A.F. forms part of the R.A.F., and airmen and airwomen are trained on precisely similar lines. As soon as a recruit has been attested and kitted, she is instructed in drill, the organization of the R.A.F., defence, discipline and hygiene. Once she has reached a suitable standard in these subjects, she is trained for her particular trade and posted to a unit. She begins as an air-craftwoman second class in the R.A.F. She may then be promoted to aircraftwoman first class, leading aircraftwoman non-commissioned rank—corporal, sergeant, flight sergeant and warrant officer. Apart from rare specialists and women holding scientific degrees, all W.A.A.F. officers are chosen from the ranks.

AIR CHIEF'S TRIBUTE TO THEIR WORK

That they have proved themselves worthy of their place in Britain's battle scheme is proved by the words of the Chief of Air Staff in a message to the Director on the occasion of the third anniversary of the formation of the W.A.A.F.: "We have watched with admiration the skill and keenness of your officers and airwomen in their work, and we are grateful for the increased strength and efficiency which you bring to our common service. You are making a splendid contribution to our ultimate victory."

POWER OF THE "LITTLE SHIPS"

By H. E. HANCOCK

IN all previous wars battles at sea have consisted mainly of fleet actions—battleships and battle cruisers, screened by cruisers and destroyers, in opposition against the enemy's fleet. Only one such action was fought during World War I when the German fleet was defeated at Jutland and did not leave port again until it surrendered.

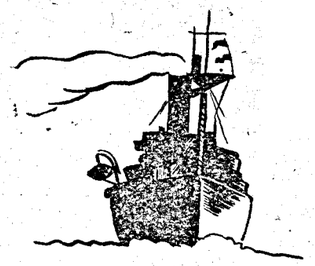
So far the present war at sea—apart from the eternal battle with the U-boats—has been mainly between small ships. The occupation by the Germans of the French Channel ports, only 20 miles away from Britain at its narrowest point, intensified this form of warfare, for the big ships are to some extent vulnerable when operating in the narrow waters unless a shore-based "umbrella" of fighter aircraft can be provided. In this war, Britain's Grand Fleet is strategically placed for dealing with her enemies' fleets should they ever put to sea.

HARASSING GERMAN CONVOYS

In addition to road and rail transport, much of Britain's home traffic is carried by coastal ships—small cargo carriers trading between the various ports around our coasts; and when France fell Germany was placed in a very advantageous position to attack out coastal convoys. The Germans used for the purpose not only aircraft but small armed ships called "E-boats," and, as a counter to these ships, a new force was built up in Britain to meet them. As this force increased in strength not only did it become possible to give adequate protection to British coastal convoys but to carry the fight to the Germans.

Germany's rail communications have been badly knocked about by Allied aircraft; and the Germans have been forced more and more to use coastwise shipping. Britain's Light Coastal Forces, however, are interfering with this traffic to such an extent that very few German convoys get through the Channel without being intercepted.

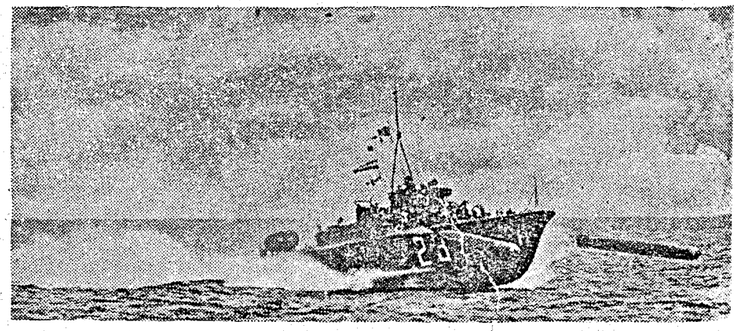
The Coastal Forces consist of four main types of vessel. Starting with the smallest, the harbour defence motor



launch is, as its name implies, essentially for harbour defence in home waters; but those little ships of 24 metres in length are also doing a certain amount of escort work for coastal convoys. A good many of these motor launches are in service in other parts of the world, and many more are building. The ordinary motor launch, which is a size larger, has a length of about 35 metres. These vessels have petrol engines and are very good sea-boats for their size. They are the maids-of-all-work for the Coastal Forces. They are doing extraordinarily good work in coastal escort. They are also in service in Australia, New Zealand, India, and, in fact, practically everywhere.

FITTED WITH AIRCRAFT ENGINES

These ships are built on the prefabricated system and parts can be shipped to any place in the world where they can be put together. They are also being built at many places abroad in addition to the considerable production at home. For offensive purposes there are the m.g.b.'s (motor gun-boats) and m.t.b.'s (motor torpedo boats). The two types are somewhat similar. The larger types have long endurance and good sea-going qualities and can fight in rougher weather than the German E-boats. Quite a number of these vessels have been shipped abroad. A certain number are also being built in the United States, and these are shipped as completed vessels as and when shipping space is available.



Picture shows *a British naval torpedo boat firing a group of torpedos at speed in the Channel.*

The maintenance side is important. The m.t.b.'s and m.g.b.'s are fitted with aircraft engines, and have a hard time because they go out in all weathers. They get a good bumping from the sea, but the maintenance staff keep them going. Many improvements have been suggested by designers, but it is not possible to keep pace with all the improvements which are recommended, and we have now reached a stage where, if anything else is put into the vessels, something else will have to be taken out.

On the operational side, the Light Coastal Forces have averaged about one *action each week. During the winter* months there are long periods when the *boats cannot go to sea, but during one* long period of the present year the *Light Coastal Forces averaged one* action a night in the Mediterranean *and home waters. Coastal Forces have* figured in many combined operations *such as St. Nazaire, Boulogne, Bruneval,* and Dieppe and, of course, Sicily.

NEW TYPES FOR COMMANDOS

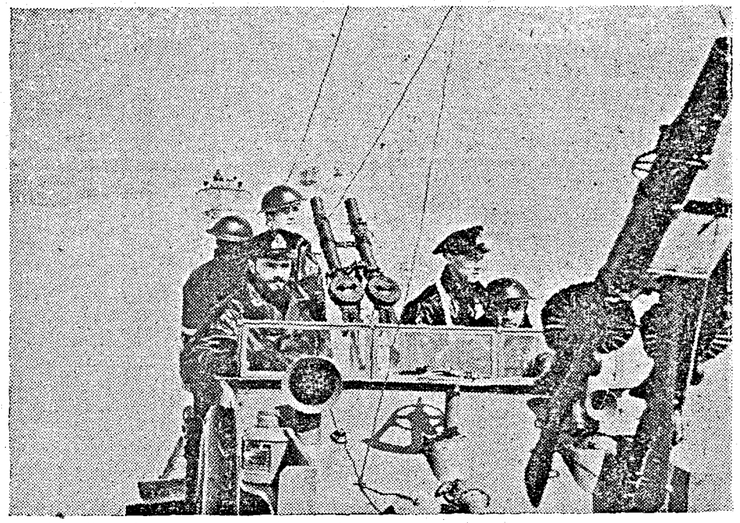
The war has brought into being many other new types of small craft for landing troops and their supplies on beaches; such as a.l.c.'s (assault landing craft) and m.l.c.'s (motor landing craft). These have been built mainly in small yards all over the country and were used by the naval commandos in raids on the Lofoten Islands in Norway and in Dieppe in Northern France. They were also used in large numbers for the landings in North Africa and Sicily.

Then there are the minesweepers—small craft which clear the channels and sea routes of mines. These vessels are divided into three groups—Fleet minesweepers, Admiralty minesweeping trawlers, and auxiliary minesweepers. The first class is specially designed and specially built for the work and do their clearances at a higher speed when operating in front of ships of the fleet. They are usually of from 900 to 1,000 tons.

Admiralty-built trawlers usually work in coastal channels and the approaches to estuaries and harbours. They, too, are specially built and can be used for routine searches and clearances. Last, but not least, come the auxiliaries which before the war were pleasure steamers, fishing trawlers and drifters, barges, launches, and yachts. They operate principally in protected waters, but even there the work is vital when the Germans have dropped mines from aircraft.

ON FIRE 300 MILES FROM LAND

Another type of small craft which has been developed is the rescue tug. These vessels go out into the oceans in all weathers to bring home ships which may have received damage as a result of enemy action, save their cargoes and then get the vessels to the shipyards for repair. The captain of one of these craft told me recently of some of the work his tug had been called upon to perform. On one occasion they were sent to bring in a cargo-ship of 10,000 tons which was on fire about 300 miles out in the Atlantic. After many attempts to get the tow-rope connected they at last succeeded and managed to tow the ship to a British port.



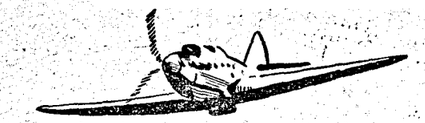
BRITISH MOTOR TORPEDO BOATS.—Their torpedo armament makes the Motor Torpedo Boats of the Royal Navy a formidable weapon against even the largest ships. Their amazing speed enables their attack to be delivered with the maximum of surprise as well as making them a difficult target for the gun power of the enemy. Photo shows *the crew of a Motor Torpedo boat. This branch of the service is much sought after by young men with the desire for speed and adventure.*

Despite the fire, about 7,000 tons of cargo were saved and the ship was repaired and put back into service.

On another occasion during the North African operations, he received orders to go to a ship in distress. This ship, a tanker, had on board 10,000 tons of octane spirit and she had been torpedoed twice. She was down heavily by the stern, her funnel was awash, but she was got to port, every gallon of her cargo was saved, and the ship herself has since been repaired. These little rescue tugs—of which, unfortunately, I am not permitted to give technical details—have many fine jobs to their credit.

All the types of ships which I have mentioned are on Naval Service. In addition to these, the Ministry of War Transport operates no fewer than 10,000 little ships for servicing the British Fleet and other special wartime tasks.

Red Army men pursue the enemy retreating from Yelnya.



TRUE ROLE OF THE DAY BOMBER

By MAJOR GEORGE FIELDING ELIOT

THE long-distance raid on the Messerschmitt plant at Wiener Neustadt was an excellent example of the part which the long-range precision day bomber can play in a general air offensive. The day bomber carries a far smaller load of bombs than the night bomber, as a rule, because it must carry a heavy weight of defensive armament and because of the weight of equipment which enables it to fly at extremely high altitudes on its way to and from its target. Also, in operating at great distances a great part of its weight-carrying capacity must be used to transport the necessary fuel. To offset this small bomb load the day bomber has the advantage of bombing in daylight with the use of a very accurate sight. It delivers a smaller load of bombs, in other words, but it is likely to place them with greater accuracy.

For these reasons—long range and great accuracy—one of the great jobs of the day bomber is to select and destroy particular targets, in accordance with the needs of the moment. Of this selectivity, the raid on the Messerschmitt works may be considered an instructive instance. Naturally, the Germans are doing the best they can to build up their fighter strength in order to have some sort of defence against the increasing Allied bombing offensive. They have been trying to increase the capacity of fighter plants, like that at Wiener Neustadt, which they fondly hoped were outside the radius of action of our bombers. When the raid took place, there does not seem to have been any very efficient opposition, which suggests that the Germans were caught totally off guard. Now they will have to spread their defence system, already deficient in strength.

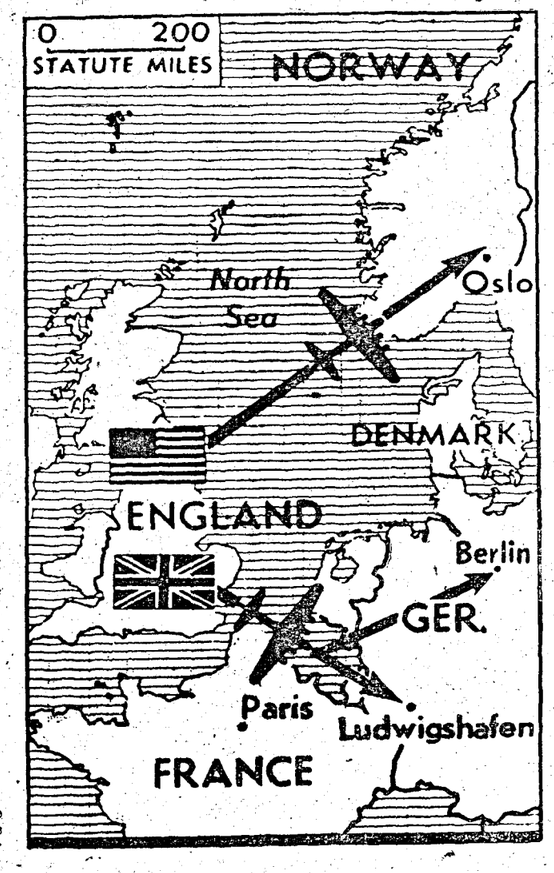
Thus the Allies appear to have won a round in the titanic struggle of the air—the battle in which the immediate German objective is to build up greater and greater fighter strength until they can offer a really powerful defence against our bombers, while our object is so to reduce the total German war potential so that they can neither build up their fighter strength nor continue to supply their armies. It is doubtful that air power can do this all by itself. But it is instructive to note that just as air power must form a part of the great team, the Allied war machine, so air power itself makes use of teamwork in the solution of its problems, requiring the heavy night bomber, the heavy day bomber, the light quick-raiding Mosquito bomber, the fighter-bomber and the fighter, all in due proportion, for the carrying out of the tasks assigned to it.

It would not, for example, have been worth while to send night bombers to raid Weiner Neustadt. Over that great distance they could not have carried many more bombs than the Liberators, they would not have been able to drop these bombs with anything like the same degree of accuracy and they would probably have sustained heavy losses en route, even against indifferent opposition, because of their lack of defensive armament and their inability to fly high.

On the other hand, it would be foolish indeed to send Liberators on a big night raid over the Ruhr. At night their great ceiling and their defensive armament are both almost useless, so that to use them for such a purpose would merely diminish the effect produced on the target with no compensating advantages.

More and more this war has become a war of specialists, of specially designed weapons and men trained especially to handle them for the accomplishment of specially selected purposes. More and more the problem of leadership in this war is becoming the problem of combining the efforts of these specialists in efficient teamwork so that the sum totals of their special accomplishments may produce a desired general result.

No one form of fighting power is the key to victory. Teamwork is the key to victory.



LONG-RANGE BOMBING.—"The Allies appear to have won a round in the titanic battle of the air, in which our object is to reduce the total German war potential so that they can neither build up their fighter strength nor continue to supply their armies . . . . Air power makes use of teamwork in the solution of its problems, requiring the heavy night bomber, the heavy day bomber, the light Mosquito bomber, etc., all in due proportion, for the carrying out of the tasks assigned to it." The map to the left represents a recent joint raid by the U.S.A.A.F. and the R.A.F. heavy bombers on Norway and Germany, respectively, on one day.

The class of would-be Army officers were going through a general knowledge test.

"Now," said the instructor, "imagine you have a sergeant and fourteen men of the R.E. How would you set about re-erecting a sixty-foot pole blown down in a gale?"

The cadets got busy, drawing diagrams and making calculations, with one exception. He wrote a few words only and then sat back. Interested to see what he had written, the instructor picked up the sheet of paper. On it was the brief comment:

"Tell the sergeant to carry on."

THE AFRIKA KORPS GOES TO THE U.S.A.

By BEVERLY SMITH

HERE in the hills of the American State of Tennessee I have been watching a strange sequel to the battle of Tunisia.

In the rejoicing over the capture of 248,000 of Axis prisoners in North Africa, few people stop to consider the enormous problem of guarding and caring for such numbers of men. But the American Army had made its plans for such a situation. In the last few months German and Italian prisoners by the thousands have been pouring into American Eastern ports, and are now being settled in the internment camps prepared for them throughout the country.

The way these prisoners are treated is of vital concern to every one in the United Nations, because it will largely determine the treatment given to the thousands of Allies now in the hands of the enemy, or who may be captured hereafter. Thus it may affect anybody in, or who has relatives in, our armed forces.

How, then, are these enemy prisoners being handled? How do they live? What do they wear? What work do they do? How do they amuse themselves? How are they guarded?

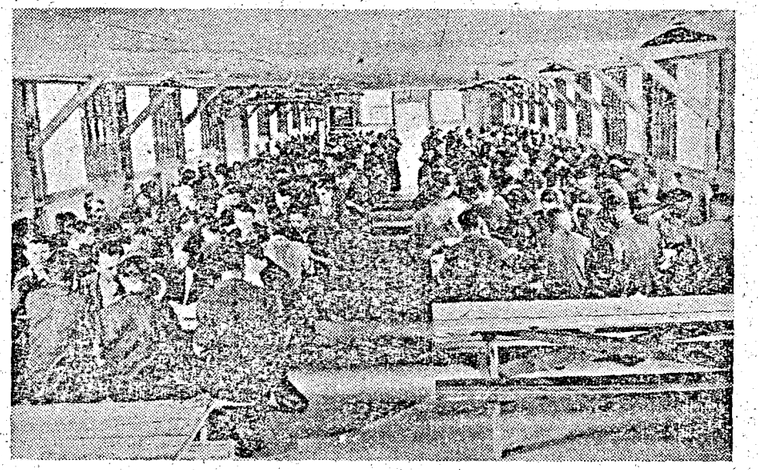
To find the answers to these questions I have spent a week in one of the first of these camps for enemy prisoners. I have seen them come in fresh from the battle fronts and settle down to camp life. I inspected their quarters, sampled their food, watched them at work and recreation, and talked with those who wanted to talk.

None was required to answer me. I did not ask any of them what they thought about the war, its duration, or their attitude towards their own governments. Such questions would be considered invasions of their privacy, which is protected by international rules governing the treatment of prisoners of war.

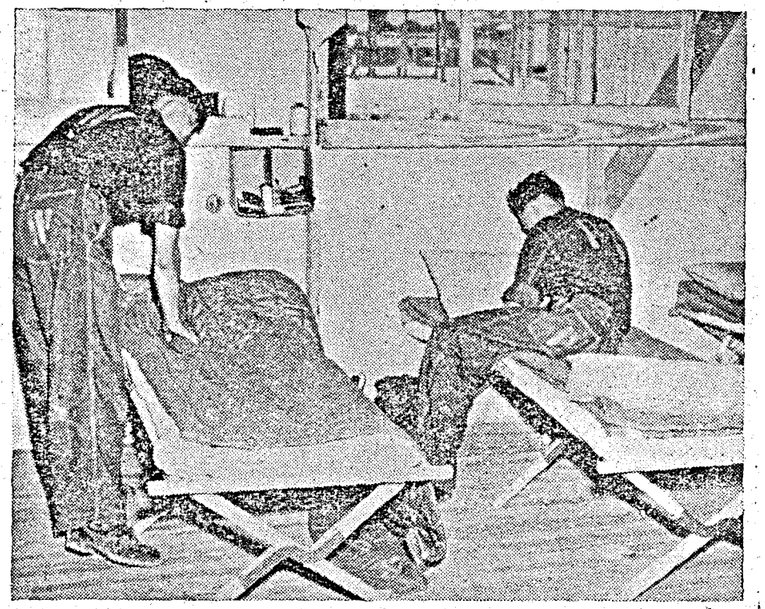
This camp was started last fall and it began to receive prisoners during the winter and spring. The Germans are kept in one area, the Italians in a separate area. This camp contains both officers and enlisted men.

The last big batches of prisoners, filling the camp to its capacity of nearly 15,000, came in during my stay here. The scene as a new consignment of them arrives in the little town is one I shall not forget: the late afternoon sun shines on the little brick railway station as the special train pulls in from the East. From the coaches emerge wary files of men in strangely assorted uniforms. Most of them are still deeply burned from the African sun; some, who cruised beneath the ocean until a depth bomb brought them up, are blond and pale.

These are the warriors of Hitler and Mussolini, captured on distant seas and battlefields. They glance about with a puzzled expression. For them, the Axis glory trail has led to Main Street, United States of America.



German prisoners of war in the United States eat in the dining hall of an American prison camp, typical of the 21 camps throughout the country. The food is the same as that fed to the American soldiers and the rules laid down by the Geneva Convention are all religiously adhered to.



These German prisoners of war, interned in the United States, are shown making up their dormitory beds in their quarters which are exactly like the barracks used to house American troops. Although they may retain their own uniforms, a large "PW" is painted on their backs to identify them.

The majority of the Germans are from Rommel's once dreaded Afrika Korps. Among the Italians I see the insignia of the Bersaglieri and the Centauri. There are fliers, parachute men, artillery men, panzer men from the German tank divisions. Now they blink briefly in the waning Tennessee sunlight before climbing into the waiting trucks and buses to be whisked off to the nearby camp which will be their home until the war ends.

If they have any fears they are quickly dispelled when they reach the camp, with its hot food, shower baths and comfortable bunks.

But first they are put through a quick and efficient "processing," in which they fill out identification slips, have preliminary medical examinations, and turn in their money, which is receipted for and deposited to their account.

They are searched for weapons and military papers but are allowed to keep all their other belongings. One general arrived with enough baggage for a honeymoon, but most of the men captured in battle have only what they can carry.

This scene is being repeated in many American states and communities this summer as the Tunisian and Sicilian harvests continue to roll in. In addition to this camp, there are twenty others.

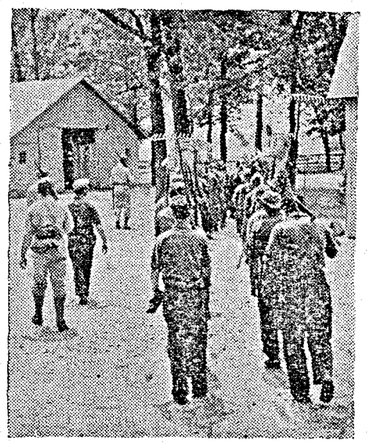
As the packs are spread out you see all the curious variety of possessions which a soldier clings to throughout bombing, machine-gunning, and shellfire. Pictures of wife, family, children. A letter-writing kit. Skin lotions against African sun and insects. A pair of prized carpet slippers. Toilet paper always. Shaving kit. A can of salt to ward off heat prostration in the desert. Sometimes a worn phonograph record carrying a favourite tune. Small hoards of tea or coffee.

AXIS OFFICERS SMILE

This inspection of baggage is the first real contact the prisoners have with the American officers and men who guard and administer the camp. The prisoners were grim and impassive at first. Then, as the Americans treated them pleasantly, handled the prized possessions carefully, and amiably joshed them along about some of their unusual possessions, I could see even the sternest of the Axis officers relax, smile and chuckle. There was something deeper here. These prisoners now knew that they would be decently treated. They could see and feel that there was no cruelty in these Americans set to guard them.

The prisoners of war here live in an enclosure of some 125 acres. Except for the high, barbed-wire fences and the towers where guards watch night and day with searchlights and machine guns, this might be an ordinary American army camp. There are the same long, wooden barracks, the same type of mess halls, shower baths, sanitary facilities, the same well-equipped hospital. There is a recreation area. The supply rooms carry the same foods as the basic American army ration.

Outside the stockade live the American military police guard and escort companies, especially trained for this work, and the other administrative officers who run the camp under the command of Colonel Frank T. Addington—an experienced, able, jovial, square-footing regular army officer.



With rakes and hoes over their shoulders these Italian prisoners of war at an internment camp in the United States of America march to work in the prison's vegetable garden. Plenty of recreation is provided and the enlisted men may be put to work outside the camp as long as the work is not directly connected with the war.

The German and Italian officers and men live just as well materially within the limits of that barbed wire as do the American officers and men on the outside. The United States Army does not follow this policy out of sentimentality or softheartedness, but in strict compliance with the Geneva Convention, which was signed by our Government and most of the governments of the world, including Germany and Italy, in 1929. Prisoners in past wars have suffered all kinds of cruelties and hardships. Therefore, the nations tried, in the peaceful days of 1929, to lay down detailed, comprehensive rules to protect the prisoners of future wars.

The general principle of it is that of the golden rule: Do unto the enemy prisoners as you would have the enemy do unto your prisoners. Thus enemy prisoners in our hands receive care and shelter similar to that of our troops; Allied prisoners in Germany receive food, care and shelter similar to that of German troops; American prisoners in Italy receive food, care and shelter similar to that of Italian troops and so on.

Japan is an exceptional case. It signed the Geneva Convention, but never ratified it. Nevertheless, the Japanese Government notified us when the war began, that it would observe the rules of the Convention. After the bombing of Tokyo, the Japanese executed several of the American fliers who fell into their hands. As to the other thousands of Americans, mostly from Corregidor and Bataan, who are prisoners of the Japs, information is skimpy. What we have indicates the Japs are making at least some attempt to observe the Geneva rules.

For our part, we are treating the Japanese prisoners we have in conformity to Geneva. These Japanese prisoners consider that they are in disgrace, and do not even want their names sent back to the home country.

When the Convention was drawn up in Geneva in 1929, the senior technical adviser of the American delegation was Major Allen Gullion, of Kentucky. When this war came along it was Major-General Allen Gullion who was the Provost Marshal General of the United States Army, charged with responsibility for taking care of enemy prisoners. Long before the battles in Tunisia, he began drawing up his plans and training special companies of military police escorts and guards in the care and feeding of prisoners a la Geneva. Thus, when the influx of prisoners began to take on the proportions of minor invasion, the United States was ready for them.

Here at this camp, as at other internment camps, the Geneva Convention is the Magna Charta and the constitution, the law, and the prophets, by which the prisoners live. It prescribes rules not only for food and lodging and medical care, but for recreation. The privileges of rank and pay, letters from home, religious services and adjustment of grievances.

MAKING THE BEST OF CAMP LIFE

The great majority of the prisoners are settling down to make the best of the camp life that stretches out before them indefinitely. The Italians play such card games as brisoola and rummy. They have smoothed out a clay alley on which they play the Italian bowling game of boccie. The younger ones go to the recreation field for a fast game of soccer. In a shady place beside their barracks, the enlisted men with home-made chairs, benches and tables, have set up a fair imitation of a sociable little Italian piazza in the old country. Here in the evenings they smoke, hold long, energetic conversations and sometimes sing.

The Germans also go in for hard-played soccer games, with enthusiastic cheering from the side lines. They play volley ball and badminton. And their group singing, as we hear it in the evenings from the American quarters, is of high quality. Musical instruments and equipment for sports are supplied by the international Y.M.C.A. The Y.M.C.A. has also supplied some books and others have been inherited from the old CCC camps.

The prisoners have a few radios. Some of the prisoners have picked up American phrases which they learned from the radio and which they speak with a distinct radio announcer's accent. The other day I saw a young German lieutenant listening, with an expression of bemused pleasure, to a hillbilly ballad.

The encouragement of prisoners in recreational facilities is required by the Geneva Convention.

All the expense of caring for these prisoners, and pay and allowances given them, are kept account of. At the end of the war the Geneva Convention requires that Germany and Italy reimburse us in full for these moneys, just as we must reimburse them for the care of Americans in their camps. How far it will be practicable to carry this out after this war is problematical.

Yes, prisoners of war get pay. The American pay officers in the grade of major or above $40 (Rs. 130) a month, captains $30 (97-8-0) a month, and lieutenants $20 (Rs. 65) a month. The rest of their regular salaries is put to their account or paid to their families in their home country. Officers are not required to do any work unless they want to. Many of them choose to work in the garden and beautify the grounds around their quarters, just to pass the time away. Others read, write, paint or compose music. Some just loaf, some just talk.

Neither officers nor men receive any pay in cash. They are paid in coupons which can be used as money in purchases at the post exchange which is maintained within the stockade. Here officers and men can buy such things as toilet articles, personal accessories, sweets, soft drinks, souvenirs, cigarettes and beer. Yes, the Geneva Convention allows prisoners to have beer not exceeding a pint a day.

A general is allowed to have an orderly, each two field officers an orderly, and each four of the lower officers an orderly. These orderlies, chosen from their own enlisted men, are supposed to be pay 80 cents (about Rs. 2-8-0) a day by the officers.

Generals have two rooms, field officers one room, lower officers are billeted two to a room. The German and Italian officers are very insistent about their privileges of rank, and this is definitely permitted by the Geneva Convention.

Enlisted men among the prisoners get an allowance of 10 cents (about 6 annas) a day, and are required to do the regular work of their camp, such as KP and the rest, without compensation. But for any additional or outside work they receive at least 80 cents a day.

HELPING TO BUILD A DAM

Our armies are permitted to put these enlisted men-prisoners to any type of work not directly connected with military operations. They have already been used in work on the levees, and in Texas they are helping to build a reservoir dam at Denison.

The prisoners are organized in companies of 250. An American officer and 3 to 5 enlisted men are assigned to the supervision of each company at first and these enlisted men are withdrawn as soon as it is practicable to replace them by prisoners who show ability for the job. It is to the interest of the prisoners as well as the Army to have a clean, well-tended, harmonious atmosphere. Many of the Italian and German officers and non-coms. have made themselves most valuable as advisers and supervisors, and this is appreciated on both sides of the barbed wire.

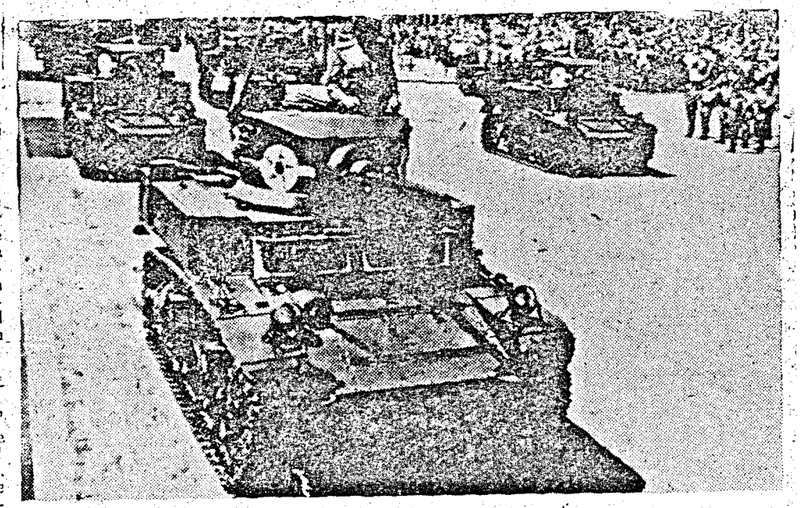
An internment camp is not a prison. Under the Geneva Convention, "Prisoners of war have the right to have their person and their honour respected."

Once a week the representatives of the Italian companies, in the morning, and the German companies, in the afternoon, meet with Colonel Addington to make their suggestions and air their complaints. The Colonel goes as far as he can in meeting their requests. If the prisoners still feel aggrieved, they have frequent opportunities, when representatives of the Swiss and the International Red Cross visit the camp, to make their appeal. These representatives not only inspect their camp, but talk to the prisoners in private. Their colleagues, in Germany and Italy, are performing a similar office in protection of our Allied prisoners.

The prisoners may wear their own uniforms if they wish, though their clothing is marked with the letters 'PW' for 'prisoners of war.' Furthermore they are furnished with clothing, linen and footwear by the detaining power. In summer the prisoners usually wear only shoes, socks, and shorts during the heat of the day.

Most of them are sunburned, husky and in fine physical shape. If they have any old wounds, illness, or physical infirmity, they are cared for in an excellently equipped hospital, by American medical men assisted and advised by German or Italian doctors and dentists from among the prisoners.

These United States Army soldiers are demonstrating the loading of a new rifle grenade. The grenade is fired on the rocket principle and it is a formidable weapon for a tank and defence. Many of the latest weapons are using rockets to give more speed to the projectiles.



BRAZIL DISPLAYS MECHANIZED FORCE.—Twenty-eight-ton tanks of a mechanized division of the Brazilian Army roll through the streets of Rio de Janeiro, capital city of Brazil, during ceremonies celebrating the 122nd year of independence for South America's largest republic. Brazil, one of the United Nations, joined the Allies in declaring war on Germany and Italy, Aug. 22, 1942.

Left:

GENERAL C. GEORGE MARSHALL.—Chief of Staff of the United States Army.

Right;

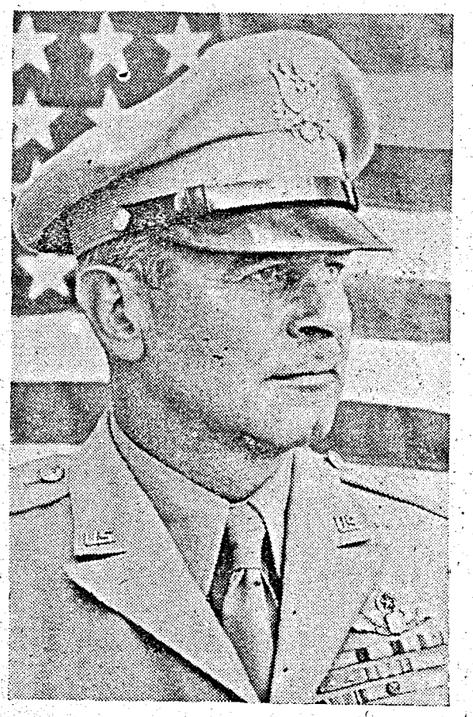
GENERAL DWIGHT EISENHOWER.—Supreme Allied Commander of the British and the United States Expeditionary Forces, organizing in the United Kingdom for the liberation of Europe.

Left:

GENERAL SPAATZ.—Leeutenant-General Carl A. Spaatz, of the U.S. Army former commander of the Allied North-west African Air Force and Allied Deputy Air Commander-in-Chief in the North African war theatre has been appointed Commander of the American strategic bombing force operating against Germany.

Right:

FIELD MARSHAL SIR JOHN DILL of the British Army.



Left:

GENERAL DOOLITTLE.—Major General James H. Doolittle of the United States Army, former Commander of the Allied North-west African Strategic Air Force, is now Commander of the Eighth United States Air Fosce based in Britain.

Right:

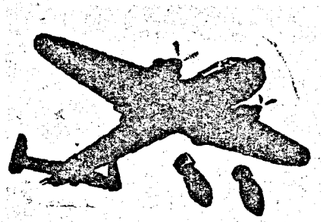
GENERAL ROOSEVELT.—Brigadier - General Theodore Roosevelt, Jr., is Deputy Commander of the First Infantry Division of the United States Army. He is the son of the late Theodore Roosevelt, President of the United States from 1901 to 1909.

Left:

GENERAL STRATEMEYER.—Major-General George E. Stratemeyer is commander of United States Army Air Forces in China, Burma and India and Air adviser to Lieutenant-General Joseph W. Stilwell, Commander in Chief of United States forces in the China-Burma-India theatre.

Right:

GENERAL SIR BERNARD MONTGOMERY, Commander-in-Chief of the British Group of Armies under General Eisenhower.



U. S. ARMY REVEALS SKIP-BOMBING SECRET

By SIDNEY SHALETT

THE secret of skip-bombing, one of the most deadly aerial attack techniques developed in this war, was revealed recently by United States Army aviation authorities as a concentration of terrific protective fire power combined with perfect timing and co-ordinated attack.

Skip-bombing, the technique whereby Lieut.-Gen. George E. Kenney's South-West Pacific airmen were able to sink twenty-two out of twenty-two Japanese ships in the Bismarck Sea is a method of mast-high bombing attack on targets. Until now the unexplained secret has been how American airmen were able to get away with such dangerous tactics so successfully, but today Air Force authorities permitted part of the story to be told.

It isn't just one plane that roars in to "skip" its bombs along the water—or even against a land target—like a small boy skimming flat rocks across the surface of a peaceful pond. It is a flight of planes.

And it isn't an ordinary flight of planes. The regular armament has been augmented with a mass of 50-calibre machine-guns—powerful weapons which can tear a hole through the plates of a destroyer.

GUNS POUR DEATH ON TARGET

To skip-bomb, the flight comes in on a line, all guns blazing away at the target. If it is a ship they are driving against, the chances are that it will be impossible for anti-aircraft gunners on the decks to stick at their guns. The mass of blazing lead thrown out by the oncoming line of planes, as one officer who has studied reports on skip-bombing attacks described it, is "the nearest thing to concentrated air hell that has yet been achieved."

After the blazing guns have broken up any anti-aircraft interference which a warship might offer, the planes dive down even lower and cut loose their bombs. So incredibly accurate is most skip-bombing—the Bismarck Sea massacre was eloquent testimony to that—that direct hits usually result. Even if a near-miss occurs, the explosion usually is close enough to open the beams of the ship and send her under.

The skip-bombers also do double duty, for after coming in shooting and then dropping their bombs on the target they sometimes return to shoot up the target further. Sometimes one flight acts as "cover" for another flight and then the flights reverse roles, with the first bombers acting as "cover" and vice versa.

Another secret of skip-bombing is the use of delayed-action fuses by which the bombs explode after they have penetrated the plates of a ship and after the low-flying planes themselves are out of danger from the explosion.

CREDIT FROM GENERAL ARNOLD

General H. H. Arnold, Commanding General of the Army Air Forces, has given high credit to the proving-ground command at Eglin Field, Fla., for the work it has done in perfecting the technique of skip-bombing. The British did much of the early work in the field, but since their "ricochet-bombers," as they called them, did not mass the concentrated fire power that United States planes have adopted, they ran into trouble when the Germans began using flak, anti-aircraft, ships in the English Channel, and did not go so far in the skip-bombing field.

Major-General William O. Butler, commanding the Eleventh Air Force in Alaska, and his Chief of Staff, Colonel William O. Eareckson, did some pioneer work against the Japanese with skip-bombing... The Japanese apparently did not learn, however, for General Kenney, in the South-West Pacific, carried the technique still further, until it was marked by the spectacular victory of the Bismarck Sea.

General Kenney has given credit to Major William Benn and Major Kenneth McCullar for development of the technique. He declared that these two officers, both of whom since have been killed, were "chiefly responsible for the development of skip-bombing, and I give them all the credit in the world."

Brigadier-General William E. Lind recently won the Distinguished Flying Cross for sinking two Japanese ships on a single run by skip-bombing near Wewak, New Guinea. Lieut.-Col. Ernest C. Young of Stillwater, Okla, flying a Lightning against Pantelleria, actually "skipped" a bomb into the opening of an underground hanger on that Mediterranean fortress.

At a recent demonstration by the United States Army Air Forces School of Applied Tactics, this writer saw three Havoc light bombers "skip" three bombs apiece at a rather small ground target. Every one of the nine bombs passed squarely through what was left of the target, whereas a previous flight of bombers coming in at 5,000 or 6,000 feet had not achieved anywhere near this degree of accuracy.

GUNPOWDER GIRL

I am a powder girl. One of America's Explosives loaders. Every day for 18 months I have lived and worked with danger. Eight hours each day I pour yellow grains of smokeless powder into silken sacks. As I work I think about the men in battle who will feed those charges into their big guns.

The loading plant where I'm employed is one of the largest and most modern in the world. It sprawls across 8 miles of fertile farmland in the midwest of America. Four thousand girls just like me work inside this plant. We are surrounded by every possible safeguard.

When I told my family I was going to work in an explosives plant, mother exclaimed, "Oh, no! You mustn't. It's too dangerous." After all, I was 19 years old. Powder loading was among the few things I was qualified to do.

I didn't have to argue with my father. It's a bitter disappointment to him that he's too old to fight. And since I haven't any brothers, he agreed with me that the least we could do was to send a girl to fill a war job.

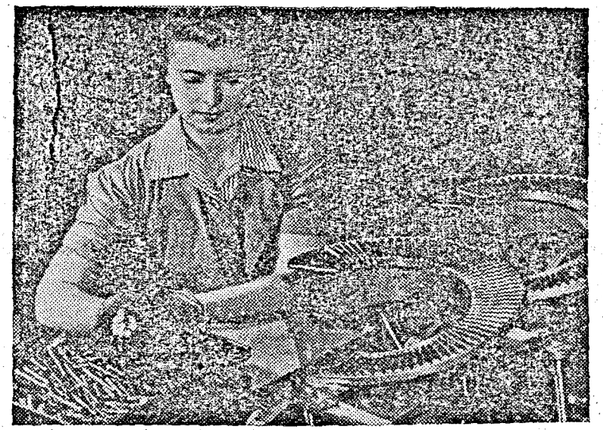
The only gun I'd ever fired was my cousin's ;22; the only sunpowder I'd ever seen was the sooty kind that oozes out of firecrackers. Smokeless powder, I discovered, is something altogether different. Instead of being black, it's the colour of beeswax. And instead of being fine as dust, the individual "grains" are themselves the size and shape of baby Chinese firecrackers. These are the smallest smokeless powder grains we load at this plant. The biggest grains we handle are as thick as broomsticks and longer than your thumb. Yet it takes several thousand of them to make a single charge for a 16-inch gun.

CORN COLLEGE

Before a new girl is admitted to the explosives area, she is supposed to attend "corn college" for one week. Corn college is the training school, housed in an outside building, where you practice loading and assembling various types of charges, using grains of corn instead of powder. When I was hired, the plant had just opened, and the loading lines were short of help. Instead of going through corn college I was given a 2-hour safety lecture and then put right to work.

I found myself in a narrow, white-painted room (or "booth," as I soon learned to call it), together with four other girls about my age. The youngest and prettiest was called Daisy Mae and she had been on the line just one week, herself. Daisy Mae took me in hand and showed me what to do.

One long side of our booth consisted of outward-swinging doors, opening on a covered walk set level with the ground. Against the room's rear wall was a high, wide, copper workbench. At one end stood a sewing machine, belted to an overhead shaft. Beyond that a heavy, bronze door, like the entrance to a dumb-waiter, was fitted into the wall. At the opposite end of the bench a copper pipe, thicker than your arm, slanted down from the ceiling into a silver-plated gadget like a toaster turned upside down. This they told me was the powder-measuring machine. The air inside the booth was moist and warm and faintly tinged with ether. It made me think of the operating-room in the hospital where I had my tonsils out.



CANADIAN WOMEN MAINTAIN HIGH STANDARD IN HOME FRONT WAR FACTORIES.—A Canadian girl munition worker. Thousands of Canadian women are employed in small arms ammunition production. Plant managers report that in all operations where girls have replaced men, a high standard of workmanship has been maintained.

Daisy Mae filled brass cups with powder at the measuring machine. Another girl weighed them, adding or subtracting a grain or two by hand until the quantity was exactly right. A third girl checked the weight on a second scale, then passed the cups to me. My job was to pour the powder through a copper funnel into a flat, round bag, about the size and shape of a muffin. When this was filled, I handed it to the last girl in the line. She sat at the machine and sewed up the opening. After she finished each batch of 20, she would take them to the bronze door, open it, and put the bags inside. After she had closed it, we could hear the girl on the other side of the yard-thick wall opening her door to take the charges out. In this way your room remained at all times completely sealed off from its neighbours.

That afternoon Daisy Mae and I were switched to the assembly-room. This proved to be a larger workroom at the end of the same building. In it about 20 men and girls took the bags which had been loaded in the different booths and put them together to make up the complete charges for the 105 millimeter howitzer. Seven bags—a base charge and 6 separate increments (on "inkies") containing different amounts of powder—go to make up the full load. That's so our gunners, by adding or subtracting bags, can increase or decrease the range of the cannon without altering the angle of fire.

Our job was to assemble the white bags with numbers from "1" to "7" prominently printed on their tops and bottoms, in the proper order, thread them on a silk cord, and tie them all together. Aside from jumping and pricking myself with the threading needle whenever someone banged the chute door or dropped a metal tray, I managed to keep a tight grip on my nerves. By quitting hour I had drawn blood half a dozen times, and was more tired than I had ever been in my whole life. But I was proud as punch. For I had struck it out. I could call myself a WOW—a full-fledged Woman Ordnance worker—and one of the Army's powder girls, at that.

For a year and a half now I've been working in explosives. I wouldn't change my job for that of any WAAC or WAVE or SPAR. Danger? Of course! Smokeless powder is less "touchy" than black powder, which we also load at this plant; but it's more quick-tempered (although slower-burning) than TNT—the "high explosive" with which most bombs and shells are loaded.

SAFETY ASSURED

"Safety above everything" is the watchword of the Ordnance Department of the United States Army, under whose supervision this plant was built and is now being operated. The loading houses are separated from each other by hundreds of yards of open lawn. They are just 2 stories high, and the second floors are visited only by the men who dump the powder into hoppers to feed the lines below. In case of trouble these men can get back to terra firma in a hurry by means of safety chutes, like children's playground slides.

All our workrooms are on ground level. Outer walls are mostly doors, and the roofs are built thin on purpose. By way of contrast, interior walls and partitions between booths are made of reinforced concrete. In case of a "blow" in any room, the force of the explosion will go up and out, and not touch off the powder in the adjoining booths.

We wear flameproof uniforms. There's a safety shower outside every room. If anything about a girl should catch on fire, all she needs to do is step through a door and yank down a handle, to be deluged in a jiffy. There's also an automatic sprinkler system that floods the entire building on any sudden rise in temperature. Once or twice last summer the sprinklers let loose by mistake. At least once a week we hold a fire drill.

We sweep and mop our booth floors twice each shift. The walls and ceiling are hosed down nightly to prevent the accumulation of powder dust. Caps or bandannas keep the same explosive dust from collecting in our hair. They tell about one man who refused to wear a cap. Leaving the plant he stopped to light a cigarette. His hair went up in flames.

Two sets of safety inspectors are on the lookout for points of possible danger. In one booth the girls ran the sewing machine non-stop until the needle overheated. Next day the speed of all sewing machine motors was reduced 400 revolutions.

MY DAY STARTS AT SIX

My day starts at half-past six, with Dad shaking me awake before he leaves for work. I have 15 minutes to dive into my clothes, dash to Charlestown Road, where my "ride" is waiting. Five of us—2 men and 3 girls—make the 15-mile trip to and from the plant together daily, sharing car expenses.

Passing the gate, we split into 2 groups, girls and men entering the Change House by different doors. Inside, I go to my street-clothes locker, take off my dress and shoes, put on a whitecotton dressing gown and sandals, and join one of the 5 lines of girls waiting to pass through the inspection booths. The white-capped hostesses look us over carefully, examining even our hair and between our toes for forbidden articles. On cold mornings their icy fingers make me shiver.

For obvious reasons, cigarettes and matches are forbidden inside the explosives area. So are watches and most jewelry, because metal and precious stones may strike sparks. Combs, hair pins, lip-sticks, and powder compacts likewise are all taboo. Only plain gold wedding rings are permitted. We are allowed a little face powder in the corner of a hanky, and a dab of lip rouge wrapped in cellophane. Silk stockings are permitted; but any girl caught wearing silk underthings is told to step out of line. Loose silk produces static electricity by friction but stockings are tight.

Once past the inspection booth you're in the explosive area. Here each girl has another locker exactly like the first except that it closes with a combination lock. That's because metal keys are "out." Inside my locker I find a freshly laundered uniform, every other day. The

dress is blue, without cuffs or metal fasteners. On the left breast there's an opentaced pocket to fit my photo pass, and on the right there's a latticework pocket that will hold a handkerchief but nothing solid. A cap, black oxfords with safety toes and special conductive soles, and, in winter, a pocketless jacket complete the ensemble. The jacket too, is made of cotton, since wool is not allowed.

After dressing, I pass through another door into the plant bus terminal. There are 4 big buses already drawn up at the loading platform, and crowds of girls and men are milling around. It takes 3 busloads to transport the workers to each of the 8 smokeless powder lines. To my line it's a 7-minute ride.

HEN WITH ONE CHICK

Ether is one of the solvents used in making smokeless powder. There's some still in it when the stuff reaches the loading lines.

The medical department fusses over our health like a hen with one chick. We get free cold capsules. A first-aid ambulance visits each line twice a day, treating pricked fingers and changing bandages.

Singing helps to ease the tension and break the monotony of our work. We sing all the new songs but number one on our hit parade is Praise the Lord and Pass the Ammunition.

In a loading plant our twin bugaboos are fire and electricity. Fire can be pretty well banished. But electricity is everywhere. Comb your hair—put on a rayon petticoat—stroke a cat—or even walk across the floor—and you generate an electric charge. Touch a piece of steel or iron and, especially if the air is dry, you may cause a spark.

Because of the constant danger from electricity all our light and power switches are on the outside of the building. Fluorescent lights are recessed in the ceiling behind heavy panes of glass. Sewing machines are turned by shafts from motors on the other side of concrete walls. Nothing made of steel or iron is allowed inside the booth. Powder plant sewing machines are made of non-magnetic metals such as beryllium copper and phosphor bronze. Our shears are copper alloy, and even our needles are made of bronze. Everything is grounded, including the hinges on the doors.

There's a fable to the effect that girls with high-voltage personalities generate the most electricity. Actually in the course of a day each one of us creates enough static to wreck the plant a dozen times if it were allowed to spark. To prevent this we're told to touch grounded metal all the time. Before entering a booth you are supposed to "bleed off" any charge you have built up by taking hold of the grounded copper door handle. Inside the booth we walk on flooring of magnesium composition made still more conductive through constant mopping with water. These precautions help us to outwit our personal magnetism.

But the biggest electrical danger comes from the sky itself, in the form of thunderstorms. Our engineers aren't much afraid of lightning. Each building, powder magazine, and storage "igloo" is protected by its own lightning rods, and the entire plant is grounded as a unit to a nearby river.

POWDER MONKEYS

It took a newsreel of the fighting in New Guinea to bring home to me what a terrible responsibility we "powder monkeys" bear. On the screen I saw American howitzers—75's and 105's, the same guns I'd been making charges for during the past months—firing over the heads of our own troops at the Japs 5 miles away. Everything depended upon how accurately the charges had been made. If there was a little too much powder, American shells would explode harmlessly behind enemy positions. If the loads were light, our own soldiers might be killed. The men who work with us realize the importance of turning out perfect loads. Most of them expect to be in the Army soon.

When I came to work, nearly half the employees in the smokeless powder area were men.

Each of us has at least one relative in uniform. Six of my cousins are serving with the armed forces; one of them is reported missing in North Africa. The boy I'am engaged to expects to be called up soon; so far he's been deferred against his will because they're short of welding instructors at the shipyard where he works. I intend to marry him before he goes.

I've been told that a single army division will burn up more than 1,000,000 of pounds of explosives in a single day. That's an awful lot of charges; and it's up to us to turn them out. One girl and a helper can assemble and tie 1,200 charges daily. Afternoon is when we really hit our stride. Four-bag 75-millimeter loads slide through our assembly-room like pennies from the mint.

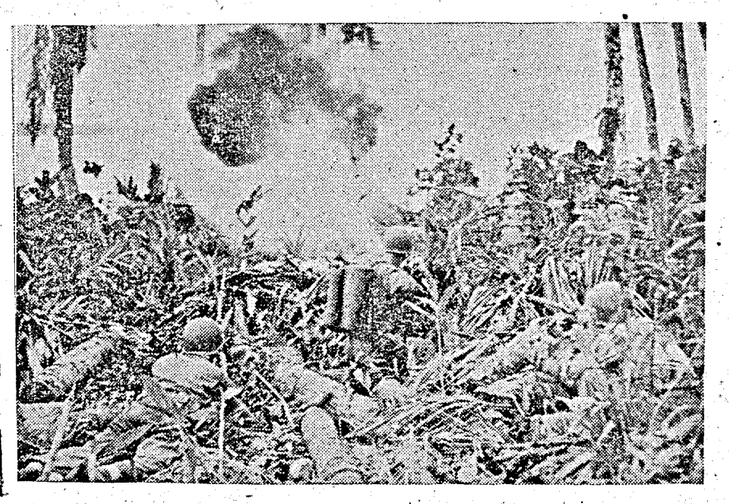
About 3 o'clock our house foreman makes the rounds and asks for girls to work overtime. Ususally I volunteer. For days running, when the production "heat" is on, I've worked straight through till midnight. It's pretty tough, though, getting home at 1 a.m., to rise and shine again at 6-30.

ALL-GIRL PLANT

Gradually this is getting to be an all-girl plant. The draft has taken more than 1,000 men, and most of the replacements have been feminine. So far, we girls have shouldered all but the heaviest duties in the explosives area. Men still "stack" the 300-pound charges for the giant coast-defence guns; but before long I bet we take that over, too. If women railway workers can lay tracks and repair locomotives, I don't see why we're not capable of running a powder loading plant from start to finish.

And we're not fooling ourselves about the risks we run. We know that we've been lucky. Thanks to the endless safeguards by which we are surrounded we may never suffer a real disaster.

Our jobs don't leave much time for civilian defence activities. But most of us feel we've done our bit when we've loaded powder all day long and for as many hours overtime as we're asked to put in. We're pretty proud of our job, you see.



UNITED STATE TROOPS ADVANCE BEHIND FLAME-THROWER.—United State infantrymen, advancing through the jungles of New Georgia Island in the Central Solomons, crouch low while a flame-thrower hurls a devastating stream of fire ahead. Flame-throwers were used effectively against Japanese pill-boxes in the Allied campaign to capture Munda Airfield on New Georgia.

THE LIFE AND DEATH OF 'HELENA'

[After a life of almost continuous action, one of America's most gallant ships goes down "firing so fast that she was lit up in the dark like liquid fire squirting from a hose."]

SHE was fleet and lean, 10,000 tons with a 100,000 h.p. heart and fifteen 6-inch guns for her voice. Only her boxy stern, where she could carry eight planes, and the squat derrick cocked on her fantail, marred her clean lines. She was water-borne in the murky tide off Brooklyn, New York, in August 1938, while Japanese "fishermen" could still map soundings off United States coasts. She died in the early dark of July 7, 1943, deep in the Kula Gulf between New Georgia and Kolombangara in the South Pacific. Her pallbearers, the eleven Jap cruisers and destroyers which had gone down under her guns in her short career of head-long action.

That was the light cruiser Helena.

Last week the United States Navy released her story, for the honour of the men who served in her, and for the tradition that she made.

Putting in at Montevideo on her shakedown cruise in 1939, the Helena got her first look at war when she passed close aboard the German pocket battleship *Graf Spee*, scuttled in the bay. Her second, closer look came at Pearl Harbour. She was hit, and that day her crew became a fighting team. Her 5-inch anti-aircraft battery, her light weapons spoke with the trained, nervous insistance of a machine. Helena knocked down six Jap planes that calamitous day.

Patched up at Pearl Harbour, she limped to Mare Island, Califf, for permanent repairs. With new men aboard, she sailed for the South Pacific, trained incessantly at the job her men prized most-gunnery. She made two runs to Guadalcanal, served as escort for the carrier Hornet, then joined the task force which included the Wasp. The Helena was there when the Wasp was torpedoed, took aboard many of the survivors.

On October 11 last year, the *Helena* steamed into her first major engagement. She was part of the task force ordered to intercept the strong Jap force moving to reinforce their units on Guadalcanal. In the battle of Cape Esperance, the United States force turned back the Japs, sank four cruisers, four destroyers and a transport. The *Helena* cashed in then on her gunners.

At 14 minutes before midnight, her batteries spoke. Her target was a Nip destroyer. Just 98 seconds later it was ablaze. As the enemy ship exploded and sank, the *Helena* swung her guns on a cruiser.

Four and a half minutes later the blazing cruiser sank. The *Helena* turned on another cruiser slugging it out with a United States cruiser near by. The enemy went down.

A Jap destroyer slipped in close, let go a torpedo. The *Helena* dodged, wheeled, finished off the attacker, which was already under fire from another United States ship. The enemy fleet turned and fled.

The *Helena's* score in her first battle: four targets, four ships sunk, with two assists by other United States craft. On the Helena, no hits, no casualties.

She cruised with a task force looking for Japs, escorted convoys, dodged a second torpedo attack—this time from a submarine. She put in one busy day silencing shore batteries which had bracketed United States transports unloading at Guadalcanal. The Japs sent over bombers. The *Helena* got four of the nine shot down by the United States ships.

The decisive Battle of Guadalcanal began in earnest that night. The *Helena* was the first to sight the enemy ships. A Jap cruiser slashed the darkness with her searchlight, caught the *Helena*, opened fire. The *Helena* was already on the target. She fired from the hip: a full salvo. The Jap burned like a torch lighting the way for the United States destroyers. As the Jap cruiser began to sink, the Helena's secondary battery pounded down a destroyer.

The Japs began a withdrawal. One of their cruisers was slamming shells at the San Francisco, which had tangled with a Jap battleship and taken the salvo which killed Rear Admiral Daniel J. Callaghan and her skipper, Medal-of-Honourman Cassin Young. The *Helena* sank the cruiser and a destroyer, shot up three other ships. The United States beachhead in the Solomons was finally secure.

The *Helena* steamed on to her destiny. She pounded enemy airfields, troop areas, shore batteries. Down in her log went names now legendary, Munda, Vila, Kolombangara, Enogai Inlet, Bairoko Harbour. Finally came the battle of Kula Gulf, a turning point which cost the Jap something between nine and eleven cruisers and destroyers. It cost the United States one ship: the *Helena*.

The Japs, landing troops to reinforce Munda, were caught flatfooted. At 1-55 a.m., July 7, the battle was joined with the "Tokyo Express."

Time Correspondent Duncan Norton-Taylor, on the bridge of another United States ship, was an eye-witness. He cabled: "Five of their ships died in our first onslaught. Others spoke back . . . but soon it was plain they were depending more heavily on another weapon. The frantic enemy was firing torpedo spreads."

Torpedoes got the *Helena*. Her main battery had been trained on one of the big Jap ships. She opened up with a blinding burst of flame, sank it. Her secondary battery smashed one Jap destroyer, then another. Other United States ships were firing salvos, but the *Helena* chose to use "continuous fire." Her gunflames flarred from stem to stern. In the brief moments left of her life she loosed perhaps a thousand rounds from main batteries alone and her thunder could be heard for miles.

Her bow had been blown off, but the remaining turrets were still blazing away. She was *firing so fast* that she was constantly lit up in the dark, "like liquid fire squirting from a hose."

Then suddenly the Gulf was dark again. There were no more targets, they had been destroyed. The United States ships moved off. Said Norton-Taylor's despatch:

"It was then that we picked up, in the beam of a searchlight, a ship's bow protruding from the quiet sea. The Admiral ordered a destroyer to investigate. For a long time the destroyer was silent, as she also threw a beam. The Admiral kept asking: 'Who is it? Who is it? Acknowledge. Acknowledge'."

"His impatience was plain over the TBS ('talk-between-ships') loud-speakers on the bridges of the United States ships waiting in the dark. It seemed an unconscionable time before the destroyer, her searchlight still probing, answered: '*I am sorry to report it is Five Zero*'."

That was the *Helena*. She had gone down in 20 minutes, but her bow had floated a little while longer. Then it, too, was gone. She sank gently, without exploding, the thick oil bubbling black as the Pacific night from her shattered hull. The men went over the side, into the oil. There was no fire.

Recently, the United States Navy added a postscript: nearly 1,000 men of the *Helena's* complement "to-day stand fit and ready to fight again." Some of them, oil-smeared and haggard, were picked up near the ship's grave. Others got to near-by islands, lived with the resourcefulness of good fighting men, were finally retrieved. They went to other ships, other stations. But they were still *Helena* men, and they always would be.

The sergeant was trying to train an awkward squad of recruits.

"'Shun! About turn!" he roared. Then, as he eyed the mix up hopelessly, he went on; "As you were!"

Most of them shuffled into the last position, but Private Jones stood still, looking vacantly ahead.

"You!" snapped the sergeant. "I said, 'As you were'!"

"I eard, sarge," replied Jones unhappily "but 'ow were I?"

TRADITION OF SERVICE

By CONNERY CHAPPELL

SOME of the great names in Britain's long history have appeared all over again in the headlines of World War II, distinguishing themselves in the desert battles of Atrica, in the air war over the Ruhr, in the lightning interceptor clashes of the English Channel, in the ceaseless Battle of the Atlantic.

Thus it is that a diligent search of the files would produce a Nelson and a Beatty in the Navy, a Haig and an Allenby in the Army, a Shackleton in the Royal Air Force and so on, suggesting that the sons and daughters of the leaders and the heroes of World War I are perpetuating the tradition in this one, that the descendants of the Wellingtons and the Marlboroughs of old are again playing their full part in Britain's destiny.

STORY OF TWO GENERATION

What does this mean? Does it imply that distinction, success, and even heroism are the peculiar properties of certain families? Of course not. It means nothing of the sort. For the Cohens and the Kellys, and the people like John Smith, could point to the same thing in their own families. They, too, are motivated by exactly the same tradition of service. But, being John Smiths, retiring fellows who have their hour, win their medal perhaps, and then retire, nobody hears much about them. Which is exactly what they themselves want. So the Wellingtons and the Marlboroughs are not so much exceptions as striking illustrations to the rule: in short, there is only a difference of degree between the story of two generations of the Keyes family, and the story of John Smith.

The first Keyes, Keyes of Zeebrugge, who is now Admiral of the Fleet Lord Keyes, led the most daring naval raid of the last war: his son Geoffrey Keyes, V.C., was killed leading a Commando raid on Rommel's headquarters in November 1941. That is the Keyes tradition of service.

THE SAME SPIRIT

The same tradition is there with John Smith, who is now eager to get cracking on the continent of Europe, like his father did in 1914, and like one of his ancestors did with a longbow back at a place called Crecy. The spirit is the same.

Thus it is that so many illustrious names are cropping up again; the name Haig, for instance, is a perpetual reminder of the grim battle of the Somme, the trench deadlock of the last war. Earl Haig, then, led the British Army. His son, the present Earl, was a prisoner in Italy, having been captured in Africa.

Allenby was one of the greatest of the British generals in 1914–18, too. He was the terror of the Middle East. The present Viscount Allenby, his nephew, is a Lieutenant-Colonel in the Yeomanry, on active foreign service.

ECHO OF "OLD CONTEMPTIBLES"

Earl Beatty, son of the last war naval leader, has already distinguished himself. He is a Lieutenant-Commander in the Navy, and won the Distinguished Service Cross in the Dieppe raid.

Yet he was not the first son of a last war naval leader to be decorated in this war, for only nine days before his award was announced it was stated that Lord Jellicoe, who is in the Commandos, had won the D.S.O.

Then, too, there is an Earl Kitchener in the Royal Corps of Signals, nephew of the man who directed that first thin line of troops which the Kaiser called the Contemptible Little Army. Among the other famous names of the last war, there is the Earl of Birkenhead, one of Britain's most brilliant lawyers. The present Earl of Birkenhead is an officer in the Artillery.

LLOYD GEORGES AND CHURCHILLS

Mr. Lloyd George, the Welshman who played so great a part in fashioning the destiny of the last war, reminds one of Major Gwilym Lloyd George and Miss Megan Lloyd George; the former is Minister of Fuel, and is a distinguished Parliamentarian; the daughter is chairman of the Welsh Parliamentary Party, in which capacity she actually presides over her illustrious father. She is, of course, an M.P. herself. Other members of the younger generation who have distinguished themselves in the executive rather than the fighting fields include Mr. Richard Law, now Minister of State. He is the son of the late Premier Bonar Law.

Quite obviously, of course, no family provides a more striking example of the tradition of service than the Churchills themselves.

Randolph Churchill, the Prime Minister's son, and himself a Member of Parliament, is a major in the Army. The Churchill daughters, too, are doing their bit: Diana, eldest of the girls, was in the W.R.N.S.—Britain's Women's Navy—but she resigned and became a hospital nurse. She is married to Duncan Sandys, who is Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Supply, and has one son and one daughter.

Sarah Churchill, who married the American comedian Vic Oliver, is an officer in the Women's Auxiliary Air Force, having worked her way up from the ranks, and Mary Churchill, the youngest, is an officer in the Auxiliary Territorial Service.

TENNYSON AND DICKENS

The great names which carry on this tradition of service are not, of course, confined to politics and the military machine. There is a Tennyson in the Army, a Shackleton, son of the Antarctic Explorer, in the Royal Air Force, and so on.

'An anti-tank rifle going into action'.

But two men must be mentioned. One is Lieutenant Peter Dickens, Royal Navy, great grandson of Charles Dickens, the author, and son of an Admiral. Dickens is one of the most brilliant officers in the light coastal patrol service—the motor torpedo boats which career across the narrow seas between Britain and the enemy.

These small and rather fragile boats are the terriers of a modern navy. Lieutenant Dickens, who has been decorated twice, in one of three aces of the torpedo boat war. The others are Lieutenant-Commander Hichens, who has been killed in action, and Lieutenant-Commander Peter Malcolm Scott, whose exploits are rapidly becoming legendary.

Like Dickens, Scott bears a famous name. His father was "Captain Scott of the South Pole," the valiant Antarctic explorer, who died in the snow desert. In civil life Scott is a well-known painter and student of bird life; his home is a lighthouse off Norfolk. The name of Scott, like the names of so many others, lives on to-day, as the tradition of service continues.

So much litter disfigured the parade ground that the orderly officer put a squad on to tidy it up. They did their best, but the day was windy and the debris frolicsome.

"Finished?" asked the officer, when the corporal in charge reported to him, "Everything picked up?"

"Y-yes, sir," was the hesitating reply; "all except one dirty bit o' paper which blew in at the window of the colonel's office, sir."

"Well, get it out man!"

"I can't sir—he's just signed it."

THE MAGNIFICENT EIGHTH

HOW SUPERIOR BRITISH FIRE-POWER AND ARMOUR ROUTED THE AXIS ARMIES

A general definition which could embrace the purposes of all modern weapons might be as follows:—"To direct the destructive projectile of the right type, on to the right place, at the right time and with the right frequency." Present day warfare would demand one further requirement—namely "whilst on the move."

The British Eighth Army has been referred to (even by the enemy) as "the most efficient fighting machine in history." This phraso can be given a literary as well as a general interpretation. It is in fact a very complicated piece of apparatus designed to overcome every defensive obstacle put in its path by the enemy.

All the weapons of to-day are machines. It is not enough to be able to propel a shell or bullet over a given distance. It is essential that each of the factors contained in the aforementioned definition shall be continuously adjustable during operation. In the case of medium artillery weapons, for instance, range, traverse, type of shell and the timing of the shell fuse, can all be modified without it being necessary for the weapon to go out of action. Moreover the rate of fire in some modern guns demands a quite complicated mechanism for the smooth loading, cocking and cartridge ejection. Though the number of moving parts in any weapon must be kept to a minimum, it is in the ingenuity of the mechanical design that the smooth working of the weapon lies.

HIGHLY EFFICIENT

The Eighth Army has reached a high degree of efficiency by the careful selection of the most suitable weapons. All weapons have limitations and British armament experts have recognized this fact; developing maximum efficiency in only those characteristics of each individual weapon which can be most profitably utilized in battle. It is not necessary, for instance, for an anti-tank weapon to do any more than put out of action an enemy armoured fighting vehicle and its crew. Therefore, such guns as a 6-pounder and the 25-pounder need not be expected completely to blow an enemy tank to pieces. But it is essential that they shall be fully mobile, as light as possible in weight, possess a high degree of accuracy and a very quick action, not only in rate of fire, but in quick traverse and elevation so that fast moving targets can be kept in the sights. This might be summed up by saying that anti-tank weapons should have maximum "nullifying power" as distinct from destructive power.

Another group of artillery weapons (the heavier ones) are designed primarily to breach fortified enemy defence positions. It is essential that they shall be able to break up heavy concrete or steel armour—in short to possess the greatest possible degree of "demolition power." In the case of desert warfare however, over which the Eighth Army have demonstrated their complete mastery, very strongly fortified positions were not to be expected so that the very heavy guns, necessarily less mobile, have not been needed. By developing the penetrative powers of the 25-pounder shell and by the use of slightly heavier guns and howitzers, sufficient demolition power for the breaching of Axis defences was achieved.

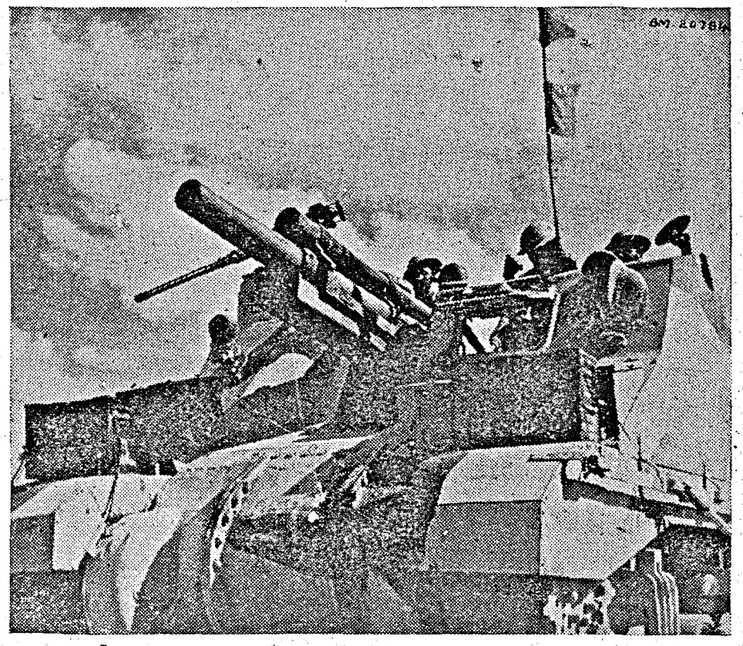
Because the depth of the battle zone in modern warfare is so extended, range becomes one of the more serious problems which the Eighth Army have solved, not only by rapid movement of its artillery, but also by the use of the "tank buster" aircraft—Hurricane's fitted with two 40-mm. guns which, though they can be carried in a small fighter aircraft are sufficiently powerful to put enemy tanks out of action.

SMALL ARMS

The whole range of "small arms" provide the third essential requirement of a modern high speed army—killing power. Development has, therefore, been concentrated in the direction of rate of fire. Except in the case of the sniper, small arms are not generally used over ranges of more than 200-400 yards, but when that fire is brought to bear on the enemy, it is of such intensity that nothing can live in it.

For every sort of fighting problem the Eighth Army have a weapon suitable for its solution. Learning in the hard school of actual warfare British armament designers are developing to a greater and greater degree those characteristics in which every gun, automatic, shell and bomb excels.

One of Rommel's unpleasant surprises—the 105-mm. self-propelled gun howitzer—was so successful in the Eighth Army's desert victories. It is mounted on a M 3. 'General Grant' chassis and is known as the "Priest gun."



THE "PRIEST"—NEW Eighth ARMY WEAPON WHICH BEAT THE GERMAN 88-MM. GUNS.—Pictures have now been released of the "Priest"—the 105-mm. self-propelled gun—howitzer which has played so notable a part in the Eighth Army's desert victories. Known as the M-5, by the United States Army it is mounted on an M-3 General Grant chassis, carrying an anti-aircraft gun. In his Battle of Egypt speech, November 11th, 1942, Mr. Churchill, revealed that large numbers of these high-velocity guns had been sent to Egypt from the United States. He described them as "Most useful weapons for contending with the 88 millimetre high-velocity guns, of which the Germans have made so much use." In the hands of some of the most seasoned United Kingdom regiments, they have lived up to all expectations. Picture shows: *the business end of a "Priest" 105-mm. self-propelling gun.*

The 'Churchill' tank fitted with a 6-pounder gun, was one of the many armoured vehicles which proved, in the hands of the magnificent Eighth Army the supremacy of British design and engineering.

High speed and big punch characterises the 'Crusader' tank. Used for pursuit because of its speed and carrying the 6-pounder which compares in range and size of projectile favourably with the German 15-mm. anti-tank gun, it proved its merit as a formidable weapon in the Western Desert.

Another unpleasant surprise for Rommel was the American "Sherman" tank, armed with a 75-mm. gun and with a high turn of speed.

Because they have a wide range of weapons each with valuable individual characteristics, the Eighth Army achieved its brilliant successes.

The brilliant 25-pounder gun, many hundreds of which provided that astonishing barrage which opened General Montgomery's victorious campaign in North Africa being highly mobile was able still further to strengthen the powerful assault on the enemy's rear defence lines.

One of the most effective weapons in the Eighth Army's armour is the anti-tank rifle. Its accuracy and penetrative power has resulted in the loss to the Axis forces of many a tank.

The Bren gun carrier is not, as is popularly supposed, a tank. It is a very high speed armoured fighting vehicle able to traverse rough terrain and is one means of transport of Britain's infantry in action. It is a curious fact that the Axis have no equivalent of a Bren gun carrier.

A number of highly efficient trench mortars have been used with great success by the Eighth Army in projecting highly destructive "bombs" and grenades into enemy strong points.

The simple but nevertheless highly efficient mechanical design of the British 2-pounder anti-tank gun contributes to speed and ease of operation.

The two 40-mm. guns fitted into the 'Hurricane' weigh only 320 lb. each, but fire at a high rate an explosive shell of great penetrative power. Referred to as 'tank-busters' these aircraft gave Rommel yet another jolt.

Reports have been received of a bookseller in Copenhagen being arrested for having displayed in his window two large pictures of Hitler and Mussolini. Apart from these pictures the window was empty—except that a copy of Victor Hugo's "Les Misirables" had been laid—rather carelessly (!)—just in front of the pictures!

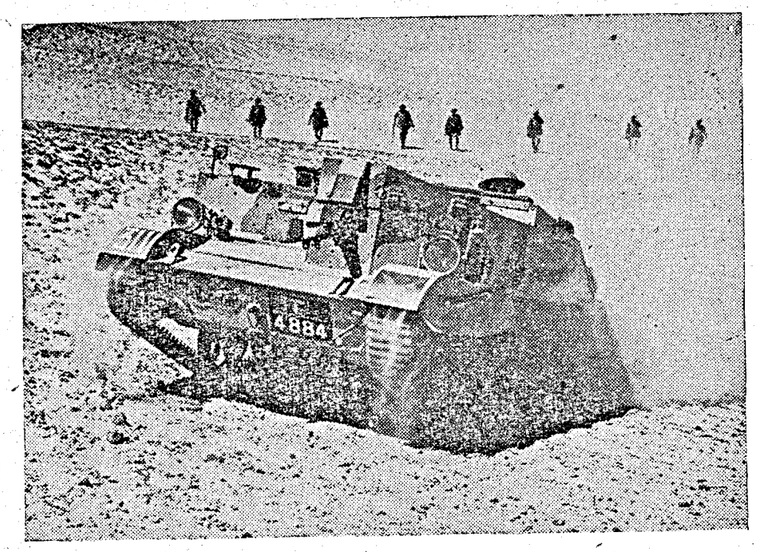
* * * *

A Nazi soldier told a Dane that he was tired of the war and wished it would stop.

"What will you do when the war stops?" asked the Dane.

"The first thing I would do, would be to go on a hike round the New Third Reich." was the reply.

Said the Dane: "Yes,—but what are you going to do in the afternoon?"!



INDIAN TROOPS TRAINING IN THE DESERT.—Many Indian regiments are in training in the Desert which includes trench digging, erecting barbed wire entanglements, the use of the Bren gun and carriers, and in all branches of warfare they prove to be highly efficient. A Bren gun advancing over a difficult part of the Desert followed by infantry.

Picture shows *one of Britain's surprise weapons which are taking a big part in the present battles—the 'Sherman' tanks, they have a 75-mm. gun mounted in the turret, and a high turn of speed. A number of 'Shermans' proceeding towards the battle front.*

DON'T CALL THEM VANDALS

By RAYMOND MOLEY

IT isn't fair to call the Nazis vandals. It just isn't fair to the Vandals. For centuries the world has done those barbarians a great wrong. From all accounts, they were a simple lot—a bunch of hicks who wandered into the China shop of civilization, pawed over some highly breakable things in awe and admiration, accidentally broke a few and were later themselves broken up and absorbed by the Western countries into which they came. They were by origin Germanic. Their sack of Rome in 455 was not ferocious. Pope Leo received their leader, Genseric, more or less peacefully.

Compare this with the sack of Naples. The Nazis thoroughly soaked with gasoline the books and buildings of the library of the Royal Society, the buildings of the University of Naples, the third oldest in the world, and applied fire and grenades. The fury of their attack upon the precious monuments of Rome is not yet known. These Nazis are, remember, a disciplined army drawn from one of the most literate nations in the world.

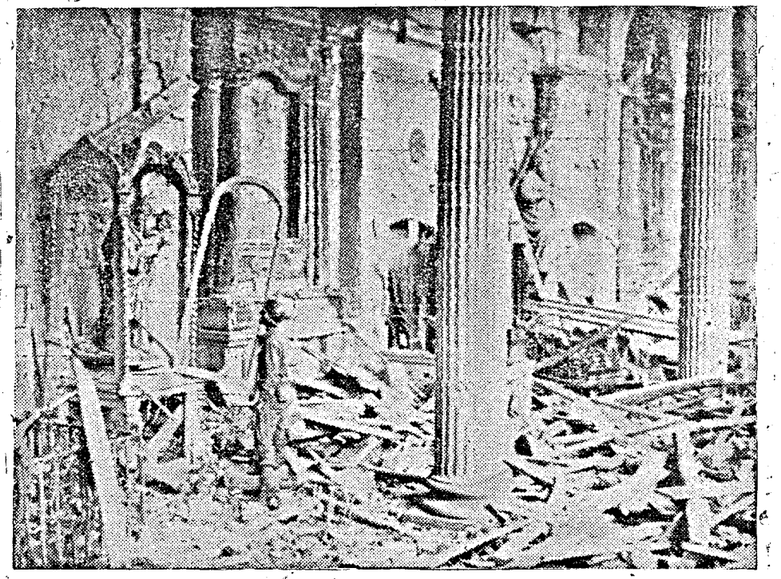
In 1527, 1,100 years after Genseric, Germans again visited Rome. They had made progress in brutality. According to the Cambridge Modern History they "rejoiced to burn and to defile what all the world had adored. Churches were desecrated, women, even the religious, violated, ambassadors pillaged, cardinals put to ransom, ecclesiastical dignitaries and ceremonies made a mockery, and the soldiers fought among themselves for the spoil."

Pope Clement VII, a member of the Medici clan, refused the "protection" of the invaders, donned his robes, mounted his throne and prepared to meet his fate. The fury passed, and he survived.

In the face of this history, can Hitler really believe that Pius XII, an abler and more widely experienced man than Clement, will flinch? Pius is no stranger to Germans. Some 30,000,000 German Catholics know of his courage and superlative diplomacy in Germany during and after the last war. He has faced German guns before. His role in this emergency is to confront Hitler with the most serious crisis of the Fuhrer's black career. If harm comes to the Pope, if he is removed by force—and force would be necessary—the loyalty of 30,000,000 German Catholics may explode in wrath.

But the desecration of Rome and other great centres of artistic, intellectual and religious interest is inevitable, since war is war and Hitler has chosen to make Italy a battleground. With money, some restoration is possible, though no one can ever really reconstruct the past.

The calculated and deliberate destruction of precious things by the Nazis, however, will enable the United Nations to press home to Germans and Germanic satellites the singular nature of the Nazi party. It has had no parallel in history.



THIS BUILDING WAS ONCE A BEAUTIFUL CHURCH.—It was a monument and a cultural link with the past. But the Germans destroyed it even though there was nothing about it which could be connected with military value.

THIS RADIOPHOTO SENT TO INDIA FROM ITALY shows a typical scene of damage and destruction which the retreating Nazis wrecked upon an innocent Italian town. American soldiers are helping to clean away the debris.

"ATTACK—ATTACK!" HIS MOTTO

By MAJOR C. B. THORNE, M.C.

In this article Major C. B. Thorne describes General Alexander's ability as a great Commander. The General whose appointment as Commander in-Chief of Allied Armies in Italy was announced last week (December 24), has a profound knowledge of the fighting soldier and appreciates the value of understanding every detail of fighting organization. Major Thorne, the auther of this sketch, served at Gallipoli and in France and is an authority on military strategy and tactics.

BRITAIN began the war with an army inadequate in size and equipment for the tasks it was called on to perform. But she had a number of highly trained general officers, keen and progressive, whose abilities were to be fully proved as the army grow in men and arms.

Long before the outbreak of hostilities General Alexander was recognized as an extremely able professional soldier. During the World War I he received rapid promotion. In 1916 he was a major at the age of 25, and the following year promoted to command a battalion of the Irish Guards in action. At the Battle of the Marne he was awarded the French Legion of Honour. At Loos he won the Military Cross, and received the Distinguished Service Order during the Somme offensive. He was mentioned in despatches five times and twice wounded.

Alexander was brought up in conventional surroundings. A public school education, thence through the Royal Military College to the Regular Army. He is a man of medium height with dark hair and moustache together with a direct and determined look. Although a great athlete and very tough his bodily fitness does not accompany an indifference to things of the mind. He is now 51 years old, but looks considerably younger.

CLARITY IN ORDERS

He possesses a profound knowledge of the fighting soldier and appreciates the value of understanding every detail of fighting organization. He is a man of strong will and demands that orders should be clear and concise rather than chatty requests. He aims at clarity and simplicity throughout, and whilst he encourages initiative, it is his contention that success depends on long apprenticeship and a thorough knowledge of well tried methods. It is only then that genius can and should, if necessary, depart from the rules and improvise.

At the termination of the last war he commanded a battalion of the Irish Guards. In 1934 he commanded a Brigade in India and saw service on the North-West Frontier. Returning to England he was promoted in 1938 to Major-General to command the 1st British Division which he took to France where he later commanded the 1st Corps. General Alexander not only participated in the retreat of the British Expeditionary Force through Belgium, but on May 31, 1940, assumed responsibility for the organization of the final defensive arrangements at Dunkirk. Although the evacuation from Dunkirk was a strategic defeat, the tactical handling of the evacuation of some 300,000 men in a short space of time in the face of an enemy who was then

GENERAL ALEXANDER.

vastly superior in every respect must be regarded as one of the great achievements in military history.

General Alexander throughout this operation, despite loss of sleep, remained imperturable and cheerful. On the night of June 1/2 he evacuated his few remaining staff officers and was the last to leave the following evening having first seen that every man was off the beaches.

IMPROVED BATTLE TECHNIQUE

Returning to Britain, he became General Officer Commanding Southern Command. Here his recent experience was of the greatest value. He proceeded to inculcate the Commando spirit among his men. His own strength and toughness infused determination into them. His motto was "Attack—attack—even in defence—attack." It was here that he became one of the originators of the Battle Training Schools, and it was here that he set about improving the co-operation between the army and the Royal Air Force, particularly as regards close support. In this important command Alexander was able to greatly improve battle technique.

In February 1942 he was posted to Burma as Commander-in-Chief. Fate was to deny him the opportunity of taking the offensive. For three months he was able, with ill-equipped troops, to withstand the severe pressure of the Japanese, who not only outnumbered the troops under his command, but, who were regularly reinforced. This situation was only brought about by astute generalship. No man could have rendered better service in this thankless task.

In August 1942 General Alexander succeeded General Auchinleck as Commander-in-Chief in the Middle East. He took over just in time to break the Axis full scale attack on the El Alamein positions. Three months of previous fighting had thinned out Allied lines. The French forces were ill-equipped, and British, American and French troops had been thrown in regardless of nationality wherever danger threatened.

EISENHOWER'S WISE CHOICE

Alexander arrived amid this complicated scene. Few had ever heard of him but he soon became known. Thousands of men were hastily moved from one place to another. Three armies were sorted out and supplied with the correct proportion of arms, tanks, workshops and other necessary components. Alexander's plan of battle took shape. This re-organization created confidence and respect. The Eighth Army came into being and the strategy was perfected which carried that army to Tunisia.

It was in the final events of the North African campaign that General Eisenhower's shrewd judgment became manifest. In his appointment of General Alexander as Commander-in-Chief of the Allied Armies in the line he made an extremely wise selection. The tactical handling of the final issue could not have been more successfully carried out.

The hand-to-hand fighting through the hills, the preparation of air co-operation for the final assault, the movement of reserves preparatory to the attack on Bizerta and Tunis, and the rapidity with which the Axis forces were overthrown was the work of a master hand. General Alexander's great knowledge of his profession and his clarity of thought enable large issues to appear simple to him. It is his faith in simplicity which no doubt makes him a great leader.

Standing at his post by the canal bank in the hush of night, the Home Guard heard someone approaching. Waiting until he thought the new-comer was near enough, he challenged:

"Halt! Who goes there?"

"Friend!" came the prompt reply in a "well-oiled" voice.

"Advance and be recognised," he ordered.

From the darkness came the angry retort:

"What do you think I am—a blooming duck? I'm on the other side!"

SKYROCKETS GROW UP

By G. EDWARD PENDRAY

OUT of the last war came two great industries—the airplane and the radio. In the cauldron of World War II other new industries are being borne. What will emerge we cannot yet say; but many engineering men believe that one major result will bring rockets into our lives in a big wag.

Rockets! For years man's fancy has played with them. In fiction stories, in the cinema, in comic strips, rocket-borne people have sped through space beyond the Earth's atmosphere—to the Moon, to Venus, to Mars and beyond. It takes a healthy imagination to picture such things . . . but some day they might really happen.

When you ride on a rocket ship, however, you don't have to go to another planet. You might want to visit China, say—or even the next large city. And this kind of rocket travel may not seem so fantastic any more, in the light of things that have been accomplished in this war. To-day the Allies—yes, and our enemies, too—are doing things that make the actual development of passenger-carrying rocket ships seem really within our grasp.

Before the war, rocketry was pretty much of a hobby. We who belonged to rocket societies took its possibilities seriously, but the general public thought of us as a bunch of long-haired crackpots. The war is changing all that. Actually, most of the men deeply interested in rockets are hard-headed engineers. To-day many are in uniform working on military projects—some of them highly secret—which are making the rocket one of the most successful weapons of modern warfare.

POST-WAR TRAVEL

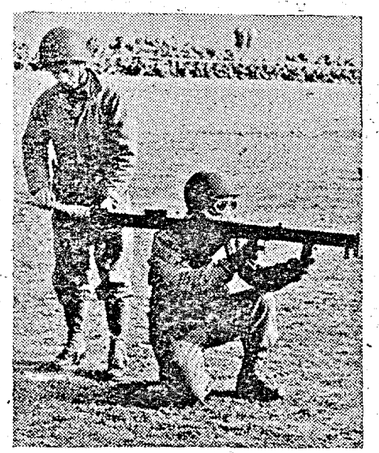
That we shall use rocket power in our postwar travels is now virtually a foregone conclusion. It is quite possible that planes will be equipped with a rocket mechanism to produce power which will propel them through the air much faster than any conventional motor could do. Before that day comes, however, passenger and cargo planes will almost certainly take off and land with the help of rockets. Rockets will get them into the air more quickly and with heavier loads; will brake their landing speeds. Almost certainly, too, we shall use rockets to propel inanimate objects through the air-mail, perhaps, which will move with speeds rivaling the telegraph.

As a weapon, the rocket's advantages are obvious. In its simplest form, it is virtually a self-propelled projectile. It has no recoil, and there is no need for a heavy barrel or a stout breech in the firing mechanism.

The Russian Stormovik anti-tank bombers, which have been giving such an excellent account of themselves on the

Flame and smoke spurt from the back end of a "bazooka," America's new anti-tank gun which uses a rocket projectile. The rocket charge gives the projectile terrific speed which is an important factor in anti-tank weapons. Many guns and planes are now using the rocket principle.

Eastern Front, are armed with rockets. Ordinary bombs fall toward the target merely under the pull of gravity: but these rocket-propelled bombs add the thrust of a mighty charge of propellent powder. When they strike the target their impact may be four times that of an ordinary bomb. It cracks a tank's armor like an eggshell, and the high explosive goes off inside the vehicle, blowing it to scrap metal.



This is a picture of America's new rocket gun, the "bazooka" used in anti-tank warfare. The standing soldier loads a rocket projectile into the rear of the weapon which is held and fired by the kneeling soldier. The rocket principle is being used more and more in modern weapons and planes.

In 1941 Germans complained of "fiendish" new weapons the Russians were using against their Stukas at the siege of Moscow. These weapons were simply anti-aircraft rockets, sent up in such clusters that dive-bombers couldn't avoid being hit. The Russians have also developed some remarkable rocket-shooting Big Berthas as ground weapons against tanks.

BAZOOKA

Because of military secrecy, we know more about what the enemy is doing in developing rocket weapons than we know of our own forces. Only occasionally is there a disclosure, such as the recent announcement of the American "bazooka" gun. Actually, the "bazooka" looks like nothing more than a length of four-inch pipe, with a gadget at the front for steadying it. It can be carried easily by two men, even at a dog-trot. A jeep can pick up one and go bucketing over the country. Yet this feather-weight piece of ordnance hurls a high-explosive projectile of big-gun caliber—and it can blow the daylights out of a tank.

Both ends of the bazooka tube are open. In use, one man holds it across his shoulder and aims it at the target. The other man inserts the rocket-driven projectile into the breech and ducks aside. There is a loud sudden swish, a flash—and the projectile is away at astounding velocity.

After battle tests in North Africa, where the bazooka was used to destroy both tanks and fortifications, Major-General Levin H. Campbell, Jr., United States Chief of Ordnance, said: "Any foot soldier using it can stand his ground with the certain knowledge that he is master of any tank that may attack him."

One of the British rocket weapons is a device that fires lovely bouquets of spear-shaped anti-aircraft rockets to altitudes as high as five miles. Some shoot out parachutes from which trail long steel wires to snare the propellers of invading planes.

After the war we may well see commercial airplanes, at least the larger of them, powered in this way—airplanes which will no longer announce their presence overhead with the thrum of multi-cylindered reciprocating engines, but will move instead with a steady roaring or swishing sound. Jet-assisted take-off seems likely to become commonplace as freight or passenger planes get bigger. The laws of economics will force them to seek the ultimate in load-carrying capacity. The same kind of jet motors may be used to catapult airplanes off ships or brake the speed of planes so they can land on them.

One rather obvious use of rockets is to replace balloons in weather research. This might lead to discoveries which would have revolutionary effects on the science of the weather, and in our daily lives. Suppose we were to shoot rockets, carrying recording instruments, not only a few miles but 100 or 200 miles into sky. Should we find an electric charge surrounding the earth with unsuspected effect on us? Should we learn new secrets of electronics? The possibilities are enormous.

ROCKET MAIL SERVICE

But the use of rockets as a means of communication and transportation is what stimulates us most. It has seemed fantastic for so long that it is hard to accept real possibilities. Yet a rocket mail service was in regular operation, even before the war, between the two small Austrian mountain towns of Schokel and Radegund. Mail and express service, at lightning speed, seems a very real postwar possibility.

Moving people in rockets involves much greater difficulties. Passenger-carrying rockets would require automatic controls and some system of steering by radio beam or electric eye. And unless ways could be found to cushion the passengers against the effects of almost unbelievable speeds and accelerations, it might be pretty uncomfortable.

But one could have breakfast in New York, hold a business conference in London, and be back in New York in time for dinner.

The time when that can be done may not be as far away as you think. For the age of rockets is just ahead.

AERIAL WAR PHOTOGRAPHY

THE art of aerial observation was once the province of men with sharp eyes and retentive memories who flew wobbly planes over enemy lines and came back with as many details as they could remember. To-day aerial observation is a science of high-speed planes and complicated cameras which fly at great height, at great speed, often in darkest night to record exactly what the enemy is doing.

This war has shown that battles can be won or lost by aerial reconnaissance. Rommel's air reconnaissance let him down at El Alamein and again at Tunis. Knowing this the Allied Air Forces for years have been testing the technique of air photography as carefully as it tests airplanes and guns. Extraordinary equipment which has made the army's eyes sharper and surer than they have ever been before has been developed. Its latest photographic device is the shutterless continuous-strip camera. Used on low-flying, high-speed planes, it takes not a series of snaps but one long, uninterrupted flow of pictures.

When the United States Army two years ago faced the prospect of global war, it realized that it would soon have to send its fliers over territory which was either inadequately mapped or not mapped at all—South American jungles, African desert, Asian wastes. The job of helping to get maps done was given to Colonel Minton Kaye, now Chief of United States Army Air Forces Photographic Services. With Lieut.-Colonel Gerald Fitzgerald and the Geological Survey, Colonel Kaye devised the fastest method of photographing for map-making ever tried. It is called tri-metrogon mapping.

The tri-metrogon method uses three wide-angle lens cameras set up to photograph the terrain from horizon to horizon. Flying down a planned course, a plane can photograph 20,000 square miles in three hours. The pictures are then translated into useful, small-scale aerial navigation maps. From film to final map is so fast that one map covering 89,000 square miles of Africa was ready for use only a week after films were received in America.

There are still men in the Allied Air Forces who remember the old days in their open cockpit planes when they hugged the stick between their knees and leaned over the side to aim their cameras. General Arnold, now boss of the United States Air Forces, took one of the Army's first air snapshots in 1911. In World War I there were not many aerial photographers. To-day the American Air Forces alone are training 5,000 men for aerial photography.

So important is this work that the United States Air Forces assigns its best and fastest planes for photographic missions.

However sharp and exact they may be, black and white pictures are ultimately not as useful as colour films. Colour can better uncover camouflage, can pick out more easily-remembered landmarks to guide pilots. But for years colour film was of little use in air reconnaissance because, after a picture was taken, the film had to be sent back to the manufacturer for processing. This obstacle has now been overcome by a new, simpler colour film which can be processed and developed anywhere, even in tent darkrooms on the battlefront. It is called Kodacolour Aero by Eastman, one of the American firms that produced it, and has other trade names in other firms. Perfected and first used by the United States Army, it is also being used extensively by the Navy in the South Pacific.

Colour was just one of many problems that Colonel George Goddard, Chief of Aerial Photographic Research for the United States Air Forces, has had to tackle. A great man in modern photography, Colonel Goddard has been doing air-photography research since the last war and works now in the Air Forces Material Centre at Wright Field: He photographed Bataan for MacArthur in 1929, was a pioneer in night photography, simplified film developing and printing equipment. One of his brain children is the new continuous-strip camera. Another is a machine which can make 1,000 black and white prints an hour, even from wet film.

"Good gracious, how terrible!" exclaimed the professor as he finished reading the note left behind by his daughter who had run away.

"Whatever is the matter, dear?" asked his wife, concerned at his obvious distress.

For answer, the professor handed her the letter to read.

"So she's eloped with that nice-looking officer," was the lady's calm comment. "Well, I can't say it's quite unexpected."

"But she's spelt 'eloped' with two l's!" moaned the man of learning.

SANCTUARIES

Situated in the middle of a pleasant valley, cupped by high, jungle-clad hills and sheltered by copses of tall, sturdy ever-green trees which cast long shadows, are several beautiful plots of land on the wild Assam-Burma border. Many of them have received a great deal of care and patient hands have helped the sweet smelling tropical flowers to grow there on the graves of those who have been killed in action against the Japanese.

"Last Sunday I searched among these cemeteries for the grave of a friend," writes an Indian Army Observer, "who was killed in action. I could not have seen more attractive and peaceful a site, and I was deeply moved by the care these beautiful plots of ground have received."

"The first row I saw was one containing the graves of an English lieutenant, an Indian water carrier, a Welch nurse, a South Indian sapper and a Punjabi Jamadar.

"They lay next to each other in a common haven they had little dreamed of.

"I left their sanctuary happy to know that my friend had found such a beautiful resting place . . . "

GAS ATTACK

By WESLEY PRICE

IT was the evening of April 22, 1915. In the Ypres salient the Germans had been lobbing shells over all day, just enough to be annoying. At sunset they loosed a storm of high explosives—heavy stuff, mortar shells everything they had.

Signal rockets went up at dusk and something strange and formless stirred in front of the German positions.

After a bit the Allied troops made out two thick greenish-yellow clouds, oozing toward them. The clouds merged into one, and rode a steady north-east breeze.

This was the beginning of the first mass slaughter of human beings by poison gas in modern times. The Germans started it, despite international agreements not to use gas. Poison, traditionally the weapon of murderers and cowards, had not appeared on the battlefield since 1456, when Hungarians killed Turks with noxious fumes before Belgrade.

The Allied soldiers before Ypres did not know the significance of the coloured cloud moving on them. They had not been warned of gas. For a moment they were merely astonished, and puzzled. No more than that. Then, realizing that this came from the enemy, and therefore must be some new frightfulness, they were afraid.

French troops—mostly African natives—were directly in front of the murky stuff. They teetered on the brink of superstitious panic. Men of the Canadian 3rd Brigade, on the edge of the cloud path, were oppressed by a feeling of helplessness.

MYSTERY MENACE

This wasn't a solid man you could stick a knife into, or a grenade you might throw back, or a shell to be ducked. This was mystery-foul, nameless, menacing. It bulged forward, it crept into every shell crater, every hole; it obscured utterly the ground over which it passed.

Finally it rolled up to the lip of the Allied trenches, and over. The soldiers breathed for the first time the metallic fumes of chlorine gas. Poison had them by the throat.

In gathering darkness soldiers ran back out of the trenches, lost and blinded in a gas cloud 4 miles long, 16 feet high, and 300 yards wide. The breeze ran with them, wrapping them in yellow-green vapour. Some of the men fell. Forth was on their lips, their bodies were wracked with tearing nausea. Other men kept running; they made choking noises, and coughed, and their faces turned dark red.

The running men became a torrent, stumbling across the fields ahead of thinning wisps of poison. The sight of them, retching and clutching at their throats, stupefied officers behind the British front. They knew nothing of the gas attack.

At dark, maddened troops surged through the village of Vlamertinghe. They were screaming, and they ran aimlessly among gun carriages and ammunition wagons. With them came artillery horses, plunging and terrified. Gassed men lay down in the street to die. Military traffic was in chaos. The poison gas cloud cleared a gap four-and-a-half mile wide in the Allied lines. They were only dead and dying in that space. The two French divisions, one Algerian, one Territorial, virtually disappeared. The French artillery fell silent, its gun crews gassed out of action. The whole north flank of the Ypres salient was undefended.

After the gas rolled on, German patrols, equipped with crude masks, cautiously left their trenches and shuffled toward the Allied positions. The scouts tested the air, and beckoned masked German infantrymen to follow. They were afraid of their own gas, they didn't believe in their respirators, and the sight of strangling enemies scared them.

The Germans advanced two miles, then stopped. In the dark they could not grasp the extent of their victory. They were so slow and careful that the Allies had time to set up a few huddled outposts of French and Canadian troops. They couldn't cover the four-and-a-half-mile hole torn by the gas. There were empty unguarded spaces between outposts—one was 3,000 yards wide, another 2,000.

If the Germans had pushed south four miles instead of two they would have taken Ypres, and outflanked the front and south side of the Ypres salient. They might have bagged the Canadian division, and two British divisions.

But they hadn't expected the gas to be so effective, nor had they provided reserves to make good a break-through. And Hans was in no hurry to push ahead, and may be get a whiff of gas. He waited to see how it was with Fritz. And Fritz was taking it easy.

The battle see-sawed, with bloody attacks and counter-attacks. Gas was used by the Germans second time and there a third time, in defence; it broke up an Allied attack. On the 27th gas fired in artillery shells routed French African troops.

GAS VICTIMS

The deaths from gas have been estimated variously: low figure, 2,000; high figure, 5,000. Figures on disabilities run from 9,000 to 15,000.

But at the end the Germans had little to show for it; the nose of the salient was flattened, but Ypres remained in Allied hands.

Poison gas was not a brand new idea in 1915. Most of the poisons were known, and costly experiments had been undertaken long before by the German General Staff; by the French and British too. But no nation was prepared to use gas, or to protect its troops against gas.

They knew all the gas formulas, and the effects of the different gases on human tissues. But they lacked reliable methods of producing poison gas in massive quantities, cheaply, without killing off too many workmen.

They had not evolved efficient procedures for transporting gas safely, storing it, and squirting it at the enemy.

These problems were first considered seriously by a German Army sergeant named Fritz Haber, in a letter sent from the front in 1914 to the German General Staff.

In Berlin the letter fell into the hands of a quick-witted aide. Within a few weeks Haber was summoned to the General Staff. The brass hats knew Haber was an ex-professor at the Kaiser Wilhelm Institut fur Physkalische Chemie in Berlin, a chemist and physicist of genius.

Habier's line officers didn't want to raise his rank, because he was a Jew, but they decided no mere sergeant could talk face to face with the General Staff. They made him a captain, and packed him off to headquarters. There he perfected gas production techniques and finished with a warning to his superiors:

"Don't use gas," he advised, "unless you're sure the war can be ended in three months. Otherwise the Allies, with greater command of raw materials, would drench the Germans with gas in unmatched volume."

GERMAN PREPARATIONS

Early in March the German supply services began lugging big steel cylinders into front-line positions opposite Ypres. The work went on night after night, in utmost secrecy. Infantrymen were not told what the mysterious cylinders contained.

Before March 10 they had 5,730 cylinders in place, loaded with 168 tons of chlorine gas. If they could have started it then, as they had planned, the secret would not have leaked. But prevailing winds in Flanders were westerly and south-westerly, blowing toward the German lines. The gas attack was postponed, day after day; and the mystery of the queer steel cylinders was soon no mystery at all to gossiping German soldiers.

German prisoners taken on the south of the salient babbled to the French about the cylinders, even described how the gas was to be discharged. The French commanders took no action on the tipoff. They thought the story was fantastic.

The only officer who took this story seriously was General Ferry, a French divisional commander. He gave formal warnings to the Canadian division which took over part of his front two days later; the French division on his left, the British division on his right, his own corps commander, Balfourier, and to the Liaison officer from Joffre's headquarters.

Ferry suggested that the German trenches be shelled to destroy the gas cylinders, and that the number of men in the advanced Allied trenches be reducer temporarily to avert gas casualties.

FERRY PUNISHED

For his pains Ferry received from Joffre's liaison officer: (1) an opinion that the gas scare was ridiculous; (2) a reproof for warning the British directly, without going through French Army channels, and (3). a rebuke for taking steps to reduce the front-line garrison.

(Later, when gas unhinged the Allied line, and Ferry had been proved right, he was punished for the correctness of his views by removal—an old French Army custom.)

The British took the tip seriously enough to do some aerial scouting. They couldn't spot any concentration of

reserve troops, and concluded that there was nothing to the scare. A routine warning was passed along to British divisional commanders. No defence against gas was suggested and the warning was soon forgotten.

On April 17, five days before the gas was loosed, a German radio communiqué reported:

"Yesterday, east of Ypres, the British employed shells and bombs with asphyxiating gas."

The report was false, but its significance escaped the British Command. Nowadays such a communiqué would be instantly recognized by propaganda analysts for an effort by the Germans to excuse as reprisal their own forthcoming gas attack.

Meanwhile, the Germans were making mistakes too. Falkenhayn had allotted no reserves—the British aerial reports were accurate on that—and he had refused a request for extra ammunition. To him the gas attack was just an experiment.

Once started, gas warfare became a common place. Five months after Ypres the British were using it in the battle of Loos. They turned loose almost 150 tons of chlorine from more than 5,000 cylinders.

Here, too, it was not properly handled. First, there wasn't enough gas. The British turned it on and off, in spurts. Between waves of gas they inserted ordinary smoke, from chemical candles, to stimulate gas. They hoped to exhaust the oxygen masks with which German machine gunners had been provided; they failed.

The wind veered and blew gas back on some of the British troops. Those who went over the top were slaughtered by ungassed German machine gunners.

SHELL-LOADING PROCESS

The French were the first to improve shell-loading processes enough to really lay it down in quantity. They surprised the Germans with phosgene and prussic acid at Verdun, in the Spring of 1916. The gas shelling helped in the defence of Verdun to some degree, but its role was overshadowed by the tremendous barrages of regular explosives.

Shelling was more effective than discharging gas from cylinders, but artillerymen couldn't lay down a large concentrated gas cloud with utmost surprise and speed. The British solved that problem with the Livens Projector, a rough trench mortar that fired a bomb containing 30 pounds of phosgene.

Huge batteries of these projectors, bunched and fired simultaneously at one target, produced instantaneous gas clouds in great volume over enemy targets. Surprise was almost complete.

The Germans hastily copied the British device, and added two new gases to the murderous contest: diphenylchlororsine, first of the sneezing gases; and mustard gas, first of the blisterers. Compared with these killers, the chlorine used at the beginning of the poison parade was soothing syrup.

By 1917, gas was an established tactical weapon, and the varieties of gas were multiplying.

In the beginning a favourite German tactic was a short hurricane bombardment of mixed gas and smoke shells before sending infantry forward.

The British stressed gas in counter-artillery fire. Gas made the German gun crews wear masks for hours at a time. The men grew tired, and their rate and accuracy of fire suffered. The gas killed horses by the hundred, interfering with the ammunition supplies.

Gas was even used for booby traps. Hundreds of men were gassed from no visible source soon after occupying captured German dugouts. The Allies caught on after a while: Jerry was burying stray gas shells in the dirt walls, shells carefully arranged to leak.

VARIETIES

Mustard gas was not really a gas, but a mist. It raised huge blisters on its victims, and wrecked their lungs. It penetrated clothing, even boot leather. If you got just a touch, it was something like poison ivy. A full gassing caused vomiting, coughing, blindness, and pain in the eyes so intense it could not be borne. Dying of mustard gas an agony that could stretch over weeks.

Diphenylchlororsine was commonly called Blue Cross, because German shells loaded with it were marked with blue crosses. They distinguished shells containing blistering gases with a yellow cross; lung irritants or suffocants with a green cross; tear gases with a white cross.

Blue Cross was listed as a gas, but actually it was a solid, ordinarily loaded in a bottle imbedded in the explosive charge of a shell. The shell-burst scattered the poison as a dust, so finely pulverised that it passed through the gas mask filters of the period.

The Germans used a tactical mixture of Blue Cross and phosgene, the first Green Cross gas. Blue Cross penetrated gas masks as if they weren't there, and caused a sense of suffocation and uncontrollable coughing. The victim was impelled to tear off his useless respirator. Then the phosgene got him.

Blue Cross was bad enough itself. It caused tremendous head pains, something like that experienced when water is snuffed up the nose in swimming, but much worse. It made men feel sick, so sick that some tried to kill themselves.

Phosgene didn't disable a man instantly. But in a few hours a man gassed with it began coughing pints of fluid from his lungs, and he soon died, drowned in his own blood plasma.

Phosgene and Blue Cross dissipated rather quickly, and could be used immediately before an assault without discommoding one's own troops. Mustard persisted a long time and even contaminated the ground. In open country it lingered for days. In a dugout an accumulation of the gas could remain deadly for months.

This quality of persistence made mustard useful to protect the flanks of an attack, and to defend fixed positions. It was no good in front of an advance; the attackers would pick up burns from their own gas barrage.

Phosgene (Green Cross), the arsenical Blue Cross, and mustard (Yellow Cross) are still the important war gases. A fourth still being manufactured is chlorpicrin, which causes severe coughing, crying and vomiting—it can prove fatal. Most experts of all nations believe that gas is less deadly than other weapons. Lieut.-Col. Augustin M. Prentiss, United States of America, in his book, "Chemicals in War," points out that gas caused only 1·32 per cent of all battle deaths, only 5·7 per cent of all battle injuries.

From these figures the argument is adduced that gas warfare isn't so bad. Dissenters, like Heinz Liepmann, author of "Poison in the Air," admit that explosives killed more men than gas. By Liepmann's statistics, one ton of gas was 20 times as lethal as one ton of TNT.

The argument is still an argument. The fact is that gas has played only a small part in warfare since 1918.

The Italians used mustard gas against the bare-footed Ethiopians in 1936 to protect the flanks of advancing columns. The Japanese have used gas on sixty authenticated occasions against troops and cities in China, and the Russians complain that the Germans used gas in the Crimea.

ROOSEVELT'S WARNING

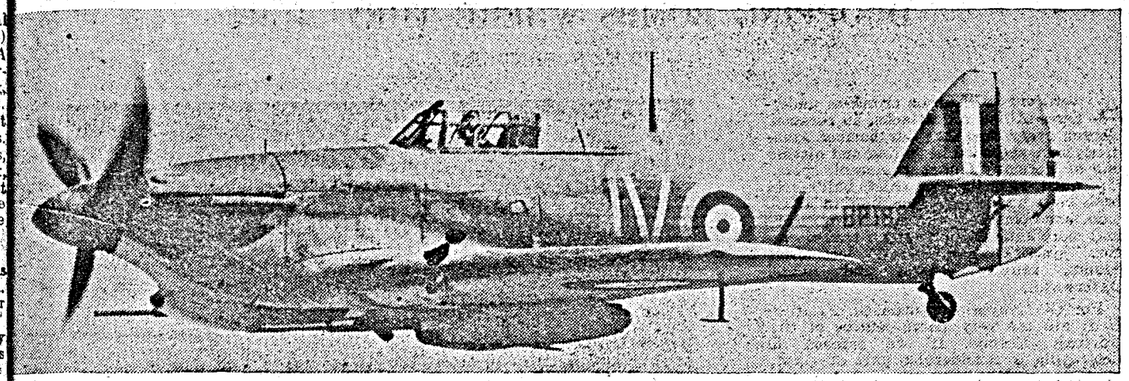
Roosevelt has warned the Japanese and Churchill has warned the Germans: *no more gas, or there will be reprisals.* The warnings carried weight, but the Axis has other reasons for holding off. Most important, gas doesn't mix with highly mobile warfare. Mechanised forces move so fast that their own gas would hinder them; and mustard isn't very good for covering retreat when rapid shifting of forces may bring the army that spread the gas back into the contaminated area day after tomorrow.

In popular imagination, gas warfare will reach its hellish climax with the poisoning of whole cities from the air. But even the chemical warfare men concede that modern methods of protection make gas less effective, pound for pound, that explosives or incendiaries. Bomber Command pay loads have limits, and the pay loads must be assigned efficiently.

If gas is used at all in this war as a serious tactical weapon, it might show up when our invasion troops hit the beaches of Europe's mainland. Then the Nazis might decide to make an effort to hinder our progress inland by laying down a wide belt of mustard encircling our beachheads.

The fact that gas wasn't used against us when we made our landings in Sicily and Italy may indicate that it never will be used; but our soldiers have been fully trained to be on guard against it.

It is conceivable that Goering, in a spasm of defeated rage, might send his bombers to swamp London with poison. If he did, he would be inviting terrible reprisals. Two can play the gas game, and the Nazis know that the British, the Russians and the Americans have gas ready for instant use—all kinds of gas, and lots of it.



R.A.F.'s TANK BUSTERS IN THE MIDDLE EAST.—First official photographs to be released in Britain of the R.A.F.'s "Tank Busters"—Hurricane 11 D fighters fitted with heavy calibre guns—designed primarily for attacking armoured vehicles.

The Hurricane 11 D carries two 40 mm. guns, one gun being fitted under each wing. The guns are capable of automatic or single-shot fire. They have been specially designed for aircraft use and weigh only 320 lb. each. The Hurricane 11 D's have been used for attacks on tanks, armoured fighting vehicles, and transport in the Middle East and North Africa. The aircraft are known as "Tank Busters" but the squadron using them prefer the term "Tin Openers".

Picture shows *a "Tank Buster" in flight over the forward area.*

KEEPING THE SCORE

By HANSON W. BALDWIN

THE ratio, according to the British-based United States Eighth Air Force, is at more than five enemy fighters lost for every bomber shot down. In some raids so many fighters have been claimed as destroyed by the bristling guns of our heavy bombers that the figures have appeared almost impossible, indeed, as disproportionate as the losses the Japanese recently suffered over Guadalcanal, when our fighters—not our bombers—shot down some seventy-seven Japanese bombers and fighters at a cost of six of our own.

The heavy losses of German fighter planes, shot down by the guns of our Flying Fortresses and Liberators in their daylight raids over Western Europe, represent a considerable and continuing weakening of the German fighter strength. The published claims are never issued without very careful checking. The headquarters of each bomber wing receive, assimilate, evaluate and compile the reports from each bomber squadron. The squadron reports have in turn been studied and evaluated by Squadron Intelligence Officers.

The reports at wing headquarters are entered on master forms in different coloured pencils, so that claims from different plains in our bomber formations can be compared and duplications eliminated.

One of these forms is a diagram representing the formation of the wing in which our bombers made the raid. The number of each participating plane is entered in the circle which properly shows that plane's position in the formation. Then the report of combat action from each plane is studied.

Plane 665 may report that a Focke-Wulf attacked at 1136 from above and from the left. A blue-arrow is pencilled against plane 665 on the diagram, and marked "FW 1136." Z Plane 767, in a different part of the formation, may report an attack by a Focke-Wulf at 1136 on the level and from the right. A red arrow showing the direction of the attack is pencilled against plane 767, and marked "FW 1136." The report from each plane is thus entered on the diagram to show visually the directions and times of all attacks made by the Germans.

Time.	Air-craft number.	Type of Enemy Aircraft.	Altitude.	Location.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
11·36	665	Fw 190	22,000	10 miles south of Lorient.
11·36	767	Fw 190	22,000	8 miles south of Lorient.
11·38	764	Me 109	23,000	Near Lorient.

After all the reports from all planes are entered on this form the Wing Intelligence Officer and his assistants compare it with the diagram of the wing formation, marked up with the coloured arrows showing the directions from which the German fighter attacks were made. A careful comparative study of each column is made.

Obviously if one plane reports destruction of a Focke-Wulf and another of a Messerschmitt, there can be no duplication. Or if there is 5,000 feet difference in altitude, or many miles difference in position, there can be no duplication.

The methods of destruction are then compared, again with the help of coloured pencils. All those with similarities are under-scored. For instance, "flames" might be marked in red pencil each time it appeared. "Pilot bailed out" might be marked in blue.

Since the paper is two-dimensional, different coloured pencils are used to connote attacks from various levels: blue from above, red for level and green from below. The evaluation officer can thus look at a diagram and get an entire picture of the course of the aerial action.

He then again consults the individual combat reports of each plane and starts filling in his second form. This form is ruled into eight columns as shown below:—

Gun Position Claiming.	Distance at which destroyed.	Method of destruction.
(6)	(7)	(8)
Nose.	100 yds.	Flames: pieces off; pilot bailed out.
Right waist.	200 yds.	Pilot bailed out.
Tail gunner.	150 yds. astern.	Flames: pieces off; exploded and disintegrated.

By this careful study of the diagram and the data contained on the form, duplications are ruled out and claims evaluated. An airplane is considered to be destroyed when: (1) it explodes in the air; breaks up in the air; a wing comes off; the tail section comes off; the motor is shot out of a single-engine plane; (2) it is seen to be in enveloping flames or the flames are very intense; (3) it is seen to crash on the ground or fall into the water; (4) its pilot is seen to bail out (from single-engine fighters).

The evaluation of claims is therefore thorough. None are published until this process, lengthy and protracted, is made for each raid. The Intelligence Officers are careful, and our system and that of the British are similar.

Despite the care, there is room for considerable error, since the evaluation

(*Continued on page* 43.

DROPPING BOMBS WHERE THEY HURT

By FRITZ STERNBERG

AS the Fortress Europe crumbles under fierce Allied air attacks, it becomes clearer every day that our bomber squadrons have succeeded in finding and hitting one of Germany's most vulnerable spots. Up until recently the chief bull's-eyes have been war plants: but now in addition, our bomb bays are opening up more and more against the German transportation system: locomotives, locomotive plants, railway centres and inland waterways.

For Germany's overburdened transport lines are the very nerve centres of the Fortress Europe. If we succeed in destroying a considerable part of them, or even in disrupting them for certain periods of time, then the conquest of Europe may be tremendously accelerated and the lives of hundreds of thousands of our soldiers saved.

A British broadcast addressed to French workers said that "the Royal Air Force aims at smashing railway traffic in France as well as in Germany. You must realize," the London broadcast told the French workers, "the tremendous importance of the rail-roads for German troop transports. The British air attacks will be directed chiefly against German railways, against locomotives and freight cars, and will be continuously intensified."

AMERICANS OVER ROUEN

The American Eighth Air Force has been working in closest collaboration with the Royal Air Force on this job. The successful raid against railway shops at Rouen, France, had the effect "of depriving the Germans more and more of their opportunity of farming out in western Europe their repairs, maintenance and production."

The attacks on Kassel, which have caused grave damage to its enormous locomotive plant, have the same goal—the destruction of Germany's transport system—as have the famous bombings of two of the biggest German dams, which affected the entire system of German canals. Germany's inland waterways transported approximately one-fifth of her peacetime goods.

Aside from the bombings of German locomotive plants, repair shops, vital railway centres and dams, almost daily attacks on German trains are carried out. The British Air Ministry announced that as a result of the attacks the German locomotive situation must be one of acute anxiety; the damage to equipment was outstripping Germany's replacement abilities. The Ministry added that many repair shops damaged months ago still had not been repaired.

NERVE CENTRES

We have called the German railways the nerve centre of the Fortress Europe—one of the most serious bottlenecks of German strategy. To Germany, railroad transportation is as vital as shipping is to the Allied Powers. Once the German railroad system collapses, the German military machine can no longer function.

THIS IS THE SKELETON OF A GERMAN TRAIN wrecked by Allied airmen in Italy. The charred framework of the goods wagons and the completely smashed engine attest to direct hits from Allied bombers on an ammunition train.

Why is it that the Nazis have been so unable to cope with this vital difficulty? A spokesman of the British Ministry of Economic Warfare has given the answer in one sentence. He said that "the total route mileage in German—controlled Europe to-day is roughly four times the prewar mileage of the German railways, but the total number of mainline locomotives is only two and a half times the number of Germany's prewar locomotives." Or, differently expressed: Germany has conquered almost all of continental Europe, but it has been unable to organize a transport system for all Europe during the war. That is why there is a shortage of locomotives and freight cars everywhere, and why to-day traffic has been disrupted.

In the first years of the war this critical state of the European transport system was no danger because Nazi Germany waged war only on one front at a time: in 1939 against Poland, in 1940 against the Lowlands and France, in 1941 and 1942 against Russia. As long as the war was waged only on one front, Nazi Germany could concentrate her entire supply system on that front. In the last two years she has done that on the Russian front, using for the purpose not only her own locomotives and cars, but also the looted rolling stock from all the conquered and occupied countries. Nevertheless, the transport difficulties were very great even on the Russian front. The German railroad system was not completely up to the requirements of the 1941–42 winter campaign. In a speech before the Reichstag, on April 26, 1942, Hitler himself admitted that the German dilemma in Russia was due in no small part to the breakdown of the German railways. Here are his words: "The problem which at that time pressed most upon us was that of supply, for neither the German soldiers nor tanks nor locomotives were prepared for such intense cold."

SMALLER FRONT IN 1942

That was the situation even in the winter of 1941–42. Later on the German General Staff declared that the summer offensive of 1942 took place along a comparatively small front because the German transport system was hardly sufficient for an attack on the entire length of the Russian front.

When the first Allied soldiers landed on Sicily, the question of a second front was no longer an academic one. Germany found itself forced to defend the Fortress Europe wherever it might be invaded by the United Nations. We need only glance at the map to realize the gigantic task of defending Europe at the various potential invasion points.

We often speak of the vastness of the Russian front, which spreads along 2,000 miles. But it is also 2,000 miles from the North Cape to the Bay of Biscay; and it is almost that distance again from the south of France across Italy to the Balkan countries. Thus Germany, with its disrupted transport system, must be prepared to fight along nearly three times the length of the Russian front.

The transport system in Germany proper is still approximately up to military requirements. What aggravates the situation is the fact that she has looted much of the rolling stock of the conquered European countries; and, in many cases, what little she has not looted has been allowed to fall into disrepair. This practice must certainly have played an important part in the downfall of Italy. Long before Mussolini and the Fascist Party threw in the towel, the Italian Food Ministry said: "The difficulties of distribution being felt in many parts of Italy are in a large part the result of developments of the war in the regions of the south, where the crop situation is nevertheless above the average of the past few years. Lack of manpower and the deficiency of transport has complicated this situation." The great attack on Rome's railway yards by American bombers undoubtedly did much to speed the final debacle.

What was true for Italy is similarly true for France. The Vichy correspondent of the Swiss "*Neue Zurcher Zeitung*" reports on the increasing transport difficulties in France. According to him, the causes are "the reduction of rolling stock and locomotives still at France's disposal. . . and the continuous destruction of rolling stock through bombardment of railway installations in France and through sabotage."

Sabotage has increased to such an extent in France that the British have appealed to French workers to wait a little—until the invasion starts. French railroad workers were told to prepare silently for the day when they would be called on to destroy all rail equipment within their reach. The instruction was given in every European language by the British Broadcasting Company. When the Allied invasion started, said the broadcasters, it would be the zero hour to strike. Until then, the workers were told to bide their time. Railroad men possess the most powerful weapon men defeating the enemy. They alone, said the British broadcast, can disorganize the whole system of transportation.

ACHILLES' HEEL

To sum up: Even in Germany proper the railway system is in a bad condition. In France, in the Lowlands, and in the Balkans it is much worse. Hitherto we have been hearing only isolated accounts about the alarming state of the European transport system. The core of German military strategy was not hit, as long as the Nazis had to fight on only one front.

But Hitler Germany must depend on its railroads and waterways for a fight on a second and a third front, on new fronts extending thousands of miles. And if the American Eighth Air Force and the British Royal Air Force continue to smash the European transport system, then this nerve centre of German strategy may easily become Germany's Achilles' heel, and its destruction may be the decisive factor in the final military collapse of Nazi Germany.—*Usowi*.

KEEPING THE SCORE

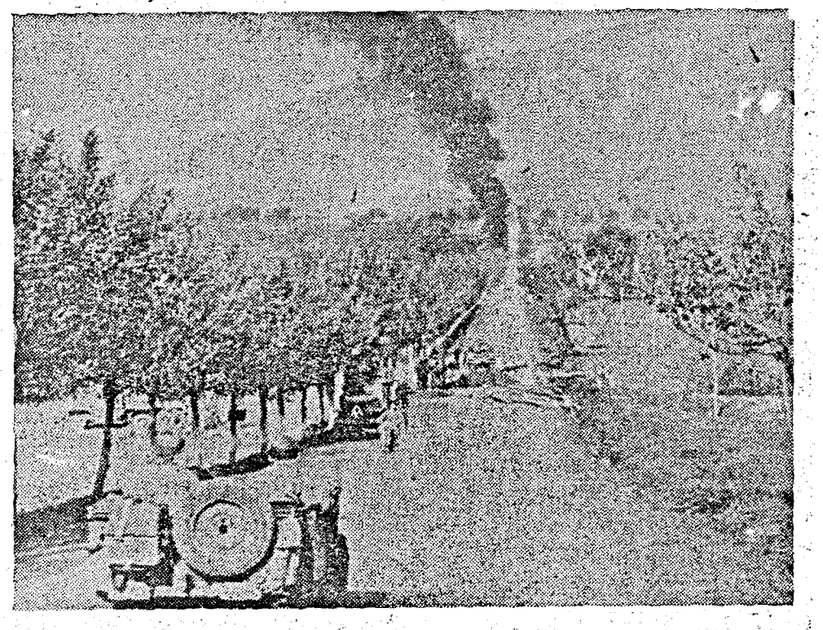
Continued from page 41

depends entirely upon the reports of the men in action. Since the air action in bombing raids on Germany is over enemy territory, we no longer have the advantage; as the British often did in the Battle of Britain, of actually counting the wrecks of enemy planes brought down. The testimony of more than one eye-witness is needed before a German plane is judged destroyed.

All the eye-witnesses, however, are men in action, busy with machine guns, bomb sights, plane controls or other duties. They have split-second views of flaming enemy planes, a few seconds in which to imprint upon minds, keyed up to the vast chaos of aerial combat, the direction of attack, the type of enemy plane and all the other factors that enter into correct evaluation of the enemy losses. The estimated times of the attacks may often be in error; so too, may the reported planes' positions when the attacks are made.

Many of these errors, never deliberate, may cancel themselves out, but nevertheless the job of evaluating enemy plane losses is far from being an exact science. It is one subject to many errors, chiefly of observation, and the fliers themselves agree that precise calculations are probably impossible.

The claims we have made, however, probably represent as close an approximation to the truth as can be made, given the visual reports of the fliers themselves as the only basis for the claims



HIGHWAY TO VICTORY IN ITALY.—*American cars roll along a road to th eadvanced front in the Cassino sector in Italy. One of the trucks hit by enemy fire, can be seen burning in the distance.*

HEROES OF THE SOVIET UNION

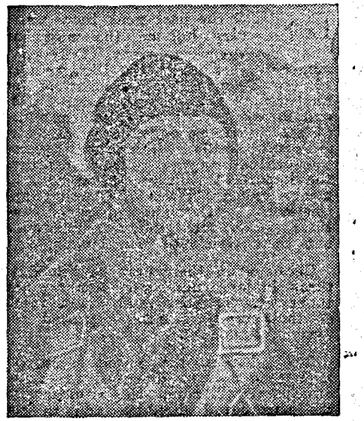
CAPT. A. PAVLYUK has routed a erman battalion. For his capable manageent of operations, he has been awarded the rder of Alexander Nevsky.

SNR. LT. K. KHAMITOV.—Many a German tank and vehicle has been blown up by the mines skilfully laid by the detachment commanded by Snr. Lt. K. Khamitov of the Engineer Corps, decorated with the Order of Alexander Nevsky and the Medals "For Valour" and "For Battle Services".

MAJOR I. A. KADUCHENKO.—Major Kaduchenko's tanks are always to be found where fighting is hottest. His battalion has inflicted terrific losses upon the enemy and has destroyed scores of enemy machines and thousands of fascist infantry. For displaying valour and heroism in the course of executing orders of the High Command in the fight against German fascism, Major I. A. Kaduchenko was awarded the title of Hero of the Soviet Union.

COLONEL V. A. TRUBACHEV is a resourceful, strong-willed and resolute Red Army commander. In a battle lasting 13 days, the unit which he commanded utterly routed a whole German division. For displaying valour and heroism in the course of executing military orders, Colonel Trubachev was awarded the title of Hero of the Soviet Union.

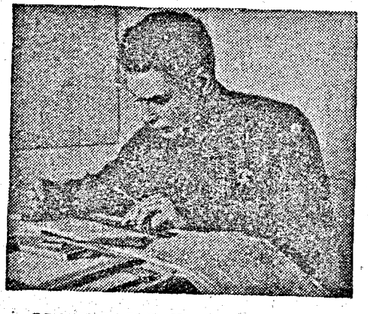
COLONEL E. N. PREOBRAZHENSKY.—A resolute commander, of strong will, Colonel Preobrazhensky has twice led his group of aeroplanes in successful bombing raids on military objectives in Berlin. For displaying valour and heroism in the course of executing military orders, he was awarded the title of Hero of the Soviet Union.



LIEUTENANT A. I. KOVSHAROV.—Cool and confident in battle, Lieutenant Kovsharov always carries out his military orders with exceptional daring and precision, no matter how difficult or risky they may be. He has bombed and wrecked two enemy troop trains, an important enemy pontoon bridge, log roads laid by the enemy through marshes, and many other military objectives. For displaying valour and heroism in the course of executing military orders, Lieutenant Kovsharov was awarded the title of Hero of the Soviet Union.

ZOYA KOSMODEMYANSKAYA.—When the Germans were advancing on Moscow, Zoya Kosmodemyanskaya, 18 years of age, joined a guerilla unit and fought heroically in the enemy's rear. The Germans captured her and brutally tortured her to make her divulge information. Failing in their object, they hanged her. The Soviet Government posthumously awarded her the title of Hero of the Soviet Union.

★



LIEUT. V. I. LAKHONIN skilfully piloted an aircraft unit during a raid on Berlin and thus ensured the successful bombing and destruction of important military objectives. For displaying valour and heroism in the course of executing military orders, Lieutenant Lakhonin was awarded the title of Hero of the Soviet Union.

LIEUT.-COL. B. F. SAFONOV has alone brought down twenty-five enemy planes. For his fearlessness and courage in battle he has been twice awarded the title of Hero of the Soviet Union and has also been decorated by the British Government.

JUNIOR LIEUTENANT V. V. TALALIKHIN.—A fearless defender of Moscow, Junior Lieutenant Talalikhin is exceptionally skilled in ramming enemy planes in the air. In this way he has brought down no less than five enemy planes. For displaying valour and heroism in the course of executing military orders, Junior Lieutenant Talalikhin was awarded the title of Hero of the Soviet Union.

SENIOR LIEUTENANT PETER BRINKO.—Senior Lieutenant Peter Brinko, a naval airmen, is the pride of the Baltic Fleet. Heroically defending the Hango Peninsula, he brought down scores of fascist planes. He is exceptionally skilled in ramming enemy planes, and in one battle brought down two Fokkers in this way. For displaying valour and heroism in the course of executing military orders, Senior Lieutenant Brinko was awarded the title of Hero of the Soviet Union.

An unknown hero of the Soviet Russia.

☆

SOVIET-GERMAN FRONT AS ON DECEMBER 16th

By COLONEL P. SMIRNOV

DURING the past week there was a temporary lull on the most far-flung Soviet-German front. Only on a number of sectors in the Ukraine west of the Dnieper the battle went on unabated. Between December ninth and fifteenth Soviet troops continued to exert pressure on the central sector of the Ukranian front, and scored considerable success. They captured the important railway station of Znamenka and the towns of Chimirin and Cherkassy. Germans defended all these points with utmost stubbornness but their resistance was broken.

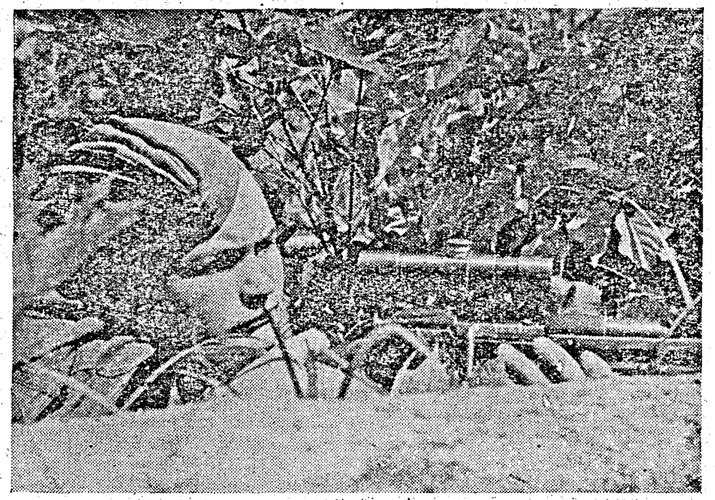
Germans on their part continued to throw in large number of infantry and tanks west of Kiev, and, as a result of their costly attacks, captured the town of Radomshl.

But whereas the situation in the Kiev area may be described as one or unstable equilibrium, the situation in the Kirovograd direction and in the Cherkassy area has been shaping itself ever more unfavourably for the Germans. The battle in the Ukraine west of the Dnieper, which began in October when the Red Army crossed the river, is continuing. Two successive rounds may be discerned in its progress. In the first round the Red Army set itself the task of forcing, the Dnieper and establishing bridgeheads on its right bank. The Germans on the other hand, had the task of holding the Red Army Units on the left bank. Germans lost the first round despite the fact that they had advantage of broad water barrier and autumn weather which was unfavourable for the Red Army's action. The Red Army surmounted these difficulties as well as the German resistance, and established several bridgeheads in the middle reaches of the Dnieper, the most important of which are Kiev and Dniepropetrovsk.

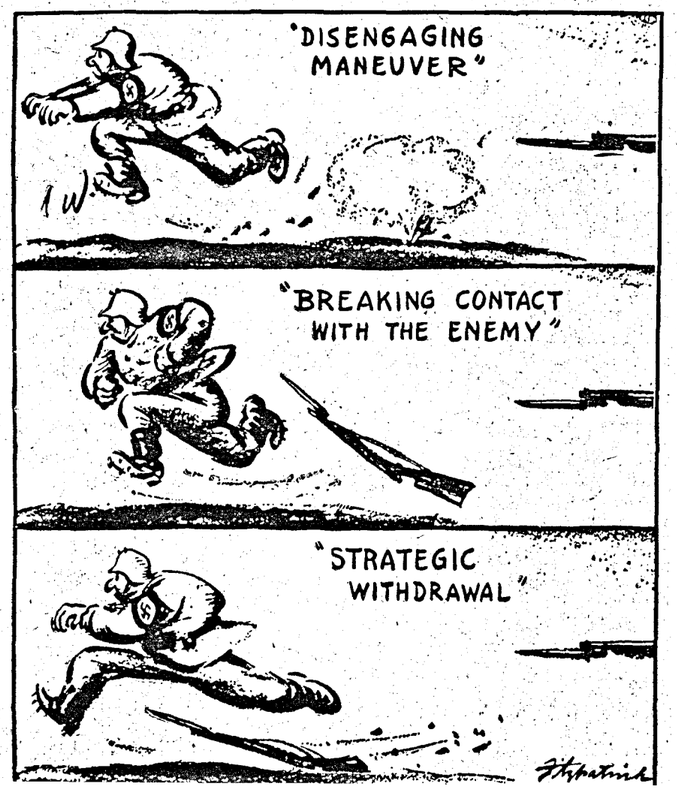
The establishment of bridgeheads did not, in itself, render dangerous the German army's position in the Ukraine west of the Dnieper. It was still possible for the Germans to preserve the stability of their front. That is why the task which faced the Red Army in the second round was to extend the bridgeheads and to unite them into a solid front. At the same time, the task of the German troops was to liquidate the bridgeheads established by the Red Army, or, if that proved impossible, to blockade them and to prevent them from merging.

We can see that the Red Army has systematically been achieving the task in the second round. As a matter of fact, it is already in possession on the right bank of the Dnieper in its middle reaches of an area extending about eight hundred kilometres along the front, and about one hundred kilometres in depth. It consists of two sectors—the Kiev and the Kremenchug sectors separated from each other by a distance of not more than a hundred kilometres in which there exist several smaller bridgeheads. The Red Army is thus approaching the successful consummation of its task in the second round. As for Hitler's army it is putting up a stiff fight, but, nevertheless, it is losing the second round as well. It is obvious that as the front of active operations on the right bank of the Dnieper extends, it is becoming ever harder for the Germans to withstand the Red Army's onslaught. On the other hand, the Red Army is gaining increasing opportunities for co-ordinated action, and for making an ever wider use of the system of successive thrusts and the tactics of manœuvring.

That is the situation on the Soviet-German front at the present juncture. The Germans' attacks west of Kiev do not change the general picture. The Red Army continues to maintain initiative throughout the Soviet-German front.



Sniper D. Paukov, who has 18 Hitlerites to his credit, at his firing position.



AFTER FIGHT FOR CHERKASSY

After many days fighting Soviet troops captured Cherkassy on December 14th. Red Army units crossed the Dnieper and established bridgehead on its right bank on November 19th. Since then fierce fighting went on in this area for nearly a month. Germans put up a very stiff resistance in the Cherkassy area. They kept throwing in reserves and constantly counter-attacked.

The question may be asked, why did Germans cling to Cherkassy so tenaciously?

An analysis of the situation that has arisen for the Germans in the sector between Fastov and Krivoy Rog provides a plain and clear answer to this question.

As long as the Germans held Fastov and Pyatikhatka they felt quite at ease: the German Command could freely move up reserves along the railway line between those two points to the area of fighting on the Dnieper below Kiev. But the Soviet troops captured Pyatikhatka and, somewhat later, Fastov too. There remained in the hands of Germans a stretch of railway line between Byelaya Tserkov and Znamenka to which they still could transfer reserves from the Zhmerinka-Odessa line to the junctions of Smela and Znamenka, and from the latter to Krivoy Rog along the lines Vapnyarka, Christinovka, Smela, and Kotovsk Pervomaisk, Pomoshnaya, Smela or Znamenka. But the Red Army captured Znamenka too. Now Smela is the only junction on this line still held by Germans who, therefore, still can manœuvre with their reserves on a stretch between Byelaya Tserkov and Kirovograd. This stretch is very important to the Germans for the following reason. For the time being Soviet troops operating in the area of Kiev and in the area of Kirovograd separated from each other and Germans are naturally bent on preventing their junction. Germans, as mentioned above, still hold the railway junction at Smela.

MORTARS AT THE FRONT.—During lulls in the fighting the battery issues its little manuscript newspaper. The photographer snapped he editorial board at work. The editor is Sergeant Strakhov, Captain Alimov's best mortar gunner. Two of his team, Privates Baranov and Matsner help him in all his work whether it is killing Germans or editing the newspaper.

As long as the fighting centred round the areas of Kremenchug and Fastov no immediate danger threatened Smela. Even after the fall of Znamenka, Smela was still 75 kilometres away from the scene of fighting. But when the Soviet troops crossed the Dnieper in the area of Cherkassy and the battle shifted to the outskirts of that city, Germans became worried. The distance from Cherkassy to Smela is only 26 kilometres. Cherkassy, in the hands of Germans: was the stronghold that covered Smela. Germans were aware that the fall of Cherkassy would create an immediate threat to Smela. That is why they resisted so bitterly and stubbornly in the Cherkassy area.

Cherkassy has been captured. This is unquestionably an important victory for the Red Army. By the capture of Cherkassy Soviet troops considerably extended their bridgehead on the right bank of the Dnieper, and this, in turn, will enable them to extend their offensive operations furthr.

FIGHT FOR COMMUNICATIONS

By COLONEL S. GUROV

MODERN *armies*, numbering many millions of men, absorb immense quantities of arms, ammunition, food and other supplies. The experience of the first World War shows that every division at *the front required*, in a day, at least 2,000 tons of various supplies, and an army of 100,000 men required about three thousand wagon loads. In the present war the troops in action unquestionably *require much vaster supplies. It is, therefore, obvious* what importance belligerent armies attach to their lines of communication along which they receive their supplies.

The Red Army's offensive is largely based on manœuvre tactics. Soviet troops have carried out most of their operations in the form of flanking movements, outflanking and enveloping the *enemy's resistance centres*, turning the flanks of German garrisons in such resistance centres and intercepting their communications. The German garrisons and groups, which thus found themselves *isolated from their rear, either* retreated or were annihilated by the Soviet troops.

The importance of the lines of communication is still *further heightened in autumn* and in the transition period between autumn and winter when roads are bad. At this period railway lines assume a particular importance, since earthroads become practically impassable for *motor cars. It is* this that lends *immense* interest to the battle which the Soviet troops fought for the railway junction of Znamenka, in the Kirvograd region of the Ukraine.

ZNAMENKA

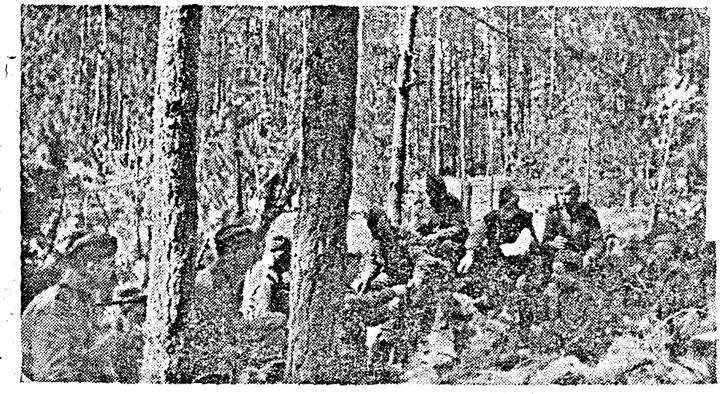
Znamenka is situated on the important trunk line of Fastov and Dniepropetrovsk. Communication lines radiate from it to Kremenchug via Koristovka near the town of Alexandria *to* Nikolayev, Krivoy Rog, and, further, via *Apostolovo to Zaporozhye* and Nikopol and to Kirovograd.

After the Soviet troops captured the railway junction of Pyatikhatka, through which run railway lines to Dniepropetrovsk and Krivoy Rog, Germans were still able to bring up supplies to their group in the Dnieper Bend and in the area of Nikopol through Znamenka. It was this strategic importance of Znamenka that prompted the German Command to take all measures to hold this junction. Germans built several belts of *fortifications round* Znamenka. The outer belt of these fortifications was based on the towns of Kryukov and Novogergievsk in the north; Alexandria in the east and Novaya Praga in the south. Before attacking *Znamenka* Soviet troops had to reduce those strongly fortified points.

Germans put up fierce resistance, threw in large infantry and tank forces and counter-attacked several times daily. The Soviet troops had to overcome not only the enemy's counter-attacks and numerous obstacles and fortifications, but also unfavourable weather. Skill, courage and *persistence* overcame all these difficulties. The mobile Red Army units broke into German positions, outflanked their resistance centres and cut *their lines of communication* while infantry units mopped up resisting garrisons. Several days ago troops captured the town of Alexandria and cut the railway line, Smela-Znamenka. Subsequently *they captured Novaya Praga and cut* the railway line, Znamenka-Nikolayev, Znamenka-Krivoy Rog. Znamenka was thus outflanked from north, east and south. Fighting shifted to the immediate neighbourhood of the town. After three days fighting the resistance of Germans was broken and, on December 9, the town and railway junction of Znamenka was completely in Soviet hands.

That is an important victory. The Germans now have only a *singletrack* line, Nikolayev-Voznesensk, available for manoeuvring with their troops and supplies. This circumstance, coupled with the fact that bad weather conditions interfere with motor car traffic, considerably prejudice their position on the southern sector of the Soviet German front.

LENINGRAD'S DEFENDERS.—The enemy will be driven back. New forces are flowing in to the defence of the Russian city. Fierce battles are yet to come.



MORTARS AT THE FRONT.—When it is quiet in the evening Captain Alimov gathers his troops together and discusses the results of the day's work and plans for the next day.

THE DNIEPER PARTISANS

By P. PELIFIENKO

WHO *are the people who, in the* Soviet Communiqués depicting the daring activities of the partisans, conceal their identity under mysterious initials such as "N," "M," "K"? For the time being *only a few people* are in the know of the absolute necessity of secrecy. For it is quite probable that the mother or wife of one who calls himself "N" may still be residing in the German rear. And you may well imagine what tortures these unfortunate people would be subjected to if Germans happened to learn that the elusive people's avenger was member of their family.

When the Red Army units forced the crossing of the *Dnieper*, the partisans afforded extremely valuable service. These men who, during the two years that they roamed in woods near the river, became familiar with every path and every ditch and caused the Germans good many unpleasant surprises and escorted not a few Soviet tommy-gunners into the enemy rear. After driving the enemy from the right bank of the Dnieper, regular troops continued offensive westward. The partisans could *now return to their peaceful* duties interrupted by the German invasion. Then we learnt their names.

We learnt that those who inspired and carried out many daring raids on the enemy garrisons, who *planned so* cunningly and carried out so effectively diversions, were quite often men who knew very little of the art of warfare prior to the war.

Many of the Dnieper sailors, busy in transporting the retreating Soviet divisions in 1941, did not have the time to escape, while others remained on purpose in order to harass the Germans *on the Dnieper*.

But how were they to make a start? Shutkeviech and his friends decided to prevent the Germans *from* salvaging the sunken ships. They acted wisely and exercised caution. To see them one would think that they bowed down to their fate. They came to work operating the cranes half-heartedly, but when a ship would rise to the surface someone's daring hand *would destroy* the patches; water would rush into holes and the vessel would go back to the bottom. The Germans, furious at this mass sabotage, employed their favourite method. Patriots were betrayed and ten men were shot; the remainder escaped.

They gathered in deep ravine covered with thick shrubs.

"Our comrades perished," said Captain Kilchitski; "let those of us who have survived swear that we shall avenge them."

This was how the forest brotherhood came into being, sealed by oath and blood. The river workers decided to combine their operations with the partisan *detachment* "*Pobeda*."

The *first important operation* was a great success. Information reached the partisans that the Germans repaired two tugs and salvage barge. One dark night several men penetrated into a winter *repair* base. Germans were awakened by a series of explosions, and *when sentries*, popping at random, reached the river bank, the barge had already gone under. One vessel was enveloped in flames and smoke, and the other listed and gradually submerged.

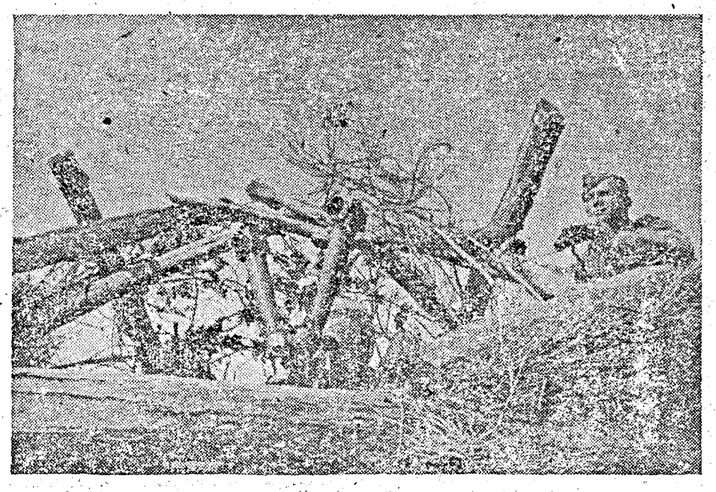
Sometime later the partisans learnt that the reserve unit of the enemy was about to sail along the river. The Germans took every precaution against possible raid: armour plates were set up with machinegunners stationed behind them. But this proved of no avail. Bullets, heavy machineguns and *anti-tank rifles* of partisans pierced the armour. In a furious engagement the partisans killed about 50 Hitlerites, sustaining no losses themselves.

When Germans despatched a strong punitive expedition against the partisans, the latter retired to the region of the rivers, Dubechnia and Oster. Here they raided the enemy garrisons posted there and soon became complete masters of the region. After this they blew up the railway bridge and two other bridges on an important highway.

Yes, these people have something to relate. No wonder, the Germans offered huge sums for their capture.

The last act of the detachment was to blow in the rear the German troops retreating in the face of the Red Army onslaught. Captain Naidenov, the despatcher, Gatsur and other partisans, who lost their lives during the action, were buried with due military honours.

Now Captain Kilchitski, the port worker Shutkevich, Dorkach, the chief of the wharf and the mechanic Podgursky put away their tommyguns and donned their old blue uniforms. They were back at their old jobs in the wharf of Chornigov. Many boats, which the Germans tried so hard to salvage, are now sailing under the Red Flag.



Red Army scouts watching the enemy.

FACIST MISDEEDS

By M. SHEREMET

PRIOR to the occupation of the city, everyone in Kiev knew House Number 24, where the Regional Military Commissariat was located. Here young people got their army assignments and before them opened the road heroic feats.

When the Germans came the citizens of Kiev did their best to keep away from this house which has fenced in barbed wire and on the gates of court there was a sign which read "Headquarters for Recruiting Labour for Germany. Intermediate Camp."

It was to this camp that the Nazi marauders sent the people rounded up from all parts of the occupied Ukraine to be shipped to Germany's slavery. Here prisoners were detained for weeks, examined by doctors and then sent to railway station. Ukrainian girls, in leaving the courtyard embraced those who were left behind for the time being and said, "Goodbye for ever."

In the course of the past winter tens of thousands of the Ukrainian youth and girls passed through this camp.

Girls who were in camp are gone. Now remain only stone barracks which witnessed German outrages against the liberty-loving Ukrainians. From Maria Martinenko, wife of a driver who lived in the camp, we got some idea of how great the sufferings of the prisoners were.

"Krauze, Chief of the Camp was, a real beast;" she told us, "here mostly young people were imprisoned—even boys and girls of fourteen. At market places and streets the Nazi soldiers rounded up youths and girls. Prisoners slept on the bare cement floor barracks and starved for most of the time. They lived on slops fed to them once a day. Corporal punishment was an order of the day, and for the least offence were prisoners put into cells. If you go through the camp and read what is written on the walls, you will get a better idea of what life was like here than from what I tell you", said Maria Martinenko in conclusion.

In the court there were two large stone barracks—one for men and the other for women. We found the place reeking with filth.

In corners were soiled tatters—traces of prisoners. Everywhere—on walls, windowsills and doors—we found carved inscriptions. In some places were anti-Nazi cartoons which, though blotted out, were still discernible.

The inscriptions contained names of thousands of girls, and names of villages of Kiev, Chernigov, Poltava and other regions.

Here on the walls we read the names of Katya, Driga, Nastya, Zaporozhetz, Nina, Kuzmenko, Maria, Koval and others from the village of Marinovka around Kiev, dated August 12th, 1943. There was a postscript with the words; "if anybody from Marinovka reads our names, let him remember us to our people, for we know that we shall not live to return."

Red Army man Nikolai, Golubyatnikov being wounded, fell into Germans' hands. Hitlerites cut off his ears.

"Farewell, dear Ukraine! Farewell, my dear children!" was the inscription on the windowsill.

Here is what Vassili Struk wrote on September 21st: "Sixty kilometers from Kiev across the Dnieper stood the village of Yadlivka. It had 1,500 farmsteads and 6,000 inhabitants. The Germans turned the whole village into ashes and have brought most people for deportation to Germany's sweaty lands. Never has human dignity been so outraged."

Here is another page in this book of suffering, carved in stone. "Goodbye, sweet Ukraine, you will be free while we shall languish in accursed Germany. The flower of the Ukraine is being deported by the Nazis."

Ukrainian youths and girls, seized in the street by German police and put behind barbedwire, made plans to escape and often succeeded in carrying them out. Of this we also find proof in somewriting carved in stone.

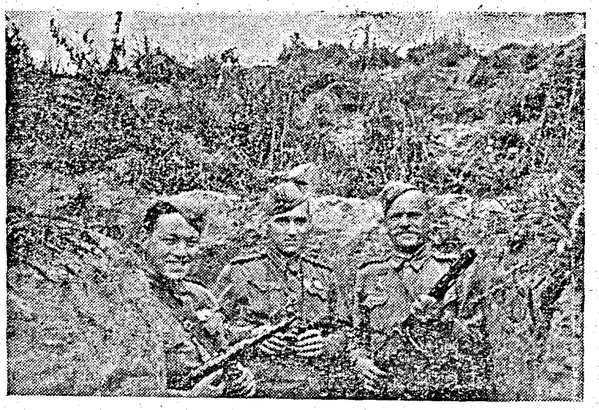
"We here thought how we could escape. We have worked out a good plan."

"Death to Hitler and to his bloody gang. Times are near when he and his dogs will be hanging from gallows." This inscription, deeply engraved in stone the Nazis evidently tried hard to erase, but still we did not have much difficulty in making it out.

As one walks through the barracks everywhere there seems to be one supplaint cry: "Avenge the hangmen."

Prisoners were constantly fleeing from the camp, from the railway station, from the road. Some were caught and put behind bars in the same house in Kiev.

The enemy succeeded in wiping out many inscriptions and cartoons, but the truth is not easily effaced. The Nazis cannot hide their black deeds. They will be punished.



Senior Lieutenent V. Burov (centre), commander of a detachment guarding the forward defence line. In close fighting, Burov's detachment wiped out a whole German unit which advanced on the forward line sector they were guarding. On the left is Senior Medical Orderly M. Korman, decorated with the "For Valour" and "For Battle Services" medals. On the right is Corporal I. Shchorkin, decorated with the Order of the Red Star.

THEY SHALL PAY IN FULL!

By I. ZHIGALOV

I recently met in Moscow Ilya Ivanovich, resident of Simferopol in the Crimea. An engineer in the Simferopol enterprise before the war, he joined the guerilla column the day after the town was occupied by the Germans. I will not mention his full name because Ilya Ivanovich intended to return to his guerilla comrades in the Crimea.

This is the story of that German-occupied peninsula in the Soviet south as told me by the engineer. "The German occupationists are methodically wiping out the native population in the Crimea. In Sebastopol, Kerch, Feodosia and Simferopol alone the Gestapo shot and tortured more than seventy thousand people, including professor Balaban—well-known throughout the peninsula—and his wife; Smolensky, a prominent actor and Ackhipov, a scientific worker and others.

Only one-third of Simferopol's population is alive. Thousands of women, girls, aged people and children, put to death by the fascist murderers, are buried in a huge grave in the yards of the village Mazanka, in the Petrovsky Ravine near the glass works. Similar graves mount the outskirts of other towns in the Crimea.

German vandals have brought fearful damage to our one-time flourishing towns which now seem dead and desolate. Workers' settlements of the Kanysh-Burun and the Voikov plant in Kerch have been reduced to charred ruins. The best buildings in Feodosia were blasted to pieces. At Simferopol the Hitlerites hacked the wonderful parklane which ran from the railway station to the centre of the town and the central park. They removed all the streetcar tracks and overhead wires and shipped them off to Germany. The inhabitants of Simferopol are deprived of electricity. Lights burn only in quarters of the town occupied by high German officials and officers.

Hungry, homeless children in tattered clothes stray through the town in search of food. One often sees weeping women and their children on the sidewalk next to their household belongings. The Hitlerites evict people from apartments they wish to occupy. In Simferopol they ordered our citizens to vacate their rooms on the Subkhi, Kentarnaya, Fountain, Gogolevskaya, Sovetskaya and Pushkinskaya streets. Hundreds of families were deprived of shelter.

In addition to secret mass murders, German authorities arrange public executions. The body of Gorbachova, a woman dentist respected by the entire population of Alushta, hung from gallows in the centre resort of the town for several days.

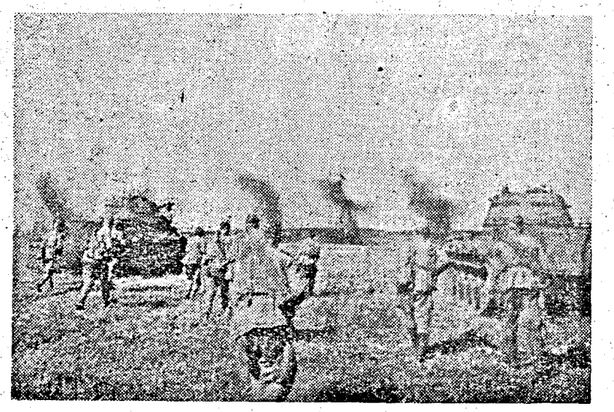
The Hitlerites laid waste the rural areas throughout the peninsula. The fields of Bakhchisarai, Simferopol and other districts are scenes resembling the Dark Ages. Boys and girls, harnessed to ploughs and harrows, plod across fields. Women or aged follow behind the plough. If peasants fail to fulfil their norm, they are punished with twenty-five lashes or tormented by Gestapo prisons. Practically all the crops go to Germans. The Nazi authorities officially announced this summer that seventy per cent of the crops "belong to the German army."

The Crimea is groaning under the iron heel of the Hitlerite oppression. The Gestapo agents have been particularly active in the past few weeks: arresting and slaughtering masses of the Soviet people and attempting to extinguish the hope of the population near liberation.

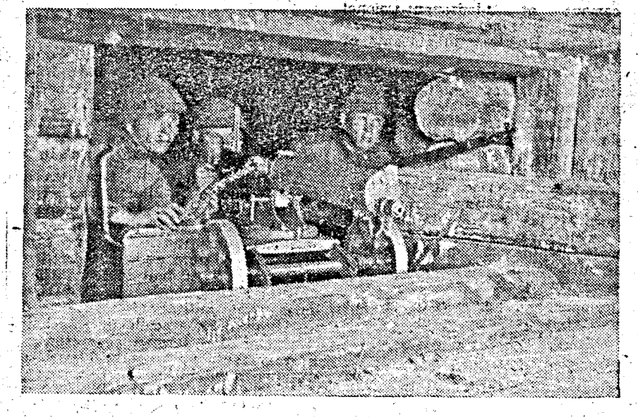
In Yalta and Patoria; in Simferopol and Feodosia hundreds of people are being thrown in prison; while thousands are compelled to build fortifications or are sent to slave labour in Germany. The commanding officer of the German forces in the Crimean peninsula is undertaking feverish measures to combat the guerilla movement.

The sixty-year-old daughter of Tsigankov, an inhabitant of Simferopol, while playing in the yard with her playmates, said; "Our army will be here soon." This was sufficient for the Germans to hang all the six members of the Tsigankov family.

The Soviet people are impatiently waiting for their Red Army liberators. The hour of retribution is near. Germans will pay fully for their crimes.



TWO DAYS ON THE FRONT.—German guns kept up a strong fire. But they could not halt the advance of the Red Army tanks and infantry. The mission set by the Command was accomplished.



Machine gun crew holding one of the fortifications nearest to Leningrad.

HATE MARCHES WITH THE RED ARMY

By ILYA EHRENBURG

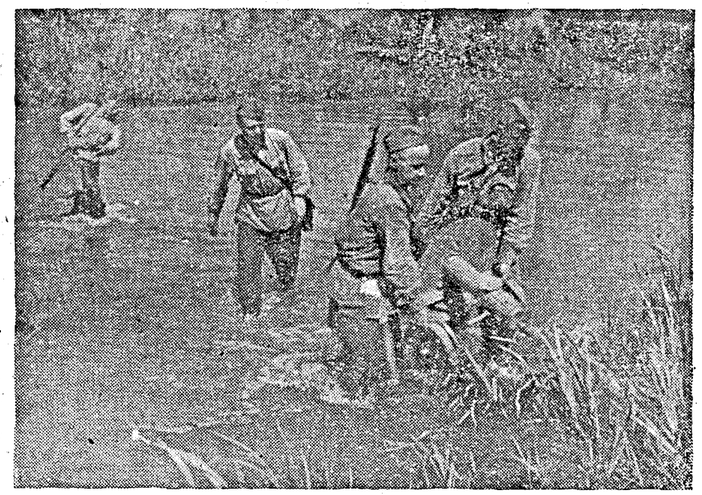
IN September, 1941, I happened to be in the forest near Bryansk. That was a bitter time. The tragedy of Kiev had begun. Every day the Berlin radio announced the fall of new cities and the communiqués were accompanied by the rolling of drums, Tyrolean yodels and roars of "Heil!". Peasant women gazed after the retreating Red Army with hard eyes. Terrifying rumours were rampant. Sweaty Germans in their undershirts and with their caps perched jauntily to one side coldbloodedly shot refugees. Carts creaked—how I remember that mournful creak. The Germans wrote, "Russia is a colossus with feet of clay."

That is worth recalling, now, when Russia is striding westward. Her feet proved sturdier than many thought. And her heart proved sturdy too. It is vain for Hitler to try to reassure the Germans by saying, "We're shortening our line of our own accord." One has only to take a look at the scorched, shell-riven fields to realize what stubborn resistance the Germans are putting up. Elastic defence? They'll have to take care the elastic does not break.

The Red Army is catching the Germans unprepared. Here, for example, is an announcement of Lieutenant-Colonel Lenz, former German commander of Stalino, to the Russian inhabitants of that city:

"For some time rumours have been circulating in the city, alarming the inhabitants, to the effect that the position of the German troops at the front is hopeless and that the arrival of the Bolsheviks is only a matter of a few days. Increased movement of vehicles in the streets are taken to mean that the German troops are retreating. The enemy has thrown his last forces into the field. Anyone who gives credence to such rumours is helping to spread panic. Everyone must calmly and conscientiously continue at his work."

The Germans had no time to display this announcement; the posters were found lying in a print shop.



Red Army men crossing a canal.

NAZI REVERSES IN RUSSIA

Formerly the Germans used to drag away their disabled tanks and get them repaired quickly. Now they often leave them where they are. This is more a matter of heart than of machinery: "The German isn't what he used to be," is the way our soldiers put it.

The Red Army's summer offensive not only smashed the German's fortifications; it smashed the German's self confidence. The Conquistadores don't feel so sure of themselves.

Prisoners have become more numerous. German Army discipline is not yet undermined, but the Germans surrender more freely. That is a sign the end is near. Having fought in Russia for two years, the German suddenly feels he is a civilian at heart. He yearns for the quiet life. He is profoundly disillusioned.

On the other hand, the Russians after two years of war have become a warlike people.

Our people have changed profoundly in these two years; they have fallen in love with much which they formerly condemned, and learned to dislike much they formerly liked. A war like this ploughs up men's souls. The Red Army is more of an army to-day than it was in 1941.

The artist learns a new process of creation. No military academy can replace actual fighting experience. Soviet officers have progressed. There was too much routine in our army at first. Many were under the spell of the civil war. They had to learn the strategy of a new epoch. In 1939 the Germans were military innovators. They have now become academics—such is the nature of the German character. In a military sense we were backward. Now we have outstripped the Germans. We have a more lively intelligence, more elasticity. I do not mean by this that the Red Army has become a professional army. It is a people fighting.

What force has converted the Siberian farmer into a fierce fighter? What force enables our infantrymen to march forty kilometers a day and smile contemptuously when German bombers hover over their heads? There is something in this war which distinguishes it from all other wars: its motive power isn't intelligence or even ardent love of country but the outraged conscience of the people.

GERMAN ATROCITIES

As it advances the Red Army sees all the horrors of "the desert zone." Who would believe that this was once the city of Kharachev? Makoveyka, Stalino were in flames. In Taganrog the Red Army saw the horror of the Petrushina Ravine, where lie buried 38,000 inhabitants shot by the Germans. Thirty-five thousand inhabitants were carried off to Germany. And the city had a total population of 200,000. Between Orel and the River Desna stretches a desert waste. Before me lies an order of the German Command for the depopulation of the entire district. It reads:

"Every inhabitant together with his family, cattle and movables shall leave in a westerly direction. Anybody attempting to move eastward will be shot."

When you listen to accounts of survivors, when you look into their eyes dimmed with terror and humiliation; you see a second desert zone—in the hearts of people devastated by two years of arbitrary tyranny.

I know a battalion consisting mainly of men from the Kursk region. Officers and men eagerly awaited news. News came. Eleven learned that their relatives had been hanged or shot, nine learned that their families had been carried off to Germany. Thirty-two learned that their homes had been burned down. What force can hold a battalion like this when it is marching westward?

A German officer, Ziegfried Manzke, a war prisoner, said to me, "To continue this war is senseless." Yes, war had sense for the Germans when they set out on a grand robber campaign. War then meant bacon for the German soldier, oil for the German officer. Now war had lost its meaning for them. But it is full of meaning for us—we are teaching them to stop making raids on others' property every quarter of a century. Let their children reflect what a pound of bacon and a ton of oil cost.

RADIO CHUNGKING CALLING

By CHEN YIH

TO the millions of peasants in China, radio, the "wireless voice," is the symbol of hope and a future industrialized China. They gaze seriously at their first radio receiving set, knowing that through it they will receive news from Chungking, warnings of an approaching enemy, and orders to attack their invaders.

For although there are only 50,000 radio receiving sets in China, with 60 per cent defective through lack of repair after the six years of fighting, radio now is the only source from which over 500 newspapers and thousands of mobile papers receive their news and make it available to the people.

The job of collecting and distributing news in China belongs to the official Central News Agency. Through its network of fifty transmitters and 300 receiving stations it works ceaselessly. It has weathered thousands of Japanese bombings and all kinds of enemy interference to bring this valuable commodity to the people in all parts of free and occupied China.

It has been pointed out by C. C. Kao, Director of the Central News Agency Radio Network, that "throughout the six years of war and bombings not a single day have the Chinese people missed their news."

BOMBINGS

As early as 1935 the Central News Agency, anticipating the outbreak of the Sino-Japanese War, had completed its Chungking emergency radio facilities. The city now has one of the most powerful installations in the world, equipped with ten transmitters, twenty receivers and one complete Diesel engine power plant. Three times the Japanese bombers succeeded in destroying the Central News Agency building where the station was located, but each time the operators and engineers had managed to remove their complete equipment to dugouts before the building turned to dust. During the summer of 1941, when the Japanese bombings were most intense, the radio station remained in the dugout for the entire season. There the station, complete with electric lights, telephone and ventilation system, continued to collect and distribute news and carried on its work as usual.

CHINA'S AMATEUR OPERATORS

"It is customary in wartime China that the radio station occupy the ground floor of the building," said Mr. Kao, "so that the valuable equipment, which is not men, can be evacuated to the dugouts at the first warning of an approaching enemy air attack."

According to Mr. Kao, radio development in China has always been closely associated with military necessities. The first radio communication was developed in 1915, when the Chinese Government established three long-wave stations at Tientsin, Nanking and Hankow for transmitting military information. Then in 1924, when the Nationalist army under Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek began its march to the North, short-wave radio for military communications was established.

Generalissimo and Madame Chiang Kai-shek visited a training centre for Chinese troops in India when they passed through this country on their return from Cairo to Chungking. The photo shows *them with Admiral Lord Louis Mountbatten, the Supreme Commander, South East Asia.*

In 1927, after the Nationalist Government was established at Nanking, the Central Broadcasting Administration under the Ministry of Communications built the first large medium-wave radio station, XGA, which is now called XGOA, to give official news programmes and propaganda. It was equipped with the German Telefunken 75-kilowatt transmitter and was later moved 1,500 miles upstream along the Yangtze river to Chungking shortly before the fall of Nanking.

Radio began to develop rapidly in 1930. The Ministry of Communications established a radio network for purely commercial purposes, and hundreds of commercial radio stations have operated in the various big cities of China, such as Shanghai, Canton, Tientsin, Hankow, etc. A Chinese Amateur Radio League, equivalent to the American Radio Relay League, was also formed. Today the Chinese league has a membership of 15,000 in all parts of China.

The international short-wave station was organized in 1935 by the Chinese Government Radio Administration and the Chinese Ministry of Communications. To-day, through radio telegraph, it channels all the news sent from China by the correspondents of America, Britain, Russia and other nations.

Lieut.-Genl. Sir W. G. LINDSELL

Lieutenant-General Sir Wilfrid Gordon Lindsell, the man who solved the desert supply riddle of North Africa, has been given the overall direction of India's military administration.

As Principal Administrative Officer, India Command, he will under the Commander-in-Chief General Sir Claude Auchinleck, co-ordinate the work of the Adjutant-General, Quartermaster-General, Master-General of the Ordnance, and Engineer-in-Chief, with the primary object of organizing the military base in India on which the operations of the South East Asia Command will depend. He will ensure the co-operation of the civil authorities including the Supply Department, Railway Board, Port and Transportation authorities in support of military requirements.

Almost unknown to the public before Britain's War Minister disclosed his brilliant organizing of the 8th Army's supplies across 1,400 miles of desert General Lindsell combines the qualities of a soldier with the organizing skill of a man of business. Throughout the El Alamein-tripoli advance, his planned organization maintained the weight of each desert battle and speeded the chase. The Eighth Army advanced knowing that food and water were following up in plenty. Arms, petrol and ammunition flowed smoothly forward with every mile gained until the victorious end.

In the first world war General Lindsell then an Artillery Captain, was mentioned four times in despatches and won the D.S.O., M.C., and Croix de Guerre. In the second world war, as Quartermaster-General to the British Expeditionary Force he transported 158,000 men, 25,000 vehicles, and 140,000 tons of military stores to France without a casualty within 33 days of the outbreak. When France fell he left her shores in a collapsible boat and was among the last to get away. He received the K.B.E. in 1940 and the K.C.B. in 1943.

After the fall of France, as senior military representative at the Ministry of Supply, he studied the background of the great tasks that lay before him in the new theatres of war and in due course was posted to the Middle East. General Lindsell is 59. His father was a Colonel in the British Army and his wife is the daughter of an Admiral.

DR. WANG SHIH-CHIEH

LEADER OF CHINESE MISSION TO BRITAIN

DR. WANG SHIH-CHIEH, leader of the Chinese Goodwill Mission at present visiting Britain, is 52 years of age. He has been Secretary-General of the Chinese People's Political Council since it was formed five years ago and last summer was elected a member of the Council's Presidium.

He received the Bachelor of Science degree from the University of London in 1917 and then crossed the Channel to France, where he received the Docteur en Droit in 1920.

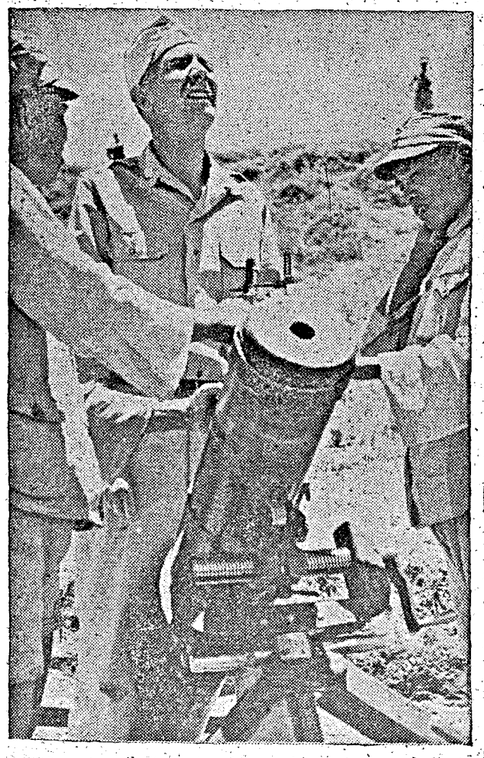
He was for seven years a professor of political science in the National Peking University, for one year director of the Bureau of Law Codification, and a member of the Permanent Court of Arbitration at the Hague since 1930.

His "Comparative Constitutional Law" is the authoritative text book on this subject in Chinese and is used as a text book by the Chinese universities.

Dr. Wang first came into prominence during his work from 1929 to 1934 as President of the National Wuhan University in Wuchang, Hupeh, his native province, where he had played an active part in the 1911 revolution. In effect he built a new and modernised university during this period and it has trained many of China's public servants.

As the result of his work at Wuhan University he became Minister of Education in 1933 and held the post until 1937. During this period he foresaw the Sino-Japanese war and worked to prepare students to serve in the war and to be disciplined so that they could better meet the coming crisis. The China Art Exhibition was held in London while he was Minister.

In 1940 he became Minister of Information, holding this position until the end of 1942. While he held this position he strove to improve Chinese relations with Great Britain and other Powers. He has been co-President of the Sino-British Cultural Association since it was organized at Nanking in 1933. Since 1938 he has been Chief Councillor to Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek.



UNITED STATES SCHOOL TRAINS CHINESE ARTILLERYMEN.—A United States Army officer (centre) checks the range setting on a mortar before it is fired at a United States Artillery School for Chinese soldiers in China. The cover is still in the mouth of the mortar, which is a six-inch Chinese weapon easily portable for use over terrain where transportation is one of the major problems. This training under battle conditions is preparing the Chinese soldiers for offensive action against the Japanese.

Chinese soldiers, being trained in a United States Army artillery school in China, check gunfire during a practice period. Observations will be telephoned to the batteries by the soldiers with the field telephone. As a result of this training, these soldiers will return to their troops with a knowledge of modern artillery warfare to be used in offensive action against the Japanese. The school was established by Lieutenant-General Joseph W. Stilwell, Commander-in-Chief of United States Forces in China, Burma and India.

WAR DIARY

BRITAIN AND GERMANY

15TH DEC.—The war debate continued in the House of Commons. Mr. Eden replied in detail to the questions raised.

Mr. Eden welcomed the Czech-Soviet treaty, in reply to a question in the Commons.

The King received in audience the Soviet Ambassador M. Gusav who conveyed Marshal Stalin's thanks for the King's sword of honour given to Stalingrad.

German Propaganda Minister Dr. Goebbels addressed a special meeting of his chiefs.

Allied bombers attacked targets in North-west Germany.

16TH DEC.—United States heavy bombers attacked North-west Germany in daylight. Lancasters dropped more than 1,500 tons of bombs on Berlin this night.

The Deputy Prime Minister Mr. Atlee announced in the House of Commons that Mr. Churchill is ill.

The King received Sir S. Renganathan, High Commissioner for India and other chiefs of I.L.O.

17TH DEC.—The bulletin issued on Mr. Churchill's health says that the improvement in his general condition has been maintained. Mrs. Churchill has left the country to be with the Prime Minister.

The British Ambassador at Washington Lord Halifax is suffering from influenza.

18TH DEC.—The bulletin on Mr. Churchill's health says that the temperature subsided and pneumonia resolved. Mrs. Churchill reached him.

Royal Air Force planes attacked a large German supply ship off Britany.

19TH DEC.—The Premier's condition improves. Temperature is normal.

Germans bombed parts of South-east England including London area.

It is stated that Field Marshal Rommel is engaged in inspecting Hitler's forces in Western Europe.

20TH DEC.—The Prime Minister is making satisfactory progress.

Twice during the night Germans raided parts of Essex and South-east England including London.

Innsbruck, Bremen and Augsburg were heavily bombed by Allied planes.

The Chief of the Imperial General Staff Gen. Sir Alan Brooke returned to Britain after touring the Italian front.

Mr. Eden addressed the I.L.O. Conference. Polish Prime Minister and the Foreign Minister met Mr. Eden.

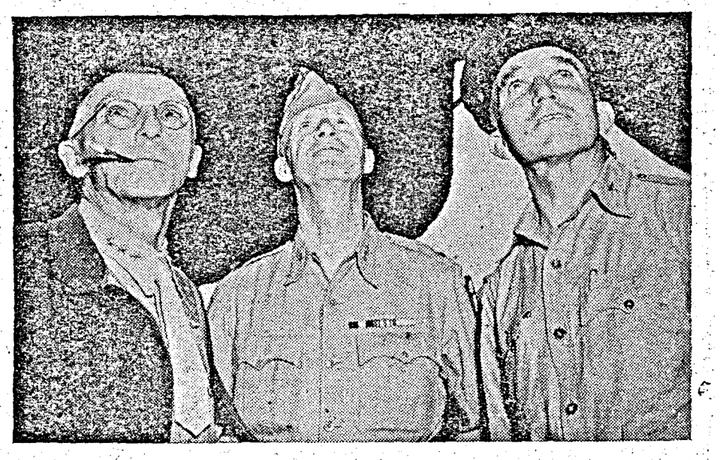
21ST DEC.—The Prime Minister continues to improve.

London was raided by Axis planes.

Frankfort, Rannheim-Ludwigshaven and other places in Germany were heavily bombed by Allied bombers.

22ND DEC.—There was little German air activity over parts of East and South-east England including London.

ALLIED COMMANDERS MEET IN INDIA.—Admiral Lord Louis Mountbatten (right) of the British Navy, Supreme Allied Commander in South-east Asia, chats with United States Majore General George C. Stratemeyer (left), Commander of United States Army Air Forces in China, Burma and India, to plan offensive operations againt the Japanese. In the background are United States Brigadier-General Benjamin G. Ferris (left), Deputy Chief of Staff to Lieutenant-General Joseph W. Stilwell, Commander-in-Chief of United States Forces in China, Burma and India, and Colonel Irving Dooh Wu (right), military observer for the Chinese Army.



UNITED STATES LEADERS IN INDIA.—Lieut-General Joseph W. Stilwell (left), Commander-in-Chief of United States Forces in China, Burma and India; Brigadier-General Benjamin G. Ferris (centre), General Stilwell's Deputy Chief of Staff, and Brigadier-General Howard C. Davidson, Commander of the Tenth United States Army Air Force, scan the skies as they await a plane bringing Lieut. General Brehon B. Somervell, Commander of the United States Army Service Forces, to India. General Somervell conferred with Allied leaders in China and India following the establishment of the new Supreme Allied South-East Asia Command under Admiral Lord Louis Mountbatten of Great Britain.

Allied bombers attacked targets in west and north-west Germany.

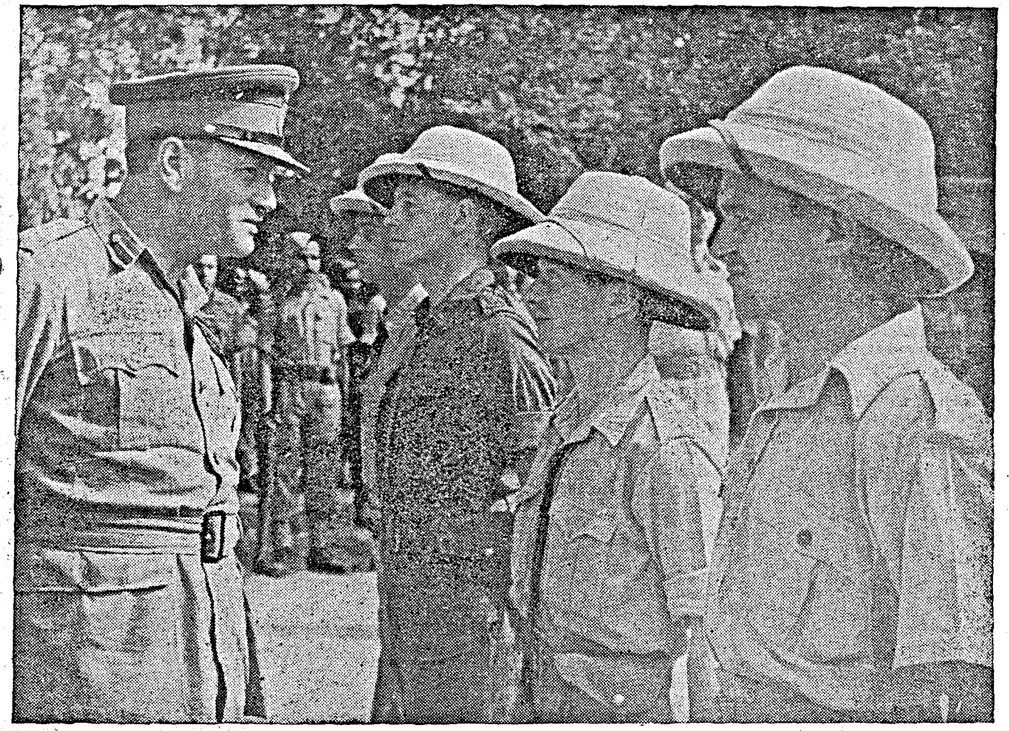
23RD DEC.—Royal Air Force attacked objectives in Western Germany.

There was slight enemy air activity in south-east of England.

The Prime Minister continues to make steady progress.

British coastal guns shelled Nazi ships in the straits.

24TH DEC.—The following appointments are announced from the Prime



COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF, INDIA, IN FORWARD AREAS.—Indian and British troops in Assam-Burma border districts were visited by General Sir Claude Auchinleck during his aerial tour of Eastern Frontier areas. During an inspection of units in a jungle clearing General Sir Claude Auchinleck pauses to chat with British other ranks.

Minister's residence. To be Supreme Allied Commander of the British and United States Expeditionary forces organized in the United Kingdom for the liberation of Europe, General Eisenhower; to be Supreme Allied Commander in the Mediterranean Theatre, General Sir Henry Maitland Wilson; to be Commander-in-Chief of Allied Armies in Italy, General Sir Harold Alexander; to be Commander of British Group of Armies under General Eisenhower, General Sir Bernard Montgomery; to be Commander, American Strategic Bombing force operating against Germany, General Spaartz.

Royal Air Force bombers attacked Berlin last night and this morning.

Dr. Goebbels delivered a Christmas speech.

25TH DEC.—The Premier is making steady progress and gathering strength.

There was lull in air-attacks. Allied bombers refrained to-day from attacking enemy objects. Great Britain too had raid-free night.

The German High Command is using railways over Christmas to re-group their anti-invasion forces along the whole coast line of occupied Europe.

In his Christmas message His Majesty the King spoke of many things that have changed since he last spoke.

26TH DEC.—Lieut.-General Andrew MacNaughton is relieved of the command of the first Canadian army in Britain for reasons of health. Lieut.-General Kenneth Stuart, Chief of the Canadian General staff has been appointed Chief of Staff of the Canadian Military Headquarters in London.

The Christmas lull over air activity continued.

The 26,000-ton German battleship Scharnhorst has been sunk off North Cape.

27TH DEC.—Mr. Churchill has acknowledged Christmas greeting sent to him.

"We will win the European war in 1944" said General D. Eisenhower, the newly appointed Chief of Allied European invasion forces, to a press conference.

General Bernard Paget is appointed to be Commander-in-Chief of the Middle East under the Supreme Allied Commander of the Mediterranean Theatre.

Air Chief Marshal Sir Arthur Tedder is appointed to be Deputy Supreme Commander under General Eisenhower.

Three earthquake shocks were felt throughout Wertemberg in South Germany.

28TH DEC.—Marshal Rommel and Marshal Rundstedt have just completed a second front Council of War.

* * *

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND ATLANTIC

15TH DEC.—A general strike of the railwaymen in United States on 31st December is threatened.

16TH DEC.—President Roosevelt has returned to the United States.

17TH DEC.—President Roosevelt held a cabinet meeting and also met the Turkish, Egyptian, Russian and other foreign representatives. He signed a bill authorizing additional naval vessels to the value of 600 million dollars and also the Chinese Exclusion Act.

A Combined Admiralty and Air Ministry communiqué says that U-boats operating in the North Atlantic were subjected to relentless assaults by an

escort group of Royal Navy and by aircraft of the Coastal Command.

At a press conference Mr. Roosevelt revealed that Marshal Stalin had learned of a German plot to kill Allied leaders at Teheran.

Mr. John Lewis, Leader of the United Mine Workers has signed a two-year no-strike agreement with more than two-thirds of the United States soft coal industry.

18TH DEC.—Mr. Roosevelt announced future arrangements regarding news of Allied conferences.

20TH DEC.—The White House Conference to avert the railway strike has failed to reach an agreement.

21ST DEC.—President Roosevelt told his press conference that he was working out a compromise with the railway unions and managements.

The United States Secretary for Treasury Mr. Henry Morgenthau denounced the Senate for mutilating Government's 10,500 million dollar tax bill.

President Roosevelt said that every American soldier should have opportunity to vote in the 1944 Presidential election.

22ND DEC.—The United States Congress has adjourned.

23RD DEC.—The United States Army Chief of Staff General George Marshall returned to Washington and immediately went to the White House for a conference with President Roosevelt, Admiral Leahy and the War Secretary, Mr. Stimson.

The operating brotherhoods of American railways completed draft proposals to be submitted to the President for settlement of the wage dispute.

24TH DEC.—It is announced that United States submarine Grayling is lost.

The United States Government has decided to take over the railways. Earlier President Roosevelt offered to arbitrate.

A grave situation has developed in United States Steel Industry. Mr. Murray, President of the United Steel Workers of America announced that 350,000 workers of the industry will strike work on 24th midnight due to wage dispute.

President Roosevelt sent out Christmas messages.

25TH DEC.—In a long Christmas message Mr. Roosevelt has surveyed the war situation.

The strike of steel workers in United States has started.

26TH DEC.—President Roosevelt has appealed to steel workers to continue working. The strike is spreading.

The United States Vice-President Mr. Henry Wallace forecasts the destruction of Germany's war might within a few months after a cross-channel invasion of Europe.

27TH DEC.—About 150,000 steel workers employed by 214 companies are now idle in the United States strike. The War Labour Board is holding an extraordinary session to-night.

SCOTTISH INFANTRY IN EGYPT.—Photo shows: *a trench mortar crew in action.*

President Roosevelt has ordered Mr. Stimson, War Secretary, to take over the railways.

* * *

INDIA, BURMA AND CEYLON

15TH DEC.—A tribute to Indian princes was paid by the Secretary of State for India, Mr. L. S. Amery speaking at a dinner for the members of the Baroda squadron of the Royal Air Force.

A communiqué issued from South-east Asia Command on activities in Burma front mentions patrolling to have been the main activity in the past week.

16TH DEC.—An alert was sounded in Calcutta at 11-45 a.m. The "all-clear" signal was given after 45 minutes. No incidents have been reported.

More than 1,200 names appear in a supplement to *the London Gazette* giving awards for gallant and distinguished service in Burma and Eastern Frontier of India.

17TH DEC.—Lord Louis Mountbatten returned to Delhi from a tour of the Arakan front. He rounded it off by flying many miles over Burma to see the country for himself.

18TH DEC.—On the Arakan front British forces have pushed forward three miles north of Buthidaung. Details of Lord Loius talks are published.

On the fateful 23rd December 1941, it was a Tuesday—I was standing on the Bar Street jetty waiting for my boat to carry me across the river. For, I was a Stevedore and therefore my contact with the harbour was very frequent. I had a large labour force, both Burmans and Indians, in my service. It was about ten in the morning. The sun was fairly high up, in his resplendant glory. Everything was bright and normal. A strange noise was heard. It was distinct and it came from the sky. I looked up. I could not see anything at first. A few seconds passed. There appeared a speck. It moved nearer and nearer. Its speed was enormous. It was a formation of enemy planes. They were coming from the West. Those around me also noticed them. Just then, the Port siren peeled forth its wail, from the tower of the Port Commissioner's office. I at once asked those around me to take shelter. I wanted to rush down to my office. So, I hastened to my car. It was about five minutes drive. My office was in 49th Street. I reached it. I thought that I was safe there. The noise of the planes was heard at close quarters. A huge thud and an explosion followed. Most of the glass panes in my office building were shattered to pieces. I thought I was caught in the mesh. I took courage in my hands and descended the staircase. On my left I had the First Aid Post across the Dalhousie street, and on the right the St. Phillips Church. Which way was safer? A knotty problem at a risky moment! Involuntarily, my legs took me towards the Church. I am a Hindu, not a Christian, but all the same I take it for a providential dispensation. For if I had turned the other side, I would not be here to-day talking to you. The Priest of the Church had a trench dug out, in the Church compound. His family and a few others had already taken refuge in it. I joined them. Again and again, I heard the violent sound of bomb explosion. The St. Phillips School in the Church compound was hit by a bomb and was on fire. It burnt furiously. It was at a very close range. So we found ourselves in a tight corner. The burning school emitted enormous smoke. It would have encircled us in the trench very easily, but for the massive masonry structure of the Church. Fortunately the wind was carrying off the smoke farther right. My thoughts flew to my home. My family were nearly six miles away from me. I had taken them to Thingangyun only a couple of days earlier.

VICTIMS OF THE RAID

In about half an hour, the commotion ceased. I crept out of the dug-out. Roads were mostly deserted. Cables and wires displaced from the telegraph and electric posts were lying across and along the roads. The electric installation seemed to be out of action. Here and there some essential service personnel were at work. Labourers, peddlers, vendors, rickshaw-pullers and such others were taken unawares. Many of the victims of the bombing and others who were machine-gunned at close quarters, by the so-called 'redeemers of the Asiatic countries' were being carried. Most horrifying were the stretcher-cases. People with maimed limbs and bleeding wounds, some of them ghastly, were

17TH DEC.—Powerful Luftwaffe formations attacked the Red Army forces closing on Smyela and Kirovograd.

An order signed by President Kalinin postpones elections to the Supreme Soviet of the U.S.S.R. till December 1944.

18TH DEC.—Russians broke-through into the German salient on the road to Nevel. In the Kirovograd section Soviet troops continued to advance. In the Kiev bulge Germans have been fought to a standstill.

19TH DEC.—Over 500 localities in Nevel sector were freed and 20,000 Germans killed. Hitler has threatened Manstain with disgrace if he cannot retake Kiev.

20TH DEC.—The Russians have begun their winter-offensive with a breakthrough on a 50-mile front, south of Nevel. They have smashed the enemy defences to a depth of 20 miles. Germans have evacuated the Dnieper bridgehead of Kherson. Vitebsk, the main enemy fortress at northern end of White Russia is threatened by Soviet forces.

21ST DEC.—German forces south of Nevel are retreating towards Vitebsk.

To-day on the 64th birthday of Stalin, Moscow is publishing the new National Anthem which will replace the old *Internationale*.

22ND DEC.—The Red Army has smashed the German defence line before Vitebsk.

The Russo-Czech treaty was ratified in the Kremlin by M. Molotov and M. Fierlinger, the Czech Ambassador in Moscow. Marshal Stalin gave a dinner in honour of Dr. Benes.

24TH DEC.—Troops of the First Baltic Front under the Command of Generals Galitsky, Malyshov, Khlebrikov and Semenov, have captured Gorodok, an important strong point of German defences in the Vitebsk direction.

It is strongly rumoured that Russians have captured Kherson on the estuary of Dnieper.

25TH DEC.—Vitebsk is now invested of four sides. The Red Army has pushed on to a point four miles from Vitebsk-Polotosk railway. German counter-attacks in the area south of Zhlobin failed.

26TH DEC.—Russians launched offensive west of Kiev. Radomysl and Brusilov were captured. The offensive in the Vitebsk direction continues and the Nazi position is precarious. Soviet forces captured about 60 places including Churova.

27TH DEC.—Soviet troops occupied two district centres in the Zhitomir region including Andrushevka and also 100 more localities. In the Vitebsk direction 30 localities were captured.

28TH DEC.—Soviet troops captured Korostyshev. The fate of Vitebsk garrison appears hopeless. Russians have cut vital railways.

* * *

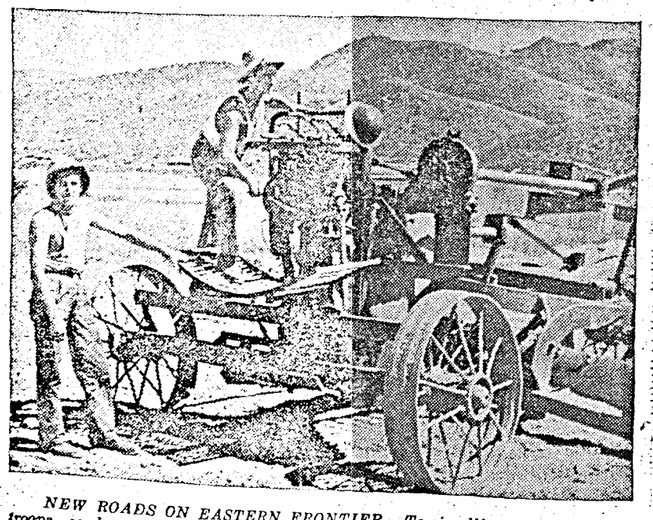
ITALY, AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

15TH DEC.—General Montgomery's bridgeheads across the Moro have been joined up. Caldari has been captured.

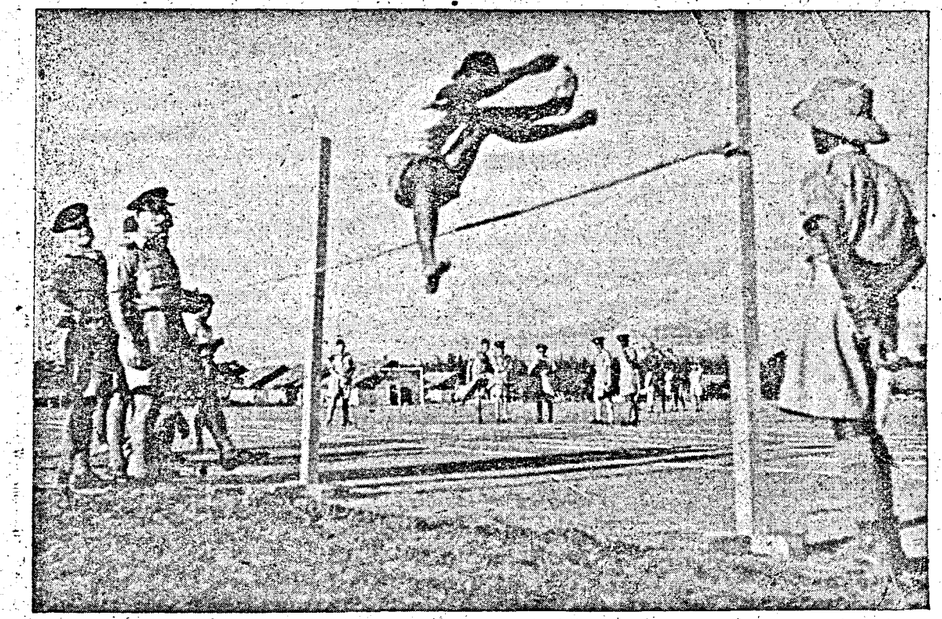
German bases in Athens area were bombed.

16TH DEC.—Further progress was made in the vicinity of Orsogna. The Fifth Army advanced and captured an important hill.

17TH DEC.—Fierce hand-to-hand fighting takes place between the Fifth Army troops and Germans in San Pietro. The Eighth Army is marching forward.



NEW ROADS ON EASTERN FRONTIER.—To simplify supplying forward troops, road construction goes on at high speed in Assam-Burma border areas. Preparatory to beginning surfacing of a newly formed supply road. Sappers J. Gwatken and A. G. Hewitt start up the motor of a power grader.



FIRST SPORTS MEETING AT AN I.A.F. RECRUITS TRAINING CENTRE.—Men and boys just introduced to Service life competed in the first Athletic meeting held at an I.A.F. Recruiting Training Centre somewhere in Southern India. The competitive and keep spirit displayed by the recruits augures well for their future in the Indian Air Force. Noteworthy is the fact that the highest points were scored by the "veteran recruits" of a few weeks' training thus proving indisputably that "Training Counts." Our photo shows the high jump—a skilful clearing of the pole by A. C. Ganapathy; 2nd., A. C. Shames.

18TH DEC.—The Eighth Army troops crossed the Ortona-Orsogna highway at several points.

19TH DEC.—San Pietro, key position on the Fifth Army front is captured. The Eighth Army captured Poggrofiortio.

26TH DEC.—General Montgomery's forces entered Orsogna the last Adriatic Port before Pescara and his New Zealand forces entered Ortona. Heavy tank engagements are going on in the Eighth Army front. On the Fifth Army front General Clark's troops are moving towards Cassino. They are threatening San Vittore.

21ST DEC.—The battle for Cassino has began. The report that Orsogna has been captured by the Allies is denied.

General Smuts has predicted Allied victory next year.

22ND DEC.—Fighting is in progress in Ortona. On the Fifth Army front several hills were occupied.

23RD DEC.—Indian troops made considerable progress in the Central sector. Fifth Army troops occupied Mount Cavello.

24TH DEC.—Eighth Army troops have captured Vezzani. Heavy fighting continues in and around Ortona. Allied patrols were active on the Fifth Army front.

Edda Ciano, Mussolini's daughter and the wife of the former Italian Foreign Minister, is in Rome trying to effect a reconciliation between her husband and the father.

25TH DEC.—Fighting continues on the Eighth Army front. Poor visibility limited activity in many areas on the Fifth Army front, still many heights were occupied. Allied troops occupied Ortona.

26TH DEC.—Heavy fighting continues in the Ortona area on the Eighth Army front. On the Fifth Army front two local attacks on enemy positions were launched.

27TH DEC.—Indian troops captured Villa Grande. Fifth Army troops occupied two important hills.

28TH DEC.—The German News Agency said to-day "Last night the town of Ortona was evacuated by Germans."

* * *

VICHY, FREE FRANCE AND OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

16TH DEC.—Innsbruck, the capital of the Austrian Province of Tyrol was heavily bombed by 300 Flying Fortresses.

18TH DEC.—Marshal Petain is under virtual arrest in Vichy for making one last attempt to oust Laval from power.

20TH DEC.—The news of the arrest, of the former French Premier M. Flandin, M. Peyrouton and M. P. Boisson are confirmed. The French Committee of National Liberation ordered their arrest.

Sofia in Bulgaria was bombed.

22ND DEC.—Dr. Benes made a statement on Soviet-Czeck treaty.

Marshal Tito of Yugoslavia has been raised to a status of a full Allied Commander.

23RD DEC.—Military targets in Northern France were bombed by the Allied aircraft.

24TH DEC.—General Catroux has signed an agreement with the Syrian and Lebanese Governments following negotiations that extended for a week under which France transfers to the Syrian and Lebanese Governments all legislative and administrative functions hitherto exercised in the name of the two countries by the mandatory power, thus ending the controversy which caused the recent crisis. This was revealed to-night simultaneously at Beirut and Damascus by the respective Premiers in both Parliaments. The transfer takes place on January 1st, 1944.

Allied bombers attacked objectives in North France. More than 1,300 United States bombers attacked Pas de Calais.

United States aircraft attacked Gilzlryen airfield in Holland.

27TH DEC.—Royal Air Force beaufighters attacked enemy shipping off Norway.

* * *

NEUTRAL COUNTRIES

15TH DEC.—The Turkish Minister of Foreign Affairs M. Numan Menemencioglu gave a report on the Cairo talks to a Republican People's party meeting.

Dr. Walter Stampfli has been elected President of the Swiss Confederation.

The Persian Cabinet resigned.

20TH DEC.—President Peneranda of Bolivia, two Cabinet ministers and a number of army officers were overthrown in a *coup d'etat* by the young army officers and "the National Revolutionary Party." A new Bolivian Government headed by Major Gualberto Villaroel has been set up.

The Spanish Falangish Militia is to be dissolved. This decision was announced by General Franco.

22ND DEC.—The Portuguese Prime Minister Dr. Salaazar met the Japanese Minister regarding Timor tangle.

24TH DEC.—It is announced that a Lebanese Mission to discuss Pan-Arab Federation with the Egyptian Prime Minister leaves Beirut for Cairo early in January 1944.

26TH DEC.—The first Soviet Minister to Egypt, M. Nikolai Nikov, presented his credentials to King Faruk.

* * *

THE FAR EAST

15TH DEC.—Chinese troops recaptured Shihmen.

The Governor-General of Australia Lord Gowrie said that Australia cannot disarm after the war. The Australian Army Minister Mr. Forde endorsed it.

The Jap Premier Tojo made a speech on the war in the next year.

16TH DEC.—American troops landed at Arawe in New Britain. Pilelo island was occupied by Allied forces.

Japanese forces have suffered their most serious defeat in the China war in the fighting in the N. Hunan Province. The Chinese have recaptured several towns, south of Wuhu on the Yangtse river.

17TH DEC.—The American troops in Arawe have consolidated their positions.

18TH DEC.—The Americans have captured the whole of the 3-mile long Arawe Peninsula. Australian troops captured Lakona on Huon Peninsula.

19TH DEC.—The United States troops in New Britain occupied Tinagu town.

The Japanese Government, fearing Allied air raids, has ordered the evacuation of civilians from all key cities in Japan.

20TH DEC.—United State planes attacked Japanese airfield on Mili island.

21ST DEC.—The American troops are fanning out into the interior of New Britain. Vice-Admiral Shibataki was killed in a battle off the Gilbert islands.

Chinese forces in the rice-bowl area have captured the Japanese bases of Lihsien, Tsingshih, Nanshien and Ansiang.

22ND DEC.—It is disclosed that Allied Navy and Air chiefs have held a series of secret conferences to discuss the next step in the Pacific war. General George Marshall, United States Chief of Staff, had met General MacArthur, and Admiral Nimitz, Commander-in-Chief of the Naval forces in the Pacific.

Allied aircraft raided Rabaul.

23RD DEC.—The chief of the aircraft production department of the Japanese munition industry, Lieutenant-General Kisaburo Ando, told an extraordinary conference of Provincial Governors to speed up production of aircraft.

Chinese troops pursuing the withdrawing Jap troops reached the vicinity of Sungtze and Kungan.

24TH DEC.—United States planes attacked Kivajalein in Marshalls.

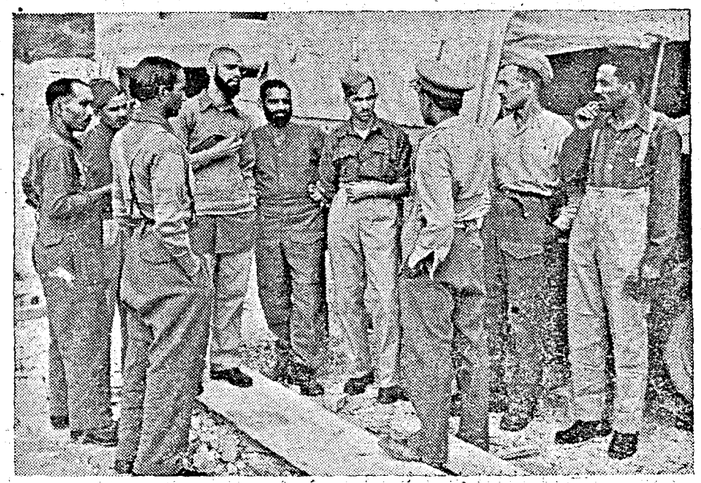
25TH DEC.—American aircraft raided Canton, the great Jap-held city in South China.

26TH DEC.—Chinese troops have recaptured Kungan.

United States marines landed on both sides of Cape Gloucester on north-west shore of New Britain.

27TH DEC.—The battle for Gasmata began. Several Jap bases in the Pacific were pounded.

28TH DEC.—At Cape Gloucester Allied forces consolidated their bridgeheads and are advancing inland. Enemy villages near Walingai in Huon Peninsula were bombed. Kahib and Jaisi were also attacked by United States bombers.



INDIAN PRISONERS OF WAR ESCAPE IN ITALY.—Indian ex-prisoners of war who were captured in France at the beginning of the war were able to make their escape when Italy capitulated. They tell their story to an Indian observer at Salerno.

INDIAN TROOPS FIGHTING IN ITALY.—As the Germans retire the country becomes more difficult; hills are steep and the roads bad, and the enemy has destroyed the bridges as well as mining the roads. This picture shows an anti-tank gun (six-pounder) which failed to take the hill, but many willing hands move the gun on its way.

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MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. V FRIDAY, JANUARY 7, 1944 No. 18

THE WALLS ARE CLOSING IN ON OUR ENEMIES

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT

WE are on the offensive. The walls are closing in remorselessly on our enemies. Our armed forces are gathering for new and greater assaults, which will bring about the downfall of the Axis aggressors

THE United Nations are giving attention also to a different kind of struggle which must follow the military phases—the struggle against disease, malnutrition unemployment and many other forms of economic and social distress

TO make all of us secure against future aggression and to open the way for the enhanced well-being of nations and individuals everywhere, we must maintain in the peace to come the mutual beneficial co-operation we have achieved in the war

AS we look towards the tremendous tasks ahead, let us pledge ourselves that this co-operation shall continue both for winning the final victory on the battlefield and for establishing an international organization of all peace-loving nations to maintain peace and security in the generations to come

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT in his New Year message

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ALL FRONT OFFENSIVE

"We and our Allies are exchanging news of military successes and are preparing an all-front offensive. This New Year's Day marks the dawn of a new era. The outstanding development of the global war during the past year is that the corner stone of victory has been solidly laid while the Axis is showing signs of collapse.

The new year will see decisive stages in the war. I want our army and people treasuring their past achievements and looking ahead to their glorious future to fulfil their obligations and show greater strength and spirit of self-sacrifice in their struggle for the realization of ideals of national revolution.

We have received absolute assurances of attaining the aims of our sacred war of resistance. All men in the various war zones must do their utmost to expedite military preparations when the forthcoming great offensive unfolds. They are making a contribution to the state that will be remembered for ever."

—GENERAL CHIANG KAI-SHEK, *in his New Year's Message to the Chinese Army.*

◆

MAIN BOUT OF THE FIGHT

"We are coming into the most hopeful New Year since the war began. 1944 will see decisive battles in Europe at least. We have got past all preliminaries and have come up to the main bout of the show-down fight. Overseas we have won some great victories in this last war year."

—MR. ELMER DAVIS, *Director of the Office of War Information, in a broadcast on January 1st.*

THE END OF WAR IN SIGHT

The situation is good. The end of this war is definitely in sight. All we have to do is to have complete trust in our leaders—the leaders of the nation—and get on with the job, and then there can be no doubt whatsoever about the outcome.

—GENERAL MONTGOMERY, *in his farewell message to the Eighth Army on 2nd January.*

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THE BATTLE OF BERLIN

THE R.A.F.'s New Year present to Germany was its hundredth raid on Berlin, when well over a thousand tons of bombs were dropped. A couple of days earlier, another major raid on the German capital had taken place, when over 2,000 tons of bombs were dropped. It is estimated that over 15,000 tons of high explosives and incendiaries were dropped since the Battle of Berlin started on November 18. The importance of these terrific assaults on the centre of Hitler's *Festung Europe* lies in the fact, that the R.A.F. has demonstrated very effectively that, in spite of unfavourable weather conditions, it could carry out such large-scale bombing operations at a range of more than 600 miles from English bases, as though it was a matter of almost daily routine!

NEITHER Hitler nor his Reichminister for Air, Goering, would have ever bargained for this. If they had known that the R.A.F. would pay back the *Luftwaffe's* havoc many times more, they would not have indulged so much in vain and pompous boasts. Three years ago (September 4, 1940), Hitler declared, "No British aircraft can cross the North Sea in daylight." Three years earlier still (August 9, 1937), Goering thumped his expansive chest and boasted that he had convinced himself personally of the measures taken to protect the Ruhr against air attack. "We will not expose the Ruhr," he said, "to a single bomb dropped by enemy aircraft." But bombs were dropped not singly, but in hundreds and thousands over the Ruhr Valley and damaged German war production to a very considerable extent—to such an extent that people are now convinced that the "saturation raids" of Air Chief Marshal Sir Arthur Harris have materially contributed to the German retreat on the Russian front.

Hitler's Headache

THESE raids have created new problems for Hitler. He has not only to protect German industries from the most severe air bombardment in history, but also to bolster up the morale of his people. He has been saying to the Germans that the R.A.F. raids would be avenged and that everything was being done to protect the German cities from the Allied air attacks. But in spite of his assertions and assurances, the bombing continues to go on at a terrific rate and pace. And the only consolation Hitler's Propaganda Minister could find as a saving grace of it all is that it has brought about greater unity among the Germans. In the year end broadcast over the Berlin Radio, Dr. Goebbels referred to 1943 as a "year of bitter decisions," and said, "The danger of air terror has linked us even closer together." He adds as though that would take away the string of Allied air attacks!—"We have got used to bombing." The same Berlin Radio told German listeners on September 22, 1940: "Every German child knows that not a single enemy plane can reach Germany."

NOW Allied bombers are bombing Berlin and other important targets in Germany and German-occupied Europe day after day and night after night, and however much Hitler and his confederates may try to hide the fact that the Germans are being given a taste of their own medicine, the truth is being dinned into their ears by way of terrific explosions and displayed before their very eyes in the shape of shattered buildings and factories. Now every German child knows that not one, but a thousand bombers, can reach Germany and relieve their bomb-load with devastating effects, not once in a way, but every now and then Hitler threatened, "We shall rub

out their cities," but it is Churchill's "City by City" warning that is being put into practice with persistent regularity. The Ruhr has been devastated, and Hamburg, Bremen, Kassel and Frankfurt and other cities have known what it is to have an R.A.F. raid. Out of a total of 155,000 tons of bombs dropped on enemy territory by the R.A.F., Germany received 135,000 tons. What Marshal Kesselring assigned as the function of the *Luftwaffe* seems to have been taken over by the R.A.F. and the American Air Force —that of breaking the enemy's power of resistance.

Germany's Air Defences

IT may be pointed out in this connection that heavy Allied air attacks have made the Germans concentrate their energies on ways and means to protect German towns and industries. Defensive measures have been undertaken on a larger scale, and priority has been given of late to the construction of fighter planes and production of anti-aircraft guns. Anti-aircraft guns are located miles around industrial targets. In the Ruhr area alone there are 1,000 heavy and 2,000 light anti-aircraft guns and 500 searchlights. The Essen area has about 300 anti-aircraft guns. The Germans, it is noticed of late, have not been placing as much reliance as they used to do upon their ground defences.

THEIR attention seems to be directed towards positive air defences, namely, fighter planes—the negative being the ground defences such as anti-aircraft guns and radio-location units. In the west, a chain of fighter defences has been organised by Lieut.-General Kammbuber between Cologne and Bordeaux and Hamburg and Brest to meet the offensive of the Britain-based Allied bombers. Part of this chain extends to Berlin and other vital industrial towns where selected "crack" night fighter squadrons have been distributed. The German night fighters in the west have a high degree of mobility and can move from place to place to meet the "saturation raids" of Allied air forces. But the ineffectiveness of German fighter forces have been shown particularly in the Battle of Berlin.

No longer raids, but battles

TO-DAY the Allied air offensive has reached such a high pitch that the "raids" have come to be called "Battles." The *Luftwaffe* is now completely on the defensive, and its present position is similar to that of the R.A.F. in 1940. There is, however, one significant difference: the R.A.F. then though numerically inferior, was superior in quality, but the *Luftwaffe* is now inferior both in quantity and in quality.

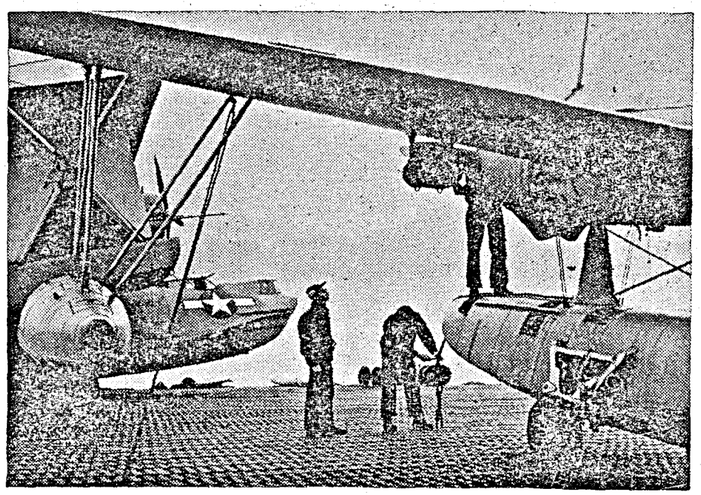
THE broad facts which emerge from the terrific onslaughts on Berlin and other industrial targets in Germany and occupied Europe are that the Allies have overwhelming air superiority which has reduced the strength of the *Luftwaffe* and the productive capacity of German aircraft industry, that the diversion of German fighter strength from Russia has given valuable help to the Red Army, and that the Allies have proved that there is no effective defence against the concentrated might of Allied air power. The Battle of Berlin, one of the latest results of which was the destruction of Hitler's Chancellery, is a significant pointer to the fate that awaits Germany this year.

RUNNING COMMENTARY

The Generalissimo's—New Year Message—Japanese Reverses in the Pacific

In a New Year address to the members of the Chinese Government, Generalissimo CHIANG KAI-SHEK said that China's major task in 1944 should be to launch a large-scale offensive against Japan, preparations for which have been completed. In 1943 China's military operations were co-ordinated with those of the Allies, but in 1944 there would be only one war strategy against Japan. "This New Year's Day," said the Generalissimo, "marks the dawn of a new era. The outstanding development of the global war during the past year is that the corner stone of victory has been solidly laid, while the Axis is showing signs of collapse." He referred to the fact that Japan had been suffering reverses everywhere in the Pacific and the China theatre and said that at the Cairo Conference, America, Britain and China unanimously agreed to strip Japan of all the Pacific islands she had seized.

This stripping process is now being successfully carried on in the New Guinea and New Britain areas. It was announced on Monday that American forces have landed at Saidor on the north coast of New Guinea, and quickly took possession of the harbour and air field. It was a combined operation of ground, sea and air forces. The United States Sixth Army landed at three places under cover of heavy air and naval bombardment. The enemy was taken by surprise, and the landing was accomplished without loss to the Allies. In the adjoining island of New Britain, American forces have extended their hold on the Cape Gloucester area and have dug themselves in to withstand Japanese counter-attack. They have captured large quantities of



In the North Pacific Aleutian Islands, a United States Navy crew attaches a bomb to the wing of a Kingfisher seaplane which is about to take off in search of retreating Japanese forces. At left a big United States Navy Catalina patrol bomber rests on a steel netting covering the beach. Combined air, sea and land operations by United States and Canadian forces drove the Japanese from the Aleutian Islands of Kiska, Attu and Agattu.

Japanese equipment in this area, including damaged aircraft and artillery.

* * *

Battle of New Britain—Cape Gloucester and Arawe in Allied Hands

The Battle of New Britain itself began in the middle of last month when American troops from General KREUGER's Sixth Army landed on the Arawe peninsula at the south-western tip of the island near Cape Merkus. It is stated that though the number of transports used in this operation was less than that used on the attack on Lae in New Guinea, the supporting naval forces, American and Australian, were the largest ever used in this part of the Pacific theatre of war. The operation had full fighter cover and bomber support throughout, and naval forces formed screens to the east and the west of Cape Merkus, but there was no Japanese interference by sea.

Now the northern and south-western tip of New Britain are in Allied hands. The next task is to construct air strips on which fighter planes can land and refuel, so that a nucleus for a large-scale air base can be formed, from which a big offensive against Rabaul can be launched. It may be hoped that the Americans who have repeatedly shown themselves capable of carrying out such tasks with extraordinary rapidity, would be able to consolidate the new Allied bases and carry out the attack on Rabaul.

The present strategical position may now be roughly described. The Japanese drive against Port Moresby on the south-west coast of New Guinea, opposite northern Australia, was held by the Australians who drove their enemy back across the Owen-Stanley mountain range and fought their way to the east coast. At the south end of the Solomons group, the fierce battle for Guadalcanal was won by the Americans. These two great achievements have helped a two-pronged converging offensive to take shape against Rabaul, one of the key fortresses of the outer perimeter of the Japanese defence.

* * *

An estimate of Japan's Strength—Naval and air inferiority

Japan is now defending a perimeter 8,000 miles long. Is it possible to drive her out by weight of numbers on land alone? She has at least 4,000,000 soldiers and the estimated losses since the beginning of the war in the Pacific amount to 200,000 men. Her army in Manchuria seems unaffected; she has vast supplies of slave labour and her population increases by 1,000,000 yearly. But Japan is facing now a growing inferiority in regard to naval and air strength. The United States possesses a growing superiority in ships of all categories and her increase in the number of aircraft-carriers is particularly noteworthy. To this great strength will be added that of Britain when Germany is defeated in Europe.

It is on account of the fact that Japan is weak on sea, that she is following a wise policy of avoiding rash adventures. She is anxious to keep what is left of her battle-fleet, intact, till she is forced by the advance of the Allies to fight really decisive naval engagements in Japanese home waters.

As regards air strength, it may be pointed out that there is deterioration in the Japanese position. Japan has lost about 5,000 aircraft since the Pacific war began, and her productive capacity has, it is thought, already been stretched to the full. When the Allies are able to devote their vast air power to batter the Japanese perimeter, they are likely to concentrate their air strength along selected and widely-separated "lanes of attack," as a result of which there will be a progressive creation of air bases, from which bases for the Navy could be captured.

* * *

Converging Assault on Caroline Islands

Now the Americans have captured certain islands in the Gilbert group and are following it up by air bombardment of the Marshall Islands. In New Guinea, the

ITALY—EIGHTH ARMY—Owing to recent heavy rains in this mountainous sector of the Eighth Army Front, batteries of medium and heavy artillery have had extreme difficulty in finding suitable emplacements near the required positions. Here British infantry men go forward on patrol north of Rionera.

Australians are advancing up the east coast. Both these moves point to the fact that a converging assault on the Caroline islands and the great Japanese base at Truk may be part of the plan. This, however, will be a rather difficult proposition. Unlike Rabaul, which has been improvised as a base after the Japanese occupation, the Caroline islands which have been under Japanese control for twenty years must have been made into a chain of impregnable fortress.

Some people think that Japan will easily collapse after Germany's defeat. This is dangerous nonsense. The Japanese are a race of fanatics and the struggle will be grim and costly before they are overwhelmed as ultimately they will certainly be. Allied air and sea power is moving northwards. It is tightening its grip on Japanese vital sea communications. How long will the Japanese defended by a home-based fleet and a home-based air force, withstand a direct assault on their island, by means of long-based Allied fleets of warships, aircraft-carriers and heavy bombers? Or will it be a question of how long can they endure the process of blockade and attrition? The future alone can show.

MADRAS THANKED FOR GENEROUS GIFT

His Excellency Sir Arthur Hope, Governor of Madras, has received the following cable, dated London, 31st December 1943, from Sir Stafford Cripps:—

"Please convey my warmest thanks to the people of Madras for their further generous gift of £7,500. The support so freely given by Madras has helped us to build up an air force which is proving a vital factor in the struggle for victory."

R.A.F. NURSES

First two Sisters of Princess Mary's R.A.F. Nursing Service to arrive on the Indo-Burmese border are now on active service there.

Coming from England, they are part of a completely mobile unit which is fully equipped with the latest medical apparatus and under the supervision of a surgeon, C.O.

"I am going to like India," said one of the Sisters, who comes from Forest Hill (London) and who formerly served at the R.A.F. Hospital at Ranceby (Lancs).

The other Sister was trained at Guy's (London) and did valuable work in Midwifery in what she describes as "the good old S.E. London boroughs."

RUSSIA—WINTER CAMPAIGN OF 1943–44?

By MAJOR ALEXANDER NAVOZOV

A Party of German soldiers and officers, recently captured in the Kiev area, was asked to fill in an anonymous questionnaire. Two hundred and thirteen answers were received to the question: How is the German army prepared for the winter campaign of 1943–44?

Of the 213, sixteen replied: the German army is well prepared for the winter. One hundred and twenty-eight asserted just the contrary: the German army is totally unprepared for winter.

Forty-five gave indefinite replies. They believed the German army to be only partially prepared for winter. Of these, twenty-one stated that the army had a good supply of foodstuffs and winter clothing but unprepared in every other respect. Seventeen of these forty-five asserted that the German army had everything for the winter campaign but the number of guns and the quantity of ammunition were most decidedly insufficient. The remaining seven stated that everything was prepared but human reserves and reserves of the army were poorly trained.

Six of them arrived at the conclusion that the German army was well prepared from the material standpoint but lacked most in the important morale. The soldiers were not certain of German victory and seemed to have no fighting spirit left in them.

Then come answers various in character. Three declared that the German army was quite prepared for the winter campaign—prepared, however, not for offensive but for retreating operations.

Three others believed there was no time to think of the winter as the German army had her hands full in trying to break away from the pursuing Russians and in shortening the front.

Two declared that preparations for the winter campaign were entirely unnecessary as the German army would be routed by then.

Ten remaining answers I shall quote in full. They are very original and cannot be grouped apart.

The German army has everything for winter and all it needs is a suitable line for defence which it has not as yet found.

No use preparing for the winter for Germans have lost the Dnieper line of winter defences and there does not seem to be another.

The German army had nothing prepared for the winter, except good supply of firewood of which there is plenty in forests across which the German units are retreating.

Everything is prepared for the winter but there is a shortage of leather soles which wear out so soon during uninterruputed retreats.

Once you are deemed to perish it is immaterial whether you do it prepared or unprepared for the winter.

What is the use of preparing for winter when all is lost and defeat is unavoidable.

The German army will be prepared for the winter if the German people render "winter aid."

The army will be prepared for the winter if there will be no sabotage in the German factories and if the partisans leave us alone and will not wreck our supply lines.

Everything is ready for winter but the leaders of the army are not. They are incapable of conducting the winter operations.

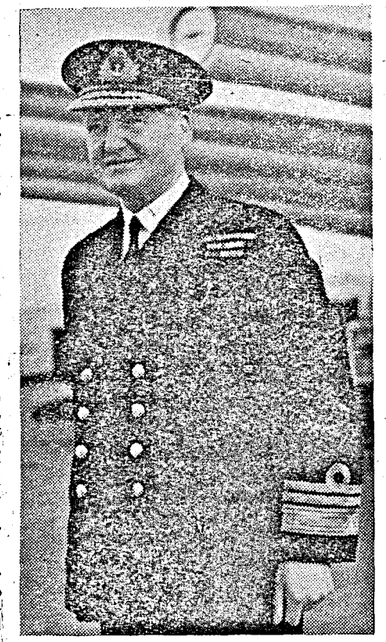
Everything is ready but Hitler is not. He is already shivering with cold. The Fuehrer knows that his end is near.

When I completed my analysis of the anonymous questionnaire, I learnt that a German prisoner had just been brought in. He was a non-commissioned officer, Otto Beningefen, the section commander of the 217th infantry regiment. I asked him the same question. The non-commissioned officer's answer was evasive: "I have a close friend—the Commander of our platoon, Sergeant Major Ken.

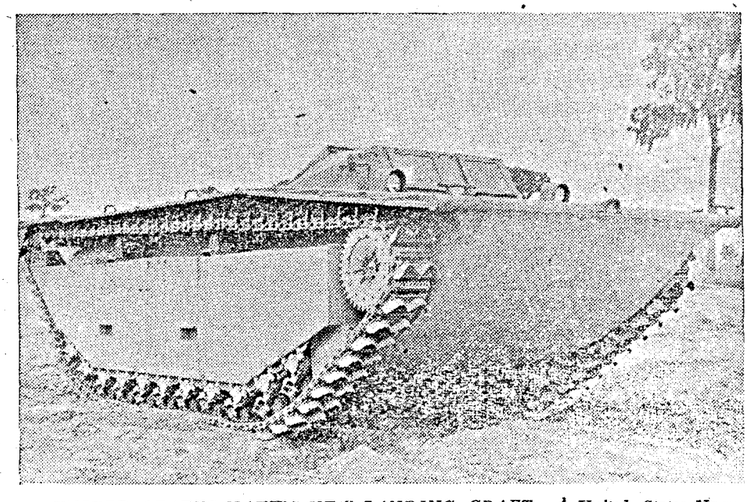
Not long before I was taken a prisoner we discussed the future prospects of the war. Ken was a clever fellow and well-versed in military affairs. We studied the map of war theatre for some time. Then Ken said, 'You know Otto we have lost the war. That is clear.'"

I agreed and think that the end for Germany in this war will be worse than in 1918.

ADMIRAL SIR B. FRASER.



Admiral Sir Bruce Fraser, K.C.B., K.B.E., who was in command of the units of the Home Fleet which successfully engaged and sank the German Battleship Scharnhorst *off North Cape on the evening of December 26.*



UNITED STATES NAVY'S NEW LANDING CRAFT.—A United States Navy LVT (landing vehicle tracked), a landing craft which hauls supplies with equal facility on land or water, is shown gripping sandy soil with its cupped traction gear. The versatile craft has been found particularly valuable in landing operations where it is desirable to unload equipment high on a beach. The LVT moves directly from the water on to the shore, unloads its supplies far inland and makes its way back to its mother ship for another cargo.

AUTUMN MAIL FROM GERMANY

By M. VLASOV

THE stock of letters before me had apparently not been touched by the German censors. What sort of letters were those addressed to the German soldiers by their wives, parents and friends? Opening a few at random, I found the following letter from Irma Recknadel from Munich to her husband: "Dear Fritz; you write so seldom but probably you have little time for this, since you are busy withdrawing 'according to plan,' sleeping, or 'organizing' food.

Now that autumn is here, I am afraid to think what winter will bring. If this war would only end! I can't see any good that has come of that awful business in the east. At office we have got a new saying, 'make hay while the war is on; peacetime will be worse.' Terrible is it not? Good luck to you dear, and don't forget your glutton at home."

Here is a letter of a different sort:

"Lately sirens have been sounded every evening. I expect that they will be on again in two hours. Like a runner on his mark I am waiting for them now: ready to make a dash for the bomb shelter. Who would have dreamt that things would come to this? Now all men are being called to the army. The turn of office rats has finally came—good thing too. It is about time that they were unpasted from their chairs. These gentlemen have been having the best life for a long time. Now they will no longer yell at us and torment the people. Now they shall at last learn something about the eastern front though they will be too late."

The wife of Willi Kraft, who penned the above, would have fared sorely had this latter been examined by "those who yell and torment people." As is known, the Gestapo has its own ways of dealing with those guilty of "pessimism and dissatisfaction." During the past two years bombing of German towns had its effect on the people.

The Germans have undergone a considerable change.

In 1941 the German women also sat about their radios; than waiting for Goebbels to tell them about new and fantastic victories in the east. In those days Hausfraus clapped their hands and exclaimed "Hail Hitler." Now, too, they are sitting about their radio receivers: no longer waiting for victories but for air raid alarm; then to get up like "runners on their mark" and —for the bomb shelters. Their lean years have definitely set in.

What cowardice and brutish fear is contained in these "runners on their marks!" More than once I saw Russian women in Moscow when the Luftwaffe was overhead. What cool courage they displayed, whether on roof watching on ten-storey buildings, at machine, tools, in factories; or policing their beats in the city as militia!

Hundreds of letters from the German rear express the view that the war against the Soviet Union has been lost. They also express fear of just retribution, hatred for the Soviet people and the Red Army; bestial fear of bombing; and often is there a lurking hope of getting a scrap of soap or something good pilfered on the Russian soil.

Letters of German women to their men at the front are decidedly gloomy in autumn, 1943.

ARMA VIRUMQUE

By R.G.

Who would have thought
When war was mechanized
And massacre rolled off the assembly line
Men had not wrought
The end of all things fine ?
  But man agonized
And was again heroic.
Courage still shoots its challenging bud
And still are devised
Wise arks to swim on the flood
  And horses Troic
In which men dare, as before,
With the old grand passion of loyalty
And the old stoic
Patience to suffer and die.
  Leaping to shore
Through fire, like Nelson's tars
Or the tameless Anzacs of Gallipoli,
They grasp once more
In Ukraine and Italy
  The torturers' bars
And tear them down the faster
With the shot of Shermans and Hurricanes
And Homer's stars
Shine not on greaves but planes
  And armies vaster
But still a-roar with man's
Indomitable though blindfold heart
That's motor and master
Of the mechanic part
  And the blueprint plans.

HEROINES OF THE DEFENCE OF MOSCOW

By MARIA ZHELESNOVA

THE Moscow Historical Museum has opened an exhibition devoted to the defeat of German Fascists near Moscow. Thousands of Moscow residents, as well as visitors to the capital, have come to see it.

Two years have passed since the Red Army repelled the enemy who had come up to the city's gates. Hitler had concentrated 13 tank, 33 infantry and five motorised infantry divisions near Moscow, the heart of the Soviet Union. In December 1941, the troops of the Red Army began their counter-attack, and, within four days, liberated over 400 villages and inhabited points; and destroyed 386 enemy tanks. Within a month and a half 30,000 bodies of enemy officers and soldiers had been strewn along roads leading to Moscow.

The portraits and photographs of the brave people who defended the capital are on view in he exhibition halls. Alongside pictures of men hang those of girls. Ordinary Soviet girls of every nationality—Russian, Uzbek, Georgian, Ukrainian, etc.—rose to the defence of Moscow: ready to give their lives for barring the enemy's way to the capital.

Pictures of the heroes of the Soviet Union, Zoya Kosmodemyanskaya, the partisan girl hanged by German bandits; Natasha Kovshova and Maria Polivarova —two women soldiers who would rather die than retreat, and Liza Chaikina, a partisan girl tortured to death by the Germans, occupy an honourable place. The names of these girls have gone down in the history of struggle against Hitlerism and will live in the memory of posterity for times to come.

The name of the intrepid airman, Sprun—twice hero of the Soviet Union—is known throughout the Soviet Union. His pretty young sister, Anne, became a paratrooper in order to be worthy of her brave brother. Anne descended in the enemy's rear 50 times and, risking her life, carried out important tasks connected with the capital's defence. Alongside Anne Spruns are photographs of many other girl-nurses, stretcher-bearers, surgeons' assistants, pilots and soldiers. The Guards Sergeant, Ziba Ganieva, was formerly a student of the theatrical studio. She comes from far off sunny Uzbekistan, but she rose against the enemy who threatened the heart of her country. This brave sniper has killed several dozen Fritzes and has been decorated by the Government.

There is a picture of Elena Kovalchuk in action. This brave fair-haired woman is shown creeping carefully over the field with her first-aid kit slung over her back. She risked her life to rescue the defenders of Moscow. Since the outbreak of the war she has brought over a hundred men out of the firing-line to safety.

A STORY OF A WOMAN FROM KIEV

By A. ARNOLDOV

THE liberated residents of Kiev relate hair-raising stories about days spent under the Hitlerite yoke.

Here is what Maria Klimonko, who spent twelve months in a Gestapo dungeon, related:

"I was arrested in December 1942, for what reason I know not until this very day. There were nine other women in cell number 52, where I was pushed into. The women showed me scars on their bodies after fearful beatings, and that prevented my sleeping all night.

Morning came at last, and with it, the feeling that I had fallen in death pit with no means of escape. An hour or so later questioning began. Women returned looking aged with fresh traces of beatings and tears rolling from their eyes. This continued until the noon. Then we were given a little respite during which prisoners received a plate of dish water; and then again questioning, beatings and torture, until evening. . .

At 10-11 p.m. you hear a voice in the corridor: 'Get ready.'

That meant that for many prisoners the death hour had struck and they had to be taken out for being shot. Everybody hurried to get dressed for no one knows whose turn it was. This daily preparation for one's death was a terrible torture.

The cell doors were swung open and those on the list lined up in the corridor and marched off. These people leave never to return. Night sets in; then morning comes and the same thing happens.

DEATH CAMP

Finally came my turn. I was taken to the death chamber from where people are sent to their doom or to camp. I found a girl of nineteen there. She and I were placed in a lorry with fifty men, and taken to the notorious 'death camp'—the Kiev Siretsk Concentration Camp—two small squares of land separated by six rows of hightension wire fences.

The Germans greeted us with threats and whip. We two girls were taken to women's quarters. Men were formed in a line, deprived of their shoes and overcoats; and then the order was bawled out: 'Lie down.' All dropped to the ground. Then rang out the order: 'Riso.' And everybody got on his or her feet. This was repeated several times and appeared to be examination in obedience.

At three on the next morning, we were awakened and sent to work. Girls and women had to dig up and carry heavy frozen logs; women were harnessed to carts and made to drag heavy loads with stone and sand. Men's work was much harder.

If anyone was to lag behind or drop from exhaustion, blows had to be fained at the unfortunate person. Good God, if you only know how many deaths I witnessed from blows delivered with truncheons. There seemed to be death did the Germans not think of to kill their unfortunate victims? One man was forced to climb a tall tree and jump. He broke both his legs and was executed. He was not just killed; the brutes chopped off his head.

I remember that one man was begging to be shot because he could no longer bear misery and torture. The Hitlerite buried him up to his neck in the ground; kicked his head like football; spat into his eyes and then shot him.

People were publicly hanged every day for attempts to escape. All this savagery was directed by Schtumbar Feuhrer Paul Radomsky. He was not an ordinary executioner and murderer. The murder was something like narcotic to him. After each crime he seemed to change; he would wear a content expression on his countenance; looked weary and, for an hour or two, was even kind and never beat anyone. He was very fond of his dog and horse and used animals to commit his murders. The dog's name was Reke, the name that I will remember for the rest of my life. Radomsky would often ride to the camp on horseback during dinner hour, and set the dog on us. Reke would hurl himself on us: tearing and biting. Men and women would race around the camp in fear while Radomsky would crush them under hoofs of his horse and lash them with his whip.

Rotfir, Radomsky's assistant, once entered the women's quarters very much the worse for drink. It was night and we were all asleep. He opened fire at sleeping women, killing five.

"BABI YAR"

It is difficult to enumerate all the atrocities of German bandits. Fifty meters from the camp was the notorious "Babi Yar" moat where the Germans shot the Soviet people.

We had a good view from our quarters and saw lorries arrive with naked men, women and even children. They were shot on the spot from tommyguns. In two years, the Germans executed tens of thousands of Soviet people here. When the Red Army approached Kiev, the Hitlerites fearing retribution commenced erasing traces of their bloody crimes. We saw soldiers dig up ditches, take out corpses, dump them with some liquid and set them to light.

These camp fires of human bodies blazed for many hours. We sensed the smell of burning flesh, bones and hair.

In this hell I spent twelve months."

The W.A.T.S. were to appear at the Christmas concert, and promised to provide an item showing "Beauty through the Ages."

One by one the players were picked, until they came to Lady Godiva.

"What about May Smith?" said one member of the committee. "She can ride a horse."

"Mary Smith!" snorted the chairwoman. "Good heavens, the horse

SIMPLE WEDDING

A party of Madrassi signalmen recently attended a Manipur Hindu wedding held by their neighbours. The sepoy guests included Hindus, Christians and Muslims.

Signalman Shanmugam of Tinnevelly, said: "the marriage ceremony was much more simple than ours; all was over in less than two hours. The men were dressed in white and wore large turbans. The bride was brought in, led by her father, with her face covered in a thin veil. She was seated at right angles to the groom.

The priest took the hand of the bride, put it on top of the right hand of the groom and that was the solemnisation of the wedding. Over their hands were placed a coconut and betel leaves. The bride was then led seven times round the seated elders. Afterwards the couple went away for their honeymoon riding a palanquin. We returned with the simple present of pan-supari given to us by the hosts."

In the absence, on duty, of her husband in the Navy, Mrs. Jones was taking her two small boys home to her people for the New Year. And she was finding the journey more than a bit of a task.

Presently from the corner of the carriage came once again a plaintive voice:

"What was the name of the last station we stopped at, mother?"

"I don't know," snapped Mrs. Jones, "and don't bother me when I'm reading."

After a few minutes' silence the youngster spoke again:

"Well, it's a pity you didn't know the name of the station, because our Jimmy got out there."

«НА КРУТОМ ПОВОРОТЕ»

ВеДУЧЕе колесо в ОСИ сорвалось. Рис.

FATIMA RAKHMATOVA

By LUDMILA VEPRITSKAYA

FATIMA Rakhmatova of the Stalin collective-farm in the Namangan district of Uzbekistan is known throughout the republic for her original method in cotton picking with both hands. She worked hard and now picks twice as much cotton as the best worker. Fatima taught the women of the neighbouring collective-farm in her method.

The Uzbek Government has decorated Fatima for her good work. In the Soviet Union honest and industrious labour is valued as highly as heroic fight.

Fatima was later promoted to the post of chairwoman of the village consumers' co-operative.

In Autumn 1943, when cotton was ripe and the busiest time approached, there were not enough people to do work —many young cotton-pickers being inexperienced.

Fatima Rakhmatova went to the farm chairman and informed him that she would be among the cotton-pickers the following day.

"But what about your own work in co-operative?" asked the Chairman.

I will pick cotton during the day and attend to the co-operative in the evening. "Why are you looking at me like that?" she asked angrily. "What else will I do? My husband is on service and I think he is on alert many nights during attacks. He does not think of killing only one German if there are five before him. He knows that he must kill them all. There will be no harm done if I do the work of three or four people."

On the next morning Fatima went to the field and, by the evening, she picked 120 kilograms of cotton.

"That is fine," she said, "I guess my hands have not forgotten to pick. Just wait until they get back to their own."

During the following days Fatima brought her average up to 300 kilograms per day.

Other women began to follow her example.

Fatima taught Khariakhon Davlyatova, Fatima Dzhalilova, Sharapet Nurmatova and other young girls. The amount of cotton picked daily increased. The secret of Fatima's success was her methodical work, the avoidance of any extra movement of her hands and working skilfully and quickly.

Late at evening people returned home to rest, but Fatima, after supper, would go to her office and work till late at night, giving instructions for the next day. At early morning she would again go to the field.

Fatima Rakhmatova picked over 5,000 kilograms of cotton in twenty days.

This one comes from the British Legion Journal: The Commanding Officer of a new battalion, raised in 1916, quickly gained the high esteem of his N.C.O.'s by his ability to handle any situation that arose. So the Sergeant-Major, who had been a Corporal about three months before and was now acting as Adjutant, was all attention when the C.O. gave him some verbal orders to issue on the following day.

"There will be an eclipse of the sun tomorrow", said the C.O. "I want the battalion formed up on the parade ground, and I will explain it. If the sky is cloudy, have the men assembled in the mess hall instead."

That evening the following order appeared on the bulletin board:—

"Tomorrow morning there will be an eclipse of the sun. The battalion will assemble on the parade ground at 10 o'clock where the Commanding Officer will personally supervise the eclipse. If the sky is cloudy, the eclipse will take place in the mess hall."

GULSUM SHAMSIEVA

By ALEXANDRA YAKOVLEVA

GULSUM Shamsieva received me in her spacious office in the building of the Supreme Council of the Tatar Autonomous Republic, Kazan, at the Kremlin. She had just returned from a trip over the Tatar Republic. There were no visitors at this usual office hour, for no one knew as yet of her return, and we were able to converse at our leisure.

Gulsum spoke with a peculiar accent, of the Volga Russians, making me doubt whether she really was a Tatar. But she only laughed and said: "Not only am I a Tatar, I have even received my education in my native tongue."

Gulsum is 28 and is a teacher by profession. Following upon her graduation from the Kazan Teachers' Training College, she taught in Kazan's elementary and high schools for two years. At the same time she was a very active social worker, and was very popular. She was twice elected to the Kazan Municipal Council and, for over two years, she acted as Chairwoman of the District Council of the City of Kazan. In 1937 she was elected Deputy of the Supreme Council of the Tatar Republic, and in 1941, she became Secretary of its Presidium.

"My work keeps me very busy," Shamsieva said, "especially now when several deputies and members of the presidium are away at the front. From time to time I, like every other Government member, give an account of my work to my electors. Recently I made my tenth report to my electors. I keep up a lively correspondence with my electors.

I receive hundreds of letters and inquiries from the people in the country and from the front."

Here Gulsum showed me a folder filled with letters. One of them was from the front. The Hero of the Soviet Union, Makovsky, asks her to take care of his sister and sick mother. The following letter was one of thanks for the attention given at his request:—

"Recently," Gulsum continued, "I received a letter from a former pupil of mine, Barey Galiev, whose teacher I was in 1939. Now he is a lieutenant at the front."

When the wife of Mukhametdinov, a fighter at the front, died, Shamsieva placed her baby in a creche, and now the father is no more worried about his son.

In another letter, Kaznacheyeva, a teacher, thanks for the help she received. She has been evacuated from the front zone and came to Kazan without any means. There she found work and, with the help of Gulsum, she located her only daughter whom she considered to be dead. It turned out that the girl had also been evacuated with the children to a sanatorium and sent to the Tatar Republic.

The work of the Secretary, the Presidium of the Supreme Council is highly responsible. Many citizens apply to the Supreme Council. Every visitor must be listened to, given exhaustive answer, helped or told the reason for refusing his request and complaints by citizens. The democratic principles of our state oblige us to react immediately to the slightest infringements of our citizens' rights.

Preparing material for the sessions of the Presidium is another important task of its Secretary. It requires thorough questions. The Secretary has to check up the work of the deputies of the Supreme Council. Members of the Presidium also have to help the local Government organs.

I have made several reports before the local Soviets in concrete problems especially those which arise from wartime conditions."

To my question how she finds time for all this work Gulsum answered: "Well, it all depends on the proper organization both of work and of leisure. Twice a week from six to eight in the morning I study history which always interested me. Other days I devote my morning hours to answering letters and enquiries. In the town I usually go to the Supreme Council. On my days of rest I do a good deal of reading because this is impossible on any other day.

I have no family of my own, but I have spent much time in bringing up my brothers and sisters. One of my brothers works as engineer in the defence factory. My sister is about to graduate from the Medical department of the Kazan University and my younger brothers are studying in technical school and will soon leave for the front."

MOSCOW ARTISTS AT THE FRONT

By ELONA KUZNETSOVA

WE found Varvara Obukhova, an actress of the Moscow Maly Theatre, bustling about her elegantly appointed room, hastily preparing to leave on one of her regular engagements at the front. She is a tall, graceful woman with a typical Russian face that had a rather stern expression. The bright red band on her head concealed the scar left by a serious injury received during enemy air raid on autumn 1941.

A very attractive silk evening gown was lying on the empire divan. On the armchair lay a short furcoat, a furcap with earflaps and an officers' field case. High leather boots were standing alongside a pair of silver pumps.

"That is my 'stage' outfit," said the actress.

Her baggage did not dare exceed what she herself could carry. Therefore her evening apparel had to fit into the handbag. Linen and foodstuffs had to go into the rucksack; documents, money and notebook into the fieldcase. Short furcoat, boots and earflapped cap formed a very convenient outfit for travelling under frontline conditions, especially if one had to stay overnight in some remote, incommodious place.

A Maly Theatre Troupe was to leave for the central front on the following morning. It consisted of the director, Barvara Obukhova; actors, Mikhail Tsarov, Tatyana Pafkova, the singer, Alexandra Pirotskaya and the skilled accordion player, Semenov.

This will be Varvara Obukhova's eleventh trip to the front. In the course of the year she visited all the fronts of the great patriotic war.

At Stalingrad the artists uncomplainingly shared with the heroic defenders of the city all the dangers of cold, lack of water and occasional shortages of food. The supplies depended entirely on the river crossings and the Germans bombarded the crossings day and night.

"We saw examples of unprecedented heroism all around us," re-called Varvara Obukhova; "and it was our desire to afford courage to the defenders of the city at least during hours of rest and entertainment. In the thirteen days that we spent at Stalingrad we presented 32 concerts, 25 of which were directly at the frontline positions."

Recently the Maly Theatre Troupe returned from a trip to the front where its itinerary covered Mtsensk, Orel, Kromy, and further west following on the heels of the advancing Red Army.

"Enroute we saw the city of Mtsensk which Germans razed to the ground; deserted ruins of Bolgorod and hundreds of burnt villages surrounded by trampled fields. We stopped at Orel for five days during which we gave three concerts per day, playing for many thousands of spectators from all new units heading westward.

"At night we went to Kharkov and walked along Sumsky—the main street. At first glance it seemed that everything was alright and that both the sides of the street were lined with houses. But, on a closer view, the moon shining through hulks of dead houses created a weird and ghastly sight.

"We continued on to Poltava. Of the large and well-to-do village of Poltavshina, which consisted of 300 to 500 households, only one stove remained intact, and for some unknown reason, a rickety iron bed too. Of a rich harvest only ashes remained and the odour of burnt grain that pursued us everywhere.

"We arrived in Poltava on the following day in the wake of the advancing Red Army units which continued on their victorious march westward.

"The city was still in flames. Crumbling stone houses exuded heat and smoke and stifled our lungs.

"At the Korpus gardens near the common grave where defenders of the city are buried, a meeting of the population and Red Armymen took place at the monument of glory followed by a concert. About 10,000 people were present: such a huge audience was unknown to artists even in peace time. It seemed almost impossible to be heard above the crowd. As soon as I announced the artists of the Moscow Maly Theatre would appear, it became perfectly quiet. There was something portentous in the deep stillness when Mikhail Tsarev exclaimed the fiery lines from Constantine Simonov's poem, "Kill him!" They sounded a call for vengeance against the Hitlerite hangmen.

"The audience did not disperse for long after the concert; they asked the artists to tell them what they saw enroute—especially about Moscow."

In its 28 days of sojourn at the front, the troupe gave 39 concerts for 60,000 people.

A short rest at Moscow and again the artists will be off to the front, to the central front to give concerts for men and officers of the liberating army which is going resolutely westward, daily driving the Hitlerites from our native Soviet soil!

THE KIROV TANK PLANT

By I. ZALTSMAN, *Director of the Kirov plant, the former Putilov works in St. Petersburg*

AT present when the whole Soviet people are doing their utmost towards final victory, our plant is regularly fulfilling the government plan of the production of tanks, motors, spare parts and other military equipment.

The plant's achievements are due primarily to the unprecedented enthusiasm of all the workers. The offensive of the Red Army reveals new strength and new sources of the energy of the Soviet people.

Arming the Red Army with the last word in military equipment, the workers of our plant are simultaneously arming themselves with new experience in organizing production, mastering highlights of technique and taking the utmost from machines.

Government orders are now fulfilled in days and hours, instead of months as formerly. Not long ago our plant was ordered to start mass production of a highly important military article. We were given six days time and were told, "That is a very short time, but you must confine yourselves to it by all means. The order for the Red Army cannot be delayed."

Our constructors, technicians and shop workers considered the problem carefully, found the necessary reserves and succeeded in organizing mass production of the article in 24 hours after receiving the order.

UNDENIABLE FACTS

The growth of our leading cadres and the successes of our plant are undeniable facts. The duty of our leading men is to keep studying and to apply the experience of the foremost plants.

The Kirovites have learnt and achieved a lot during the war. But no matter how much we achieve, we will never rest on our laurels. One must always endeavour to attain new achievements, acquire new experience and, notwithstanding all the hardships of wartime, produce more and more for the front. That is our duty; that is what our country demands.

REPATRIATION FOR DENTAL SURGEONS SERVING IN INDIA

Fourth-year dental students serving with the forces in India may now apply for repatriation to the U.K. This will allow them to complete their studies and qualify as army dentists.

British personnel who qualify in this category will be selected by the War Office through G.H.Q., India.

Courses have to be completed at their own expense. Periodical reports will state whether their progress is satisfactory. Some may be liable for recall to the army in their age groups.

"There is a shortage of dentists for the civil population in England," said an officer of the Army Dental Corps in India. "It is hoped that the release of some students from the Army may ease the situation."

HOW HE WORKS FOR THE FRONT

By ANNA KARAVAYOVA

I first met the Tartar steel-smelter, Valayev, Stalin Prize Winner, in Front Number Three Furnace at the Uralmash Steel Plant where he works.

The smelter pressed the lever; the shutter lifted and the glowing mouth furnace gaped. Only sun itself can be compared with that dazzling flame, that blinding glare of the molten metal: soothing there obedient to the will of man.

The whole place is bathed in golden light and, on this fiery background, stands out the spare black figure of the smelter: his movements efficient and resolute, and, at the same time, somehow youthful and keen as he runs to the furnace mouth and peers into the metal through his blue shield, seizes his sheel and throws in metal, lime, manganese; then again presses the lever, lowering the shutter; twirls the regulator and gives orders to test. Heavy drops fall from the metal in the ladle while fiery metallic sparks fly and fall hissing on the floor plates.

"We can soon draw her off" says Valayev wiping the sweat from his face. "She is coming along like a lady to-day."

"She"—that is the steel, this powerful yet supple and rich metal, to which Valayev devoted fifteen years of his life. It was in 1926 that he saw his first open-hearth furnace at the Jchusov Works and lost his heart to it. He felt at once that here was his life's work.

He was born near Kazan in a village on the banks of the rippling Mesha and, early left orphan, had been farm labourer working for a rich peasant tailor as porter, and even thought of being an actor. But in due course he found the work which won him completely.

"I saw the metal being smelted and I decided that this was the best job I could do . . . An unskilled labourer at first, I envied the post. Three years I was smelting steel myself. . . ."

Valayev will never forget the day of the treacherous fascist attack on the Soviet Union. He left the meeting, and there was such an expression of tense rage on his lean features that people turned to look at him as he passed.

"They have forced a fight on us that means—fight is on everywhere" he told his brigade.

It is on here by the furnaces, too, Stalin demands it; the front demands it and we will do it. Times are steel, too. If we lose time, we lose steel. We have got to cut time."

And, instead of eight or nine tons which he had smelted before the war began, he is now turning out eleven and twelve tons to a square metre of hearth space.

In February, 1942, when the shop foreman pointed out the work done by Nurul Bazetov of the Vorkhiseto Works, whose fame spread throughout the country, the hot-headed Valayev shouted:

"Well, and what about it? Nurulla is a smelter and so am I. Nurulla is a Tartar and so am I. He knows his job and people call me artist in my work—why should I lag behind Nurulla? I can give the front as much steel as Nurulla.

We will give Nurulla a run for his money," he told his brigade and, at the same time, carefully watching the quality, Valayev one day turned out about fourteen tons to a square metre of the hearth space. "It is moving," he laughed, as he handed the furnace over to his mate, Dmitri Sidorovsky. He went home and slept soundly; and woke to learn that Sidorovsky had gone one better with fifteen point three (15·3) tons. So there it was—not only was Valayev thirsting to overtake the famous Nurulla, but his mate Sidorovsky as well. So now he had two to overtake—"Good enough, we will have a match in turning out steel for the front," said he.

Now Valayev began watching every moment like a cat watching the mouse; attained the best shifts, raised the temperature again; cut time still further and turned out 15·6 tons. His heart beat with pride: he had beaten Nurulla with his fourteen tons and his mate Sidorovsky as well.

As time went on, smelting rose to eighteen tons—never had such a thing been seen in the Urals.

I saw Ibragin Valayev receive the Order of Red Banner together with other famous people working in the Uralmash Plant; while his mate Sidorovsky, was awarded the Order of Lenin. I saw the furious intensity of his work and I felt the spirit of co-operation combined with restless and demanding zeal that filled his brigade. I saw the might of the Ural steel flowing—flowing day and night like a powerful river of fire.

With a thunderous ringing sound it flows huge troughs of reddish gold, while, in reply, the furnace flames play over the faces of the smelters. Yes, this is the steel of our Soviet tanks roaring over fields of colossal battles, this is the steel with which gallant Soviet fighting men are annihilating German fascist hordes.

Inspired labour in the rear is one of the keys for opening the golden gates of victory—this is how Ibragin Valayev understood his life's work. With ever greater daring and determination, he shortens the time, at the same time inspiring others by his example. In the factory language this is the advanced method of high quality steel smelting, and on the base of this method a whole galaxy of talented Urals smelters, Talin Balyev, Kefin Uzkikh, Alexander Kuzmin and others have attained important successes. Like fertile grain this method spreading over further into the industrial life and now the days have come when the country has given still higher recognition to the work of the Uralmash smelter—in 1943, Ibragin Valayev received the high award of Stalin Prize.

THE AZERBAIJAN PEASANTS

By KULIYEV

At the call of Comrade Stalin, the Azerbaijan peasants joined other peoples of our land to serve the great patriotic war. At the front and in the rear the sons and daughters of the republic are doing their bit in fight for the defeat and destruction of the enemy.

There is no part of the front where one will not find people from Azerbaijan fighting side by side with Russians, Ukrainians, Belo-Russians, Georgians and Armenians. At the approaches to Leningrad, in the battle of Stalingrad, in the Caucasian foothills and on the right bank of the Dnieper, the fame of fighting men of Azerbaijan has risen high. They are men who have, with honour, justified the confidence of the country, and of their own people. The people of Azerbaijan are proud of the fame of the 416th Red Banner Taganrog Infantry Division. For its outstanding services in the battles, for the Russian town of Taganrog and the Ukrainian town of Melitopol, this division, the child of Azerbaijan, has twice received the thanks of the Supreme High Commander, Marshal of the Soviet Union, Comrade Stalin.

The exploits of their countrymen at the front inspire the people working in the rear to unprecedented labour enthusiasm. It was with pride and joy that the oil workers and collective farmers and intellectuals of Azerbaijan learnt of the high evaluation of the Soviet people's work in support of the front which Comrade Stalin gave in his historic report on the 26th Anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution. This report imbues every Azerbaijanian, whether a fighting man or a worker with a new strength for struggle against the enemy, in order to bring nearer the final defeat of Hitler Germany.

The government decree, awarding orders and medals to a large group of outstanding agricultural workers of this republic, proves that the peasants of Azerbaijan are faithfully carrying out their duty to their country. In these tense days of hard-fought battles, in these days when mass expulsion of Germans from our land has begun, the state publicly recognizes the services rendered by the peasants of Azerbaijan.

The harvest campaign this year was most efficiently organized. By November 5, that is, before the time set, the republic fulfilled the yearly State Plan for grain deliveries. And all other state deliveries were made as successfully. In most of the districts collective-farms are delivering grain, meat, milk, wool and other agricultural produce in advance for the year 1944. Tens of thousands of tons of grain have already been turned in. In the Bardin district alone collective-farms delivered one hundred tons of grain, over seventy-five tons of meat, thousands of kilograms of wool, butter and milk in advance to be credited to 1944.

Filled with constant care for the needs of the gallant Red Army and the population of districts freed from the fascist yoke, Azerbaijan collective-farmers have sown about 4,500 hectares to various crops to be handed over to the Red Army Fund, and taken patronage over the Stavropol district liberated from the Germans: sending over 460 tons of grain there.

During the patriotic war the Azerbaijan collective-farmers have increased the sown area by 140,000 hectares. This fact alone speaks eloquently enough of the self-sacrifice of peasants, who, under difficult wartime conditions, have not only not cut their sown area but even increased it considerably.

It is still early to give figures for cotton, but in this sphere, too, there are people who have attained splendid results. The Jebrailsky, Agdamsky and other districts completed their plan of raw cotton deliveries before the appointed time.

The Azerbaijan agriculture includes most varied of cereals, fruits and technical crops. This year considerable harvest is being gathered from vegetable plots. Tea picking plan is fulfilled, tobacco is being gathered in and many districts have, for the first time, sown and are now harvesting sugarbeets.

This year Azerbaijan completed its plan in stockfarming before time. In ten months the number of cattle increased by forty thousand head sheep and goats by over two hundred fifty thousand. The number of cattle owned privately by peasants has increased considerably.

There is increase in the productivity of collective-farm cattle, thanks to which many collective-farms delivered considerable amounts of meat, cheese and wool in advance on the account of 1944. The collective-farmers have fattened about ten thousand head cattle for the fund in aid of liberated districts.

These main data are as yet far from complete which characterize the successes of the Azerbaijan peasants in the third year of the war.

Azerbaijan is meeting the new wartime agricultural year well prepared. In accordance with Comrade Stalin's directions, the collective-farm peasants of Azerbaijan will give the front and the country all that can be gained from the rich soil of the republic.

WAR HEADLINES OF 1943

JANUARY

2 Russians capture Velikie Luki.
Buna area cleared of Japs.
24 Tripoli falls to the Allies.
14–24 Allied conference at Casablanca.

FEBRUARY

5 Mussolini ousts 12 members of cabinet including Ciano.
7 North African theatre of operations established under command of Eisenhower.
7 Brazil joins United Nations.
9 Russians take Kursk.
10 Guadalcanal battle ends.
12 Eisenhower promoted to Supreme Command.
15 Russians capture Rostov.
16 *Richalieu* and three other French ships reach American ports for repairs.
16 Ryiti chosen President of Finland.
17 Russians take Kharkov.
Churchill ill of pneumonia.

MARCH

1 Mme. Chiang welcomed in New York.
4 President Roosevelt celebrates 10th anniversary as President.
Russians capture Rzhev.
Helicopter adopted by United States Army.
12 Lend-Lease renewed for third year.
13 Anthony Eden arrives in America.
Russians take Vyazma.
15 Germans recapture Kharkov.

APRIL

21 Japanese execute United States airmen.

MAY

1 U.S. breaks ties with Martinique.
8 Tunis and Bizerte captured by Allies.
11 Churchill arrives in America.
12 Tunisian resistance ends.
Von Arnim captured.
14 American troops land on Attu.
17 R.A.F. blasts Moehne and Eder dams in Germany.
18 Opening of Hot Springs Food Conference.
22 Moscow dissolves Comintern.
28 New Office of War Mobilization created in U.S.
31 Committee of National Liberation created to govern French Empire.

JUNE

11 Pantelleria surrenders.
16 King George arrives in North Africa to review Allied forces.

JULY

1 MacArthur starts offensive in South Pacific.
2 Rendova taken by American forces.
4 General Sikorski of Poland killed in plane crash.
10 Allied forces invade Sicily.
19 Air raid on Rome.
23 Palermo captured by Americans.
25 Mussolini resigns.

AUGUST

1 Ploesti oil field bombed.
5 Russians take Orel.
Catania falls to Allies.
Munda falls to Allies.

AUGUST—*cont.*

10 Churchill arrives in Quebec for Anglo-American talks.
17 Capture of Messina completes conquest of Sicily.
23 Kharkov falls to the Red Army.
25 Lord Louis Mountbatten appointed to command in South-east Asia.
28 Death of King Boris of Bulgaria.
31 Russians take Taganrog.

SEPTEMBER

1 Europe enters fifth year of war.
3 Allies land in Italy.
8 Italy surrenders.
12 Most of Italian fleet escapes to Allies.
12 Fifth Army takes Salerno.
13 Chiang Kai-shek elected President of China.
15 Russians take Bryansk.
17 Russians take Novorossisk.
19 Italians drive Germans from Sardinia.
21 French troops land in Corsica.
25 Russians capture Smolensk.
28 British seize Foggia air centre.

OCTOBER

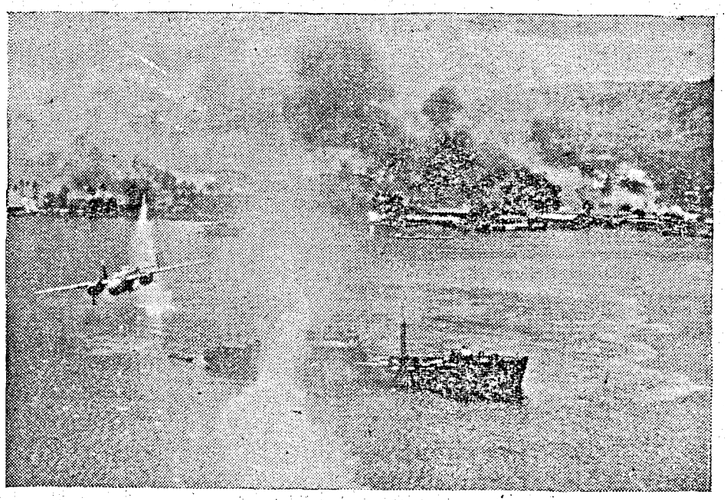
1 Allied troops enter Naples.
3 Finschhafen falls to MacArthur.
5 Germans recapture Kos in the Dodecanese.
13 Italy declares war on Germany.
Portugal grants Allies use of Azores bases
18 Hull and Eden arrive in Moscow for talks.
23 Russians capture Melitopol.

NOVEMBER

1 Four Powers issue joint Moscow Declarations.
2 U.S. Marines land on Bougainville.
6 Russians take Kiev.
16 Nazis take Leros.
Meeting of United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration.
22 Cairo Conference.

DECEMBER

2 Teheran Conference.
4 Second Cairo Conference.
Churchill's second pneumonia attack of the year.
15 Allies seize Arawe Peninsula of New Britain.
16 First war guilt trial at Kharkov.
17 R.A.F. again hits Berlin, "most heavily bombed capital in the world."
24 Eisenhower given Supreme Command of forces for "liberation of Europe."
26 Allies land on Cape Gloucester, New Britain.
29 The Russian troops captured Korosoten.
The R.A.F. celebrated the battle of London anniversary by a heavy raid on Berlin.



ALLIED PLANES BLAST JAPANESE SHIPPING IN SOUTH PACIFIC—At masthead height, a B-25 Mitchell medium bomber of the Fifth United States Army Air Force swoops across the harbour at Rabaul on New Britain Island in the South Pacific in an attack which sank or damaged 26 Japanese ships. The enemy freighter in the foreground has been hit and is on fire. Burning harbour installations are obscured by smoke in the background. A few days after this attack, a United States Navy carrier task force struck at Rabaul and sank a Japanese light cruiser and two destroyers and damaged two heavy cruisers, one light cruiser and eight destroyers and shot down 24 enemy planes.

WAR DIARY

BRITAIN AND GERMANY

29TH DEC. 1943.—British Commandos attempted landing on island Sark, in the English Channel islands.

His Majesty's ships sunk three German destroyers in the Bay of Biscay and damaged some others.

Mr. Churchill continued to make satisfactory progress and has left for a place for convalescence.

The King received the members of the Chinese Goodwill mission who are visiting Britain.

Following further appointments regarding Second Front are announced. To be Allied Naval Commander-in-Chief under Gen. Eisenhower Admiral Sir Bertram Ramsay; to be Allied Air Commander-in-Chief under Gen. Eisenhower, Air Chief Marshal Sir Trafford Leigh Mallory.

Enemy aircraft raided south-east coast of England.

Berlin was heavily bombed.

30TH DEC.—There was an alert in London.

Berlin and objectives in South-west Germany were attacked by the Allied aircraft. Over 1,300 Allied planes raided Germany, Mannheim, Ludwigshafen and other places were attacked.

31ST DEC.—Hitler has sent a New Year message to his armies.

1ST JAN. 1944.—Allied planes attacked heavily Berlin, Hamburg and objectives in Western Germany. Since the Battle of Berlin began in Nov. 18, 1943 over 14,000 tons of bombs have been dropped on Berlin which has now suffered its one-hundredth air raid.

2ND JAN.—An air raid alert was sounded in several London areas.

German dominated Europe is now producing war material adequate to a prolonged war of defence against Allied offensives of the present size according to an analysis of German and Japanese war potential issued by the United States Foreign Economic Administration.

AIR CHIEF MARSHAL SIR ARTHUR TEDDER, who has been appointed Deputy Supreme Commander of the Allied European invasion forces.

Aircraft of the Bomber Command made another heavy attack on Berlin. Hitler's Chancellery is destroyed.

Enemy aircraft raided places in South-east England and London.

3RD JAN.—Gen. Montgomery, the newly appointed Commander of the British group of armies under Gen. Eisenhower for the Second Front has arrived in London to take over his command.

* * *

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND ATLANTIC

29TH DEC. 1943.—President Roosevelt has had a cold.

The United States Railway strike has been called off.

30TH DEC.—Mr. Roosevelt's headcold has improved.

31ST DEC.—Mr. Roosevelt has contracted influenza.

1ST JAN. 1944.—Mr. Roosevelt's temperature is normal. In his New Year message he says "We are on the offensive."

All the 15 non-operating railway unions rejected President Roosevelt's offer of arbitration.

United States Navy Department communiqué issued to-day says that United States destroyer "Persins" was sunk off New Guinea on Nov. 29, 1943.

The Director of the Office of War Information Mr. Elmen Davis in a broadcast said "We are coming into the most hopeful New Year since the war began."

3RD JAN.—The condition of President Roosevelt has definitely improved.

* * *

INDIA, BURMA AND CEYLON

29TH DEC. 1943.—A press note issued from New Delhi says that one day this week 700 Burmese villagers passed as refugees into the British lines on the Arakan front. They had fled because of Japanese ill-treatment by bayonetting and shooting them.

Mr. Richard G. Casey, the newly appointed Governor of Bengal bid farewell to King Farouk of Egypt and the Egyptian Premier Nahas Pasha.

A new warship H. M. I. S. *Cochin* was launched at an Indian port by the fourth Prince of Cochin.

30TH DEC.—In response to India's Commander-in-Chief's New Year's greetings Marshal Stalin has sent his thanks and the military salute of the Red Army to Indian forces.

31ST DEC.—Thirteen Japanese bombers were destroyed off Arakan coast.

The Governor-designate of Bengal reached Britain.

The Eastern Air Command has maintained its attacks on North Burma says a South-East Asia Command communiqué.

1ST JAN. 1944.—The wife of the Governor of Ceylon Lady Caldecott died by fall from the upstair window.

UNITED STATES ARMY DEVICE MAKES SEA WATER PALATABLE—An officer of the United States Army Air Forces drinks from a newly invented device which makes sea water palatable and safe to drink. The plastic bag contains a chemical briquet which filters water as it is sucked through a tube. The device, invented to prevent death from thirst among flyers drifting on rubber rafts after being forced down at sea, will filter pint of drinking water in 20 minutes.

3RD JAN.—The communiqué issued from the South-east Asia Command gives details of Allied activity in Arakan, South and North Burma.

Major-General Dan. I. Sultan has been appointed Deputy Commander, China, Burma, and India under Lieutenant-General Stilwell.

* * *

RUSSIA AND FINLAND

29TH DEC. 1943.—Korosten, Cheruyagov, Skvvia and 250 other localities are occupied by the Russian armies. Advanced Soviet patrols are within 10 miles of Zhetomir. Germans have made new retreats in the Kiev bulge.

30TH DEC.—The Russians have captured Kayatin, an important communication centre in the Kiev bulge. The Red Army is closing in on Zhetomir. German line is cracking at all points along the Dnieper.

31ST DEC.—The Russians have captured Zhetomir. Over 60 inhabited localities were occupied west of Nevel. In the Dnieper bend several localities including Alexandrovke were captured. Russian forces are only 40 miles from Polish border.

1ST JAN. 1944.—The Russian troops captured 28 localities in Nevel region. Troop of the First Ukrainian front captured Barashev, Samgordok, Valodorka, Byelokorovitsy, Pogrebischche and 300 other places.

2ND JAN.—The Russians launched a new attack on both sides of the Dnepropetrovsk-Apostolovro railway line. General Vatutin's guards units are within 20 miles of the 1939 Polish border. Soviet troops have widened the wedge between Belaya-Tserkov and Berdichev to over 50 miles. Other Russian forces have reached just over 40 miles from the Rumanian 1939 border.

3RD JAN.—The Russian troops have captured Olevsk, which is only 8 miles from the pre-war Polish frontier. Forces of the First Ukrainian front captured Novograd-Volynsk, an important centre of German resistance.

* * *

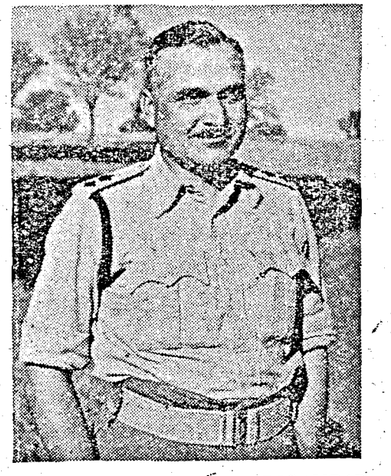
ITALY, AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

29TH DEC. 1943.—The Fifth Army is fighting strongly to throw back a German counter-attack launched at the mouth of Marigliano river. The Eighth Army is pushing northward from Ortona.

30TH DEC.—The Fifth Army advanced 1½ miles. Units of the Eighth Army are now about one mile beyond Ortona.

31ST DEC.—The Fifth Army patrols entered the outskirts of San Vittore. The Eighth Army has advanced one more mile.

It is reported that Mario Badoglio, son of Marshal Badoglio, has been arrested by the Rome police.



LIEUTENANT-COLONEL DIGAMBAR SINGH BRAR, who is commanding a battalion of Mahratta troops fighting in Italy. This officer is the first Indian to command a battalion in the field.

1ST. JAN. 1944.—On the Fifth Army front American troops seized three important heights. The Eighth Army continued to advance up the Adriatic coast.

The record of achievements of the Eighth Indian Division in Italy are given in a short message by an army observer.

2ND JAN.—Bitter fighting is taking place at the cross roads between Villa Grande and Tollo as the Eighth Army advances towards Arielli river. Torrential rain and high wind curtailed activity on most of the fronts.

LAST MONTH . . .

9TH DEC.—Troops of the Ukrainian Command captured Znamenka

14TH DEC.—Troops under General Ivan S. Konev have captured Cherkassy.

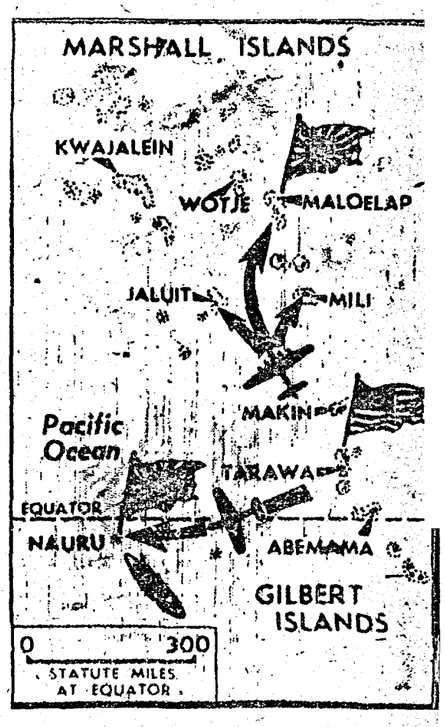
24TH DEC.—The appointment of military Chiefs for the various branches regarding the Second Front is announced.

The Red Army captured Kherson.

26TH DEC.—The 26,000-ton German battleship *Scharnhost* was sunk by the Home Fleet.

29TH DEC.—The Russian forces captured Korosten.

In a farewell message to the Allied forces in the Mediterranean theatre, General Eisenhower wished them good luck.



American Army bombers have carried out three raids on Japanese-held Marshall Islands in the Pacific recently. The heavy bombers raided Kwagletn, Mille and Jaluit islands in the Marshall's Group. The United States Secretary for Navy told on 4th January that the United States forces continue to soften up Marshall islands. This snap was radioed from New York to India.

3RD JAN.—The Eighth Army is pushing ahead up the Adriatic coastal road. Heavy fighting is taking place 3 miles north of Ortona. Weather hampered operations on the Fifth Army front.

* * *

VICHY, FREE FRANCE AND OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

29TH DEC.—Royal Air Force bombers attacked targets in Northern France.

The Bulgarian authorities have banned all New Year public celebrations because of the public reaction to Allied air raids.

30TH DEC.—Military targets in Northern France were attacked by Allied bombers.

French warships in action against the Axis have torpedoed two transport ships and sunk one submarine.

31ST DEC.—Anglo-American bombers attacked Paris.

A Vichy official was shot dead at Annecy.

1ST JAN. 1944.—Marshal Petain has promised a loyal attitude towards Hitler in the event of an Allied invasion. Hitler's special envoy Dr. Von Renthe Fink met him and conveyed the Feuhrer's New Year greetings. M. Laval was present.

Dr. Benes, President of Czeckoslovakia, has arrived at Algiers.

The Premier of Belgium in a broadcast said that Belgium will be freed in 1944.

The British and the United States representatives to the French Committee of National Liberation, Mr. Harold Macmillan and Mr. Edwin C. Wilson, discussed with the French authorities the arrests of M. Pierre Boisson, M. Marcel Peyfouton and M. Flandin, former Vichy administrators who are charged with treason.

2ND JAN.—The Royal Air Force planes attacked objectives in Northern France.

* * *

NEUTRAL COUNTRIES

29TH DEC.—The Turkish Government has asked the National Assembly for a new and extraordinary credit of 130 million Turkish pounds for national defence.

1ST JAN. 1944.—A German plane was shot down over Switzerland.

* * *

THE FAR EAST

29TH DEC.—Allied planes raided Rabaul, Jap base in New Britain. The United States marines are within 1½ miles from Cape Gloucester. Nanru island was also raided by the United States aircraft. The Australians in Huon Peninsula have occupied Blucher Point.

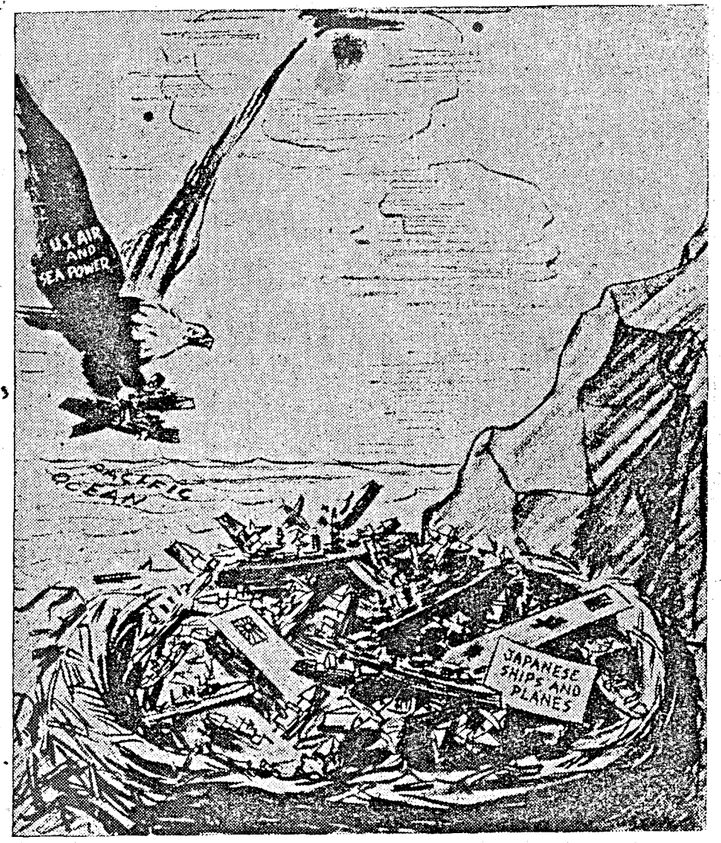
30TH DEC.—The Commander-in-Chief of the United States Navy, Admiral Ernest King disclosed that plans had been made for the transfer of Allied naval power from the European waters to the Pacific.

American bombers raided Jap-held Marshall Islands.

31ST DEC.—In his New Year message the Jap Premier Tojo has said that the Japanese nation is facing its crucial test.

American marines have captured Cape Gloucester aerodrome. In a sweep over enemy aerodromes in Rebaul 18 Jap planes were destroyed.

GETTING QUITE A NESTFUL



1ST JAN. 1944.—The United States hold on Cape Gloucester has been enlarged.

Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek said in a New Year address to members of the Chinese Government that China's major task in the coming year should be to launch a large scale offensive against Japan.

Lord Louis Mountbatten has sent New Year greetings to Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek.

American planes attacked Lampang in Siam.

3RD JAN.—The American troops seized Saidor on the North Coast of New Guinea.

MORE DOCTORS FOR I.A.M.C.

Nearly 150 additional officers a month are joining the Indian Army Medical Corps. They have come forward to help keep the hundreds of thousands of troops in India fit and ready for the campaigns which lie ahead.

Expansion of the army in India, and the great influx of troops from overseas, has made heavy demands on the army medical services but the Medical Directorate expects to reach the "target" figure for new doctors by next March.

The position regarding recruitment to the nursing services is, however, unsatisfactory. The medical authorities estimate a shortage of nurses, including trained and auxiliary, in the neighbourhood of 3,000. Many British service nurses are helping in Indian military hospitals to relieve the strain, but in spite of this the position is acute. The women of India are urged to come forward in larger numbers and volunteer for this vital service to the services.

"The health and physical fitness of the army in India is to-day much better than a year ago," states a memorandum which has just been completed at G.H.Q., India.

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MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. V FRIDAY, JANUARY 14, 1944 No. 19

MR. L. S. AMERY

Combatant Main Base and Arsenal

From Sidi Barrani three years ago, where they, the first alongside the Australians, stormed Italian trenches, to Tunis, where they took von Arnim's surrender, down to this last week's fierce fighting on the Adriatic coast, they have been in the forefront of a great westward sweep that cleared North Africa and the Mediterranean and brought Italy to her knees

Less dramatic but strategically, no less important has been the part Indian forces played in securing and holding the whole vast area of Syria, Iraq, and Persia, covering our own flank and Russia's rear, and opening up an invaluable route for the forwarding of supplies to the Russian armies. What India has contributed in men she has even more than matched in her contributions to the supply and equipment of the whole of our Middle Eastern armies

In all this, India while serving the common cause, also secured her own defence against Nazi Domination, which would have spelt the end of all her hopes of future free growth and future greatness. For her, too Victory over Japan is as essential as victory over Germany

For that second closing stage of the war, even more than in the first, India is destined to play the part of a combatant main base and main arsenal

Mr. L. S. AMERY, India Secretary, in a speech at York on Sunday, January 9

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SUPREME OBJECTIVE

One supreme objective for the future for each nation individually and for all United Nations can be summed up in one word—*security*. That means not only physical security, which provides safety from attacks by aggressors. It means also economic security, social security, moral security—in a family of nations.

* * * *

In the present world situation evidenced by the actions of Germany, Italy and Japan, unqualified military control over disturbers of peace is as necessary among nations as it is among citizens in the community. And an equally basic essential to peace is a decent standard of living for individual men, women and children in all nations. Freedom from fear is eternally linked with freedom from want.

* * * *

All our Allies want freedom to develop their lands and resources, to build up industry, to increase education and individual opportunity and raise standards of living. All our Allies have learned by bitter experience that real development will not be possible if they are to be diverted from their purpose by repeated wars—or even threats of war. China and Russia are truly united with Britain and America in recognition of this essential fact—the best interests of each nation, large and small, demand that all freedom-loving nations shall join together in a just and durable system of peace.

—PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT *in his annual message to the Congress on Tuesday, January* 11.

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OFFENSIVE PLANS

"Plans for offensive action in Europe and the Pacific are so far advanced that the actual dates have been fixed for the launching of the long awaited 'invasion.'

Heavy casualties must be expected. However, the more landing craft we have on the invasion day, the more power we can put into our punch, the more versatile our attack can be, and the lower the casualties will be."

—MR. JAMES FORRESTAL, *Under-Secretary of the United States Navy said on Sunday, January* 9.

MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. V FRIDAY, JANUARY 14, 1944 No. 19

THE BATTLE OF THE DNIEPER BEND

THE backbone of the German Dnieper line has been broken. The recapture of Kirovograd, the important road and rail centre in the Ukraine, by the Russians means that the Germans have lost the Battle of the Dnieper bend. Kirovograd is 70 miles south-east of Cherkassy, and it was captured as the result of a bold enveloping movement. It may be recalled that when Znamenka fell into Russian hands last month, Kirovograd was threatened, and the Germans immediately launched a heavy counter-attack and held up the Russian advance. After four weeks, their resistance collapsed, and a significant feature of this collapse lies in the fact that a part of their garrison surrendered while still well supplied with weapons and ammunition.

WHY was it that the Germans were holding on to what was obviously an untenable position? Why did they persist in remaining within the Dnieper bend and expending vast quantities of stores and equipment? Why did they not save these and some of their best armoured divisions by withdrawing to the Bug or the Dniester and shortening their line by several hundreds of miles? Why did they risk this disaster when the prospects of invasion from the West seemed very near? The answer is that if they did so, the fate of the German armies in the Crimea would have been sealed and the feeling of fear in the Balkan satellites—Rumania and Bulgaria particularly—would grow into something worse and more disastrous to Germany. This catastrophe must be avoided at all costs. What was at stake was not so much the territory between Kiev and the Black Sea, but the Crimea and the Balkans.

Double Pincer Movement

GENERAL VON MANSTEIN has no doubt shown great skill in halting the powerful Russian drive temporarily, but his diversion of troops to the west has weakened the south-west region, where Russian troops under General Vatutin are advancing on a 300-mile front. Now Manstein's troops are completely cut off from the German armies in Central Russia, and cannot expect any help from their immediate neighbours in the west, because they are involved in a desperate struggle to hold off General Vatutin from reaching Odessa.

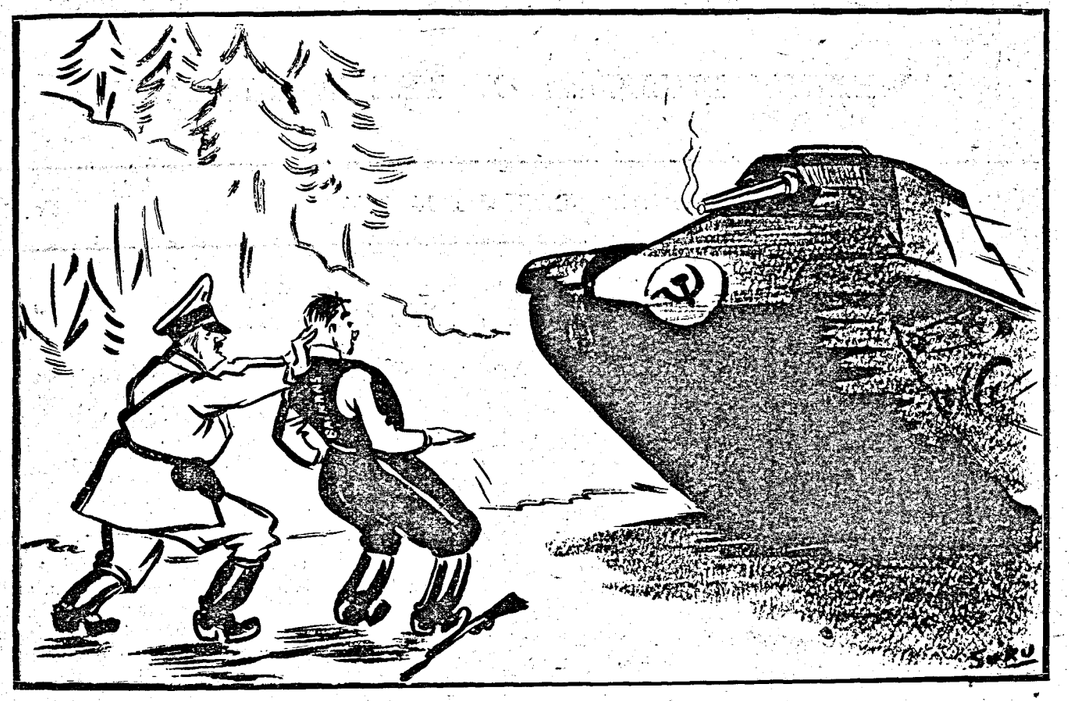
NOW a gigantic double pincer movement is developing in the southern front. General Koniev and General Vatutin are both bringing more tanks, artillery and men to strengthen this great move. On the one hand, Koniev's troops, after capturing Kirovograd, are now threatening to squeeze out the big German forces still west of the Dnieper between the troops of the First and Second Ukranian Fronts. On the other, they are menacing more directly the precarious position of the German armies in the Dnieper bend. It seems General Vatutin's new gains towards the Vinnitsa-Odessa line and General Koniev's big breach of the German defences at Kirovograd are part of the Russian master plan for the complete smashing up or ejection of the Germans from the vast area of the Ukraine.

The Smyela "Funnel"

THERE seems only one way of escape for the Germans and that is the Smyela "funnel." Further gains of the Russians on this front is narrowing still further this "funnel" of German-held territory stretching to the bank of the Dnieper. The apex of the "funnel" between the First and Second Ukranian Fronts now measures less than 30 miles. The town of Smyela itself has already been neutralized as a communications centre, and the Russians after a series of encircling movements may storm the town from several sides.

THE Germans are clinging to the "funnel" with great difficulty. Very soon, they may have to abandon it, or attempt a perilous fighting withdrawal. If not, they face the danger of encirclement.

SHELTER—BUT NOT FOR LONG



—*Specially drawn for the* MADRAS WAR REVIEW.

RUNNING COMMENTARY

Developments in the Balkans—Discontent and Apprehension

Developments in the Balkans are being watched with close interest in view of great Russian advance on the lower Dnieper. It was reported from Ankara on January 5 that the Rumanian Government had ordered complete civilian evacuation of Bessarabia, which the Rumanians re-occupied after the outbreak of the Russo-German war, and that the Germans were hurriedly fortifying the Dniester banks. Both Rumania and Bulgaria seem to be "seething with discontent and writhing with apprehension." Bucharest, the capital of Rumania, is within easy range of Allied bombers. It is therefore not a matter for surprise that the question of leaving the German camp should be very prominent in recent months in Rumanian minds. That explains why Rumania has been sounding opinion in neutral Turkey. Six months ago, Rumanian papers were trying to woo Turkish opinion with the hope that it would help in bringing about a settlement with the Allies.

"The new Turkey," wrote the *Universal* on June 17, "has always given her support to any action undertaken in the Balkans aiming at peace and collaboration and regional security. In Ankara the role of Rumania at the mouth of the Danube and the Black Sea as the defender of the destinies and the security of the south-eastern European region is just as well understood as the parallel role of Turkey at the Straits has been understood in Bucharest—a powerful and friendly Turkey and Rumania will constitute a solid guarantee for the independence, development and security of the Balkans against any attempt at interference or invasion."

Germany did not like the expression of such sentiments. The German press reminded the Rumanians that their nation had never been Balkan-conscious, not even at the time when the Balkan concept reached the gates of Vienna.

* * *

Mihai's Mission to Rome, a failure—Changed tactics of the Antonescu

Towards the end of June, MIHAI ANTONESCU, the Vice-Premier and Foreign Minister of Rumania, went to Rome. He made a series of declarations before undertaking the journey, courting Italy's friendship by stressing Rumania's Latin affinities. The object was evidently to form a Latin *bloc* and make a separate peace with the Allies through the instrumentality of His Holiness the Pope. He met with no encouragement, and his references to Latinity evoked no response from Italy. Finding both Germany and Italy unfavourable the Rumanian Government resorted to the last refuge of friendliness towards KING MICHAEL who has not been actively friendly to the Nazis. The position of KING MICHAEL in Rumania is similar to that of KING VICTOR EMMANUEL in Italy before MUSSOLINI's fall. He is King only in name, and all the legislative and executive authority of the State is exercised by MICHAEL ANTONESCU, the Conducator, who was responsible for certain acts which were intended to lower the status of royalty in the public eye.

Suddenly the situation changed. The Conducator and the King who rarely appeared together publicly during a period of about two years, began to make many joint appearances in public in July of last year, in the company of the Vice-Premier MIHAI ANTONESCU. The motives of the Antonescus are very clear; they want to use the young King whom they deprived of all real power, as their protective shield now.

Will Rumania collapse in the near future? It would not be wise to expect it, for the German stranglehold on both Rumania and Bulgaria seems to be as strong as ever. But it must be noted that in both Balkan countries there is a passionate desire to escape from the war, because the vast majority of Rumanians and Bulgarians now feel convinced that Germany has already lost the war.

THE GREEKS

(*By* R.G.)

These in the hour of choice chose death, and fame.
They flung their challenge to the Axis power,
On mountain tops cried 'Liberty!.' Their name
Shall never lose the lustre of that hour.

And now, though lost the fight and hunger's stare
Falls grim on Sparta's plain and Athens' hill,
They do not truckle to the foe but dare
In famine's grip outface the German will.

Acclaim, Leonidas, Themistocles,
Their new Thermopylae and Salamis.
You could not get you braver sons than these,
And your endurance was not more than this.

ON THE BURMA FRONT.—Group of Gurkhas with some of their Jap Souvenirs.

CAUTIONARY COUNSELS

(*By* R.G.)

No. VI.—TIMMAPPA, WHO REFUSED TO ENLIST AND DIED YOUNG

Timmappa was a sturdy brute
And would have made a good recruit
If anybody could have made
The man less timid and afraid.
But when they asked him "Won't you go
And learn to shoot and fight the foe?"
The bright lad answered simply "No."
For those who shoot themselves are shot
And so he said he'd rather not.
A modest livelihood to gain
Was better than good pay, and pain:
A living coolie, thought Timmappa,
Outweighed a dead though glorious Sapper.

But Time to all reveals the truth
And proved to this ingenious youth
That Death and pain can catch, or hunt,
A man not only at the front
But equally in hut or lane
Or idling in the sugar-cane.

It happened that a factious riot
Upset the placid village quiet.
Timmappa, who had no concern
With either party, chanced to turn
A corner just as stones were flying
And in a moment he was lying
Unconscious and besmeared with blood
In several inches depth of mud.
But luckily his head was thick
And harder than a well-burnt brick.
So taken to the town and tended
By nurse and doctor he soon mended.
But hardly had they let him out,
Restored to health, though not so stout,
When he went down a road by night
And trod upon a sleeping krait.
And though he managed to avoid
The backlash of the beast annoyed
Not long did he survive to tell
How fast he sprinted and how well.
For, sprinting this too sudden burst
The lad was overcome by thirst
And quenched his thirst in water cool
Drawn from the nearest river pool:
And in that water chanced to squirm
Some millions of the cholera germ.
And that is all Timmappa's story,
Without a soldier's meed of glory.

Moral

From death and pain fear will not save:
Honour, and imitate, the brave.

☆

ANTI-SUBMARINE WARFARE

ANNIVERSARY OF THE TRAINING SCHOOL IN INDIA

NAVAL officers and ratings who will handle the anti-submarine equipment in warships of the Royal Indian Navy paraded smartly last week on the occasion of the commissioning day anniversary of their training school, H.M.I.S. *Machlimar*. The salute was taken by Commodore A. R. Rattray, Commodore, Royal Indian Navy, who in a speech addressed to all on parade spoke of the vital and growing importance of their work.

The object of H.M.I.S. *Machlimar* is the training of officers and men of the R.I.N. in anti-submarine warfare,—the seeking out and sinking of submarines by depth charges, and the protection of ships against underwater attack. A certain number of Royal Navy and Allied personnel also receive instruction.

During a visit to the establishment representatives of the Press saw the equipment used in the detection of submarines and watched classes being taught how it is handled. As the climax of their tour they went into a darkened room where by means of an ingenious instrument they followed the different phases of a warship's attack on a submarine. They saw the officers and ratings working their various instruments, the combined effect of which was to bring the warship nearer the enemy until a pattern of deadly depth charges could be dropped over her. A visit was paid to all parts of the establishment, including the mess rooms and sleeping quarters.

Since the war began, a large number of R.I.N. officers and men have qualified in the "art" of detecting and killing submarines, and have proceeded to sea to join in the defence of India's sea routes and shipping. Serving in vessels of the R.I.N. engaged in escort and patrol duties they have hunted submarines in both Eastern and European waters. Experts in this form of Naval Science have a high value in this war, in which, as in 1914–18, the enemy employs underwater attack as a means of assailing the United Nations' sea communications. *Machlimar* teaches India's Naval personnel to outwit the sub-commander and send his craft to destruction.

Premises occupied by the school earlier in the war proved too small to accommodate the large number of men under training and still to be trained. A year ago, therefore, H.M.I.S. *Machlimar* was commissioned, with ample accommodation and plenty of up-to-date equipment.

Officers and ratings trained at the school come from all parts of India, many being from the South. They must be as efficient seamen and tacticians as technicians. Ratings who have already had a period of service in the Navy join it to specialize in this branch of Naval Science. Having undergone a course and qualified, after examination, as Submarine Detectors, they put their knowledge to good use at sea and then come back for a further course that leads to promotion to the rate of Higher Submarine Detector. When in the course of their service afloat they become Petty Officers, they may, if recommended, volunteer to return to the school to qualify themselves for still further advancement. The knowledge of electrical equipment imparted is a valuable asset for a man to carry with him into civilian life.

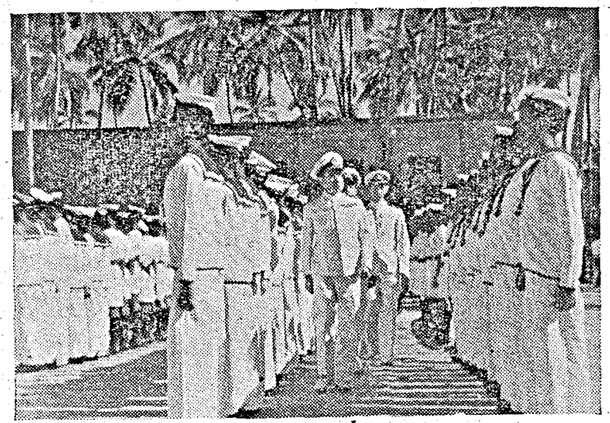
At the anniversary parade officers and men were drawn up around the quarterdeck, over which flew the White Ensign. On his arrival Commodore A. R. Rattray was met by the Commanding Officer of the school, Commander B. E. Kendall, R.N. After inspecting the guard and ship's company, Commodore Rattray addressed the parade, referring at the outset to the steady and satisfactory progress made by the school during the past year in the face of difficulties.

"From the results you are producing to-day," he added, "it is clear that all of you, from the Commanding Officer to the most junior rating, have worked with a will, and I am satisfied that, fully appreciating the vital and growing importance of your work, you will continue to do so.

"A brief word to the officers and men undergoing training. With the intensification of the war in the East your work, once you have qualified, will become of even greater significance than it is to-day. Make up your minds that the knowledge you are gaining here is not allowed to slip from your memories. Keep on the track of your subject and do not 'lose contract'."

The parade concluded with a march past, the Commodore taking the salute.

In the afternoon there were hockey and football matches on the school's fine playing grounds, and in the evening the theatre was thronged for the performance of a drama entitled "Anarkali," written by Warrant Schoolmaster, Feroz Shah and acted by ratings.



COMMISSIONING DAY ANNIVERSARY OF H.M.I.S. MACHLIMAR.—*Photo shows: Commodore A. R. Rattray inspecting the ship's company.*

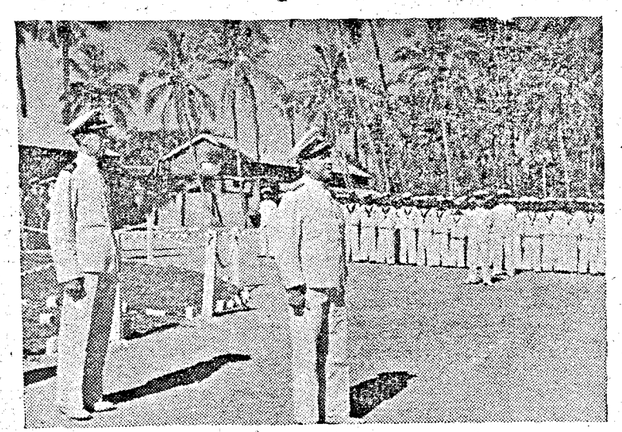
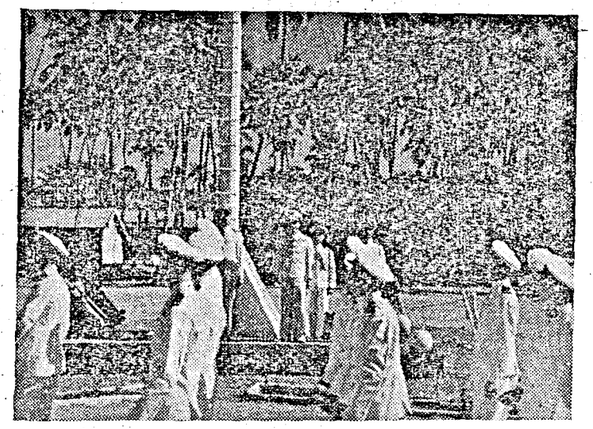


Photo shows: Commodore A. R. Rattray, R.I.N., addressing the parade.

O.B.E. FOR SOUTH INDIA LABOUR OFFICIAL

For meritorious services rendered in connection with the operations in Burma and on the Eastern Frontier in India from May 1942 to June 1943. Mr. Robert Walker, Chief Civil Liaison Officer, South India Labour, has been awarded the O.B.E. (Civil Division).

Appointed Civil Liaison Officer for Cochin State in May 1942 and subsequently empowered to act in the same capacity for Travancore State, Mr. Walker, according to the official citation, at all times showed untiring zeal and energy in working to improve the standard and output of the Labour under his charge. He rendered valuable service to the war effort and the assistance he gave to the State Labour Force generally during the period when no other British officers were available was highly commendable.



Commissioning day anniversary of H.M.I.S., Machlimar, *the Royal Indian Navy's Anti-submarine School, was the occasion of a parade in which the ship's company and officers and men under instruction took part.* Photo shows *Commodore A. R. Rattray taking salute at the march past.*

PLASTER ON A WOUND

By JOSEPH KALMER

ON NOVEMBER 24, 1943, the Emperor of Japan decorated Dr. Heinrich Stahmer, German Ambassador in Tokyo, with the Great Order of the Rising Sun "in recognition of his services for the intensification of friendly relations between Germany and Japan."

Had this distinction any meaning at all? Was it a hint that Japan was prepared to give Germany more active aid?

It may safely be assumed that it was nothing of the sort. The Nazis, it is true, are trying to create the impression that they may be able to extract some sort of assistance from the Japanese which might avert their own defeat.

In April they announced over the Paris radio that the "Japanese would not remain inactive if the Allies opened a second front in Europe." This was alleged to have been said by the Japanese diplomat Hirota at Nanking, capital of the Chinese Quisling Wang Ching-wei. Towards the end of May, they launched over the Finnish Lahti radio the news that Lieutenant-General Yahagi had said that "the Japanese army would give proof of its loyalty to the Three-Power Pact the moment Anglo-American forces landed in Europe." But all these things would be cogent reasons for conferring German Orders on Japanese and not the other way round.

Has then Germany done something for Japan? Tojo, Japan's Prime Minister, recently declared on the occasion of the meeting of the Fascist Black Dragon Society that 300 German instructors were training 200,000 Japanese airmen and that, moreover, German technicians and engineers had recently brought to Japan a revolutionary plan for mass production of new military aircraft of which 3,000 per month would be produced as from May 1944.

Germany cannot have sent 300 flying instructors to Japan even in the legendary U-boats of the Kaupischt flotilla which are said to travel from Lorient and St. Nazaire as far as Japan for the simple reason that they are more urgently needed at home.

Stahmer's decoration is rather in the nature of a plaster on a wound, rather a pitiful demonstration to celebrate the seventh anniversary of the conclusion of the Anti-Comintern Pact.

MAJOR-GENERAL DAN I SULTAN

STILWELL'S NEW DEPUTY

MAJOR-GENERAL DAN I. SULTAN who was recently named Deputy Commander, under Lieutenant-General Joseph W. Stilwell, of United States forces in the China-Burma-India theatre, is a veteran of 36 years' regular army service with a wealth of experience designed to add weight to the impending drive against the Japanese.

General Sultan is a graduate of the United States Military Academy at West Point.

MAJOR-GENERAL DAN I. SULTAN.

Later from 1912 to 1916, he coached the West Point team. Among his players then were Cadets Eisenhower, Bradley, Larken, Pritchard, Hobbs, Woodruff and Gearhardt, all destined to become distinguished generals.

During World War I he was a Colonel on the General Staff. He was an honour graduate of the General Staff School in 1922, a member of the graduating class of the Army War College in 1925, commander of United States troops who surveyed a possible canal route across Nicaragua in 1929–31.

Five years ago General Sultan was transferred from the Engineering Corps to Infantry. He was in the Hawaiian Department for two years, next commanding a training division and finally an entire Army corps in the States before being assigned to this theatre last November.

He has twice received the Distinguished Service Medal, besides the Presidential Medal of Merit (Nicaragua) and the Congressional Medal of Distinction. He was born in the state of Mississippi.

FREE EUROPE

By JAN MASARYK, *Czechoslovak Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs.*

IN years to come the historians will be comparing the two Thirty Years' Wars. Some time ago that great and wise man, General Smuts, mentioned the second Thirty Years' War. The idea that we have been at war for thirty years may seem to many people rather startling. They will ask: "Did we not have peace from 1918 to 1938?" In my estimation we did not, even if some of us lived peaceful and safe lives. We went through the motions of finishing a war, having an armistice and being intensely grateful for what seemed to us an opening of a new era of peace, collective security, democracy, League of Nations and international decency. My lovely country emerged victorious, reborn and eager to get on with the job. But the prerogatives of lasting international co-operation became like loose teeth and, one by one, they fell out. The idea that Germany should pay reparations from one generation to another looks very foolish to us to-day.

The League of Nations became a semi-orphan soon after its birth, because one of its parents—the United States—made a sudden disappearance. Geneva became a not-too-happy hunting ground for different types of makeshift settlements, which were ineffectual in averting the terrible conditions of to-day. The endeavours to make all countries, big and small, economically self-sufficient were a never failing prelude to the symphony of strife and hate which was bound to come and deafen our unprepared ears.

The advent of Mussolini and his master pupil Hitler should have been viewed as definite warnings to us all. Everything we had fought for was being ridiculed, superseded and destroyed. International law became so flexible and loose that it stopped being either international or law. Non-interference with rampant evil perpetrated by the different totalitarian regimes, connivance with it and making excuses for it took the place of statesmanship. The democracies hoped against hope, wishful thinking became an accomplished art, and ostriches became our instructors in hiding our heads in the shifting sands of approaching disaster.

Not a very pretty picture I confess, but are you not ready to agree with me that the last twenty years were a steady slide towards a new outbreak and that we have not had a real peace since 1914?

THE FUTURE

But enough of the past. What are we going to do about the future? By nature and by intellectual conviction I am an optimist. I am ready to believe that we have learned our lesson, for if we have not, our civilization is doomed and the ultimate victory of the Powers of Darkness assured. What is the lesson? That all nations, regardless of their size or geographical position, are interdependent. That it does not pay to play cricket with gangsters. That Nazidom, Prussianism, the German General Staff, are equally responsible and therefore must be utterly eliminated—no half measures this time. Of Fascism I speak not—it is destroying itself before our eyes in a most undignified Punch and Judy manner. That no country is safe unless the real root of the disturbance is eliminated. In many countries of the world—separated by many miles of land and sea from Europe—there were many who thought: "It cannot happen to us." Well it did, in various degrees. They too, learned a lesson, and discovered —once and for all I hope—that distance and isolation can never be the solution.

I could go on enumerating what I believe we have learned in the past. But are we fully preparing the lessons for the future? Do we fully realize that making peace will be even more important than making war? Once victory is ours—and there is no question of that to-day (what wonderful progress the United Nations have made in the last twelve months) —once victory is ours, we must stand together as nations united for peace. The Big Four should lead—the British Empire, America, Russia, China. About Europe, Great Britain, America and Russia must come to a definite agreement. Europe, our mother, must be safeguarded because it would again be Europe where the next world war would start if the Great Powers loosen the links of blood and toil which unite them to-day.

SECURITY

To my mind, security is the most important, the most essential ingredient of a real peace. The idea of balance of power, where little countries like mine become pawns in the hands of selfish interests of Great Powers, has brought about many a war. The idea of spheres of influence bristles with dangers. There must be a master-plan, not only made but executed. A joint organization to make aggression impossible must be produced. Call it an international police force, an international army or a League of Nations (this time, of course, equipped with real and not imaginary powers), but security!

I do not think that the people who have not been invaded, desecrated, humiliated and deprived of the fundamental human rights, can fully understand how we, who are going through that hell, crave security. It is a word which I pronounce with religious humility; it is a heavenly ideal, and the millions of martyrs in Europe and Asia feel exactly the way I do about it.

FEDERATION OF FREE PEOPLES

And may I submit to you free people far away that without security for the small nations, there can be no security for the British Empire, America or anyone else. I know how difficult it will be to find a real solution, but is it not eminently worthwhile for all of us to try, to give the same amount of energy to it as we are giving to the battles of to-day? Personally I am in favour of a federation of free peoples with their national characteristics safeguarded (I mean their good characteristics), their right to their own freedom, and national culture in learning, religion, art and work guaranteed by all for all. Great sacrifices can be demanded of them for the common good. Europe is overcrowded in spots, other parts of the world are empty. That, some day, should be looked into also.

Don't forget that distance really does not exist. I fly the Atlantic as I used to cross the English Channel. Whether we like it or not, the world has become infinitely more close-knit. Insularity, isolationism or, as we used to say "splendid isolation" have lost their very raison d'etre because of the mechanical development of the last fifty years. Whether you and I like it or not, there will be no withdrawing into our own shell. There will never again be a shell safe enough for any continent, nation or country to crawl into. Naturally, some countries are much more favourably placed than others. For a thousand years the Czechs have been neighbours of Germany, a very questionable privilege, which will continue after this war is won. That is why security means so much to us. Many of my listeners are sea animals—a remarkable privilege granted to them by kind Providence. I belong to the land animals, whose frontiers are landlocked. But we are used to it by now, even if we do not enjoy the periodical restlessness of some of our neighbours. The geographic advantages and disadvantages of various countries should certainly be taken into consideration when the statesmen assemble at the real peace table.

EACH NATION'S DUTY

It is my firm conviction that each and every country has a definite contribution to make to the common good. These should be carefully examined as soon as possible, so that each of us can help to the utmost in the arduous work of reconstruction. By acknowledging the mistakes we all made in the past, we should be able to proceed with the tremendous task of preventing another war. It can be done, it must be done. It is a shocking fact that so far we have waited and shifted until a war was upon us, and then our youngsters are killed, our savings eaten up, our lives disrupted and victors and vanquished suffer almost the same consequences. Surely if we make up our minds that this is the last world war we can achieve it. United Nations must become a permanent institution, security must become our undeniable right, and aggression eliminated for good. Co-operation with Soviet Russia, which will be the most powerful State on the continent of Europe, is a condition sine qua non. Co-operation between the British Empire and the United States is another prerequisite. There will be competition, of course. Competition is healthy and necessary. But the millions of slaves, not only in Europe, must be freed and regain their lost human dignity and right to live their own lives, otherwise the great Western and Eastern civilizations and Christian civilization are doomed, and they are infinitely worth while saving. Great sacrifices will be demanded from all of us. We must make them cheerfully and for a long time.

I am strongly opposed to a general levelling of standards. Each nation can approach the goal in its own way. Different forms of Government do not exclude a great risorgimento of this world of ours. There are many more points of contact than points of disagreement. What we all want and need is a decent place to live in, an opportunity to use our talents and to co-operate with our neighbours. It sounds obvious and old-fashioned, but it is as actual to-day, or even more so, than ever before.

We are all in the blood-covered arena together, distances and oceans make very little difference. Let us emerge victorious together and start together on a journey, hard and long, but worth while and so absolutely necessary that it would be a deadly sin not to undertake it. We owe it to our young ones who are giving their lives so that we can undertake it. It can succeed, it should succeed, and then there will not be another Thirty Years' War.

But first we must win this one. That is our immediate and urgent task. No slacking, no let up, until we all meet in Berlin and Tokyo.

My little country has paid a full price, what a price! So have all the other occupied countries. We are ready to pay more, or are doing it and so are you. But we must resolve to keep it up in war and indeed in peace. May God give us peace and security!—a. *B.B.C. talk.*

GEORGE VI QUARTER AND HALF-RUPEE COINS.

The following press note is issued by the Madras Government:—

There is a misapprehension among the public that nickel four-anna pieces with corrugated edges and quarternary George VI half-rupees and quarter rupees of the Mintage of 1940 with plain milling, i.e., without the security edge and all silver quarter rupees have ceased to be legal tender. This is not the case.

All genuine quarter rupees are legal tender and should be accepted freely by the public. The quarternary half-rupees (1940 issue and onwards) also continue to be legal tender, whether they have plain milling or security edges. Only George VI silver half rupees which are of eleven-twelfths standard fineness (i.e., those issued before 1940) have ceased to be legal tender.

THE FUTURE OF AFRICA

By LORD HAILEY

THE future of Africa! That is a topic which I fear will demand a degree of prophetic vision greater than I can claim to possess. Let me, however, start with an observation of a general nature. I suppose that we are all inclined to wonder what posterity will think of the age in which we live. Our own thoughts to-day are filled by the vast struggle on which we are engaged. But there may also be other aspects of our period to which posterity will attach importance. The real significance which one age attributes to another lies in the permanent influence which it is felt to have left on the movements of world thought. I personally believe that one of the most significant things about this age is the new importance which the more backward peoples of the world have come to occupy in our thought about world affairs. This is not merely due to the extension of the frontiers of civilized or humanitarian interest, nor to the prominence which some of these regions have acquired in the course of the war. Nor is it merely the consequence of our realization that the standards of life of the more highly industrialized peoples must depend on raising the standards of the more backward, and thereby enlarging the market for their industries. It is, I think, due even more to a deep-seated feeling that there will always be insecurity in an unbalanced world, where one section has so large a measure of social and economic advantage over the other.

But whatever the reason, this feeling regarding the position of the more backward peoples is very real. That being so, it is natural that Africa should now play a far more spectacular role on the world's stage than it has hitherto done. Tradition has given to Africa the reputation of being one of the most backward —perhaps indeed the most backward—of the larger regions of the world. There might have been some truth in this fifty years ago, but to-day it would be an over-statement of the case. Among what are sometimes known as the "billion backward peoples" of the world, there are many who have equally low standards of living, and who enjoy less security of life, and less provision of social services than do most parts of present-day Africa.

TWO SPECIAL FEATURES

Nevertheless, Africa has two particular features which give it a special position for those who are concerned about the future of the less developed regions of the world. The first of these lies in its political circumstances. If we take its total population as between 150,000,000 and 160,000,000, there are only about 35,000,000 who are not directly controlled by one or other of the European Powers. The only countries responsible for the management of their own affairs are the Union of South Africa, Egypt, Ethiopia and Liberia, though for all practical purposes we might now include Southern Rhodesia in this list. The second characteristic feature is to some extent a consequence of the first. External control has brought the African peoples into close contact with Europeans whose ideas of rule, and whose economic and social systems are strikingly different from their own. It is common to speak of our ideas or practices as "advanced" and those of Africans as "primitive." But what really matters is the extent of their difference, not the term by which we describe them. The disparity has been made more apparent by the fact that such contact has not been gradual, but has been accelerated by the rapid extension of the agencies employed in a modern mechanized world.

TWO-FOLD DANGER

This situation presents a two-fold danger. It may in the first place lead to the unsettlement and disturbance of life which is inevitable when a people has to adjust itself hastily to new ideas and new economic conditions. Again, it may involve the danger that contact may mean also conflict, arising from the clash of economic or other interests, with all the attendant consequences of alienation between Europeans and Africans. The nations now responsible for the control of so much of Africa have a special responsibility for preventing these results; and their failure to do so may gravely defer the time when Africa can make her just contribution to the rest of the world.

Much of what I have said is true of Africa as a whole. But in discussing the future, we need to make certain broad distinctions between its main regions. The circumstances of the countries bordering on the Mediterranean and the Red Sea have to be considered separately from those of the countries lying further south. French policy has treated Algeria as an integral part of France. The political future of Libya, Cyrenaica and Eritrea has still to be decided. But the most important consideration lies in the somewhat limited field for development which some of these areas seem to present. If we exclude the Nile valley, the potentialities of the areas bordering on the Mediterranean are in the main limited to a narrow coastal strip. Judging by what we now know of the resources of Ethiopia, the prospects of any large

development are doubtful, and that is certainly true also of the other areas which border on the Red Sea.

It is the areas south of the Sahara which mainly interest us when considering the future of Africa. It is here that the great bulk of its population and its resources are to be found. Let me take the chief of those factors which seem likely to determine their future. There is, firstly, the great variety in their systems of rule. The ideal of the French system has been the closest possible association of the African colonies with France itself; she has looked forward to making them part of the French economic and commercial system, and it forms no part of her ideal to encourage the growth of self-government, with the possibility of separatist tendencies which this may create. The Belgian objective has been limited to the all-round development of the Congo. In this the African is being assisted and, indeed, encouraged to take his share; but self-government seems no more a part of the Belgian objective than it does that of the French. Portugal has made far less progress than her neighbours in the development of her African colonies, and there are no signs to show that the future she contemplates for them is one of self-government. On the other hand, self-government is the future definitely held out to the British colonies, and since the great majority of the population of these territories is African, it must be assumed that when they attain self-government, Africans will ultimately have the principal share in their administration. Finally, we have to consider the special position of the Union of South Africa. Its ideal is the maintenance of the standards of life which its European community has established for itself, and it assumes that in consequence the European must not only retain complete political control, but must see that his economic welfare is not endangered by any form of competition from the African. That view is largely held in Southern Rhodesia also.

THE BASIC PROBLEM

We encounter, therefore, a marked diversity of aims. Is there any possibility of working towards a greater uniformity in them? Before I consider this, let me turn to a matter which seems to me to be even more fundamental. I do not suggest that the political issue is not of great importance to the peoples of Africa. But for the great mass of them, the basic problem at the moment is one of economic development. The fact that Africa is one of the largest producers of gold and diamonds, or that it has a considerable production of metals such as copper and tin, and some valuable tropical products, such as cocoa, palm oil and fibres, must not blind us to the fact of its poverty in other respects. Over great areas, the soil is inferior for agricultural purposes. In some regions—such as the neighbourhood of Lake Victoria, or some parts of West Africa—there is a considerable density of population; but in proportion to its great area, Africa is very thinly populated. Scientists doubt whether even to-day, in spite of the state of law and order that now prevails, the population as a whole shows any tendency to increase. There is certainly nothing like the almost spectacular increase that India has seen in the last fifty years.

The first essential, therefore, is to attack the problem of improving the conditions of life throughout these areas. That effort should be directed in the first instance to improving nutrition, for it is the lack of nutrition which is the basic cause of that prevalence of disease which has been such a lamentable feature of African life. And in the second place it should be directed to an increase of production, and the stimulation of local industries, which will put Africa in a position to finance its own social advance. The Colonial Powers can do much by assisting to finance social services, and we ourselves have now recognized this obligation by the provision made in our Act of 1940; but such assistance can only serve as a "priming" for the machinery of progress. If Africa is to take its own place in the world, it must be as the result of efforts by individuals to improve their own situation, and by the community at large to develop the natural resources of their country. External aid can only help them part of the way. I do not overlook the need for the extension of education in these areas; we have before us evidence of what Russia has been able to achieve by mass education; *but education must be* viewed in Africa, as it has been in Russia, as an essential function of economic progress. And economic progress, I submit, is not only the foundation, but the guarantee of advance in political status.

THE SOLUTION

How, then, are we to secure the common effort needed to produce this result? There are some who hold it can only be achieved by handing over all African dependencies to the charge of an international organization. But such an organization could not, of course, take control of areas which are already politically independent. Moreover I suggest that before we consider any such project, it would be well to see how far in fact the major nations of the world can prove themselves capable of creating an organization for other and not less essential purposes, such as the maintenance of security or the improvement of their own economic relations. There are others who believe that common action could best be secured by the joint deliberations of Regional Councils in Africa itself, and this proposal has behind it the high authority of General Smuts. But the question of machinery is not, at the moment, the matter of first concern. Whatever the machinery adopted, the guarantee for its success lies in the determination to create the economic conditions and the standards of life on which the social and political advance of Africa can be built up. Our most effective contribution to its future *will be to create within the British Commonwealth* and in the nations associated *with it, a resolute determination to* achieve that end.

NINA

By MAKAROV

GERMANS invaded Kuban in the summer of 1942. The horizon was aglow with fires that moved from west to east, eating up one peaceful village after another. People left their homes and even birds abandoned their nests: fleeting from the smoke which enveloped. Roads soon became jammed with carts, trucks, people on horseback and on foot.

Nina Marukhno was an 18-year-old girl, one among the people who had abandoned their village of Grivenskaya. In a cart pulled by two horses were her mother and little sisters and brothers—her father having stayed behind with other fishermen to carry on partisan activity behind the German lines.

The girl took a last look at her native village. It was here that she had grown, gone to school, studied in technical school and spent the life of a youth.

German planes were flying low over a dusty road and machine-gunning unarmed people. Then German tanks cut the highway and people had to make their way through side roads hiding in ravines at day time.

In the evening Nina announced to her mother, "I can't stand it any longer. I want to join the army soon. You and children won't get lost."

JOINS THE ARMY

Walking on foot Nina reached the Headquarters and told them that she had graduated in the course for nurses, and begged them to have her enlisted. She was given a kit and sent to the *distributing centre. It was not easy* to locate it, for it kept on moving from place to place. On her way Nina came upon sailors' outpost.

The Honorary Treasurer, Governor's War Fund, has addressed the following letter dated 3rd January 1944, to the Honorary Treasurer, Greek Relief Appeal, Madras:—

With reference to the sum of £10,000 remitted by cable on the 21st ultimo under your instructions for payment to the President, Greek Red Cross Executive Committee, London, I append for your information copy of a telegram, dated 2.th December 1943 received from London.

"GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT TEN THOUSAND POUNDS. PLEASE EXPRESS WHOLEHEARTED THANKS GREEK RED CROSS TO ALL CONCERNED.

—CAWADIUFM—"

—*P.W.C.*

"What do you want the distributing centre for?" a dashing sailor with his cap pulled down over his eyebrows asked her. "Stay right here. There are twenty-three of us and we need a nurse badly."

The platoon commander eyed the girl for a while; her sun-burnt face and her light, blond hair offered the picture of health.

"Pugnose, oh?" said he with a smile. "Well, pugnose are especially those who come from Kuban—desperate lot. You can stay with us."

The sailors produced several sailors' outfits: "Here, pick out some that will fit you."

And Nina stayed with the sailors' unit.

On September 15, 1942, Nina went to sea for the first time. In the night her detachment landed behind the Roumanian lines. All the day long men spent in the abandoned trench and in the night they tore into village and attacked the enemy who suspected nothing.

On the following day, Roumanians discovered the detachment's hiding place. In the ensuing fight commanders were killed but sailors held their ground until nightfall when several of our launches drew up and took men on board. Loading herself with tommy-guns, wounded Nina was helping the latter to reach the shore. Climbing up on the board she slipped and fell into water. Heavy arms were dragging her down to the bottom; collecting all her strength, she came up to the surface and was hauled on board by sailors.

Three times the young girl sailor accompanied her comrades in daring raids carried out from sea behind the enemy's lines. She was never heard to complain of difficulties and was never seen to shed a tear. She had become a hardened militant woman by now. Great was the surprise of her comrades when one day Nina, seeing a bearded man entering the dug-out, fell on his neck and began to cry like a little child. The man turned out to be her father who had come to ask for arms for his partisans, and by the wildest of chances, had met his daughter whom he had not heard of ever since they parted at the door of their home.

The meeting between the father and the daughter did not last long, for that night Nina left with her comrades for operation behind the enemy's lines. This time the detachment had no luck: for some reason cutters failed to call for them and the sailors ran out of food. In the meantime Roumanians found out the sailor's hiding place and undertook a regular hunt for them. They set afire woods wherein sailors were hiding and tried to track them down with dogs, but fortunately rain had obliterated every track. Then the daring raiders decided to break up in small groups and try to reach their base across the front line.

Nina, with three sailors—all near the point of exhaustion set out on journey; in their long plodding journey they lived on wild pears and berries.

Once they came upon some Germans and, in a skirmish, one of the sailors was killed and another lost. A single hand-grenade was all that was left between Nina and the sailor Bakumenko, and this they were keeping to blow themselves up in the event of their falling in German hands. Utterly exhausted, with their gums bleeding and their legs swollen, they walked along the last few days in a semi-delirious state. Not far from the front they were picked up by some partisans.

Nina recovered rapidly and returned to her unit. Soon afterwards men were being picked for major Kunikov's asault group and this girl who had so distinguished herself, was taken on by her own request. Nina was among the first of the landing group of sailors who went ashore behind enemy lines in cold February night of 1943. Paying no heed to the whistling of bullets and shells, she began to take care of the wounded. The detachment entrenched itself in a *salient on the shore and held it through*out spring, summer and autumn up to the moment when Novorossisk and the entire Taman peninsula were captured by our troops. All this time Nina was with her unit; she saved the lives of 40 sailors. For her exploits she was decorated with the Order of Red Star and Order of the Patriotic War Second Class.

When the operations were over and the Germans were driven out, the command sent Nina to naval military medical college. Her teachers feel sure that this brave girl will make an excellent surgeon.

THE MOSCOW SPIRIT

By TATIANA TESS

I met a woman in the street the other day whose face looked familiar to me. She saw me too, ran forward to meet me, waving her hand and smiling. But I simply could not place her.

"So we meet again!" she exclaimed and seized my hand. "What is the matter? Don't you know me? Remember the autumn of 1941?"

And then it all came back to me.

It was during the time when Germans were so dangerously close to Moscow. Those were anxious, grim days . . . Defence liners were hastily thrown up around Moscow and every day suburban trains took large parties of diggers to the construction jobs. There were women wrapped in shawls, girls in skitrousers, juveniles—indeed, anyone who could help in the urgent work.

I was sent by my paper to one of the sectors in order to help issue a special news-sheet. Long did I remember that cold, windy gloomy day—trains loaded with factory equipment at the station with grim-faced workers guarding them; weeping women getting into trains and holding their children tightly to them . . . we drove past the station and took the suburban highway. Military cars passed us along the road.

Then we reached our destination. It was a neat and picturesque suburban settlement. Pretty summer cottages quartered newly arrived workers. Girls, with knapsacks on their backs marched along the footpaths on which early snow mingled with autumn leaves. Out in the fields work was already under way. I walked in that direction. Climbing hill, I looked around. As far as the eye could reach there were mounds of fresh moist earth just dug up.

A tremendous belt of fortifications girded the capital. These deep trenches had been dug by women of Moscow. A dank, earthy smell hung in the air. On my right there was a group of women digging in absolute silence: intent on their job. I noticed particularly one rather stout woman among them, who was evidently the brigade leader. She wore a kerchief on her head and her cheeks were red from wind and work. She seemed to set the pace and to be helping those who lagged behind—correcting the movements of one or another of her group. She also kept an eye on the progress they were making. And when she saw that her group was slowing down, she would announce a recess of five minutes. During the first rest interval I heard her voice. She said something cheerful, even humourous, to her women and adjusted the kerchief of one of them. I could see that there was a mutual understanding and friendship among them. Then the brigade took up their shovels again, and their leader, working harder than the rest, continued to keep a keen eye on the progress they were all making.

During the dinner interval I became more closely acquainted with this woman. Her name is Agrafena Molodykh, a housewife whose husband, Vasily Molodykh, is a mechanic at the front. I spent a week in that sector working on paper, and during that time I grew fonder and fonder of this simple Russian woman of a charming personality who handled this work—so new to her—with such efficiency.

Two years have passed since Germans were defeated near Moscow. How long ago those anxious evil days seem now! But the memory of that week has remained. And now here is Agrafena Molodykh and I was extremely glad to see her again.

"My dear!" I exclaimed as I noticed that she was wearing ribbons of decoration. "Congratulations!"

"Yes," replied Agrafena; "I got that for digging. Remember . . ."

I threw my arms around her and kissed her. She was so big and strong and capable . . . This was a true Moscow woman.

BASHARAT MIRBABAYEVA—A RESTLESS GIRL

By LUDMILA VEPRITSKAYA

THE old part of Tashkent, capital of Uzbekistan, known as the Old Town, is a strange combination of the old and new. There are large European buildings, factories, public institutions, clubs and alongside there is a labyrinth of narrow streets, lines with white cracked walls and native houses. The oriental fashion walls facing the street are blind; they have no windows, so that eyes of a strange man may not chance to see the face of an Uzbek woman.

Basharat was born in one such house 25 years ago. Basharat's father was a poor potter and had many mouths to feed; but he was enduring as camel and worked day and night. His wife who was constantly heavy with child—some of them died and others were born—laundered for rich families to help feed their children.

Barefoot, little Basharat was a nurse maid. A quick-witted, noisy child, she got a goodly share of beating from her father who strictly adhered to old customs and believed that women were slaves of men and dare not to think of equality. But, regardless of beating, little Basharat began to go to school.

Her mother was a bony back and protected her from father's cane. She wished her daughter a better life than that which fell her lot.

Basharat graduated from high school and wanted to go to college, but her family needed her help, so she got the job of a telegraph operator in railway station.

Once Basharat visited the air club. She became interested in parachute jumping and, and in 1935, made her first leap.

It was the first leap which the Uzbek girl made. Basharat began to learn to fly both plane and glider.

"I was not satisfied with being the only girl parajumper", says Basharat; "I wanted other girls and fellows to keep me company," and she got them to. Many of her comrades have become pilots and parajumpers.

Two years later Basharat read about Rezinaida Troitskaya, a Russian girl locomotive driver, and decided to become one also. She took a locomotive engineer's course and then worked as second driver for three years after which she began to drive independently. She was Uzbekistan's first girl locomotive driver.

"I am an ordinary Uzbek girl", says Basharat; "I was veiled and kept behind locked doors, but the Soviet Constitution gave me the possibility of becoming what I am."

Later in 1941 Basharat visited the western front with a delegation from Uzbekistan. This glimpse of German brutalities and the heroism of our men made a deep impression on her.

On coming home she returned to her locomotive, convinced that this was an important war effort.

Last spring Basharat came to a meeting of the Women's Anti-Fascist Committee in Moscow where she met Zinaida Poitskaya—the first woman locomotive driver. They had a long talk and the young Uzbek girl was eager to learn from the experience gained by her older friend.

Back again in Tashkent, Basharat Mirbabayeva formed the first women's locomotive team. Six energetic girls taught how to drive a locomotive.

This team works well, runs its train strictly in schedule and economizes fuel. Good work brought the locomotive driver medal for meritorious labour.

"What do you plan to do when the war is over," I asked Basharat Mirbabayeva.

"I intend to study and become a locomotive building engineer."

GERMAN CRUELTY IN LENINGRAD

By NIKOLAI VORONOV

IN their communiqués Germans and Finns not infrequently report that their long-range guns are striking military objectives in Leningrad. I want to tell my readers about one such "military" objective hit by the enemy artillery fire.

It happened several days ago in one of the busiest thoroughfares in the city. Since the morning the enemy artillery had been bombarding the residential districts of the city. Shells burst in the streets and squares; pierced walls of apartment houses, hospitals, children's institutions and schools. Then there was a brief pause. Passenger and vehicle traffics were resumed in the district that had been subjected to enemy fire. The tramcar number 1881 proceeded along its route and the number of its passengers kept increasing. Tatiana Konkina, conductress, were very busy in handing out fare tickets. In the car conversation was lively and everybody was discussing the bombardment that had just ended.

Just as the tram was about to make a turn, the enemy opened a squall of fire. One of the shells pierced the roof of the car. There were heart-rending shrieks and groans. Germans had damaged another "military" objective in Leningrad. Bombardment continued but ambulances with doctors and nurses of the local A.R.P. service were already rushing to the aid of the victims of the fascist barbarians. It was just as it is at the front. Lydia Davydova, Anastasia Isakova and other girls gave first-aid to the wounded. And ambulances rapidly removed the victims to hospitals.

One of the passengers, Angelina Tinogenova, seventeen-year-old and a student was seriously wounded in the arm and the thigh. Twenty-year-old Antonina Bolotina, also a student and the only daughter of her mother received a bad stomach wound. Others wounded were Yevdokia Rodionova factory worker; Ivan Glushkov elderly artist; Anna Grekova, director of Kindergarten and others. Many were beyond aid.

Among the passengers of the tramcar whose bodies were delivered in the Leningrad morgue were those of Alexandra Filimomowa, aged twenty-three, a student of the medical institute; Mov Bentsianov, a sixty-year-old teacher; the nurse Vera Zagrevskya, aged twenty-two; Maria Speridonova, housewife and nineteen-year-old Olog Astametrov, an electrician. After bombardment I visited hospitals whose victims had been removed. In one of the wards I found Vera Kulikova of fifteen years who lay mortally wounded. Tossing restlessly on her cot, she said: "Dear nurse, when I calm down, do not take me away. It will mean that I have gone to sleep. Do not take me away for a long time; do not think me dead. I want very much to live. The Fascists have crippled me. It is good here nurse and you are very gentle. Our boys will take revenge on the Fascists."

This schoolgirl of Leningrad had just entered upon the threshold of her life and died cursing the German and Finnish bandits who cut short her young life.

EXPERT MURDERERS

The enemy is bombarding Leningrad systematically: block by block. They are expert murderers. They are savages who have mastered the complex technique of extermination. They know that their ends are near and, like mortally wounded beasts, are growing especially savage.

The other day the Soviet Information Bureau stated, "Systematic bombardment of the city has one aim namely, destroy dwelling houses, cultural monuments and exterminate the civilians of Leningrad." It also pointed out that the chief instigators of this barbaric destruction of Leningrad—entirely uncalled for from the view point of military necessity, are Finnish officers. But the latter need not think that they will escape punishment at the hands of the liberty-loving peoples.

Thousands and thousands of Germans and Finnish have found their graves near Leningrad. Our batteries in the Leningrad front and the warships of the Baltic fleet are already meting out just retribution to butchers. But the payment in full for all the Fascists' crimes, including the murder of the people in car number 1881, is still ahead. The Red Army and the armies of Allied powers will make Germans and Finns pay in full for all their ghastly atrocities.

AN AFFIDAVIT ON GERMAN ATROCITIES

By NINA BOIKOVA, ELENA PAVLOVA AND KOLOSOVA

(Boikova and Pavlova were inhabitants of Minkino village in the Kalinin region; Kolosova of the Borshovka village in the Kalinin region. In February 1943, Nina Boikova and Elena Pavlova—nineteen and fifteen years old respectively—along with other villagers were driven to the deportation camp in the village of Yartzovo-Gurevo in the Smolensk region. Another hundred persons—among them 21-year-old Anastasia Kolosova—were driven to camp from the village of Borshovka. At the end of August, 1943, when the Red Army was advancing in the Smolensk direction, the three girls managed to escape from the camp and join up with the Red Army units.)

WHEN our districts were occupied, Germans appointed their elders in the villages. Germans handed out numbered wooden tabs to every villager and made us wear them on the left side of our chest. All check ups were made according to these tabs: if at rollcall number four was missing for example, then numbers five and six were shot on the spot. Germans forced inhabitants to dig trenches and fell and cut trees. There was no food and the people were starving.

In February, 1943 when the Red Army was driving the German invaders towards the west and the frontline was drawing nearer, the German brutes drove us off with them and imprisoned us in the deportation camp in the village of Yartzevo-Gurevo, Yartzevo district in the Smolensk region. We marched for twenty days before we reached the camp. The German escort immediately shot anyone who could not keep up. Thus were forty-five persons shot along the way. Many died of hunger and disease. When we arrived at the camp we were placed in cold sheds. In the camp there were 1,700 people and the invaders made everyone work without any concern for their state of health or age.

We worked from seven in the morning till late at night with no time off for dinner. We had no restdays. A policeman, armed with tommygun, was placed in charge of every brigade of fifteen to twenty persons and his job was to speed up those who lagged behind. The police shot any one who could not work. Anyone late to the rollcall was placed in dungeon and deprived even of the daily starvation ration which he received. We were allowed to move to the ground camp only until nine in the evening. If anyone was out after nine he was shot. Prisoners in the camp received a thin soup made of potatoes or millet husks once a day. Bread, which was half sawdust, was rationed out at 150 grams a day.

Typhus, dysentery and other epidemic diseases raged in the camp and dozens of people died every day. No medical attention was given to these who fell ill.

When the Red Army drew near to the town of Yartzevo, the Germans carried off 1,200 persons to forced labour in Germany—their number including women, old men and minors. Only a few, including ourselves, were able to escape from the German servitude.

GROWTH OF AIR SUPPORT IN MEDITERRANEAN WAR

By WING COMMANDER L. V. FRASER

BEHIND the advance of Britain's Eighth Army across the difficult Sangro and Moro rivers towards Pescara and that of the Fifth Army, now closing in on San Pietro, lies another story which may well rank as a vital turning point in the conduct of co-ordinated air warfare.

It is the expansion of the R.A.F. and Allied air support from the time of its inception in the Western Desert of Egypt during 1941.

From the desert air force, consisting of a few squadrons of Hurricane and Tomahawk fighters together with a sprinkling of Maryland light bombers, has grown a tactical air force, endowed with the ability to apply the maximum striking power at the right moment.

The matter did not end with the expansion, equipment and perfection of the complicated organisation. It went much deeper.

From the time when the Eighth Army was formed a Combined Army Air Headquarters came into being. Air Marshal Coningham, Air Commander in the Desert, thus maintained the closest physical contact and complete understanding with the army.

Methods providing effective air co-operation were continually improved in the light of practical experience so that latter on the Tactical Air Force, working with the Eighteenth, subsequently the Fifteenth Army Group, in the Joint Headquarters was able to give General Alexander all the assistance he required.

TEDDER'S SCHEME

During the final stages of the North African campaign the enormous advantages derived from constant air support to ground operations became overwhelmingly obvious. Air Chief Marshal Tedder then developed an ambitious method of utilising the striking power of all the air forces simultaneously. Thus while heavy bombers of the Strategic Air Force pounded enemy objectives in accordance with the plans evolved much earlier, the Tactical Bomber Force of medium bombers operated at a moment's notice wherever required, while fighters and fighter bombers of the Tactical Air Force concentrated on air interception and escort duties.

Then came the acid test of the gigantic amphibious operation directed against Sicily.

The effective operational radius of Allied aircraft was, however, not severely tested until the time of the Salerno landings. Until the landing grounds on the Italian mainland could be coverted, fighters were called upon to give cover to the Allied troops on the beaches at an unprecedented range.

Here Air Marshal Coningham evolved a bold plan, based upon the intimate knowledge of the capabilities of his pilots together with an equally important knowledge of the fact that long-range fighters of the Tactical Air Force would be available in large numbers.

The problem of range did not, of course, beset the light, medium or heavy bombers so that Tedder's "carpet" unfurled itself over the landing beaches at a time when it was most needed. In addition during the day light, the assault troops also had the support of the Fleet Air Arm.

At night an adequate number of night fighters took up cudgels and continued to protect Allied troops until day-break when the process began all over again.

TWICE THE BOMBLOAD

The enemy's road and rail communications, his gun positions, shipping and supply depots and airfields received merciless and continuous pounding.

Today in terms of striking power, the air support available to the advancing Allied armies is roughly 200 per cent greater than it was even during the latter stages of the North African campaign.

Not only has the use of new and more modern aircraft in the strategic bomber force stepped up its hitting power to an immense degree. but the Mitchells, which now constitute the main weapon of the Tactical Air Force, are able to carry twice the bomb-load of the light bombers used in the early days.

R.A.F. FORMS BAND IN INDIA

The Royal Air Force in India owns only one regimental band but it enjoy as the unusual distinction of having all its men trained in India. Built up from very small beginnings this band is now engaged for parades at various Royal Air Force stations. A six-foot drum-major is the leader of the band and there is the inevitable big drum carried by an airman with an apron of panther skin. All its pipers have had previous playing experience but the rest of the band were trained entirely in India, by Sergt. Roy Mogford, a Welshman, who had considerable pre-war experience in musical circles in South Wales.

Officers and friends of the regiment in India have presented various parts of the paraphernalia which go to make smartness in a regimental band. The magnificent scarf which the drum-major wears was presented by the officers and the panther skin was given by a civilian admirer.

SIR HENRY MAITLAND WILSON

NEW COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF OF MEDITERRANEAN THEATRE

THE nickname Jumbo, by which he is known throughout the Britisn Army, describes General Wilson's height and bulk and his ponderous and benevolent manner.

Behind his imperturbable geniality is the swift mind of one of the most brilliant and successful leaders of the war.

He has a habit of looking over the top of his glasses, while he is digesting the intelligence reports sent to him. Suddenly, his apparent woolgathering ceases—and his commands come swiftly.

For General Wilson believes in fast fighting. Marshal Graziani discovered that. It was General Wilson who led the brilliant dash of the mechanised forces across the Libyan desert in the Wavell campaign.

After that campaign, Mr. Churchill said of him: "Few will deny that he is one of our finest tacticians."

He is the most accessible of military commanders. But you never know how he is going to be dressed. His dress is the most eccentric in the Middle East.

At dawn, out riding in the desert, he wears a khaki sweater. At his desk he is likely to be wearing a sweater and shorts. Above the khaki jersey or shirt is the benign red face and shrewd little deep-set eyes.

For all his 18½ stone, General Wilson is active and extremely fit. He rides whenever he can, and if duty takes him to the sea he has a swim. He had many a quite dip off our northern flank on his desert campaign against Graziani.

During his campaigns he insists on making himself comfortable. "Any fool can be uncomfortable," he says. So once he has made his plans he settles down to a book in the most comfortable chair he can find. He likes good food, but does not take wine. He likes cigars, but never smokes them in the field or in his office.

And in the field those eyes which peer benevolently over his office spectacles are so keen that he can spot objects which his staff officers take 10 minutes to find with field glasses.

But Maitland Wilson is much more than a good soldier and a skilful planner, he is a fine leader of men. He picks his officers—drive and energy are the first qualities he demands—gets to know them and makes them his friends. As for the men—they said of him in the African campaign: "If Jumbo Wilson decided to swim his army to Italy, there would be a rush to see who would dive in first."

That sums up his gift of leadership and inspiration. There are other stories, too; of the General who took off his coat and helped Tommies to dig trenches on the Egyptian frontier; of the staff officer in the last war, who joined a fatigue party cleaning out a well. "The sooner we had it clean, the sooner I could have a drink," explained Sir Maitland to a brother officer.

General Wilson, who is 63, joined the Rifle Brigade in 1900, and immediately saw service in the South African War. He has mastered every new development of warfare and has always been ready to apply new methods.

When the first completely mechanised brigade was formed in the British Army in 1935, General Wilson was made its commander. Just before the war began he was sent out to organize the defences of Egypt and the Western Desert.

Ever since then he has remained in the Middle East.

That is the man, swift and thorough in planning and imperturbable in action.

—"*Sunday Express.*"

CAUSES OF EIGHTH ARMY'S SLOW PROGRESS

By LIEUTENANT-GENERAL SIR DOUGLAS BROWNRIGG

I know enough to realize what the Eighth Army has to do in order to cross river after river in Italy against heavy enemy shelling and dive-bombing. I think perhaps the reason why a lay mind fails to understand the intricacy of crossing a river against opposition lies in the loose form of speech which talks of "throwing a bridge across a river."

Indeed there is no "throwing" about it. It is a laborious and a highly dangerous undertaking. Let us attempt to follow the various stages which have to be gone through.

First, a party must gain a footing on the far shore—either by swimming or possibly by ferrying. This may be done secretly, but more likely under a considerable weight of supporting force. This covering party then has to clear the opposite bank of hidden riflemen so that sappers can launch pontoons with some hope of success.

Not until the bridge itself is across and capable of use can a covering force rely on any support other than that provided by air and by artillery on the near shore. Anti-tank guns, armoured and fighting vehicles cannot take part in the battle on the far shore until the bridge itself is over, and heavy tanks have to await the erecting of a heavier bridge. But even when a bridge is installed, it is subjected to hostile artillery fire and modern artillery can be very effective up to a distance of 10 miles.

It stands to reason, therefore, that no bridgehead can be considered even reasonably secure until the forces which have crossed the bridge have fought sufficiently hard to drive the enemy back at least 10 miles.

Yet it is a historical fact that no river has ever yet proved to be a decisive check in war. It has a delaying power but no stopping power and it is interesting to seek the reason.

It is almost an axiom that the side which defends a river line is the weaker opponent. If it were otherwise, it is unlikely that he would be on the defensive, but would himself be trying to cross and destroy his enemy. As a result the defender can generally be occupied in one place whilst the stronger attacker seeks another to effect his main crossing. As the attacker is himself automatically defended from any serious counter-attacks by the very obstacle which impedes his own crossing, he can afford to bluff in many places whilst he concentrates in the vital one. If the attacker has supremacy in the air, he has an added advantage, because his enemy may have difficulty in spotting his dispositions from the air and he cannot get information from the ground save by patrols which have to swim the river to get it.

Thus the longer a river line the easier it is to cross by means of stretching the defender to his limit by feints in many places.

But in Italy the comparatively narrow front makes feinting less easy and the swollen nature of the streams must make bridging a far more difficult business than usual. All this goes to show why the advance of our forces in Italy is slow, but that does not mean the rivers will ever prove uncrossable obstacles unless the Germans were so reinforced that they could launch a major counter-attack across the width of Italy. Then the rivers would be on our side!

SOUTH INDIANS BUILD EIGHTH ARMY CAMP

From building bridges and laying down miles of road, Tamils, Telugus and Malayalis, members of an Indian engineer unit somewhere in Italy, have now gone in for the erected of a self-contained rest camp for the men of the Eighth Army.

When complete the camp will house several thousand troops and will have many new features including a new theatre, a cinema, a N.A.A.F.I. restaurants, bars, and reading and writing rooms.

When an Indian Army Observer saw them on the rest camp site they were industriously operating concrete mixers, stone-crushers, driving steam-rollers, erecting sections of buildings, and engaged in plumbing and carpentry.

They have been quick to learn the rupee-lire exchange rates. Their beer ration goes down well but the sourish Italian wine is strange to their palate and is sipped gingerly.

BRITAIN'S POST-WAR PLANS

By STEPHEN KING-HALL.

IN the King's speech made at the opening of Britain's Parliament, there occurred the words: "My Ministers are resolved, so far as the future can be foreseen, that they shall be ready to meet the different tasks that await them when the victory has been won . . . It will be the primary aim of my Government to ensure in this period (of transition from war to peace) that food, homes and employment are provided for the people."

In a previous article I outlined the preliminary reaction of the House of Commons to the Government's plans for the period of 1943–44 and the kind of question which the Ministers were being asked.

In reply to the debate, the Government has cautiously begun to fill in the details. As regards housing, the Government had decided that new ideas in house construction must be fully turned to account and the Minister for Production announced that a series of experimental houses is being erected for demonstration purposes. In this connexion a committee of Members of Parliament has just been to the United States in order to examine house-building developments in that country, particularly the subject of pre-fabricated homes. In addition to their plans for long-term housing programme, the Government is also preparing a short-term scheme for emergency and temporary accommodation which will be urgently required as soon as the war is over.

The Government has informed the House that a White Paper is in preparation which will give the Cabinet's views on questions relating to social security.

To the impatient, the Minister pleaded that immensely complicated administrative problems had to be tackled and it was a case of more haste and less speed. He pointed out, for instance, that the proposal for a comprehensive medical service which is only one of the aspects of social security now under review will involve altering the number of medically insured people from its present figure of 18,000,000 to 44,225,000.

The third point about the post-war period on which the Government has so far revealed its mind is the question of change-over from war to peace production.

The problem will be tackled "industry by industry" in consultation with the President of the Board of Trade to whom industrial capacity in men and machines will be released; first, so that it may be turned over to make goods for civilian consumption in Britain; secondly, so that goods can be made for export; thirdly, so that Britain shall make a contribution towards the problem of relief in liberated territories.

The Minister who made these announcements stated that the Government was confident that it could handle post-war problems. Its confidence lay not only in itself as a Government but sprung from a more important source—from the Government's unbounded confidence in the people of Britain who had written an unperishable record during the last four years.

BATTLE AGAINST DISEASE

By RICHARD TITMUSS

DISEASE has always reaped a rich harvest in time of war. It has done so quietly and insidiously under cover of the conditions created by war because dirt and insanitary conditions are inseparable from fighting. The louse and carriers of typhus, the enteric fevers and other diseases are determined camp followers. It has been said with truth that the real conquerors of the Roman Empire were not the Goths and the Vandals but malaria and plague. Disease has, in the past, settled a good many wars. And the victors have not always been the strongest military power. Even when modern artillery arrived disease still claimed the most victims. In the American Civil War, the Federal Army lost twice as many men from disease as from wounds. In the Crimean War mortality from dirt diseases among the fighting men was immensely high. The real hero of that war was Florence Nightingale who reduced mortality from wounds and disease among the soldiers by two-thirds. Yet we didn't take those lessons fully to heart. We still thought in terms of the dramatic—shell fire and the bayonet. In the South Africa War over fourteen thousand British soldiers died of disease as against eight thousand who were killed in battle or died of wounds. But it was not until the last war that we realized how greatly the civilians are also involved in this battle against disease. Insufficient food, overcrowding, poor clothing, long hours of work—all these things reduce resistance to disease among the people at home. Let us see how the civilians as compared with the soldiers fared in the last war. Among the British Forces 550,000 were killed or died of wounds and disease. These men are remembered by their country but how many people know that the war directly caused the deaths of 340 000 civilians from disease? For every ten fighting men who died seven civilians were carried off by disease caused by the war. In Europe it was much worse than that. Germany lost an additional quarter of a million civilians from tuberculosis alone. In the whole world disease claimed ten million people.

We cannot have a better illustration of the growing inter-dependence of all nations than the effects of modern war on disease. For one thing, easier and faster transport all over the earth can lead to the rapid spread of epidemics—witness the movement of the influenza outbreak in 1919. This epidemic had its roots in the conditions created by the war in Europe. But the disease did not confine itself to the warring countries in Europe. For instance, more people died of war influenza in India than the total battle losses of all belligerents between 1914 and 1918. Even some of the remote islands of the Pacific suffered more heavily than the people of Britain. One-quarter of the population of Samoa died from influenza. They would not have died but for the war, so there can be no neutrals in the war against disease. The louse doesn't recognize frontiers, tuberculosis ignores race and language. Neutrality in this war, by lengthening the period of fighting, *must* mean greater mortality from disease among the neutrals.

GREATEST ENEMY

We knew, from the lessons of history that when this war came one of our greatest enemies would be disease. That at every turn, in the home, in the street and in the hospital, the battle would have to be relentlessly waged. The dangers in 1939 were far greater than in 1914. The bomber had increased the opportunities for disease to spread. It was clear that if we didn't control the situation then the microbe and other parasites would control us. The bomber with high explosive and incendiary bombs, would blast a way for the germ and for the barrack-room diseases such as spotted fever. Well—we weren't far wrong. This is what happened. High explosive has burst open the mains and blended water with sewerage. Gas mains have been punctured and flames have risen fifty feet. The bombs have shaken up the dust and dirt of centuries in London and other cities and it has gone into our clothes, our homes and on our food. Worse than that, however, is the fact that people have been driven to crowd together in basements, shelters and tube stations. Hundreds of thousands of people, old and young, healthy and sick, dirty and clean, have been forced at times to spend fifteen hours out of every twenty-four in ill ventilated holes and tunnels. For nearly a year a very large section of the people lived in this way. To-day conditions are better but for four years we have had to sleep in blacked-out, badly ventilated rooms. Many of us have to spend all our working hours in bricked-up offices and factories. In too many parts of the country the housing shortage is so acute that beds are never cold. Two workers will rent one bedroom and the day shift takes over the bed when the night shift goes to work. The crowding together in buses and trains, theatres and cinemas is just as bad. There is one town which started the blitz with thirty-five cinemas. When Goering had done his best there were only two left. This is one example of how the destruction of thousands of houses and other buildings, and the stoppage of all new building, has forced people to crowd together. In most of the large cities we are living on top of one another. The war has boxed us up. In factory, office and workshop all available space is in use. Empty flats and

houses are almost impossible to obtain. In London and other cities we have to wait patiently for crowded buses, trains and meals. We eat and travel with, so to speak, a strange elbow in our back. We sleep, on fire-watching nights, to the accompaniment of the noise of a stranger. We shut out the air and we only see the stars when we are on civil defence duty. It isn't pleasant but it is war. And we know, like you people over on your side of the globe, that we are all in it. But the danger here, where there is so little room to turn round—mentally as well as physically—is the greater chance of disease spreading. The less room that we have in which to live the greater the opportunity for the microbe. Those are the environmental risks of modern war. And they are greatest in the congested industrial centres.

OTHER SECTORS

But housing, air, sun and pure water —these are only one aspect of the battle. There are other sectors of this campaign of which food is the most important. And we now know that it is the composition of the diet which is so vital for health. During the Russo-Japanese war there were two million cases of beri-beri in the Japanese Army but none in the Navy. The rations were about the same except that the sailors' diet included ten ounces of whole barley, and those ten ounces made all the difference. The collapse of the Italians at Caporetto in October 1917 was due in part to the fact that the Italian Army ration was twenty per cent lower than that of the British, French and German. There is a saying in the East expressive of food deficiencies: "It is better to walk than to run; it is better to stand than to walk; it is better to lie than to stand; it is better to sleep than to wake; it is better to die than to live." It is a way of expressing, in other words, progressive Vitamin B-1 deficiency. It contributed to the collapse of Germany in 1918 and affected many of the Armies. To-day we see that the civilian ration is as good for maintaining health as the army ration.

So far I have given some examples of how disease can turn the scales of war and I have described how the bomber has opened up vast new territories for the germ and the virus to attack. Yet after nearly four years of war Britain's health record is good. How is that? Have we conquered disease or are we only holding it at bay? In a small country like Britain, with a highly elaborate and centralized system of health and sanitary control the bomber could have wrecked administration in a short time. So the first step that we took was to decentralize our machine for the prevention and cure of disease. This was an important act and out of it has developed a new pattern for the future. Mothers can now leave the cities and have their babies in maternity homes in the country. Thousands of under-fives are living in country hostels—some of them are orphans while in other cases both parents are working or are in the Forces. The sick and wounded are sent to country hospitals to recuperate. Since the beginning of the war the Government has helped three million people to leave London and other bombed areas for a time.

On the mental plane the knowledge that evacuation was always open has proved to be an immensely useful safety valve. And when we are fighting strain and weariness and all the minor irritations of war, safety valves are good things to have. One of the most surprising facts about this war is the general absence of nervous breakdowns—or war neurosis. All the psychiatrists predicted a collapse in mental health. Instead we've had a decline in the number of cases.

HOME FRONT

In addition to these wise administrative measures we've called in science and the techniques of planning to aid us on the home front. Supplementary feeding, vitamin concentrates, fruit juices, the soya bean, fortified bread, communal feeding, and a host of other measures have helped to sustain health. Then we have had the new drugs—the sulphonamides—which have already saved thousands of lives. But the story of the advances made by medical science in this war is a long one. The use of dried blood, mass radiography, new methods of cleansing air raid shelters, improvements in war surgery, new treatment of shell blast, new knowledge of the habits of the itch-mite, are all part of the story. Never in so short a space of time has such a revolution been wrought in the treatment of so many diseases. All this, and, perhaps most important of all, full employment and regular wages, have held disease at bay. But it is never far away. For instance by the end of 1942, eleven thousand more people died from tuberculosis in England and Wales over the peacetime figure. They would not have died but for the war. This is a small increase compared with the last war but it is a warning that we must remain on guard. We must go on thinking in terms of prevention; of building up resistance to weariness—the forerunner of disease—until, after victory, we can all have a long, sunlit holiday.

PRESERVATION OF CATTLE WEALTH

In order to prevent permanent damage to the cattle wealth of the country as a result of the increase in the slaughter of cattle for the supply of beef to the army the Government of India have prohibited the slaughter of working bulls in a good state of health below the age of ten years, cows in milk and pregnant cows. It has been brought to the notice of the Madras Government that good quality cattle are being slaughtered for civilian consumption also. At a special meeting held recently, the Provincial Livestock Improvement Board recommended that in addition to the classes of cattle specified by the Government of India, dry cows and heifers fit for breeding and young bulls fit for work should not be slaughtered whether for civilian consumption or for the army and that it should be made penal for a person to sell cows for purposes of slaughter if in the opinion of an Inspecting Officer they are found to be suitable for breeding. The Government have accepted this recommendation and have decided to give effect to it immediately.

In exercise of the powers conferred by clause (*a*) of sub-rule (2) of rule 81 of the Defence of India Rules, His Excellency the Governor of Madras is hereby pleased to make the following order :—

No person shall, after the publication of this order, whether by himself or by his agent, slaughter or cause to be slaughtered for purposes of consumption, civil or military, or sell or purchase or cause to be sold or purchased for purposes of such consumption, any of the following categories of cattle, namely :—

(i) Bulls, bullocks or buffaloes below the age of ten years in a good state of health and suitable for work ;

(ii) Cows or buffaloes in milk ;

(iii) Pregnant cows or buffaloes ;

(iv) Dry cows or buffaloes and heifers suitable for breeding purposes.

Explanation.—If any doubt arises as to whether any animal falls within any of the categories mentioned above or not, it shall be presumed that the animal falls within such category unless a declaration is obtained from a Veterinary officer not below the rank of Veterinary Assistant Surgeon certifying that the animal does not fall within such category.

2. Collectors of districts and the Director of Veterinary Services are requested to issue instructions to their subordinates to ensure that the orders contained in the notification in paragraph 1 above are strictly enforced.

The Commissioner of the Corporation of Madras and Executive Authorities of Municipalities and District and Panchayat Boards are also requested to take such steps as may be necessary to give effect to these orders.

WEEKLY JOTTINGS

By "CHRONICLER"

GENERAL VATUTIN'S ADVANCE —RUSSO-POLISH BORDER PROBLEM—CENTRAL EUROPE.

The year 1944 begins well for the Allies in the sense that it promises them nothing more or nothing less than a decisive victory before it is out. Their achievements in the previous year which helped *them to turn the corner and come within* sight of what Mr. Churchill would call the frontiers of deliverance lend colour to this promise, while their own military strength built up from day to day by the sheer exercise of the indomitable will of their leaders, and colossal sacrifice of the various nations gives the surest indication of the course, the war will take as the year runs its course. The year 1941 was the darkest period of the war for the Allies; 1942 saw a successful struggle for existence; and 1943 brought them to the frontiers of deliverance. The progress is indeed very encouraging and the current year is but a culmination of the commissions and omissions of the previous years. The situation which till lately has been very hazy has now thoroughly clarified itself and even the man in the street is now aware that the enemy simply awaits his doom on the administration of the final blow by the Allies.

The end of 1943 saw some remarkable *advances by the Soviet Forces on* the Russian Front. The third winter campaign started on December 24, when the Russian armies began a fresh offensive on all the sectors from the Baltic to the Black Sea. Within nine days, Marshal Manstein's southern front virtually crumbled, the German forces began a disorderly retreat and were in complete rout. General Vatutin's army recaptured the Ukrainian cities of Zhitomir and Korosten which the Germans had taken during a recent counter-offensive in the Kiev bulge, and thus cleared the way for the right wing of the Soviet forces on the Ukrainian front to the 1939 frontiers of Poland. The left wing of the same army is also advancing almost as rapidly south-westward and is now within sight of Vinnitsa and the river Bug. The Russian units of the right wing striking against Poland have now reached Sarny, 35 miles inside the pre-1939 Poland, while the left wing striking south is rapidly approaching the Odessa-Poland railway, heavily outflanking Vinnitsa on the south-east by Soviet tanks and mobile guns.

GENERAL VATUTIN'S ADVANCE

The most significant part of General Vatutin's advance of 150 miles from Kiev to the Polish frontier has been the last sixty or seventy miles which were covered within six days since the recapture of Korosten and Zhitomir. On January 4, advance Cossack patrols crossed the Polish border at several points and General Vatutin began driving two powerful spearheads, one towards Sarny and the other towards Rovno, key railway junctions 35 and 55 miles across the border. Since the beginning of the 1943 summer campaign, the Red army has advanced 400 miles of forest, plain and swamp between Kursk and the bleak borderline beyond Olevsk. The frontier which *Hitler took for himself in 1939 along* the river Bug is less than 150 miles away, and only 370 miles away, is the nearest outpost of the old German town of Hindenburg in the tip of Silesia. Silesia and Pommerania are already well within range of Soviet heavy bombers, and as the Russians reach the Bug, big areas of eastern and south-eastern Reich and the Czech industrial centres, already exposed to American heavy bombers from Italy, would come within comfortable operation distance for swarms of the Russian light and medium bombers.

RUSSO-POLISH BORDER QUESTION

The entry of the Russian army into Poland has raised an important political question whether the Russians are entering Poland as liberators or as conquerors. It must be noted that no diplomatic relations exist between Soviet Russia and the Polish Government in exile in London, and Russia is adamant in her demand that any restoration of Russo-Polish diplomatic relations, which must be the first step towards a settlement of the differences, must be on the Polish initiative and must be accompanied by unqualified public reaffirmation of Poland's desire for friendly relations with Russia. Russia also insists on the demand that General Sosnowski, General Sikorski's successor as Commander-in-Chief of Polish Forces, must be removed from the Government. Despite British

The centre arrow above indicates the location of Olevsk, the point at which the Russian offensive has smashed across the pre-war Polish-Russian border. The two lower arrows indicate the points from which the Soviet forces are racing westward in an effort to cut off the only land escape of the German forces caught between the Dniester and Dnieper rivers. Pressure also continues against Vitebsk and Zhlobin. The shaded portion of the map represents the only Russian territory now occupied by the German invaders.

interest in bringing about an agreeable solution, the situation appears to have reached a stalemate and the one remaining hope seems to be in the projected visit of the Polish Premier, Mikolajczk to Washington some time in the middle of January.

Russian advance in the Ukraine has created further complications for the German army. The two wings of General Vatutin's army are driving in two different directions as has been already described. Other Russian Forces have reached points between forty and forty-five miles north-east of Zhmerinka, just over forty miles from the Rumanian 1939 border and one of the main German arteries of the southern front. More serious than this is the situation created for the large German forces inside the Dnieper bend, a situation similar to the one at Stalingrad. The Russian advance in the Ukraine also threatens Hitler's headquarters for the whole of the Ukraine at Rovno, particularly after the storming of Berdichev, which has opened the way for a swift extension of the broad Soviet spearhead west of the City towards the great Odessa-Cracow-Berlin trunk railway. This railway is the main lifeline to the German southern armies from their home bases, and on either side of the southward driving Russian wedge, Soviet forces have won the battles for Berdichev and Byelaya-Tserkov. To crown the whole catastrophe, as it were, in the Ukraine, Russian forces under General Koniev have captured on January 8 the great industrial City of Kirovograd, with which Germans have practically lost the battle of the Dnieper Bend.

Zhitomir, Korosten, Olevsk, Novogorod-Volynsk, Byelaya-Tserkov, Berdichev and Kirovograd—these are victories which signify no mean achievement for the Russian army since the start of the third winter campaign on Christmas eve. And this constitutes only one sector of the Russian front. On the Baltic front German command is displaying extreme nervousness about the danger of encirclement at Novo Sokolniki, twenty-five miles north of Nevel, while in the central front, south of Nevel, the Nazi bastion in White Russia, namely, the City of Vitebsk is in imminent danger. On the whole, the third winter offensive appears to be a mere sport for the Russian army which has borne the heavy burden of two previous winter campaigns, and the political controversies over Poland have not in the least affected the admiration and enthusiasm with which the other Allied nations are awaiting the culmination of the new offensive. Stalin has never been against an independent Poland and his claim that Eastern Poland occupied in 1939 is an integral part of the Soviet Union is made more or less as a precaution of self-defence and is probably more in consonance with the considered recommendations put forward by the competent commission of the Peace Conference after the last war.

CENTRAL EUROPE

And after all it is idle to speculate what Russian attitude will be towards Poland or any other central or south-eastern European nations. The difficulties of keeping the peace in this part of the world, not to speak of reconstruction in the postwar period, are of no mean order; but the problem of maintaining the peace of the world requires that this part of the world also must be kept peaceful. Ever since the early years of the nineteenth century central Europe has been in perpetual convulsion by the relentless striving of its peoples towards national unity and self-determination. The unification of Germany in 1871 and the birth of modern Italy created an entirely new situation which eliminated France as a danger to Europe and formed the basis of the Anglo-French accord. Germany entered the field of world power-politics and pursued her course of aggrandisement and expansion leading to the climax of Hitler. Before 1914 this fact was dimly recognized in central Europe where the small nations were not only confronted with the wild dreams and power of the Kaiser, but they also faced Austro-Hungary, Czarist-Russia and Feudal Turkey. The hundred million people of the small nations of central and south-eastern Europe were dominated by one or more of these four master nations. After the war of 1914–18 all these powers ceased to exist for a time as arbiters of the fate of small nations. Russia was going through her remarkable internal transformation from the Czarist Empire into the Soviet Union; the Hapsburgs disappeared overnight; the Kaiser went in exile; and Turkey lay prostrate and in the fever of a nationalist revolution.

It was in this atmosphere that the "Succession States" of that region came into being. Poland arose as a state of 35 million people, following three partitions and a century and a half of revolts, oppression and endless struggles for the preservation of her national identity. After three centuries of foreign rule, Czechoslovakia sprang into being as a state of 15 million people with the inheritance of the armament centres of the Austro-Hungarian Empire. The Kingdom of Yugoslavia united the Serbs, Croates and Slovenes, and emerged from what was Serbia and some provinces from the realm of the Hapsburgs. Thus for the time being the central powers were submerged, and the only power left on the continent of Europe, which could organize anything resembling a system of security was France. The backbone of the new security system was the principle of collective security. But the grand alliance against the central powers had ceased to exist, leaving nothing but the League of Nations to take its place. Tired of war the world relapsed into an era of irresponsibility in the field of international affairs. The United States of America turned away from Europe; Italy was aggrieved over her insufficient reward for her participation in the war; Japan turned her attention to the far East; and Britain embarked on a policy of one-sided disarmament and limitless faith in the League of Nations. France alone sought to maintain the system of security and to the task of holding Germany down. But gradually, she was overtaken in numbers, production and military efficiency by the aggressive powers, and Europe drifted towards another catastrophe. Meanwhile the small nations of central and south-eastern Europe developed steadily as industrial communities, and many of them struggled internally for democracy. But the efforts of twenty years of reborn nations were trampled over by the Nazi hordes.

At the present stage of the war, when the horizon is clearing and justified hopes for deliverance are growing, the small nations are reviewing their position and the future. Poland's suspicions on the entry of the Russian forces into Polish territory are justified on this score. But most of these suspicions are based on selfish interests, not only of Poland but of other states also in this region. The great leaders of the world have already met in Tehran and they could not have overlooked the problem of peace of central and south-eastern Europe. The significant silence on the part of Mr. Churchill and of Mr. Roosevelt in spite of public agitation over the Polish question provides the moral sanction for Stalin's attitude towards Poland and it is too early to read motives into an act which is solely directed towards the liberation of nations groaning under the Nazi yoke. Mr. Churchill is one of those rare statesmen who have made any constructive contribution towards the problem of small nations in Europe as well as in Asia, and his speculation regarding a Council of Europe and a Council of Asia, modified and suited in some form or other, must give a solution for these problems.

THREE MAIN PROBLEMS

In educating the soldiers in health matters the work of the Indian Army Medical Corps has been of immense value. Most forward units are alive to the need for individual effort in keeping down disease and men to whom personal health safeguards previously meant nothing now know how to take care of themselves.

Three main problems of health have to be faced in India and the possible forthcoming theatres of war in Burma and Malaya—malaria, malnutrition and intestinal diseases. Malaria, biggest of the three, is now being steadily controlled; in Assam mobile, specially trained anti-malaria units have reduced the disease to about one-tenth of what it was a year ago.

Malnutrition, not a serious danger among British troops, is a new problem as regards Indian soldiers, who have shown themselves liable to a serious degree of malnutrition when exposed to high incidence of malaria. Shortage of meat and other items, and difficulty of transporting perishable rations such as meat, fruit and vegetables to forward troops, are problems demanding constant attention.

Intestinal diseases are kept down by maintaining the highest standard of sanitation in the field, which is directed by hygiene sections.

The Indian Army Medical Corps tackles all these problems besides providing medical aid in battle. Even in advance areas research work is continued by field laboratories.

WAR DIARY

BRITAIN AND GERMANY

4TH JAN.—Targets in North and West Germany were hit by the Allied bombers. A new decree has been issued in Germany mobilising all German Youth for war purposes.

5TH JAN.—There was slight German activity over South-East England including the Greater London area. Bombs were dropped at several points.

American bombers attacked Kill and Runster.

6TH JAN.—Berlin and Steltin were bombed by Royal Air Force.

7TH JAN.—The Allied aircraft raided places in West and South-West Germany. Ludwigshafen, Mannheim, Rhineland and Westphalia were attacked.

"Three-quarters of Berlin is destroyed" said Army Air Chief General Arnold.

More Canadian troops have reached Britain.

8TH JAN.—Mosquitoes of the Bomber Command attacked objectives in Western Germany.

9TH JAN.—Major-General Beddel Smith of the United States Army will become Chief of Staff to General Eisenhaven in the United Kingdom.

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THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND ATLANTIC

4TH JAN.—Rear-Admiral Emnov S. Land, Chairman of the American Maritime Commission, expressed his confidence that when the European invasion is finally ready to begin the Allied shipping would be adequate to meet all the stategic requirements.

President Roosevelt and Mrs. Roosevelt have signed a deed giving their family homestead and 35 acres of land at Hyde Park in New York to the United States Government.

The Commanding-General of the United States Army Air Force General Henry Arnold in a report to the Secretary of War declares, "It is now plain that for us the beginning has ended; for our enemies the end has begun."

The United States Treasury Department has sent invitations to 44 nations to attend an International Monetary Conference to consider postwar reconstruction and trade.

5TH JAN.—The United States submarine "Pompano" has been declared to be lost.

6TH JAN.—President Roosevelt in his 13th Lend-lease report to Congress said 1944 will be the year of decisive action in the war.

7TH JAN.—The United States War Production Board announced that 85,946 military planes were produced in United States in 1943.

8TH JAN.—Mr. Wendell Willkie in a broadcast said 1944 will be "our tough year."

9TH JAN.—Mr. Edward R. Stettinus, United States Lend-lease Administrator and Under Secretary of State, has expressed his opinion on future problems.

10TH JAN.—On the advice of his personal physician President Roosevelt will not deliver his annual message on the state of the Union to Congress in person tomorrow.

* * *

INDIA, BURMA AND CEYLON

4TH JAN.—A new and more generous scale of rations for men of Royal Indian Navy came into effect on January 1st says a press-note issued today.

The status of Indians in Burma after its re-conquest was discussed at an informal conference held at Bombay. The Honourable Dr. N. B. Khare presided.

5TH JAN.—His Excellency the Viceroy presented the Victoria Cross to the widow of Havildar-Major Chhelu Ram and Jamedar Gaje Ghale.

7TH JAN.—A communiqué issued today by the South-East Asia Command narrates Allied air activity on the Burma front during the first few days of January. Important places attacked were Yenangyang, Hebo, Prome and Akyab.

8TH JAN.—In recognition of the services rendered by the personnel of the Indian services during the present war His Majesty the King has approved awards to such personnel of British decorations says a communiqué from New Delhi.

* * *

RUSSIA AND FINLAND

4TH JAN.—Advanced Cossack patrols have crossed the old Polish-Russian border at several points. Belaya-Iserkova has been captured by the Russians.

5TH JAN.—The Russians captured Berdichev after five days fighting. Soviet forces have reached Sarney, 35 miles west of the pre-war border.

A second meeting of the Polish Cabinet was held in London to consider the situation created by the crossing of the 1939 Russo-Polish frontiers by the advancing Soviet troops.

6TH JAN.—Heavy battles are in full swing north of Kruvoi-rog and east of Kirovograd.

The Polish Government has issued a statement on Russian troops' entry into Poland.

7TH JAN.—Kirovograd is completely encircled by the Red Army. The Russian forces made a breach 60 miles in breadth and 25 miles deep.

8TH JAN.—Troops of the second Ukrainean front occupied Kirovograd a large industrial centre and the most important enemy stronghold in Ukraine.

9TH JAN.—The Russians have captured Polonnoye. The Red Army has forced another break-through into the pre-war Poland.

10TH JAN.—Soviet spearheads are approaching the Odessa-Poland railway.

* * *

ITALY, AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

4TH JAN.—Indian troops of the Eighth Army seized an important feature overlooking the German line. There were only patrol clashes on the Fifth Army Front. Snow and storms are still holding up large-scale Allied attacks.

5TH JAN.—On the Eighth Army front Indian troops advanced and captured an additional Spur south-west of San Tomasso.

6TH JAN.—British destroyers shelled Pesaro, British and American troops have launched an attack on the Fifth Army front. The Fifth Army has captured half of the village of San Vittore.

Lieutenant-General Sir Oliver Lease has been appointed Commander of the British Eighth Army.

Eight enemy vessels have been sunk in the Mediterranean by British submarines.

7TH JAN.—In the central section of the Fifth Army front Allied troops continued to advance. Bitter fighting is taking place in the town of San Vittore. On the Eighth Army front Indian troops improved their positions.

8TH JAN.—The Fifth Army troops captured San Vittore. There were sharp clashes on the Eighth Army front.

9TH JAN.—The Fifth Army troops have captured Guisto. Patrols are active on the Eighth Army front.

Lieutenant-General Mason Macfarlane has been appointed Deputy President of the Allied Control Commission in Italy.

General Sir Henry Maitland Wilson assumed his duties as Supreme Allied Commander-in-Chief in the Mediterranean Theatre from January 8th. General Devers of the United States Army assumed his duties of Deputy Supreme Commander. Lieut.-Genl. A. H. Gammel is appointed Chief of Staff in the Mediterranean.

10TH JAN.—Troops of the Fifth Army advanced two miles and captured the 3,800 feet height of Catena Vecchio. British troops have crossed the river Peccia.

* * *

VICHY, FREE FRANCE AND OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

4TH JAN.—The United States Maranders attacked Pas de Calais.

Officers of the Royal Yugol-slav army stationed in the Middle East have joined up with Marshal Tito. Italian formations fighting across the Adriatic have also now come under the command of Marshal Tito.

5TH JAN.—About 750 Allied bombers attacked military objectives in northern France coastal areas. Bordeux and Tours were bombed.

Copenhagen, Zealand, Fyen and Jutland in Denmark were raided by the Allied planes.

Dr. Benes arrived in London.

6TH JAN.—The Gestapo have arrested 600 Yugoslav patriots.

8TH JAN.—The French Consultative Assembly met to discuss the resistance movement inside France.

* * *

NEUTRAL COUNTRIES

4TH JAN.—Premier Nahas Pasha outlined Egypt's hopes for future relations with Britain, especially after the war, in the Egyptian Senate.

7TH JAN.—General Franco made a statement on Spain's future.

9TH JAN.—Arab Federation talks between the Labanese and the Egyptians began this morning at the Egyptian Foreign office. The Egyptian Prime Minister Nahas Pasha, and the Labanese Prime Minisuter Raid el Solh were present.

* * *

THE FAR EAST

4TH JAN.—The United States Navy Secretary Colonel Frank Knox told a press conference that "the Japanese are on the defensive throughout South and South-west Pacific."

Americans attacked Rabaul. Australians advanced about nine miles from Nuzen in the Huon Peninsula.

5TH JAN.—American bombers attacked islands in the Marshall group.

6TH JAN.—Jap. troops north of Finschhafen in New Guinea have disengaged themselves and took up new positions 35 miles away. The Australian troops have made a new landing on the north coast of New Guinea at Cape Gumbi. United States marines in New Britain are pushing forward towards Borgen Bay.

7TH JAN.—Chief of Naval Information Admiral Sir William James and the South Pacific Commander Admiral William Halsey made statements on the war against Japan.

Admiral Nimity returned to Pearl Harbour after a routine conference in San Francisco.

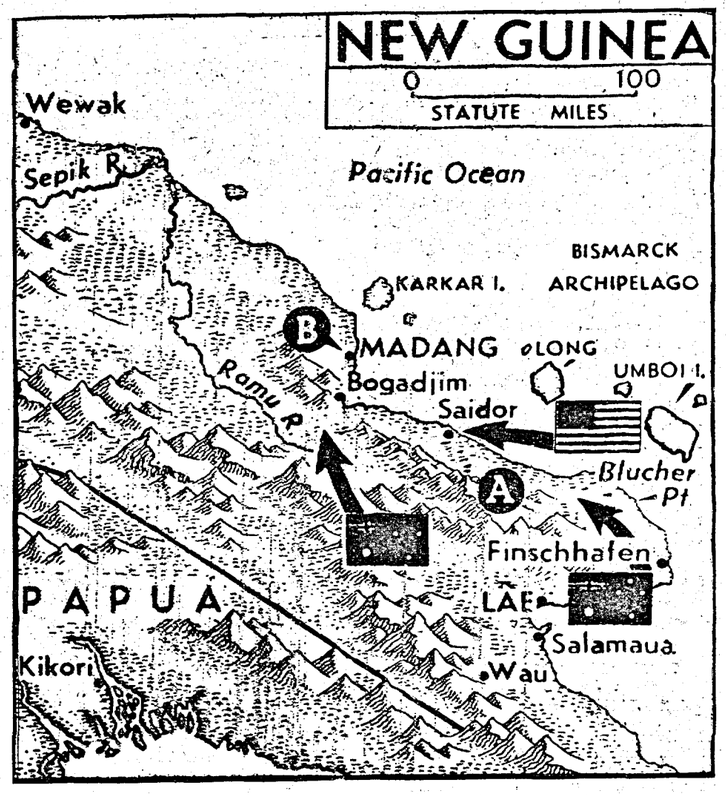
"The Japanese Navy and other fighting forces in the Pacific are only awaiting the time and place to come out and engage the United States in battle" said the Navy Secretary, Colonel Frank Knox.

Allies bombed Milliatoll in Marshalls group.

8TH JAN.—Rabaul in New Britain and Kavieng in New Ireland were bombed by American planes.

A United States Navy Department communiqué says that United States submarines have sunk 10 enemy vessels in the Pacific and the Far East.

9TH JAN.—The American marines are steaming towards Borgen Bay, ten miles from Cape Gloucester airfield in New Britain. Rabaul was bombed. There were widespread attack on Jap. positions.



The above map shows a section of the north-east coast of New Guinea, where American troops made a surprise landing on January 2 at the Port of Saidor, capturing the harbour and airfield and cutting off a Japanese force driven northward from Finschhafen by the Australians. The present location of these Japanese is indicated by the black spot "A". Another Australian party is moving up the Ramu River valley towards the big Jap supply base at Madang, indicated by "B".

FAMILY LINK—ON THE ETHER

Messages broadcast recently by Indian troops serving overseas in the Middle East and in Ceylon to their wives and relatives in India have an unusual keynote.

"Keep sending the children to school. Do not neglect their education," is the note stressed by nearly all the speakers in their broadcasts. Hesitant voices, unfamiliar to the "mike," gather strength with restrained excitement at the opportunity to talk across the 'horizon' as they imagine it. Announcements that they are in very good spirits follow.

Relatives of soldiers living in villages where there are no radio sets travel down to Delhi to listen to these broadcasts. Although the message is for one of them they sometimes come in groups of ten or twelve. They listen with rapt attention and go back greatly pleased.

Reverse broadcasts, that is, from families to troops, are also arranged from time to time. The relatives generally like to give long messages which mostly centre round domestic subjects such as extension of their farm, the purchase of a bull or the naming of a child.

"These messages from the troops are very popular," said an authority of New Delhi's All-India Radio. "We send an intimation to soldiers' relatives a week in advance of the broadcast, and some of them are so thrilled that they become quite upset for a whole week."

One woman fainted some minutes before she was to listen in to a message from her husband, and so missed it. When All-India Radio authorities heard of the incident they procured the broadcast record and sent it to her. She had the record played over and over again in a maternity hospital where she was confined.

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MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. V FRIDAY, JANUARY 21, 1944 No. 20

Will be in ROME in Spring

THE object of the present operations in Italy is to capture Rome. The Allies will be in Rome in the Spring I am always optimistic. We have reached the culminating decisive period of the war If we saw an opportunity for landings in South France, we most certainly would do so. Don't at all rule out the possibility of bringing off a coup there in the coming year

GENERAL SIR HENRY MAITLAND WILSON

Supreme Allied Commander in the Mediterranean, at a Press Conference in Algiers on Monday

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NOTE.—*The summary of news and comments contained in the* MADRAS WAR REVIEW *generally relate to events and statements published till Wednesday, every week.*]

DIFFICULT OPERATIONS AHEAD

"Until we have actually occupied Berlin and Tokyo we cannot indulge for a moment in the pleasant day-dreaming that the war is almost over. Our most difficult military operations are ahead of us—not behind us."

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT *on Wednesday, January* 19.

◆

VICTORY WILL BE COSTLY

"A quick ending of the war is unlikely. Those who wishfully think for an early end are necessarily doing disservice to the war effort. There is no ground for the hope that the German home front will collapse.

"Victory will take time and will be costly. We have just begun to break down the Japanese outer defences. But it would be an error to ascribe this to fear. It just does not suit Japanese purpose to challenge us in force at present."

COL. F. KNOX, *United States Navy Secretary, at Cleveland on Friday, January* 14.

◆

RUSSIAN BRAVERY

"I have worked closely with Soviet officials here for over three years and have nothing but admiration for the bravery, resourcefulness and determination of the people of the Soviet Union. I feel we have everything to gain and nothing to lose from continuing close co-operation between the Soviet Union and the United States both now and after the war."

MR. EDWARD J. STETTINIUS, *United States Under-Secretary of State, on Saturday, January* 15.

◆

ASSURANCE FOR THE FUTURE

"The Russians are removing some of the worst stains from the face of the earth by stringing up the ring leaders of hate, and letting them hang until they are dead. That is a final assurance of the future for free men."

MR. HENRY MORGENTHAU, *the United States Secretary of the Treasury, on the Kharkov executions, on Monday, January 17.*

MADRAS WAR REVIEW

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VOL. V — FRIDAY, JANUARY 21, 1944 — No. 20

SOVIET STRATEGY ON LENINGRAD FRONT

"ALL quiet on the Leningrad Front" seemed to sum up the situation in the Northern Sector in Russia for the last one year. It was on January 18, 1943, that the siege of the City of Lenin was raised. It was then that the Red Army troops of the Leningrad and Volkhov Fronts joined hands and drove the Germans back. And exactly after a year to the day (January 18, 1944), Marshal Stalin has announced the opening of a great offensive on the Leningrad Front. It is a double offensive, and strong German defences have been smashed in the opening round. The Russians will be celebrating to-day (January 21) not only the twenty-first anniversary of the passing of Lenin, but the recent successes on the Leningrad Front as well.

THE Soviet offensive north of Lake Ilmen and south of Oranienbaum, a fortress on the shores of the Gulf of Finland, has created breaches in the strongly-fortified enemy defence lines which were constructed over a long period, and the offensive on the Volkhov Front, north of Novgorod, and 100 miles south of Leningrad, has also met with similar success. Earlier, the Red Army broke through the enemy defences north of Novo Sokolniki, and occupied the railway station of Natva.

NOVO SOKOLNIKI is at the southern end of the Northern Russian Front, and is 25 miles north of Nevel and 10 miles west of Velikiye Luki (both of which are in Russian hands) and 70 miles east of the Latvian border. The importance of the Red Army's advance here lies in the fact that it has cut the railway line between Novo Sokolniki and the Don junction, 100 miles further north, and thereby made the Germans lose one rail route to the Leningrad Sector.

Nevel-Vitebsk-Polotsk triangle

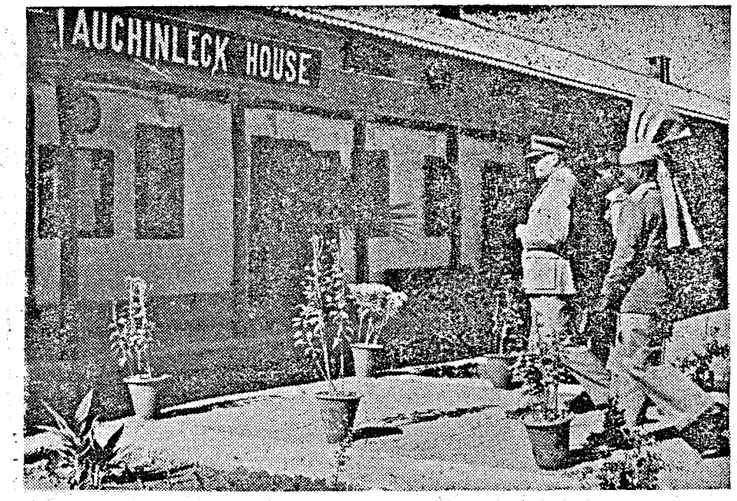
THE double offensive in the Northern Sector is as yet in its initial stage, but it deserves to be studied in its proper setting. When we look at the map of this Sector, we see Nevel, Vitebsk and Polotsk three great fortresses, forming a strategic triangle of great importance. The apex of the triangle is Polotsk, only 20 miles from the old Polish frontier. Of these, Nevel is in Russian hands and Vitebsk in the steady process of being encircled. The Red Army is gradually pushing westwards towards Polotsk and north-westwards from Nevel along the main line from Moscow to Riga. If this move succeeds, it will drive a wedge between the German centre and the northern wing.

WHAT will the German forces in the north do as their right flank is in danger? Will they carry out a large-scale withdrawal from the Leningrad zone back to where they started? Will they retreat to Narva on the coast of the Gulf of Finland and Pskov, south of Lake Peipus, both on the Estonian border? And from there, will they eventually go back further west to Riga in Latvia? It is tempting to visualize before us such a picture, but it is perhaps too optimistic at this stage of the offensive. For we must remember, first, that the German troops in the north have been in their present positions for quite a long time and must have made themselves thoroughly comfortable in deep dug-outs and heavily protected fortresses. It is easier for them to fight where they are and make a determined stand than to face moving warfare in the biting cold of the Russian winter, across the open country.

The "Leningrad bulge"

SECONDLY, from what we see from events in the Southern Sector, the policy of the German High Command seems to be to make their generals hang on to every square mile of territory till the very last. It may therefore be expected that the Germans would form a strong "bolt" position in the region of Lake Peipus and try to maintain the "Leningrad bulge," as against the Russians who might strike north-west with a view to closing the corridor by cutting through to the Baltic.

A FEW days ago, Sertorious, the German military commentator, referred to events on the Southern Sector and said that they "must not lead to under-estimation of the enemy's pressure in the Vitebsk area, and the consequences which may follow an enemy break-through." But, he added, "threat to, or destruction of, military and economic positions in the Balkans is perhaps more appealing to the Russian Command than a break-through towards the Baltic." This gives an inkling as to what the Germans wish should happen, but Russian strategy, it is well known, does not follow the principle of one-thing-at-a-time and that-done well, but that of many-things-at-the-same-time and everything-done-well.



COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF'S VISIT TO JHELUM.—During his recent visit to Jhelum, General Sir Claude Auchinleck visited an Indian Military Hospital witnessed the "toughening up" battle training at the 1st Punjab Regimental Centre, presented Colours to the Boys' Battalion at a special parade, opened a new block of buildings—"Auchinleck House"—at King George's Royal Indian Military School, and presented the annual prizes for the school. Photo shows *the Commander-in-Chief about to enter "Auchinleck House." He was shown round by the head boy.*

RUNNING COMMENTARY

Poland's Eastern Frontier—Polish View and Russian Attitude

The question of Poland's eastern frontier after the war is the subject-matter of a good deal of controversy. British public opinion has been more or less reflected in the views expressed by VERNON BARTLETT in the *News Chronicle*. "If the present Polish Government wants to return to Poland after the war," he says, "it would be well advised to recognize that it will only be able to do so by agreement with the Soviet Government, whose troops have the main responsibility of freeing Polish territory of the Germans . . . On the other side, the Soviet Government has to remember that genuine co-operation after the war with the British and Americans would be far more important to the security of the Soviet Union as well as to the maintenance of world peace than any concessions that may be squeezed out of the Poles."

The ball was set in motion by a statement issued by the Polish Emigre Government in London two weeks ago (January 5). In that statement, the Polish Government referred to the situation created by the crossing of the 1939 Russo-Polish frontier by the advance of Soviet troops and said that they expected that the Soviet Union would not fail to respect the rights and interests of the Polish Republic and its citizens.

This brought forth a statement from Moscow clarifying the position. An official Soviet statement broadcast by the Moscow Radio on January 10 described the Polish Government's declaration on the Soviet-Polish border as an "erroneous" one. The statement said that the Soviet constitution had determined the Soviet-Polish border with the assent of the population of Western Ukraine and of Western Byelo-Russia as expressed in a plebiscite carried out in 1939 on a broad democratic basis.

As a result of this plebiscite, the territories of Western Ukraine which had an overwhelming majority of Ukrainians and the territories of Western Byelo-Russia, in which Byelo-Russians formed an overwhelming majority of the population, were included in the Soviet Union. This did not infringe Polish interests. On the other hand, it created a solid basis of firm and lasting friendship between the Polish people and the neighbouring Ukrainian, Byelo-Russian and Russian peoples.

* * *

A Strong and Independent Poland with the Curzon Line as Frontier—Soviet Offer

Referring to the possibility of the restoration of Poland as a strong and independent State as a result of the successes of Soviet troops in liberating the occupied territories, the Moscow statement said:

"Poland must not be restored by way of annexation of Ukrainian and Byelo-Russian territories, but by return to Poland of territories appropriated by the Germans . . . The Soviet Union does not consider the 1939 frontier as immovable. Modifications can be introduced, which would be to the benefit of Poland in order that the region in which Polish population predominates may be handed over to Poland. In such a case, the Russo-Polish frontier would approximately pass along the so-called Curzon Line, accepted in 1919 by the Supreme Council of Allied Powers. This line provides for the inclusion of Western Ukraine and Byelo-Russia in the Soviet Union. The Western borders of Poland must be restored by way of return to Poland of Polish lands which have been seized by Germany and without which it would be impossible to include all Polish people in their country which would thereby obtain an opening to the Baltic Sea."

The Moscow statement added that, in the meantime, the interests of Poland and Russia lay in the establishment of firm relations of friendship between the Polish-Soviet peoples united in struggle against the common foe.

* * *

Three Russo-Polish Frontier Lines—Polish Government's Case

It is of some interest to examine the historical background of the Russo-Polish frontier question, not only because it is a wartime problem, but also because it involves the question of settlement of frontier disputes by determining the racial affinities and loyalties of the peoples inhabiting the areas concerned. It may be stated that there are roughly three different Russo-Polish frontier lines, viz., the Riga Line which was

settled after the Treaty of Riga of March 18, 1921, and which was the frontier line before the war broke out; the "Curzon Provisional Boundary Line;" and the Ribbontrop-Molotov Line of October 1939.

The contention of the Polish Government is that the 1939 frontier must be restored. But the Soviet Government want the Russo-Polish frontier after the war to approximately conform to the Curzon Line. The 1939 frontier, which is the Riga Line, runs from the river Dwina on the Russo-Latvian border almost due south down to the Zbruez which it followed to its junction with the Dniester. This frontier was shifted to a distance of about 150 to 200 miles further west by the Ribbontrop-Molotov Line. Poland seems to contend that the Riga Line is juridically binding on Russia because the Treaty of Riga was concluded between Poland and Russia, as free and independent parties in 1921. In 1923 Polish rule in Eastern Galicia was also recognized by the Allies. After Germany invaded Russia, the Soviet Government entered into a treaty with the Polish Emigre Government in London, in which it recognized that the Soviet-German Treaties of 1939 concerning territorial changes in Poland had lost their validity.

When this treaty was signed in 1941, an assurance was given by the British Government to the Poles that they did not recognize any territorial changes in Poland after August 1939, that is, after the German invasion.

* * *

The Soviet Attitude—Case for the Curzon Line

As regards the Russian attitude, it seems to depend on the fact that the Treaty of Riga was thrust upon the Soviet Union by a militant and victorious Poland and that the Treaty itself did not pretend to establish a scientific or final frontier and had as much, or as little, validity as any treaty made in such circumstances. Further, the Allied recognition of the Treaty of Riga was conditional upon a grant of full cultural autonomy to the Ukrainians—a condition which was not fulfilled by Poland.

It may be recalled that the Curzon Note which drew up a Russo-Polish frontier followed as far as possible the line of demarcation between Poles on the one hand and White Russians and Ukrainians on the other, whom it gave to the Soviet Union. This Curzon Line which the Allies favoured would give the Soviet Union a frontier virtually the same as the Ribbontrop-Molotov Line of 1939.

His Highness THE MAHARAJA OF BIKANER IN THE MIDDLE EAST.—Photo shows *the Maharaja inspecting tanks in the Middle East*

As for the Polish claim that the Russians had denounced in 1941 the Soviet-German Treaty of 1939 and therefore they were bound to accept the pre-war frontier, it may be stated that there was no explicit mention in the Soviet-Polish Treaty of 1941 that the Soviet Union would give up her claims for what she had acquired as her share of partition. What the Russians refused to recognize was only the German share of partition. The British Government have no doubt given an assurance to the Poles not to recognize the territorial changes made after the German invasion, but this does not mean that possibilities of a new arrangement had been completely ruled out. The Russian attitude emphasises the fact that the Atlantic Charter promised to give the peoples of Europe a Government of their own choosing.

* * *

Ukrainians and Russians—The 1921 Polish Census and the 1939 Soviet Plebiscite

Even in 1939 the Russians incorporated the Polish Ukraine into the Soviet Union only as a result of the plebiscite. The plebiscite clearly showed that a large majority of the population, namely, Ukrainians and Russians, wanted to be in the Soviet Union. Many years earlier, that is, after the Polish border was fixed by the Treaty of Riga in 1921, Poland had conducted a census of the population in the disputed territory. The result of the census showed the population as roughly 46 per cent Poles, 23 White Russians, 17 Ukrainians and 10 Jews. The percentage of Poles was further lowered by the drift of the population towards Western Poland before 1939. The Poles were largely big land-owners, but the Russians and Ukrainians were stated to be practically in the position of serfs. After the German occupation of Poland the Jews who formed the middle class were practically exterminated and a large proportion of the Poles was deported to work in Germany. Thus the present position seems to be in favour of an overwhelming majority of the population being Russians and Ukrainians.

It is this important point that is likely to weigh considerably in any settlement of the Russo-Polish dispute, as it is not by legalistic arguments alone that such a matter could be decided. A pertinent question is: what do the Polish Ukrainians themselves think about this whole controversy? In 1921 when the Treaty of Riga drew up the frontier line, neither the Poles nor the Russians consulted their wishes. But the Russians can claim that in 1939 they carried out a plebiscite in which the Polish Ukrainians voted for a union with their brethren in the Soviet or Eastern

Ukraine who were racially, economically and culturally akin to them. In this connexion, a glance at the history of the Ukrainian people may help us to find out where their sympathies are likely to be in the Russo-Polish controversy.

* * *

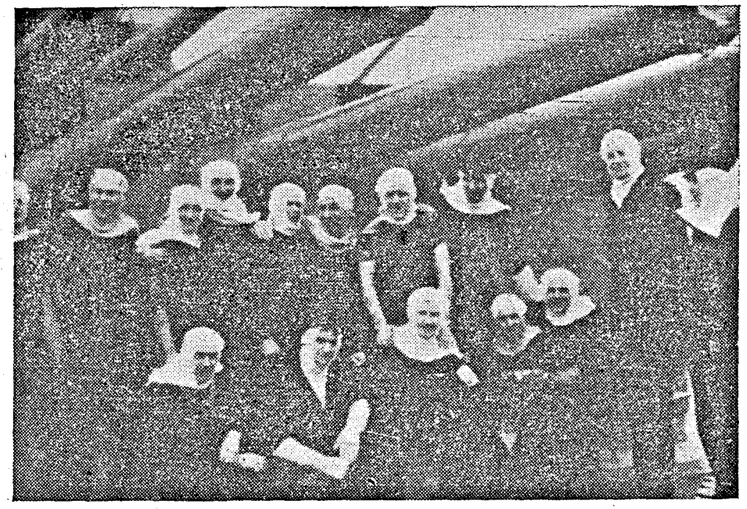
History of the Ukraine—Racial and Cultural Clashes

The whole area of the present Ukraine was part of the Polish-Lithuanian Empire till the year 1667, when the Treaty of Andrussova split it into two, the portion of the Ukraine east of the Dnieper going to Russia and the other going to Poland. The Treaty marked the end of varied fighting between the two countries on religious and economic grounds. The religious ground was the Polish attempt to convert forcibly the Orthodox Ukrainians to Roman Catholicism, and the economic ground was that Ukrainians were reduced to serfdom. There was a revolt against this state of things in 1654, when the Cossack-Ukrainian Chieftain, BOGDAN CHMELNICKI, voluntarily placed himself and his people under the suzerainty of the Czar of Russia. Fighting went on between Russia and Poland, and 13 years afterwards the Treaty of Andrussova, mentioned above, was concluded. Russia got the Ukraine east of the Dnieper then, and the rest of it in 1793 at the end of the Second Partition.

Did the Ukrainians who had little love for the Poles, lead a peaceful and contented life under the Russian rule? No, they were reduced to the position of serfs under Peter the Great and Catherine the Great. They did not like it. Therefore they organized a national movement not only in Russia, but also in Poland, with a view to having a separate national existence of their own. In 1917 the Revolution came, and Russia became a Bolshevik state. By the decree of December 17, 1917, she gave freedom to the Ukraine, which voluntarily federated itself with the new Soviet Union.

In 1918 the Ukraine was occupied by the Germans. After Germany's collapse, Poland seized Western Ukraine. Then came the war between Russia and Poland, and ultimately the Treaty of Riga in 1921.

Thus it will be seen that Western Ukraine would have chosen to remain independent, if not join the Soviet Union with which it had racial and cultural affinities, had it not been



General Eisenhower who has now assumed his duties as Supreme Allied Commander told war correspondents in London on Monday (January 17) that he highly appreciated all the groundwork which had already been done for the assault in the West, including the destruction of the Scharnhorst. *The above is a radio picture of the gun crew of the* Duke of York, *who shelled and sank the 26,000-ton German battleship on December 26 off the North Cape. The crew are standing under the ship's 14-inch guns which spelt the doom of one of the most famous German battleships.*

'THANKS!'

CHRISTMAS ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

TO MADRAS JOINT WAR CHARITIES COMMITTEE

The following is a copy of the letter received by Airmail from the Commissioner for Middle East Indian Red Cross:—

"I am writing to acknowledge the gift of 6,720 cartons of sweets which has been so generously made by the Madras War Committee to this Organization. I would be much obliged if you would kindly convey our most grateful thanks.

The sweets have arrived in perfect condition and perfectly packed and in good time for distribution at Xmas to the sick and wounded patients by whom they will be greatly appreciated."

* * * * *

The following is a copy of the letter received by Airmail from the Red Cross Commissioner for India in Iraq-Iran:—

"May I express my grateful thanks for the 12,000 cartons of sweets which the Madras Joint War Charities Committee has so kindly presented as Xmas gifts for the patients in hospitals in Paiforce.

All the parcels of Xmas gifts have been packed and sent out to the various hospitals.

It is a real joy to see how our patients appreciate whatever we can do for them at Xmas time."

The Scharnhorst *was built in* 1936. *She was armed with nine* 11-*inch guns, twelve* 5·9-*inch guns and many smaller guns, and had a normal crew of* 1,461. The above radio picture shows *survivors of the* Scharnhorst *under guard on the catapult deck of the* Duke of York.

PATIENCE

(*By* R.G.)

Patience!—Though slow and very slow
The armies seem to move in to the kill,
Patience!—Believe the leaders know
The ways to gain the nations' will.

All night and every night will wait
The hunter till the tiger comes below.
All day and every day his bait
The fisherman will set, and throw and throw.

Stalking across the moor his stag
Long hours behind a rock the sportsman waits,
As waits a wooer though hours lag,
And sailors watch the tides in perilous straits.

Drum on the table as you read
Of checks and shocks and winter lines unbreached.
But think—there patient soldiers bleed
And patient bones lie in the desert bleached.

Long months they lie in leaking tents
Or out on open plains before the word
Comes clear "Attack!" and through the rents
Torn by the guns pour second wave and third.

With patience storms of sand and snow
Are borne, and muddy bivouac, and pain.
You think the campaign's progress slow?
Recall the hours you waste, and think again.

Though to the eye there's no advance,
Yet as when wrestlers lock and hardly move
Till suddenly there comes the chance
The skilful one awaits, his skill to prove,

So now the desperate desire
Of millions bent on freedom is but stayed
A little while—The blackguards tire
And, seeing this ruthless patience, are afraid.

forcibly annexed by Poland. *Prima facie* Western Ukraine must be assumed to have accepted Polish rule with reluctance.

As regards the vote of the Polish-Ukraine in favour of Union in Soviet Russia in 1939, it may be asked whether it was not true that the Red Army was in possession and that the Ukrainians had therefore no other option than to vote for the Union. But it must be pointed out that whatever influence that fact might have had, there were undoubtedly many other considerations which made the Ukrainians vote in the way they did. They had before them the glaring contrast of the lot of the Ukrainians under Polish rule and under Soviet rule.

* * *

Ukrainians under Polish and Soviet Rule—A Comparison

In 1920 the total number of Ukrainian schools in the Western Ukraine had risen to 3,602, but under Polish rule they were reduced to 1,074 in 1925. Things became worse as time passed. In 1932, according to official Polish figures, there were only 804 purely Ukrainian schools. Only seven of them were Government-supported, and there were 15 private secondary schools for a population of 5 million Ukrainians? The Polish Ukrainians joined the Soviet Union in 1939, and in 1940, there were 6,791 primary schools in Western Ukraine. Five thousand five hundred and ninety-six of them were Ukrainian, 922 Polish, 131 Jewish, 40 Czech, 9 German and 30 mixed schools.

A few figures relating to the Ukrainians who were already in the Soviet Union may also be of some interest. In 1933 more than one-sixth of the total population in the White Russian and Ukrainian republics within the Soviet Union were pupils in the primary and secondary schools, and more than one per cent were pupils in the schools and universities. A significant feature of this education in Soviet Russia is the fact that all of them were instructed in their native languages.

When it is remembered that in 1930 when the Ukrainian peasants revolted against the Polish rule and were rigorously repressed and whole villages converted from Orthodoxy to Roman Catholicism, there is no wonder that when the Red Army entered Polish-Ukraine in 1939, they were welcomed as liberators.

The point that emerges as a result of the consideration of all this past history of the Ukraine is that if the

principles of racial division and cultural affinity are to be taken into account the territories occupied by Russia in 1939 are overwhelmingly populated by non-Poles who have more in common with the population of the western territories of the Soviet Union than with the Poles. From the economic point of view also, it may be stated that the territories occupied by the Red Army in 1939 are not so very essential to Poland's future development.

Taking into account all these factors there seems to be a good deal to be said in favour of the Soviet offer to Poland proposing the Curzon Line as its frontier. Referring to the offer WILLIAM SHIRER, the noted American radio commentator says:

"It seems like a very fair offer to the Poles. Although the Germans will be furious to lose East Prussia, their wholesale annexation of territories in this war and their treatment of subject peoples, especially the Poles, has lost them any sympathy. The arrangement gives Poland wide access to the Baltic and should do away for a long time with the friction that arose between Poles and the Germans over the Polish corridor."

• • •

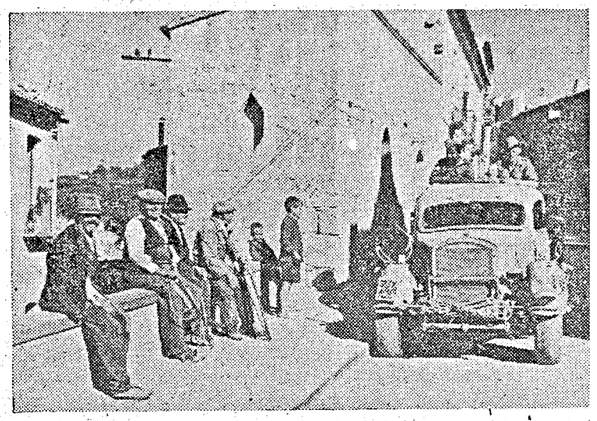
Controversy enters acute stage—Polish statement and Soviet reply—United State's offer

Now the controversy over the frontier question seems to have assumed a more acute stage. On Saturday (January 15), the Polish Government issued a statement taking cognizance of the declaration of the Soviet Government contained in the Tass *Communique* of January 11, which was issued as a reply to the declaration of the Polish Government on January 5. The Polish statement says:

"While the Polish Government cannot recognize unilateral decisions or accomplished facts which have taken place, or might take place, on the territory of the Polish Republic, they have repeatedly expressed their sincere desire for a Polish-Soviet Agreement on terms which would be just and acceptable to both sides."

For this purpose, they have suggested the opening of negotiations between the Polish and Soviet Governments with the help of British and American Governments. To this declaration, an authorized reply has been issued on behalf of the Soviet Union on Monday (January 17). The reply says that the Polish declaration entirely evades and ignores the question of recognition of the Curzon Line as the Polish Soviet frontier and that it can only be interpreted as a rejection of the Soviet offer. As regards the suggestion for the opening of official negotiations, the Soviet Government state that they are not in a position to enter into official negotiations with a Government with which diplomatic relations have been broken.

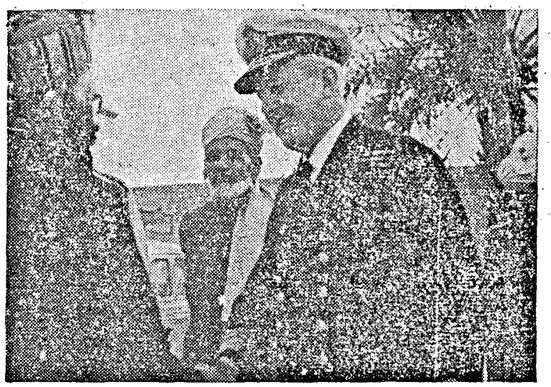
It is at this stage that the United States has offered to mediate between Poland and Russia. It is likely that there will be an exchange of views between London, and Washington and Moscow before any further development of the Soviet-Polish situation. One fact, however, is clearly recognized by all parties and that is that, in the words of the *London Times*, "neither Russia nor Poland can prudently allow the differences between them to override their supreme common interest in presenting a solid barrier of resistance to the traditional German *drang nach osten* (drive to the east)." It is to be hoped that some way would be found by which the frontier question would be settled amicably.



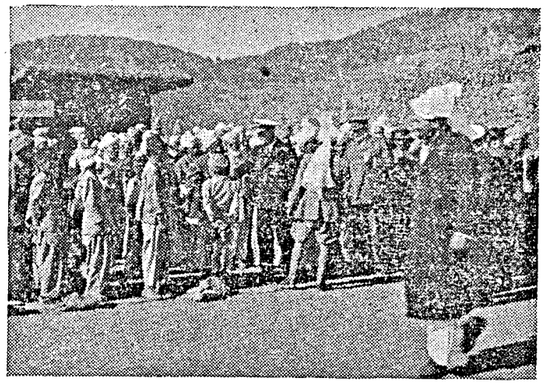
INDIAN TROOPS ADVANCING IN ITALY.—As the Indian troops advance in Italy, the German rear-guard falls back. Then the great task of moving up supplies begins. Old and young Italian villagers watch Indian troops arrive. Even the oldest inhabitants have never seen so much transport.

INDIAN ARMY NURSES IN ITALY.—Group photograph of the four nursing Sisters serving with the Indian Division in Italy. (Reading from left to right) Sisters, Ivy Edmonds of Bombay, Joyce Dady of Rawalpindi, Barbara Vickers of Bombay and Margaret Flynn of Lucknow.

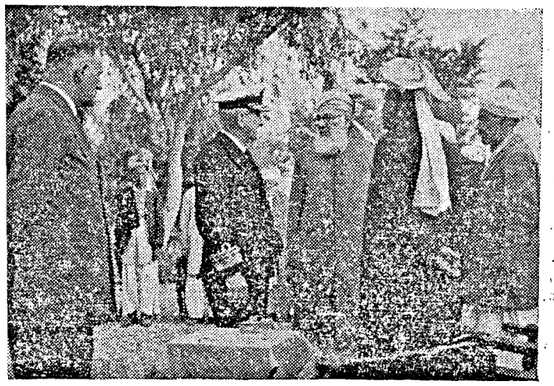
INDIA'S NAVY CHIEF TOURS VILLAGES IN THE PUNJAB



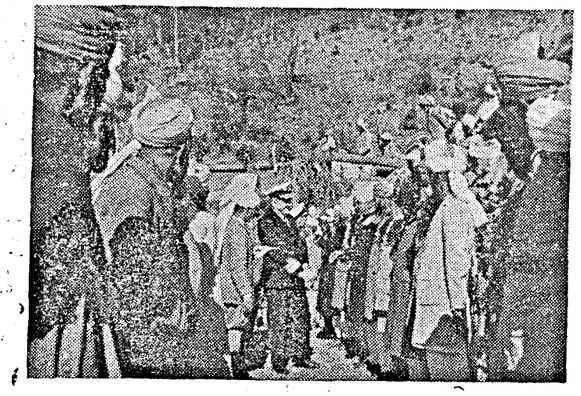
Admiral Godfrey being introduced to local notables at Shadi Khan.



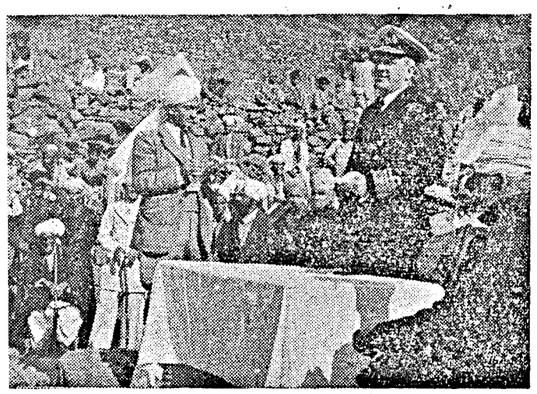
The Admiral meets and chats with the people of Bagla.

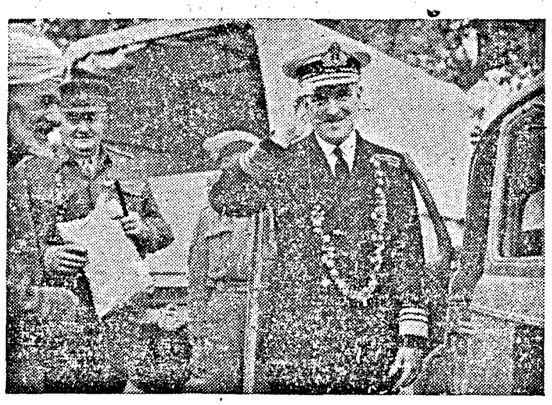


Admiral Godfrey meets Khan Bahadur Mullick Mohd. Amin, the "Grand Old Man" of Shamsabad.



Admiral Godfrey being introduced to village notables at Bagla.





VLADIMIR LENIN, FOUNDER OF THE SOVIET STATE

[The following articles have been specially contributed to commemorate the twentieth death anniversary of Lenin, which falls to-day (January 21, 1944).]

IMMORTAL CONTRIBUTION TO SOCIAL SCIENCES

By N. SIDOROV, *President of the Central Union of Co-operative Societies, U.S.S.R.*

VLADIMIR LENIN scientist and statesman, made an immortal contribution to social sciences by solving a number of complex problems in economics and politics. He also devoted his attention to the question of co-operation. It was he that advanced the brilliant plan of enlisting peasants in the work of building up socialism through co-operation.

In his article, "On Co-operation," published in 1923 he said, "We must realize and give practical effect to it that the social system, which must now be supported above all else, is: a co-operative system. However, it is not any sort of co-operative trade which we must support, but that in which real masses of population share."

Here were clearly expressed those broad democratic principles on which Soviet co-operative societies were to be organized and administered.

The underlying idea of Lenin's plan for enlisting peasants in the work of building socialism was that co-operation in general, and agricultural co-operation in particular, was the way most comprehensible and acceptable to millions of peasants by which they could pass to large-scale co-operative producing associations or collective farms.

The process of the development of peasant farming, as Lenin conceived it, was that small, inefficient and unprofitable individual peasant farms should gradually unite into large co-operative agricultural enterprises.

Lenin considered that the development of agriculture in the Soviet State should proceed along the lines of gradual introduction of principles of collectivism. He also pointed to the necessity of promoting co-operative production to the utmost as a means of increasing the supply to peasants of consumers' goods which did not involve bringing in of raw materials from a far or the erection of large industrial plants.

Lenin also devoted much attention to the question of consumers' co-operatives on the subject of which he signed the Government decree of April 11th, 1918. In connexion with this decree Lenin wrote that the machinery of consumers' co-operative societies, which already possessed considerable experience and, what was more important, were based on the self-activity of masses, must be utilized and directed upwards towards the solution of one of the cardinal problems—namely, a proper organization of supply and distribution of goods. Lenin held that it was important to enlist the rank and file in the performance of these functions, and that there were elements among masses that might display an immense capacity in this field. He stressed the fact that co-operative trade was no easy matter, and that it was necessary to learn not only how to trade, but also how to trade efficiently. He, therefore, insisted that those who were entrusted with the administration of co-operative affairs should persistently learn how to trade and become civilized co-operators.

GREAT CO-OPERATIVE PLAN

Lenin's untimely death prevented him from personally carrying into practice his great co-operative plan. This was accomplished by his successor, Stalin. Stalin continued theoretical analysis of problems relating to co-operation and guided the work of putting it into practical effect.

Co-operation first took root in the sale by peasants of their agricultural produce. Besides loan and consumers' co-operatives there began to arise, at the initiative of peasants, co-operatives for various branches of agriculture: such as flax growers' societies, potato growers' societies, milk producers' societies, etc. These societies supplied peasants with seed, implements and machinery; they then purchased the produce of these peasants and sold it on a wholesale basis in the market—peasants sharing in the profits. In this way, they linked peasant farming with the State industry.

The spread of co-operative societies in the field—sale of produce, supply of implements and consumers' goods coupled with loan and consumers' societies—these paved the way for the rise of peasant producing co-operatives or collective-farms.

The adoption of collective-farming was prompted by peasants' own interest, for an even more pooling of available implements of production and draught animals insured to them a far larger income than small-scale individual tillage. The development of large-scale State industry made it possible to supply big aggregated farms with tractors and other agricultural machines.

The consolidation of the collective-farm system was substantially furthered by the adoption of model collective-farm statutes at the second Congress of Collective-Farm Stock Workers in February, 1935; and by the assignment to collective-farms by Government of the deed of land they cultivated for perpetual use.

The triumph of the collective-farm system led to a rise in the prosperity of peasants and hence to increase in their demands. This, in its turn, imposed new demands on the consumers' co-operative societies. A ramified network of stores, restaurants and dining rooms was developed by co-operative societies in rural districts; their turnover increased from year to year; while the quality and the assessment of goods sold in the rural stores approximated more and more to urban standards.

In 1939, revised model statutes were adopted by rural consumers' societies in which great stress was laid on the principle of broad democracy in their administration and operation.

Co-operative societies became one of the largest public mass organizations in the Soviet Union and this circumstance was reflected in the new Soviet Constitution. Article 126 of the Constitution states that the citizens of the U.S.S.R. are guaranteed the right to form public organizations including co-operative associations, while Article 141 includes co-operative societies among the public bodies which have a right to nominate candidates to the Soviets of working peoples deputies.

The present war against the Fascist hordes has necessitated the placing of the whole economy of the country at the service of the armed forces. In this the co-operative societies are playing an immense part.

THE COLLECTIVE-FARM SYSTEM

The collective-farm peasants are working with supreme effort and success to supply the Red Army with food and industries with cotton, flax and other raw materials.

In the speech he made on November 6th, 1943, in connexion with the twenty-sixth anniversary of the October Revolution, Stalin said that, although the Soviet Union had been temporarily deprived of important agricultural areas in the Ukraine, Don and the Kuban, collective-farms and State farms had supplied the army and the country with food without any serious hitch. "This", Stalin said, "was evidence of the strength and vitality of the collective-farm system and the patriotism of collective-farm peasantry."

The Red Army is steadily liberating regions, territories and republics which had been seized by the German invaders. Constructive work on an immense scale was immediately undertaken in the liberated areas to restore the economic life including co-operative organizations. Collective-farms are rebuilt; co-operative workshops have begun to function again; rural consumers' societies have revived; and co-operative stores, dining rooms, bakeries, etc., have reopened.

The time is not far off when Fascism will be completely destroyed by the United Nations. Soviet economic life will begin to flourish again on a far larger scale than ever; and, with it, the Soviet co-operative movement—powerful development of which has proceeded and will proceed along lines laid down by Lenin and in accordance with the plans and recommendations of Stalin.

LENIN AND SCIENCE

By KRIKOR KOKCHEYEV, *Professor in the Moscow University.*

VLADIMIR LENIN, the first head of the Soviet Government and one of the most learned men of his day, placed a very high value on science in the life of the socialist state. It was his opinion that all the branches of national economy and the whole culture of the land of Soviets should be built up on the solid foundation of science. Lenin consistently and persistently put to practice his views regarding the leading role of science in the country where, in every way, life was being rebuilt in accordance with new principles.

The thunder of the Civil War in the huge expanses of Russia had not died away before beginnings of the future gigantic scientific institutes were laid down in Moscow and Petrograd. The little chemical laboratory founded by E. L. Karpov moved from its small room in Krivokolenny Pereulok in Moscow to the splendid four-storey building provided by the Soviet Government. In the outskirts of Moscow the institute of thermotechnics, institute of electricity and the central aero and hydro-dynamic institutes were founded. In 1921, Lenin personally participated in the establishment of new institutions—the institute of labour and a number of other institutions. In the suburbs of Petrograd, Professors of Physics, actively supported by the Soviet Government, established the physico-technical institute from which a number of laboratories and institutes later sprang up, and where large contingents of Soviet Physicists and physico-chemists received their training. The country was ruined by seven years of war, at first against Germans; then against our own reactionaries and interventionists who tried to turn back the wheels of history. Every gold rouble was taken into account but Lenin did not grudge money for science, and newborn institutes bought the necessary equipment abroad.

"ACADEMIC" RATION

At the height of the Civil War, when even people of the biggest cities received a very small bread ration, the Council of People's Commissars, on a proposal made personally by its chairman, set up a central commission to improve the living conditions of scientists. All scientists were supplied with what is known as "academic" ration. On instruction from Lenin special rest homes and sanatoriums were established for scientists. In the former palace of the Grand Duke Vladimir on the banks of Neva in Petrograd and in mansion of the Merchant Konshina—on one of the best streets in Moscow—institutions of a new type, such as do not exist in any other country, were set up—"scientists' houses" (that is, scientists' clubs).

In Petrograd in 1920, there was nothing in the houses and every kilogram of bread or meat, every ream of printing paper, was strictly accounted for.

Prior to the establishment of the commission to improve scientists' living conditions, Lenin passed a decree through the Council of People's Commissars to make possible the work of Ivan Pavlov, the great Russian scientist. Lenin took care even of such trifles, so important at that time (1920), namely, the heating of the Pavlov Laboratory and the supply of animals and equipment. He ordered the state publishers to publish Academician Pavlov's works on the "best paper available" in Russian and foreign languages.

Lenin was a lawyer by training, and systematically studied social and natural sciences, philosophy and technics. He worked long and determinedly in exile in Geneva and Krakov and when banished to distant Siberia, where his relatives sent him scientific works. And even in prison, where he made use of original sources, he wrote his comprehensive research, "Development of capitalism in Russia."

He devoted considerable attention to philosophy, natural sciences and theoretical physics. During the latter half of 1908 Lenin went specially to London for a month in order to work in the British Museum. Even during the last years of his life when he was guiding intricate affairs of the young state, he found time, for scientific work. In the library of the Rumyantsev Museum—largest in the U.S.S.R.—notes from Lenin have been preserved wherein he asked for books he needed.

CIENTIFIC PLAN

Vladimir Lenin was fully aware of the role of science in building up the state of a new type. He often said and insisted that "science should really become a part of flesh and blood really and completely become a component element of life."

When Lenin turned to the transformation of the backward national economy of Tsarist Russia he put forward the idea of electrification as new to modern technical foundation for industry, transport and agriculture. On the initiative and under the leadership of Lenin, the State Commission for Electrification of Russia, to which he drew the leading Russian scientists and engineers, drew up, towards the end of 1920, a plan for the reconstruction of the whole national economy of the country unequalled in scope and boldness. This plan was more than fulfilled and socialist economy was built up in the U.S.S.R. under the leadership of Joseph Stalin. Lenin's faith in science and its possibilities has been completely vindicated. Science in the Soviet state became the foundation of the whole national economy and the whole socialist culture.

MY MEETINGS WITH LENIN

By PROFESSOR SERGEI DOBROCHAEV, *Director of Speech and Physiology Laboratory, Academy of Sciences, U.S.S.R.*

VLADIMIR ILYICH LENIN who was himself a great scholar and statesman, always showed the greatest concern for the development of arts and sciences in the Soviet Union. He sponsored a great many government measures beneficial to the progress of scientific thought and growth of research institutions. Lenin's attention to the progress of Soviet science did not slacken even during his serious illness.

I lived in Gorky near Moscow from May 1923 to Lenin's death, and, as his personal physician, had occasion to be in daily contact with him. During that period I frequently observed his reaction to various social and political events which continued to interest him throughout his last illness.

I was introduced to Lenin by Professor V. Kramer, a neurologist, who said, among other things, that I was a pupil of Ivan Pavlov. On hearing this Lenin became more animated. His wife, Nadezhda Krupskaya, later explained to me that Lenin had a very high opinion of Pavlov's work, and on one occasion he saw to it that the Council of People's Commissars allotted a considerable sum of money to the scientist for new equipment and the upkeep of animals used in experiments. That was why Lenin brightened up when he learnt that I was a pupil of Pavlov's. He displayed the same attitude whenever I mentioned Academician Pavlov.

SCIENCE AND THE STATE

During his illness Lenin continued to show interest in the latest scientific achievements in the Soviet Union, as well as in the scientific conferences taking place both in this country and abroad. He was particularly gladdened by successes in the field of industrial and agricultural sciences.

A few years before his illness Lenin drew up a "draft plan of scientific and technical work" dealing with research activity of the Academy of Sciences. Soviet scientists were presented with important problems concerning rational spread of industry throughout Russia, building big enterprises, electrification, agriculture, etc. Twenty years ago Lenin's genius foresaw what a great part science would play in the life of the country. The wisdom of this has been revealed to all, now that the Soviet Union is waging war against Nazi aggression.

Lenin showed great interest in the All-Union Agricultural Exhibition opened in Moscow in 1923. He insisted on a trip to the exhibition despite the objections of physicians and visited the main pavillions where the newest Soviet-built machines and the latest achievements in scientific organization of agriculture were on display.

AN UNDYING SOURCE OF INSPIRATION

By SERGEI MERKUROV, *People's Sculptor of the U.S.S.R. and Stalin Prize Winner.*

I write these lines on a wintry January evening of 1944 in my home—a cottage in the woods near Moscow which had come into my possession by Lenin's special order right after the Revolution. Outside my window I can see tops of olden pines swaying to and fro.

There is none here to disturb my peace. My assistants, young Soviet sculptors, having completed their daily task have gone home, and, through the open door, I can see my large studio pervaded by tense silence.

And I am thinking of the man so everlastingly dear to my heart: of Vladimir Lenin, the greatest friend of all of us who gave his life's service to the modern Soviet art.

Vladimir Lenin! In my long creative life as a Russian artist I feel so much connected with Lenin that I can think of him only as a living man.

I recall the times when I had met and spoken to Lenin in Zurich, Switzerland and then in Moscow. On the Red Square amidst a turbulent sea of people. I recollect his simple, sincere and vivid speech. I can still see him standing there with one arm impetuously stretched forward, and his slightly screwed up eyes piercing into the dazzling brilliance of the future happiness of the newly-born Russia.

I remember him in his study in Moscow, in the Kremlin, where, soon after the Revolution, he—founder and head of the Soviet State—spoke to us sculptors and artists of the new tasks facing the Russian art which henceforth was to serve wide masses of people who, with all their soul, earned to imbibe culture.

Lenin spoke of the part which art was to play in the life of the Russian people —of graphic arts, painting and sculpture and cinema; and of great educational value of art in the life of the new state.

This talk and the subsequent decree signed by Lenin, according to which the monuments of outstanding public men were to be erected, laid the corner stone for that new movement in art, which, after many years of strife between various trends has emerged on the road of triumphant socialist realism.

Although overburdened with the affairs of the state, Lenin still found time constantly to take an active part in the life and activities of Russian artists. On one occassion he had summoned me and asked questions which showed a personal interest in the life of every artist. He was interested in artist's life down to every trifle. He asked our advice as to how to give assistance to artists in order to facilitate their work, and, there and then, issued adequate instructions to Anatoly Lunacharsky, then People's Commissar for Education.

INTEREST IN ART

Up to the last days of his life Lenin took a deep interest in the life of men connected with Soviet art. And when he departed from our midst we were smitten with a grief too poignant to express in words. It was unbearable to think that we will never again set eyes on our dear friend.

From then on we lent ourselves to the task of recreating Lenin's image and immortalising his noble features.

The demand for busts, statues and memorials of Lenin—that unforgettable teacher and leader—has been and still is truly tremendous in the Soviet Union. Two million works of sculpture—a number unparalleled in the history of art—portray Lenin and have been distributed among the people. Still, artistic work on the image of Lenin continues and will continue in the future.

It has been my good fortune to create two huge statues of two great people of our age, Vladimir Lenin and Joseph Stalin who so brilliantly continues Lenin's work.

Two statues have been erected at the entrance to the canal joining the waters of the Volga and the Moskva rivers near the town of Kalinin which was formerly called Tver. Two images of Lenin and Stalin, each thirty-two meters high, were created in three months and a half with five thousand workers and 670 highly qualified granite hewers partaking in the construction.

Colossal stones have gone to the making of these monuments, while heads were chiselled from hundred ton monoliths. The Ukrainian granite, incorporated in each monument, filled twenty-four trains. My workshop, where masses of granite were being hewed, stretched one kilometer along the bank of the Moscow Sea. Locomotives and huge barges were used for transport from the studio to the plot of ground selected for the monuments.

To-day, these two figures rise proudly over the Moscow Sea where the Volga and the Moskva rivers meet. The Nazi barbarians did not reach this place. Their advance was stemmed by the Soviet troops who afterwards pushed the enemy far to the west from these parts.

Apart from these statues I have executed a number of sculptures of Lenin, among them being a statue of polished granite for the World Fair in New York.

At present I am continuing my work on the statue of Lenin which will crown the Palace of Soviets in Moscow. This responsible and highly gratifying task had been entrusted to me several years ago.

The war has not served as an impediment to progress. A noble patriotic spirit embraces all the peoples in the Soviet Union and, in these days of the great patriotic war muses speak louder than ever. Art continues to develop and flourish on the stage, in the concert halls and in the studios of painter and sculptor: art which reflects our epic struggle against Nazi Germany.

PALACE OF THE SOVIETS

The project of the Palace of Soviets, which will be one of the greatest edifices of our time, is also being elaborated. The building will be lavishly adorned with sculptures of all kind. The figure of Lenin, to which I am at present devoting a good deal of my time, will be a hundred meters high, its head alone will approximately equal the size of a five-storey building. These tremendous dimensions presuppose a definite treatment of sculptural forms which, in this case, border on an architectural design.

In regard to the choice of materials for the colossal statue, I am greatly assisted by one of the country's scientific research institutes where metals and other materials are tested.

Twenty years ago—it was on a frosty January night like this—that I saw Vladimir Lenin for the last time. I arrived in Gorky in the middle of night, and was confronted with the grievous task of taking the death mask from his infinitely dear features. I remember that night to the last detail —my hands trembled and tears dimmed my vision.

"You wanted to make a bust of him and he never had the time to sit for it . . . Now it is his death mask"—were the words that came from the lips of Lenin's widow, the late Nadezhda Krupskaya.

Thus twenty years ago we lost one of the greatest men that ever lived. We will never recover from the shock of this great bereavement.

Yet the thoughts of Lenin make me look into the future, and I can envisage the time when the murder cars of Nazi Germany and all the ghastly misdeeds—before which shades of Attila and his huns pale—will sink into oblivion, never to return. And the criminals from Hitler's gang will be paid justly according to their deserts.

Then, in sun rays in the Soviet capital the Palace of Soviets will rise and above it the image of Vladimir Lenin—immortal, even as his name is, among the people to whom he had indicated the road to happiness.

The *New York Times* has published a dialogue between a German father and his son in which the father tries to explain these terms which are puzzling many Germans. Here is the dialogue.

"Papa," said little Siegfried, "What is elastic defence?"

"Elastic defence, my child," replied Herr Lebenbaum, "is when you run for your life."

"And what," continued the inquisitive child "is elastic defence in depth?"

"That means is when you run for your life and crawl down a hole."

"And flexible operations, what are they, Papa?"

"Flexible operations, little Seigfried, are when your centre is giving way your right is pushed back, the enemy is all over the place, and you don't know what to do."

THE BRITISH FORGET TOO EASILY

By NOEL COWARD

I HAVE just returned from a tour of North Africa and the Middle East. Within three months I have been to Gibraltar, Oran, Algiers, Malta, Sicily, Egypt, Syria, Palestine, Iraq, and Tripolitania. I have visited more than fifty hospitals and convalescent camps and talked to many, many thousands of sick and wounded men. In all these journeyings I have been the guest either of the Navy, the Army, or the Air Force; I have been conveyed hither and thither in a startling variety of ships, aircraft, cars, lorries and trucks. I have never actually travelled in a tank, but on one occasion I had a narrow shave.

I have seen a great deal, one way and another, and I have learned a great deal too, much more than I would have believed possible in so short a time. To describe what I have seen would be comparatively easy, but to describe what I have learned would be far more difficult. For what I have learned concerns the quality and spirit of our men in the Fighting Forces, and it seems to me that any civilian, however professionally articulate he may be, who tries to express in words this quality and this spirit must tread very warily indeed. Because inadvertently he might either understate or over-decorate something that is infinitely complex and at the same time utterly simple; something that is peculiar to the men to whom it belongs; something above all that any outsider must approach with discretion, reverence, and profound humility.

INDIAN TROOPS IN ITALY.—An Indian Bren gunner giving covering fire while a section of Indian troops dashes forward through demolished buildings under heavy fire.

CHEERFUL CAPACITY FOR SACRIFICE

I shall try to convey to you a little of this attitude of mind, this cheerful capacity for sacrifice that I have noted in all the men I have talked to. If I fail, and, as I feel very strongly about it, I probably shall, I assure you that my failure will be from excess of zeal rather than lack of sincerity.

The last time I was heard on the air was on July 19, the night before I left England. On that occasion, as some of you may remember, I sang a new song I had written called *Don't let's be beastly to the Germans*. This, I have heard since, caused considerable confusion in the minds of some people who must either have an inadequate knowledge of the English language, or were unable to believe the evidence of their own ears. *Don't let's be beastly to the Germans* was a satire, and as vitriolic and bitter a satire as I could well make it.

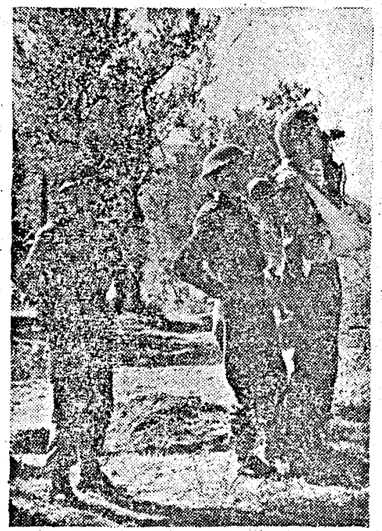
It was a satire on a trend of thought that I felt was once more beginning to spread in the muddled minds of our moralists and sentimentalists; a trend of thought infinitely dangerous to the future of our country and our Empire; a trend of thought that flourished to such an extent after the last war that it caused us not only to forgive our enemies, but even to forget the men who had defended us from them. I am not alluding to the dead; sentimentalists always remember the dead with garlands and monuments, but they are very prone to forget the living, especially if the living happen to be a reproach to their consciences. This I hasten to affirm is not a satire.

As I said before, I have seen a great deal during these last three months: abandoned battle areas in the desert; the bombed streets and harbours of Malta; historic beaches in Sicily where the Allied troops made the first landing of European invasion. I have seen large convoys, which only a short year ago would have been subjected to merciless and incessant bombardment, steaming unmolested through the Mediterranean. I have seen the town of Tripoli still reeking faintly of dusty Italian pride, its grandiose modern buildings looking rather sorry for themselves as though the Empire Exhibition were closed for the season, and they were just waiting to be demolished.

I have seen many of those North African harbours where the masts and funnels of sunken ships just show above the surface of the water. I have seen remnants of desert camps littered with useless bits of rusting machinery and wire. Places whose names last year were so constantly in our minds—Benghazi, Tobruk, Hell-fire Pass, Knightsbridge, El Adem, etc., etc., set for ever in history and now settling peacefully back into the sand.

HEAT WAVE CONTRAST

I have also seen, when I was in Shiba in Iraq, a month-old English newspaper. Now Shiba is an isolated desert airfield not far from the Persian Gulf, and the newspaper gave a dramatic account of the heat-wave that was ravaging our island; the temperature I believe rose



IN CENTRAL ITALY.—A wounded officer carries on during the battle.

to 85 degrees. While I was reading this the temperature was 122 in the shade and the station commandant had already congratulated me because I arrived on a cool day.

As far as entertainment is concerned, Iraq has been very much neglected. It is a long way away and the men there have no military forces to fight, but they are up against less spectacular and far more subtle enemies—climate, fever, home-sickness, and boredom. With the exception of a few small ENSA parties whose continued tours of these difficult areas should be a source of great pride to the theatrical profession, they have had nothing. The principal film showing in Baghdad when I was there was *King Kong*.

Only one big star of our profession has visited them, but then, she has been everywhere. No journey has been too long for her, and no conditions too difficult—I refer to Alice Delysia. I saw her in Beirut looking younger and more charming than ever, and I can only assume that the immense amount of happiness and pleasure she has brought to hundreds and thousands of our troops during the last two years, must have recoiled on her like a boomerang and given her perpetual gaiety and youth.

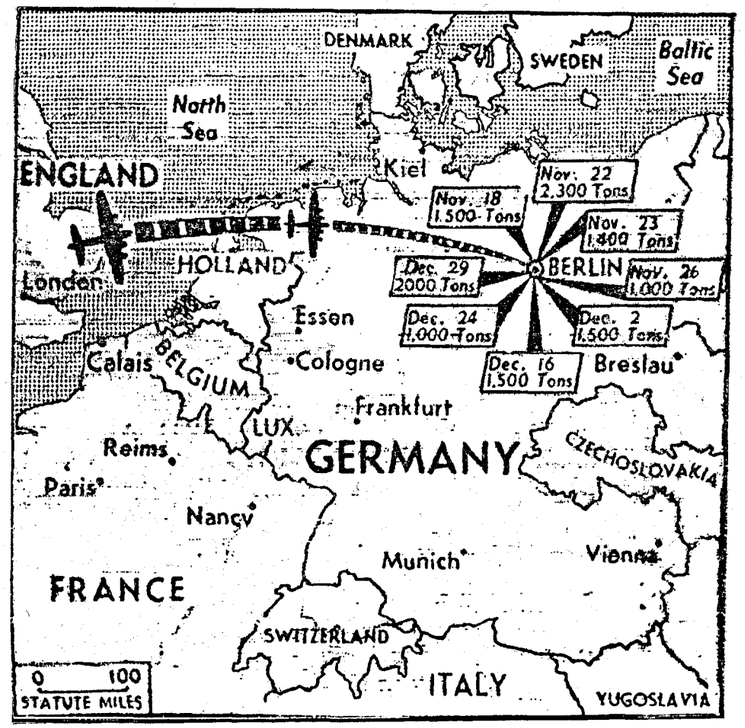
MEN ARE METICULOUSLY CARED FOR

For the reassurance of those of my listeners whose sons, husbands, brothers, or sweethearts have been wounded or are ill in hospitals abroad, I want to say a little about the quality and efficiency of these hospitals, particularly those in the desert. There, where conditions are inevitably extremely difficult, the men are most meticulously cared for. The matrons and nursing staff manage—heaven knows how—to look fresh and cool in the most trying circumstances.

The medical staffs, the surgeons and the doctors all have appalling difficulties to surmount, but calmly and efficiently they take them all in their stride, and we at home, if anyone we love happens to be in their care, have, believe me, so very, very much to thank them for.

What I really learned, however, from going through these hospitals was taught me quite unconsciously by the men themselves, and it is a lesson that I do not intend to forget until the end of my days. I saw many harrowing sights and many physical horrors—you cannot go through ward after ward of battle casualties without doing so—but, among all these sick and wounded men lying in various stages of pain and discomfort, I only found one whose morale was really low, and he, poor fellow, had just had his tonsils out.

I have talked to men who have had limbs amputated; men who have lain for many weary months encased in plaster; men with their legs hoisted up on pulleys; men who have been so badly burned that they have to lie for many hours a day in saline baths; men paralysed in iron lungs only just able to move their heads. One of these who had been in his iron lung for about eight months, had his wife's photograph struck on to the ceiling just above him, so that he could smile at her quite easily.



The Allied campaign to erase Berlin continued with the R.A.F.'s 2,000-ton bombing on December 29. The boxes in the above map give the dates and the estimated tonnage (in long-tons) of bombs dropped in a recent series of attacks. The total weight of bombs falling on Germany in 1943 stands at 134,400 long-tons. This map was radioed from New York to India.

Another man whom I spoke to in a hospital in Malta had had a leg shot away in Sicily, and had also been badly machine-gunned all up his right side. I asked about Sicily and what he thought of it: he said: 'The Germans were all right, and the Ities were all right, but the mosquitoes were bloody awful.' I do hope that the pure in heart will forgive the use of this household word; it was the word he used, and I feel that what is good enough for him is good enough for anybody.

I could continue for hours to tell you anecdotes and stories of these men, and each anecdote and each story would show a little more of their humour, their integrity and their greatness. Before I stop I want so very, very urgently to make one thing clear to you. We are a fine race, and contrary to some opinions, a fairly imaginative one: but we have one grave defect, and that is that we forget too easily. What I want to make clear to you is, that we owe a debt to these men of our Fighting Forces that can never be fully paid and must never, never be forgotten.

PRETTY UNCOMFORTABLE PERIOD

The aftermath of this war with its reconstruction difficulties, and its inevitable political and economic changes, will be, as we are all aware, a pretty uncomfortable period for all of us. But however uncomfortable it is, and however frustrated we may feel at being unable to get back as soon as we had hoped to the easy ways of peace, and the pursuit of our personal ambitions, these discomforts and frustrations can be nothing compared with what our fighting men have endured and are enduring now for us, and for the future of everything we believe in.

I hope you will forgive me if in this you discern a faintly lecturing tone. I apologise for this socially but without humility; all my humility is reserved for these men I have been talking to you about. They have given me quite unknowingly something that is difficult to describe. I think perhaps the word 'pride' covers it—immense pride in belonging to a race that can produce out of so much chaos and suffering such unfailing patience, gentleness, endurance, humour, and shining courage.

If, in the future, any of us—either individually or in unions or political parties—do anything to let down these men and all they have endured for us, I can only say that it will be to our eternal, everlasting shame. (*A recent B.B.C. talk*)

THIRTY-THREE YEARS' UNBROKEN SERVICE

PROUD RECORD OF SUBEDAR-MAJOR BHOLA SINGH

SUBEDAR-MAJOR BHOLA SINGH RECEIVES O.B.I. (FIRST CLASS) —Picture shows: *The proud Subedar-Major Bhola Singh, Sardar Bahadur, after the presentation. The Subedar-Major's home is at village Badli, near Delhi.*

I am happy to be able to make this presentation to Subedar-Major BHOLA SINGH, SARDAR BAHADUR, of the first class of the Order of British India, and I congratulate him most heartily on behalf of the Major-General R.A. and of all the ranks of the Royal Artillery and Indian Artillery," said Brigadier G. de V. Welchman, D.S.O., O.B.E., as he decorated a proud Subedar-Major recently.

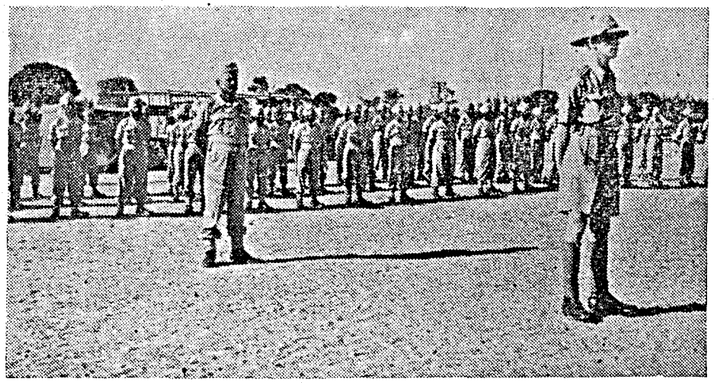
As Subedar-Major BHOLA SINGH, O.B.I., whose home is at village BADLI, ROHTAK DISTRICT, near DELHI, looks back upon his service of thirty-three years with the Indian Army he sees a record of which any soldier may be proud.

Coming of an old established military family, he is one of the real pioneers of Artillery Survey in India. His service in the Army dates back to 1911 when he joined the Indian Cavalry. Four years later he was trained and qualified as a Surveyor at Roorkee. In 1924, with eight other officers and ranks he was selected to form the Artillery Survey Section at Kakul.

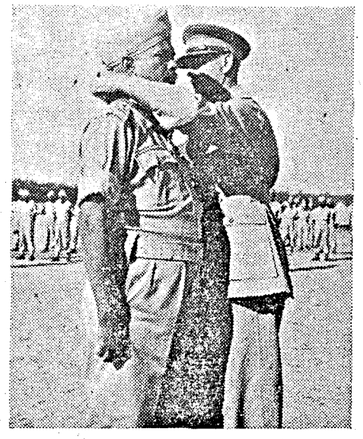
When war broke out in 1939 Subedar-Major BHOLA SINGH was due to retire but was unwilling to do so. At his own request he was recommended by his Commanding Officer for extension of service till 1940. This was granted and July 1941 found him with the rank of Subedar (Hon. Subedar-Major) in a training centre whence he was later transferred to an Indian Survey Battery. The Battery was expanded into an Indian Survey Regiment. BHOLA SINGH was appointed Subedar-Major.

Years of service at home, on the Frontier, in Mesopotamia, have given BHOLA SINGH the authority of the veteran. He has watched over his Survey Regiment as it has grown from section to troop, from troop to battery, from battery to regiment. His technical and administrative efficiency are universally respected. To his family of soldiers he is strictly impartial, dealing out justice with even hand to Hindu, Sikh and Mussalman.

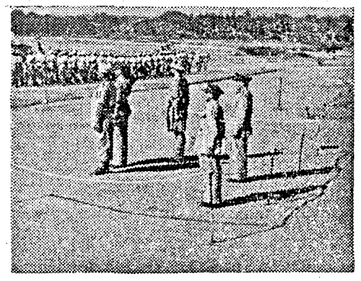
Proud of his collection of medals—he has eleven—Subedar-Major BHOLA SINGH is proudest of all of his most recent decoration—a symbol of unbroken loyalty and devoted service.



Picture shows *Subedar-Major Bhola Singh standing at ease before the regimental parade before being presented with the O.B.I. (First Class).*



Picture shows *Brigadier G. de V. Welchman, D.S.O., O.B.E., presenting the O.B.I. (First Class) to Subedar Major Bhola Singh while the Indian Survey Regiment is drawn up in parade in the background.*



Picture shows *Brigadier G. de V. Welchman, D.S.O., O.B.E., taking the salute as the Regiment marches past after the presentation. On the Brigadier's left stands Subedar-Major Bhola Singh. The rest of the group are the O.C. Regiment, Major B. J. Williams and Brigadier A. J. D. Ronald.*

ALLIED ACHIEVEMENTS

By EDWARD MONTGOMERY

THE year 1943 has been a year of great achievements, no less in the political than in the military field. The year which has just ended has seen an almost unbroken record of military successes for the United Nations and of military setbacks for their enemies. On the East European front in Russia, the Red Armies, except for occasional checks never of very long duration, have been continuously on the offensive since the beginning of the year. In the closing months of 1942 they were fighting the Germans on the banks of the Volga. As 1944 opens they are fighting well beyond the farside of the Dnieper.

On the South European front the British and American armies have cleared North Africa of the enemy, cleared the Mediterranean sea route by an invasion and capture of Sicily and knocked Germany's principal European ally, Italy, out of the war and conquered a third of the Italian mainland.

In the air Allied air forces, based on Britain, co-ordinating American daylight bombing tactics with British night bombing technique, have inflicted an immense damage on the German industrial base, not only in Germany itself, but in the occupied territories, and the damage is directly affecting Germany's capacity to wage war.

In the war at sea, British and American naval and air forces, working together in the closest harmony and collaboration, have reduced the menace of the U-boat to negligible proportions. This is perhaps the most important single military achievement of the whole war so far as Britain and America are concerned, for upon the success against U-boats directly depended their ability to bring their armies and air forces, adequately supplied and equipped, into action against the enemy in Europe.

On the political side, the record of achievements has been no less brilliant. In a war of coalition, especially when several great powers are involved as allies, the most difficult problem is maintaining political unity of purpose and co-ordination of each national effort.

A long period of patient and painstaking work towards the achievement of this unity and co-ordination was crowned triumphantly in a series of conferences which took place in the latter part of the year, beginning with those between the three Foreign Ministers in Moscow in October and followed by those in Cairo and Teheran where Churchill and Roosevelt met first Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek to discuss war in Asia, and then conferred with Marshal Stalin to reach a complete agreement upon co-ordination of policy and strategy between the three great allies in their war against Germany and her satellites in Europe.

The first fruits of the agreements reached in those conferences has been seen in the announcement of the appointment of military commanders of British and American forces for the invasion of Europe, appointments which have been enthusiastically approved by all sections of opinion in Britain.

But viewed in retrospect, all these political and military achievements of the last year, brilliant as they have been, can all be seen as a preparation for the much greater and arduous task which lies ahead.

GURKHAS IN ITALY.—The steep hills in Italy which are now wet and muddy do not worry the sturdy little Gurkha troops.

GURKHAS IN THEIR ELEMENT IN ITALY

THE "motorized Gurkha," after several years in the desert, has not lost his "hill legs" and has taken to the mountains of Italy as easily as he adapted himself to the sands of Egypt and Libya.

An officer with the Eighth Indian Division describes how the Gurkhas fought in the first action in which the men of the Fifth Royal Gurkha Rifles (F.F.) met German troops on the snow-covered slopes of Central Italy.

The initial task allotted to the battalion was a flanking moment on an enemy force holding up the remainder of the division.

The C.O. and a number of officers were wounded in the heavy shelling and mortar fire which met the advance. Nevertheless, the attack was successfully pushed home and the Gurkhas received the compliments of both division and corps commanders "for their speed and endurance" in the hills.

The biggest difficulty for the officers was in restraining the enthusiasm of the men after the assault was unleashed. The Gurkhas tore into the German positions with their bayonets and kukris.

"They were having the time of their lives winking fat Jerries out of barns and 'hotting up' the less mobile ones with a burst or two of tommy-gun," the officer said.

There were numerous feats of individual courage and initiative. One particularly critical situation, when the main weight of an enemy counter-attack fell on the key platoon, was saved by a surprise charge put in by L/Naik Bhagatabahadur Thapa. Almost out of ammunition, he let the enemy get to within 20 yards of his post and then, drawing his kukri, fell on them and broke up the attack.

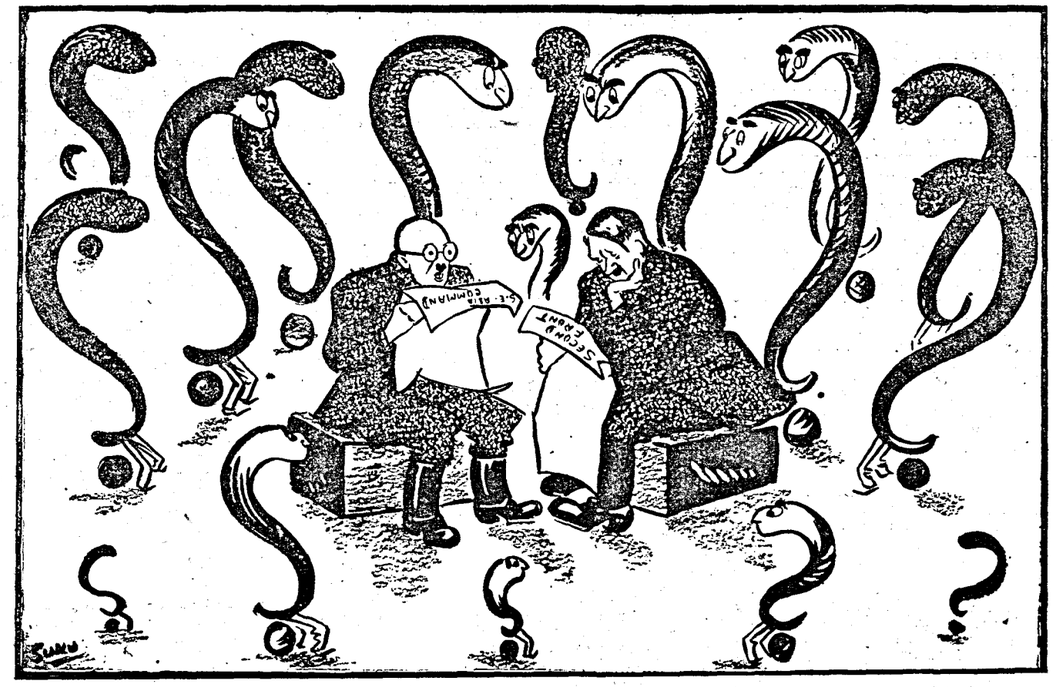
Another youngster, Rifleman Lankhu Pun, was wounded in the shoulder while acting as scout for an advanced patrol.

"He went straight in with the bayonet, killed his assailant and put the others to flight. He refused to allow his wound to be attended to until after the recce and then applied his own field dressing and insisted on remaining in the firing line."

Typical of the morale of the battalion, writes the officer, was the reaction of the Subadar-Major when informed that his son, Naik Balbahadur Gurung, had been killed at his post.

"Nothing matters but the name of the battalion," he said when the news was broken to him.

WHAT? WHEN? WHERE?



—Specially drawn for the MADRAS WAR REVIEW.

JAP RAID ON RANGOON—EXPERIENCES OF AN EVACUEE

By C. S. BUSHANAM

An interesting eye-witness's account of the Japanese raid on Rangoon two years ago is given by Mr. C. S. Bushanam, formerly Honorary Magistrate of Rangoon Town District, in the following radio talk recently broadcast from Madras.

IT was on the 23rd December 1941 that Rangoon was first bombed by the Japanese. Why did the Japanese bomb it? How did they succeed? What was the part played by the Royal Air Force and by the American Volunteer Group? I shall try to answer these questions in the light of my personal knowledge and experience of over forty years in Burma.

I may say that Burma is the land of my adoption. I have learnt to love her so well. It was a land of sunshine and smiles, of granery and gold—that is, before the War. I set foot on Rangoon when I was but 6 years of age. Then it was but a modest town. But all the same it was cosmopolitan. Its roads, avenues, water-supply, sanitation and other amenities deserve mention. Subsequently, the Municipality was succeeded by the Rangoon Corporation. The Rangoon Development Trust which took the place of the Town Land Reclamation Works reclaimed many suburban areas and brought them in line with the town. A number of slums were converted into beautiful residential quarters. Long, wide and parallel roads came into existence. Ornamental buildings adorned the roads on either side. It had an excellent harbour. It was a port of call for ocean-going vessels. Wharves and jetties were newly constructed on most modern lines. The beauty of the harbour was consequently improved. To add to these, the magnificent building of the Port Commissioners' Office was also newly built. Rangoon was the capital of Burma. People from far off lands had migrated into it. Burma's natural resources were ample. Hills and plains provided good varieties for trade. Foreign capital and labour poured in. India's contribution in these respects was not meagre. The Railways and the Inland Shipping developed a network of communications. Golden Pagodas, hills and dales, fields and rivers and the charming lakes were a few of the important features of Burma. Timely rains and favourable climatic conditions made the vast acreage yield excellent harvest. It was far in excess of Burma's requirements. A very large quantity was exported to India and other countries. Most of the rivers were navigable. Riverine stations at suitable centres rendered the transport problem easy. Wealth and Health improved. Did the Goddess of Wealth and Health choose this beauty spot for a favourite shrine? It seemed so.

TRIBUTE TO R.A.F. AND A.V.G.

The small but sharp eyes of the Japs took a long range at this Land of Plenty. Burma was strategically important for carrying out their ambitious programme of World-conquest. Fortune also seemed to favour them. The British Forces were then engaged in a life-and-death struggle against the Germans elsewhere. It was indeed an opportunity for the Japs. Their itching palm extended. But, they could not have so easy a sway as they anticipated. The small but strong Royal Air Force and the American Volunteer Group that were in Rangoon gave them battle for long. They kept the invaders sufficiently off, by driving them whenever they made their appearance.

On the fateful 23rd December 1941, it was a Tuesday—I was standing on the Bar Street jetty waiting for my boat to carry me across the river. For, I was a Stevedore and therefore my contact with the harbour was very frequent. I had a large labour force, both Burmans and Indians, in my service. It was about ten in the morning. The sun was fairly high up, in his resplendant glory. Everything was bright and normal. A strange noise was heard. It was distinct and it came from the sky. I looked up. I could not see anything at first. A few seconds passed. There appeared a speck. It moved nearer and nearer. Its speed was enormous. It was a formation of enemy planes. They were coming from the West. Those around me also noticed them. Just then, the Port siren peeled forth its wail, from the tower of the Port Commissioner's office. I at once asked those around me to take shelter. I wanted to rush down to my office. So, I hastened to my car. It was about five minutes drive. My office was in 49th Street. I reached it. I thought that I was safe there. The noise of the planes was heard at close quarters. A huge thud and an explosion followed. Most of the glass panes in my office building were shattered to pieces. I thought I was caught in the mesh. I took courage in my hands and descended the staircase. On my left I had the First Aid Post across the Dalhousie street, and on the right the St. Phillips Church. Which way was safer? A knotty problem at a risky moment! Involuntarily, my legs took me towards the Church. I am a Hindu, not a Christian, but all the same I take it for a providential dispensation. For if I had turned the other side, I would not be here to-day talking to you. The Priest of the Church had a trench dug out, in the Church compound. His family and a few others had already taken refuge in it. I joined them. Again and again, I heard the violent sound of bomb explosion. The St. Phillips School in the Church compound was hit by a bomb and was on fire. It burnt furiously. It was at a very close range. So we found ourselves in a tight corner. The burning school emitted enormous smoke. It would have encircled us in the trench very easily, but for the massive masonry structure of the Church. Fortunately the wind was carrying off the smoke farther right. My thoughts flew to my home. My family were nearly six miles away from me. I had taken them to Thingangyun only a couple of days earlier.

VICTIMS OF THE RAID

In about half an hour, the commotion ceased. I crept out of the dug-out. Roads were mostly deserted. Cables and wires displaced from the telegraph and electric posts were lying across and along the roads. The electric installation seemed to be out of action. Here and there some essential service personnel were at work. Labourers, peddlers, vendors, rickshaw-pullers and such others were taken unawares. Many of the victims of the bombing and others who were machine-gunned at close quarters, by the so-called 'redeemers of the Asiatic countries' were being carried. Most horrifying were the stretcher-cases. People with maimed limbs and bleeding wounds, some of them ghastly, were being carried to the First Aid Post close-by. I wondered why these poor innocents should have formed the 'military objective' of the aggressive Japanese.

Listeners may remember that this was the first raid on Burma. It roused the curiosity of the ignorant. They peeped out of the windows, and they too formed the Jap targets! And the Japs did not miss such obvious marks. Machine-guns were used ruthlessly. The havoc wrought was enormous.

I will be failing in my duty if I do not pay here a deserved compliment to the splendid work done by the selfless band of medical men and their enthusiastic assistants as well as by the Voluntary A.R.P. Organizations.

Though the Jap aircraft were numerically strong, yet it was a matter for great credit that the Royal Air Force and the American Volunteer Group were able to bring down a good number of them.

On Christmas day, the 25th December 1941, at about noon, I was at Thingangyun when I heard the alert. Immediately I rushed with my family into the shelter I had already built up in my Bungalow compound. Nothing took place in Thingangyun. But the Japanese aircraft were busy at work over West Rangoon. I could only hear them. Of course the A.A. Guns also were thundering incessantly. The R.A.F. and the A.V.G. rose equal to the occasion and drove off the Japs with heavy losses, although the aggressors managed to drop a few bombs in the short time they flew over West Rangoon. The Dufferin hospital for women was one of the several buildings hit on that day. This time people who had gained experience of the previous raid, took shelter in time.

GIANT JAP BOMBER COMES TO GRIEF

During January 1942 we had a series of day and night raids on Rangoon. One night on hearing an alarm we took shelter in a trench sometime after midnight. The roaring noise of planes and guns was loudly heard. There was a sudden flare and explosion in the pitch darkness. It was the tragic end of a giant Japanese Bomber. We in the trench felt as if a bomb or wreckage was falling over our heads. It actually crashed and fell in a paddy field two miles away from our trench.

Early during the course of the war, I offered to serve the A.R.P. I was also an Honorary Magistrate of Rangoon Town district. It was anticipated that martial law would be declared; and to administer the same, I was appointed an Emergency Special Magistrate. I did not have the opportunity to function, as martial law was not declared at all.

I decided to take my family to Madras. So, I secured a fortnight's leave of absence from the District Magistrate of Rangoon. On 3rd February 1942 we joined the large concourse of people awaiting the bus in the Burma Athletic Association Stands. Special lorries were in service taking passengers to the wharf-side. By then, we heard the siren. Immediately we took refuge in the B.A.A. Stands. The Royal Air Force and the American Volunteer Group planes rushed up and the Jap aircraft hastily disappeared. This helped us to reach the wharf-side and take the boat. We reached Calcutta on the 7th February 1942 after four days of voyage beset with ordeals. We left Calcutta by train to Madras. In the meantime, all means of communications to Burma had been cut off; and so, I could not rejoin duty at Rangoon, as I originally intended to do.

In conclusion, I can do no better than quote Mr. Thomas Lewis Hughes, formerly Political Secretary of the Burma Chamber of Commerce and the Chief Liaison Officer to General Alexander, as to the cause of Burma's fall. While addressing the Asian Society last month—3rd November—in London, Mr. Hughes said "Only additional troops, tanks, guns and aeroplanes could have turned the tide."

Now we, evacuees from Burma, are expecting the turn in the tide eagerly. We know that only after Germany is eliminated first, this tide will begin. But we are prepared to wait for the day when we shall return to the land of our adoption, after complete victory is achieved by the United Nations.

"Peterborough," in the *Daily Telegraph*, tells the following:—

Soldiers who have felt a little aggrieved at the freedom with which American troops are able to spend money will enjoy the story I have just heard from India.

An American, having hired a tonga for a distance the ordinary fare for which would be half a rupee, magnanimously handed the driver a 50-rupee note.

The man shook his head violently and demanded 60.

"No," said the American, "that's enough I shan't pay any more."

The Indian thereupon accepted the money and walked away, leaving the tonga and pony with the purchaser.

TURNED THE TABLES ON THE ENEMY

"On the Pacific front we have with vengeance turned the tables on the enemy. No longer do our gallant airmen in inadequate machines hurl themselves almost barehanded at the enemy. Today we are on the offensive. Our crews, equipped with the most modern types of aircraft—many of them constructed in our own factories—are with the assistance of our American allies steadily driving the enemy back towards his lair, where we shall eventually follow and destroy him."

—MR A. S. DRAKEFORD, *the Australian Air Minister, in an article in the R.A.A.F. Magazine Wings.*

WAR DIARY

BRITAIN AND GERMANY

11TH JAN.—German News Agency announced that Nazi Chiefs conferred and discussed the war situation at Berlin yesterday.

The Royal Air Force attacked objectives in Berlin and West and Central Germany last night.

12TH JAN.—A communiqué issued to-day says that 700 United States of America Air Force aircraft attacked important fighter assembly plants in Germany on Tuesday with excellent results. Oschersleben, Halberstadt, Brunswick and other places were heavily bombed.

13TH JAN.—Himmler held a conference at Breslau attended by officials from all parts of Germany. One hundred and fifty German fighters were destroyed when Americans attacked German Aircraft works on Tuesday.

An air raid alert was sounded in London Area to-night for the first time since Jan. 5.

14TH JAN.—In a two-way radio conversation Air Marshal Sir Richard Peck of the Royal Air Force and Lieutenant-General Carl Spaety, Commanding General of the American Strategic Air Forces based in Britain made statements on the daylight raids on Germany.

London was raided by a lonely German bomber.

Berlin was raided by Allied aircraft.

15TH JAN.—Two thousand tons of bombs were dropped last night on Brunswick.

Bombs were dropped by a few enemy raiders in several areas of South-East England and London.

16TH JAN.—It is stated that Mr. Churchill has been recuperating at Marrakest in Morocco. He has now completely recovered. Mr. Churchill met General De Gualle last Wednesday it is revealed.

General Eisenhower has assumed the duties in the United Kingdom assigned to him by the Combined Chiefs of Staff. On his journey from the Mediterranean to the United Kingdom he had a conference with President Roosevelt and Prime Minister Churchill.

17TH JAN.—General Eisenhower met pressmen to-day. Air Chief Marshal Sir Arthur Tedder, Deputy Supreme Commander of Allied Forces under General Eisenhower has arrived in Britain. General O. Bradley has been appointed Commander of the United States Army in the field under General Eisenhower.

18TH JAN.—The Prime Minister Mr. Churchill has returned to London. He told the Commons to-day that he would make a general war statement to the House in the near future. The Prime Minister lunched with the King at Buckingham Palace to-day and discussed with the King all developments in the war situation.

* * *

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND ATLANTIC

11TH JAN.—President Roosevelt sent his annual message to the Congress.

12TH JAN.—The first of the new "Victory" ships which can make a round trip to England with cargo in 21 days, was launched to-day.

The Brazilian War Minister said that a Brazilian Expeditionary force will leave in the first months of this year in order to participate in the invasion of Europe.

President Roosevelt submitted to Congress a proposal to develop the national highway system of approximately 34,000 miles.

13TH JAN.—The Secretary for War, Mr. L. Stimson said that American army casualties in all theatres of war up to Dec. 23 totalled 105,229. This included 16,831 killed, 38,916 wounded, 24,067 missing, 25,415 prisoners of war.

The State Department disclosed on Wednesday that Japan has refused to discuss a third exchange of nationals until a report is received on the treatment of the Japanese interned in the United States.

It is announced that two more German submarines have been sunk in the South Atlantic.

President Roosevelt called for a great victory budget of 100,000 million dollars in his budget message to Congress to-day. This vast sum is the anticipated Federal expenditure for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1945.

Military establishments in American coastal areas are reduced so that soldiers can be sent to overseas.

14TH JAN.—The Director of the United States Budget Bureau told that United States would probably pass the peak of munitions buying in the next six months.

Colonel Frank Knox said "A quick ending of the war is unlikely. Those who wishfully think for an early end are necessarily doing disservice to the war effort."

The House Elections Committee rejected to-day all proposals for a uniform federal ballot for men and women in the armed forces.

15TH JAN.—The President's wife Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt may soon visit India and Chungking.

The United States Vice-President Mr. Henry Wallace condemned the big isolationist businessmen, who not only did not believe in lasting international peace, but would do their best to prevent it by means of propaganda.

17TH JAN.—General Henry H. Arnold, Chief of the United States Army of Army Air Force at a press conference said that Germany will fight to the last ditch.

* * *

INDIA, BURMA AND CEYLON

11TH JAN.—A communiqué from South-East Asia Command Headquarters says: On the west of Mayu range Allied troops have continued to advance and captured a number of points and Maungdaw. On the central front also similar advances have been made. Royal Air Force bombers have maintained their attacks on enemy positions in the Mayu Peninsula.

It ing against the Japanese on the Assam Front is the fourteenth.

12TH JAN.—The 13th session of the National Defence Council opened this morning at the Viceroy's House, New Delhi. His Excellency the Viceroy presided. Sir J. P. Srivatsava's memorandum on food situation was considered in addition to other items.

13TH JAN.—An enemy aircraft approached Vizagapatam at night and dropped few bombs.

14TH JAN.—The National Defence Council met again to-day. His Excellency the Viceroy presided.

The Allied troops have occupied the villages of Kanyindan and Dilpara, south-east of Maungdaw.

India has spent Rs. 715 crores on her defences from 1939–40 to 1943–44.

15TH JAN.—The National Defence Council met again at New Delhi to-day. His Excellency the Viceroy presided. Admiral Lord Louis Mountbatten made a statement on the organization of the South-East Asia Command. His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief presented a general review of the war situation.

The formation of the South-East Asia Air Command under the Supreme Allied Commander has lead to a change in the organization Air Headquarters, India Command and a restatement of the responsibilities of the Air Officer Commanding, says a press note.

An Indian Army observer gives details of Jap submarine torpedo activity in the high seas and the Jap cruelty to survivors.

Royal Air Force fighters successfully intercepted a large formation of Jap fighters over the Mayu Peninsula.

16TH JAN.—The Commander-in-Chief returned to New Delhi after a five-day visit to Bhopal and Central India.

17TH JAN.—The Allied troops have taken Bagona and Nyaunggyaung near Maungdaw.

18TH JAN.—Their Excellencies Lord and Lady Wavell arrived at Lucknow.

Mr. R. G. Casey, Governor-designate of Bengal, arrived in Karachi.

To-day's South-East Asia Command says that Jap attempts to recapture Nalpannya and Razabil near Maungdaw on 15th and 16th failed and that the enemy airfield at Myitkyina was bombed.

* * *

RUSSIA AND FINLAND

11TH JAN.—Russian troops landed on the northern part of the Kerch Peninsula in the Crimea.

An official statement on Soviet attitude towards Russo-Polish border question was published yesterday.

12TH JAN.—Troops of the First Ukrainian Front crossing the river Slutch, captured Sarny, a large railway junction and the most important enemy strong point in the Polesia region. The Red Army approached Ulanov, 12 miles from the river Bug.

13TH JAN.—Russian troops are within 11 miles of Mozyr, the key to central Pripet Marshes. Tense battles are now in progress in the approaches to three towns of vital importance to the Germans, namely, Shapatovka, Vinuitza and Vitebrsk. Soviet units have penetrated to the northern bank of the Bug.

14TH JAN.—Troops of the White Russian front captured Mozyr and Kalinkovichi. The Russians made a local breach south and south-west of Cherkassy.

15TH JAN.—German divisions are fleeing across Pripet Marshes. German base of Pintsk in Poland is being threatened by the Russian troops. Battle of the Bug river has swung in favour of the Soviet troops. The Red Army made a new landing behind the German lines in the Kerch Peninsula.

16TH JAN.—A new offensive north of Novo Sokolniki has been started. West and north-west of Kalinkovchi, the Red Army occupied a number of inhabited places.

17TH JAN.—It is revealed that Russian units crossed the river Bug on Sunday itself. The Russians continued their attacks north-east of Kerch and north-west of Kirovograd and west of Rechitsa. There was violent fighting south of Leningrad.

The Soviet Government has decided not to negotiate with the Polish Government. The United States has offered to mediate between Poland and Russia.

18TH JAN.—Russian troops are within 13 miles from the German communications Centre Rovno and only eight miles from Novo Sokolniki.

* * *

ITALY, AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

11TH JAN.—Allied Naval forces have sunk three schooners in the Adriatic. The Fifth Army are now four miles from Cassino. There was patrol activity on the Eighth Army front.

Count Ciano was shot dead.

12TH JAN.—Troops of the Fifth Army took more heights. Patrols were active on both the fronts. Cassino is in a state of siege. The Fifth Army troops captured Cervaro.

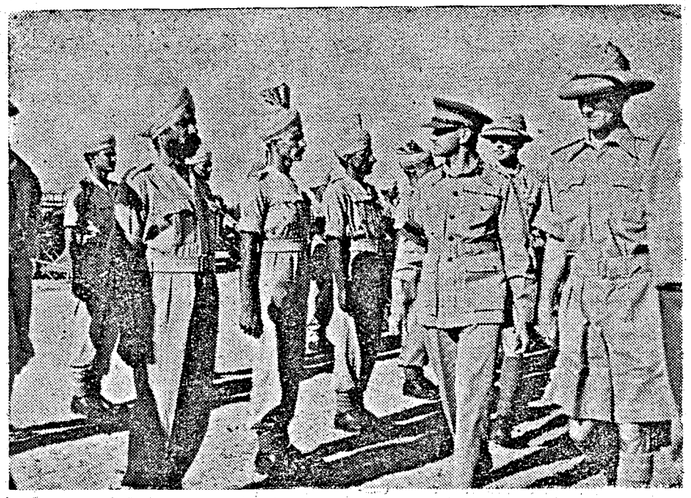
13TH JAN.—French troops of the Fifth Army recaptured Monte Raino and Monte Molino.

14TH JAN.—French and American troops of the Fifth Army continued their drive. On the Eighth Army front Newzealand British troops improved their positions.

15TH JAN.—The Fifth Army's advance continues. Three new heights and the town of Acquafondata were captured. British artillery was active on both the Fifth and Eighth Army fronts.

16TH JAN.—American forces have captured Monte Trocchio ridge 3 miles from Cassino. The French troops captured Cardito. Indian troops are closing in on Tollo.

17TH JAN.—The Fifth Army troops continued their advance. The newly won positions on Monte Trocchio have been consolidated. Forward troops have reached the Rapido river.



Brigadier G. de V. Welchman, D.S.O., O.B.E., inspects the men of the Indian Survey Regiment. On the Brigadier's left is the O.C. Regiment.

18TH JAN.—In the Adriatic coastal sector Canadian troops have made limited advance. Further advances on the Fifth Army front include the capture of San Elia.

* * *

VICHY, FREE FRANCE AND THE OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

11TH JAN.—Military objectives in Northern France were attacked by Allied aircraft.

The Polish Cabinet met twice in London.

12TH JAN.—A state of panic prevails in Bucharest and Rumania in general. The evacuation of Bessarabia is in full swing.

Sofia, Bulgarian capital, is being evacuated.

The Polish Cabinet again met in London.

13TH JAN.—Chaos reigns to-day in Sofia. Rumanian capital Bucharest is also being evacuated.

The Polish Premier, Foreign Minister and Ambassador saw the British Foreign Secretary, Mr. Anthony Eden.

14TH JAN.—The Bulgarian Minister of Interior has ordered the evacuation of Sofia.

The Polish Government has proposed talks with Russia at which the British and the United States Government would take part. The Polish Government met at 10 a.m. and further considered its draft statement on Russo-Polish relationship.

16TH JAN.—Two big forces of Allied planes passed over West Hungary on their way to raid Austria.

THE FAR EAST

11TH JAN.—The United States bombers attacked Kendari in Celebes and other enemy positions.

12TH JAN.—A Japanese landing attempt at Cape Gloucester (New Britain) has been halted. Jap troops trapped in the coastal corridor in New Guinea are being drowned in large numbers. Allied aircraft attacked Madang and Uligan harbour bases. Enemy bombers attacked Tarawa.

Allied bombers attacked Takao in the south-west coast of Formosa on Tuesday. Bangkok was also bombed.

14TH JAN.—Japan will face a big increase in direct taxes in the 1944-45 financial year under a bill to be presented to Diet on January 21.

United States aircraft raided various Jap bases in south-west Pacific including Alestischafen in New Guinea and Rabaul in New Britain.

Australian troops captured Namdariwa. American bombers attacked Macassan on Celebes and Balikpapan in Borneo.

German Ambassador in Tokyo, Herr Heinrich Sthamer had a talk with the Japanese Foreign Minister, Mr. Mamoru Shigemitsu.

16TH JAN.—Australians have reached the outskirts of Sio, the main remaining Jap base on Huon Peninsula.

17TH JAN.—Allied ground forces have taken Sio and advanced 3 miles further to Vricka point. American marines have captured Hill 660, a strategic height in the Borgen Bay area. Allied bombers attacked Rabaul and inflicted heavy damages.

18TH JAN.—The evacuation of big Japanese cities is in full swing. The Ministry of Interior has been meeting to discuss the evacuation of Tokyo and its environs.

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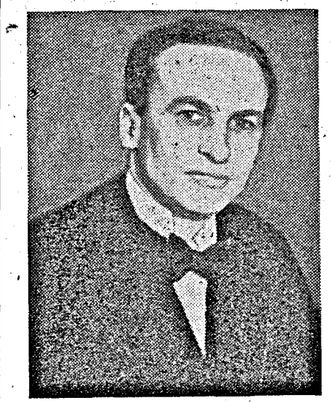
MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. V FRIDAY, JANUARY 28, 1944 No. 21

NOTHING WILL DIVERT US FROM OUR AIM



SIR ARCHIBALD SINCLAIR

The battle of Germany ranked with the battle of Stalingrad and the battle of the Atlantic among the decisive battles of the war We do not gloat over the destruction of German homes and the suffering which the German people are undergoing, although we remember that Hitler and Goering did gloat over the destruction of British cities and sent their pilots to the microphone to dilate on the hideousness of the horror they were visiting on British civilians Civilians are not our targets

Our aim is to paralyse the German war industry and transport and the objectives are—not cathedral towns—but cities which are centres of the German war industry and transport and **nothing will divert us from our aim**

SIR ARCHIBALD SINCLAIR, *Air Minister*
at Plymouth, on Saturday (January 22)

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NOTE.—*The summary of news and comments contained in the* MADRAS WAR REVIEW *generally relate to events and statements published till Wednesday, every week.*]

THE SECOND FRONT

"In the Second Front so far as the Navy is concerned, everything is ready, and whatever is required of it will be done. The War can only end one way. The Navy under the protection of the air force, will carry the Army and land it at selected points of invasion, which have been previously softened up by bombing. Everybody will be in it."

ADMIRAL SIR WILLIAM JAMES, M.P., *Director of Naval Information at Leeds on Monday, January 24.*

◆

KNOCKOUT OF 'LUFTWAFFE'

"The German Air Force can be pretty well knocked out given reasonable weather. Given the same sort of weather we had in the Mediterranean for a while I do not think the *Luftwaffe* would last very long."

LIEUTENANT-GENERAL CAVIL SPAATZ, *Commander of the United States Strategic Air Forces in Britain, at London on Saturday, January 22.*

◆

ALLIED PROGRESS

"I would say that the progress on the German contract is satisfactory but that some overtime and extra effort will be necessary if the contract is to be completed on reasonable schedule. In the case of the other enemy, I would say that we are 'all tooled up' to handle the Japanese contract. It will not be long before we are in full scale production on this contract as well. A great amount of 'know how' which we have gained from the German contract will be useful in fulfilling the Japanese contract though completion of the German contract is not holding up production on the Japanese contract nearly so much as many seem to believe."

FIELD MARSHAL SIR JOHN DILL, *at Detroit on Monday, January 24.*

MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. V FRIDAY, JANUARY 28, 1944 No. 21

THE BATTLE FOR ROME

THE Battle for Rome is now on. A great land, sea and air offensive is raging for the Capital of Italy. The landing of British and American troops of the Fifth Army led by General Clark on the west coast of Italy deep in the rear of enemy's front line positions on Saturday (January 22), took the Germans completely by surprise. In a statement broadcast over the Algiers radio, General Sir Henry Maitland Wilson, Commander-in-Chief in the Mediterranean, said that an enormous Armada which left Naples made landings south of Rome and that the enemy was taken by surprise, because air forces which attacked the German air fields in the Rome area kept the *Luftwaffe* on the ground unable to make reconnaissance. The landing took them so completely unawares that it is stated that the Germans did not fire a single shot for two hours. Before the landing, the Allied forces made a very heavy preparatory attack to paralyse the new battle zone. The attack was similar to that made before the Salerno landings. All the enemy air fields in the Rome area, with the exception of the Guidonia air field, three miles from Rome, were put out of operation.

THE new Allied landing on the west Italian coast, which may be stated to mark the beginning of the Battle for Rome, was made between Nettuno and the Tiber estuary. The town of Nettuno which has been captured by the Allies is on the coastal road leading to Rome and is 32 miles due south of the Italian capital and 57 miles south-west of the present Allied lines north of the Garigliano river.

Kesselring's Four Alternatives

KESSELRING had before him four alternatives after the capture of Nettuno. The first was to rush troops from the north to seal off the Allied threat from Nettuno. The second choice was to recall the three mobile Grenadier divisions which he recently sent south. The third alternative was to order a general retreat on the southern line But he chose the fourth, namely, that of counter-attacking in full strength. So far, all these counter-attacks have been costly failures. Kesselring's object in counter-attacking may be either to attempt a strong break-through with a view to disorganizing Allied plans, or to upset the main line so that he could retire on his own terms.

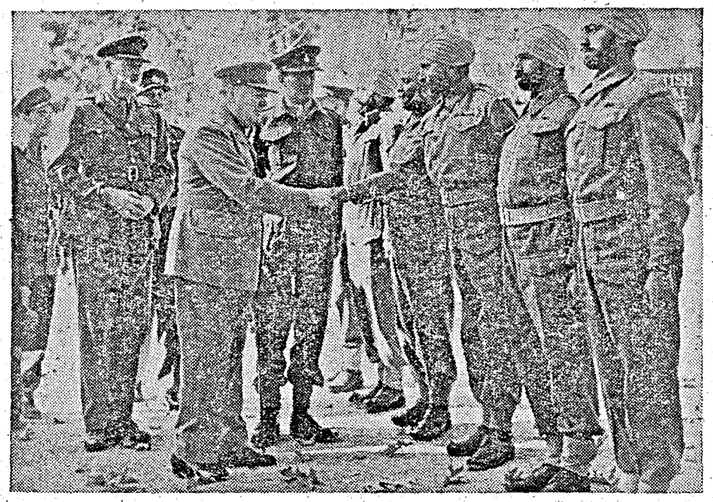
IN assessing the value of the slow Allied operations in Italy generally at their true worth, we have to remember three important factors. The first is the strength of German resistance. Kesselring's divisions in Italy are of a high quality and their skilful, stubborn and fierce resistance has earned a tribute from the *Times*. Reviewing the Allied capture of Ortona after the very able defence of the First German Parachute Division, the *Times* Weekly Edition says, "It was an education for any soldier to fight against them." In mine laying, field fortifications and in demolition, the Germans have demonstrated their great skill in Italy. The "pill-boxes" which are part of their defensive tactics are of two sizes and are built into rocks. One is the four-feet-by-four-feet pill-box which contains machine-gun nests, and the other is the ten-by-ten pill-box which contains mortar battery. These pill-boxes are placed 70 yards apart and are cunningly camouflaged. Their roof of broken stone is separated by railway lines buried two feet deep, and their approaches are sown with anti-personal mines. Inside such fortifications, small units have sometimes succeeded in holding up entire regiments even for days.

Geography and Weather

THE second factor we have to bear in mind is Italy's geographical feature. The German defence has derived incalculable assistance from the Appennine mountains and their spurs which extend from sea to sea on the present battle-front. These constitute a very great barrier to the movement of numerous armoured formations of Allied troops. The structure of the mountains help the amazingly good camouflaged location of the enemy's artillery, mortar and machine-gun positions and protect the troops from the worst effects of air-bombing.

THE third factor is, of course, bad weather. Those who have seen recent news reels of the fighting on the Italian front in the cinemas would have some idea of the extremely bad Italian weather. The unusual prolongation of autumn rains and the mighty storms that have swept down the Italian peninsula from the Alps have been of very great benefit to the enemy. Heavy Allied bombers which have vitally influenced the course of the war in Tunisia and Sicily and at Salerno have been handicapped on account of the rain and the storm. Bad weather has often forced Allied aircraft to stick to the ground and reduce their capacity to reconnoitre to the minimum. That was why they have not been able to render full co-operation to the artillery and infantry.

THESE three great handicaps have slowed down Allied operations in Italy, but now things are moving at a comparatively fast pace in the Rome area. General Clark's invasion forces are astride the Appian Way and Marshal Kesselring's resistance is gradually increasing in its intensity. It is only to be expected that the fight for the Capital of Italy will be hard and strenuous. The further course of the progress of the Allied offensive will be watched with very great interest.



Mr. CHURCHILL'S 69th BIRTHDAY IN TEHERAN.—Mr. Churchill spent his 69th birthday during the conference in Teheran. He gave a private dinner party where a cake with 69 candles on it was presented to him. He was also presented with gifts by British and Indian troops in PAIFORCE. The British Press unit also gave him a present. Mr. Churchill shakes hands with officers of the guard.

RUNNING COMMENTARY

R.A.F.'s 11th Large-scale Raid on Berlin, Nerve Centre of the Reich

The Battle of Berlin was continued last week when the largest force of Lancasters and Halifaxes that have so far left British bases launched a very heavy attack on the German capital (Jan. 21), and dropped over 2,300 tons of bombs within half an hour.

This was the 11th large-scale raid on Berlin in the last two months. According to HOWARD SMITH, Columbia Broadcasting System's commentator, the bombing devastation in Berlin since November is "the most enormous single destruction in history." He says, "It is bigger than Warsaw, Rotterdam, Coventry, Stalingrad and Hamburg together. Travellers estimate that from 30 to 50 per cent of the City has been destroyed beyond repair." Another report says that Allied bombers have levelled one-seventh of this vast city's built-up area. "Why," it may be asked, "is it necessary to bomb Berlin?" DOROTHY THOMPSON, the leading woman journalist in the United States, says:

"The bombing of Berlin has a peculiar importance, because of the structure of the German State, possibly the most centralised on earth. Berlin is the nerve-centre, not only of the German Reich, but also of HITLER New Order of Europe."

She goes on to point out that the whole industrial system has its centre in Berlin:

"The Nazi economic system," she says, "does not merely do overall planning, but every factory has to apply to Berlin for every raw material, all man-power, and for everything necessary for production and in detail. The German economic life is organized as one great corporation, with a supermanagement in Berlin. It, too, is completely bureaucratised. Everything is run by meticulous book-keeping . . . . Berlin is also a great industrial centre and the hub of the nation's railways." She sums up the object and effect of the Battle of Berlin by saying, "In a prize fight if the brain is reeling, the muscles may be as strong as ever, but they do not function."

On Saturday last (Jan. 22), aircraft of the R.A.F. Bomber Command made a very heavy attack on Magdeburg, one of the most important industrial cities in Central Germany, and over 2,000 tons of high explosive and incendiary bombs were dropped. Magdeburg, the ancient capital of Saxony, is 50 miles south-east of Brunswick and is the largest sugar-beet refining centre in Germany. It has a number of factories, the most important of which is a branch of the Krupps iron works. Aircraft parts, machine tools and chemicals are manufactured in other factories located at Magdeburg, which is also a great administrative and military centre.

To Paralyse German War Industry—Sir A. Sinclair on Allied Aim

The attacks on Berlin, Magdeburg and other industrial centres show clearly the policy of Allied air power. Speaking at Plymouth last Saturday (Jan. 22), Sir ARCHIBALD SINCLAIR, the Air Minister, said:

"Civilians are not our targets. Our aim is to paralyse the German war industry and transport, and the objectives are—not cathedral towns—but cities which are centres of German war industry and transport. And nothing will divert us from our aim."

German industries especially those directly connected with war effort, German rail, air and water communications, especially railway marshalling yards, air-fields, and ship and U-boat building yards have been, and are being, continuously hammered by the Royal Air Force, because only by that means can the German war production be neutralized.

Referring to Allied bombing policy some time ago, Sir ARCHIBALD SINCLAIR said:

"We shall continue to hammer the enemy from the skies till we have paralysed their war industries, disrupted their transport system and broken their will to war."

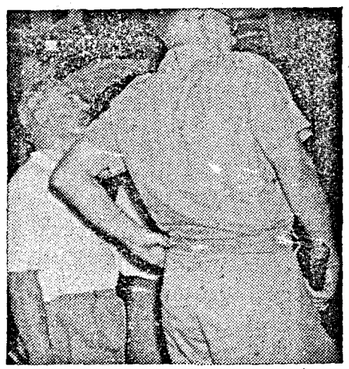
Havildar Kirpal Singh presenting a gift to the Prime Minister from a battalion of the 11th Sikh Regiment. The gift was a painting on ivory by the famous Persian artist Imami.

The following figures give an idea of the growing weight of bombs thrown on vital German industrial targets during the four years of the war. They refer only to the bomb loads dropped by the Royal Air Force on Germany:—

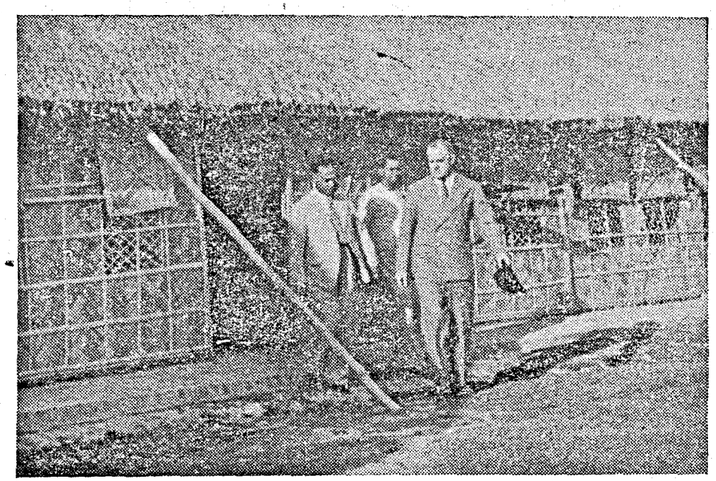
	TONS.
July–September, 1940	2,750
October–December, 1940	2,500
January–March, 1941	2,700
April–June, 1941	7,200
July–September, 1941	8,800
October–December, 1941	4,300
January–March, 1942	3,500
April–June, 1942	12,300
July–September, 1942	15,600
October–December, 1942	5,600
January–March, 1943	17,400
April–June, 1943	36,700
July–September, 1943	44,100
October–December, 1943	38,550

It is estimated that from the outbreak of the war to the end of 1943, 202,000 tons of bombs were dropped on targets in Germany, out of which more than 136,000 tons were dropped in 1943. If we add another 20,000 tons dropped on targets in occupied Europe, we get the colossal figure of 156,000 tons of bombs which fell from British bombers during 1943 on HITLER's *Festung Europa*.

The American Air Force has also contributed its own quota to the bombing of HITLER's industrial centres. The Eighth United States Army Air Force started operations from British bases on August 1, 1942, and it has dropped about 50,000 tons, 20,000 of which were dropped in 1943.



VICEROY'S TOUR.—Their Excellencies the Viceroy and Lady Wavell recently concluded a tour of Bihar, Bengal and Assam. The tour included a visit to coal mines. Photo shows *Lord Wavell inside a coal mine.*



VICEROY'S TOUR.—Their Excellencies the Viceroy and Lady Wavell recently concluded a tour of Bihar, Bengal and Assam. Photo shows *the Viceroy at the Narayangunj relief camp, Bengal.*

Steadily Growing Weight of R.A.F. Bomber Offensive

Some idea of the steadily growing weight of the Royal Air Force bomber offensive based in Britain can be gathered by the following average figures of bombs dropped in successive years of the war:—

1939–40	1 ton a day.
1940–41	55 tons a day.
1941–42	90 "
1943	420 "

The following figures give us a rough idea of the great improvement in concentrated bombing:—

	Tons dropped.	Tons a minute.
Lubeck—March, 1942	300	2
Cologne—May, 1942	1,500	16·7
St. Nazaire—February, 1943	1,000	22
Essen—April, 1943	1,000	25
Duisburg—May, 1943	1,350	30
Dortmund—May, 1943	2,000 (above)	34
Dusseldorf—June, 1943	2,000 (above)	34
Hamburg—July, 1943	2,300	46
Essen—July, 1943	2,000	40
Berlin—September, 1943	1,000	50
Berlin—November, 1943	2,300	50 (above).
Berlin—December, 1943	2,000	50 (above).
Frankfurt—December, 1943	2,000	70

The statements of Allied leaders generally on bombing of Germany are of interest in this connection. Mr. ATTLEE, Deputy Prime Minister, said:

"The destruction of the Axis war potential by air bombing is a vital and major feature of our offensive." Britain's Foreign Secretary, Mr. ANTHONY EDEN, declared, "We shall bomb the German and Fascist military machine wherever it is to be found."

Lieut.-General IRA C. EAKER, Commander of the Eighth United States Army Air Force in Britain, stated that the Allied objective was "simply to drop bombs on HITLER's war machine *until it breaks down.*"

The question arises whether Germany can be broken down merely by bombing. Addressing the United States Congress in May, 1943, Mr. CHURCHILL said:

"Opinion, Mr. President, is divided as to whether the use of air power by itself could bring about the collapse of Germany or Italy. The experiment is well worth trying so long as other measures are not excluded."

Referring to this subject about three months ago, Air Marshal HARRIS said, "We propose entirely to emasculate every centre of enemy production. . . We intend to reduce what remains of the German submarine offensive to nought". During last year, the emasculation of German industries has gone

on at a progressive rate. More than 58 German industrial towns have felt the weight of Allied bombing. The major industrial towns bombed during 1943 and the number of raids carried out by Allied bombers are given below :—

Berlin	46
Bremen	9
Cologne	11
Dusseldorf	4
Emden	7
Essen	8
Frankfurt	5
Hamburg	13
Hanover	7
Kiel	6
Stuttgart	4
Wilhelmshaven ..	12

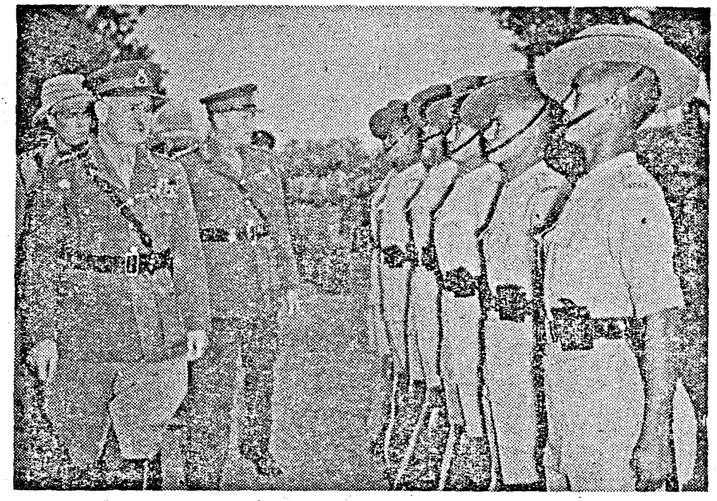
Of these, Berlin enjoys the distinction of being the most heavily raided target in the world. About 20,000 tons of bombs were dropped on Berlin alone. Hamburg comes next with 10,000 tons. Berlin's industrial targets have received such a severe pounding that many of her 500 industrial plants have been so badly hit as to take months to be repaired. The Siemens electrical plant, the largest in Germany, has been very hard hit. It is estimated that 50,000 tons of bombs are required to liquidate the German capital, and this process is at work.

Referring to the mass raids on Berlin which have worked such great havoc, the London *Times* says, "These attacks were particularly dramatic in their destructive violence, but they mark only a stage in the policy which has been carried on consistently and developed as steadily as means would permit . . . As it has expanded it has fulfilled two functions : first the damaging and, in later instances, the complete destruction of German war industry and the interruption of communications ; secondly, the carrying of the war to German territory."

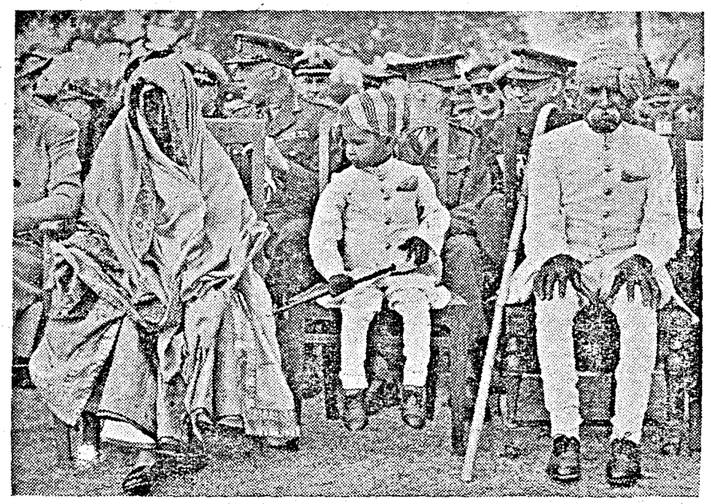
In Essen more than 670 buildings of the Krupps armament works have been wiped out. At Kiel, Bremen, Hamburg and Wilhelmshaven, U-boat building and repairing yards have been attacked and their production has been reduced enormously.

The policy of blasting German vital war industries must be having its own effect on the *morale* of the German people and paving the way for the day of final victory.

THIRD VICTORIA CROSS



VICEROY PRESENTS VICTORIA CROSSES.—The third Victoria Cross presentation parade to be held in India since the outbreak of war took place before the historic walls of the Red Fort, Delhi, when the Viceroy, Field Marshal Lord Wavell, presented the Victoria Cross to the widow of Company Havildar-Major Chhelu Ram, 6th Rajputana Rifles, and to Jemadar Gaje Ghale, 5th Royal Gurkha Rifles. Photo shows *the Viceroy, accompanied by the Commander-in-Chief General Sir Claude Auchinleck, inspecting a Guard-of-Honour formed by men of the 5th Royal Gurkha Rifles.*

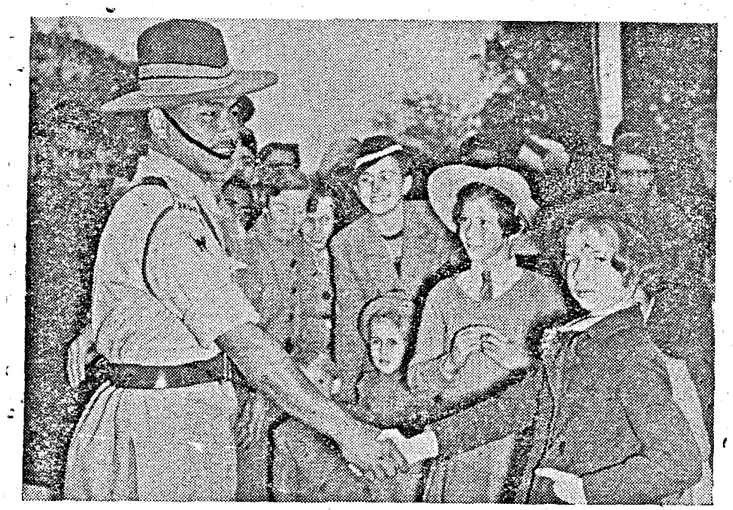


Reading from left to right.—*The widow, small son and father of Company Havildar-Major Chhelu Ram.*

There's blokes, says Bill, what thinks we live
In luxury in the Army.
And when I thinks of what I had
When Mother cooked for me and Dad
And sees the stew the cook-boys give—
Strikes me some blokes is barmy.
Lor luv a duck ! says Bill to me.
Gorblimey, Bill ! says I.

PRESENTATION PARADE IN DELHI

Photo shows *the Viceroy presents the Victoria Crosses to the semi-veiled widow of Company Havildar Major Chhelu Ram, who was killed during the advance of the 5th Indian Infantry Brigade in Tunisia on April 19, 1943.*



Jemadar Gaje Ghale, V.C., shakes hands with a school girl Ruth Gibbou.

There's blokes, says Bill, what thinks it's sport
To be among the mortars
And hear the shells go Crump ! and Boom !
Just where you've made a little room
Inside a dug-out of a sort
To do for winter quarters.
Lor luv a duck ! says Bill to me.
Gorblimey, Bill ! says I.

—*R.G.*

"WALTHAMSTOW" AT OOTY

HOLIDAY HOUSE FOR R.A.F. OFFICERS

ARE you from England? Then you'll enjoy "Walthamstow" holiday home in Ootacamund for officers of the Royal Air Force. Your first glimpse will be from the bottom of the winding, hilly lane. High up above a flower-starred bank stands the big white house.

Before entering, pause by the sun-bathing lawn to view the far-reaching Nilgiris you are now among—the 'blue hills' that borrow their hue from faint morning mists and the 'blue (eucalyptus) gums' abounding with their healthy, pungent odour. Slightly to the right is the natty town with its shops, cinemas, cafes. You are more than 7,000 feet above sea level.

Ooty you'll soon find has all facilities for golfing and for riding over the rolling downs, while in season its mountain lakes offer fishing and some sailing. You may further indulge your taste for country life at the meet, hunt the jack with beagles that are trained to perfection and drilled like soldiers.

And what of the house itself? Scent of roses, brilliance of many flowers for a moment fill you with an awful nostalgia . . At the end of a sunny hall two fellows vie at table tennis, others at darts, but you are whisked off to approve your bedroom. Streaming sunshine draws you to the wide windows. You look far and breathe deeply.

At this point you observe that your room is gaily matted. You leap on the bed: the springs respond! And the modern bathroom—if you've lately left a hut or tent you may feel disposed to spend your entire leave immersed in a tub of tingling water!

Dances are held and you may throw your party in the spacious lounge whose french windows open on the garden. There is a second sitting room and library: indeed, the atmosphere of Walthamstow is that of a well-appointed, folly club. Arrangements are in the hands of a lady superintendent whose concern is vitamins and well-balanced meals, while individual needs are cared for. Just steal a visit to the pantry—a completely flyproof chamber. Shelves are loaded with more nostalgic things—sprouts, artichokes, cauliflour. A huge brisket is pickling, a whole sheep hanging.

Now for your little changes. When not justifying that golf handicap you may go to Ooty's favourite rendezvous for "elevenses"! or for tea or cocktails then on to a dance. There are ideal walks. At Charing Cross-complete with obelisk—you board the bus for Wellington (oh, charm of homeside names in this 'England in ideal conditions!') and Coonoor two thousand feet lower into the fertile hills; for Kotagiri with its golf and bright little club, the tea plantations and coffee estates of those who also serve. And, should you know a planter owning a car you, as a Royal Air Force Officer on leave, may claim two gallons of petrol per leave or spins in his buggy.

WAR-TIME HARDSHIPS

By RAO BAHADUR G. A. NATESAN

"WAR-TIME hardships" is quite an understatement for the conditions of life necessitated by a war of great magnitude like the one that is being waged now. And frankly, what could we expect from conditions so utterly at variance with life in peace time?

It is a truism to say that modern warfare is different from the wars of old. It is no longer confined to the theatres of war. It embraces whole communities and all the citizens. Suffering and sacrifice are not confined to the actual combatants in the field of battle, but are shared by the whole population in varying degrees. We are trying to resign ourselves to the inevitable conditions of the new life, and indeed attempting to acquiesce in it with fortitude, and even with a certain degree of cheerfulness and a sense of humour. We have learnt to do without many things which once we thought were indispensable. We have learnt to give up so many of our peace-time amenities and luxuries. We are learning the virtues of the simple and strenuous life which has been forced on the people as a whole. It is proving a severe strain, but it is none the less a wholesome discipline.

Since the outbreak of the war, and more particularly for the last two or three years, hardly a day passes when one does not meet a friend or neighbour who does not grumble about the hardships and irksome restrictions to which he is subject.

A.R.P. REGULATIONS

The A.R.P. regulations have caused many a murmur. How can we drive in a road or even walk in the streets in utter darkness? How can we possibly live in a house without sufficient lighting? These are cries which have been dinned into our ears.

The curtailment of facilities for railway travel, the slowness of the trains and the increase in railway fares have called forth vigorous protests.

The buses are overcrowded and citizens have to wait an unconscionably long time before they are able to find accommodation.

Car-owners not only smart under the reduced petrol supply but find considerable difficulty in getting spare parts.

Foodstuffs are hard to get, and when available, a very heavy price indeed has to be paid for them.

The shortage of fuel is great, and many men and women have to wait for hours in a firewood depot and return in utter disgust, unable to obtain even a small quantity.

You don't get the kind of clothing you are accustomed to, and if you do succeed in getting a semblance of it, it is certainly at an abnormal price.

RATIONING

The rationing of foodstuffs and the restrictions on dinner parties during marriages and festivals are subjects of serious complaint.

It is really a pang to garden-owners hitherto accustomed to grow beautiful flowers, to be compelled to convert their lawns into vegetable gardens.

Added to the increase in the cost of transport, foodstuffs and clothing, there has come an increase in taxation, direct and indirect.

This does not exhaust the list of complaints one reads and hears in war-time; but they are sufficient to give an idea of the situation, as one finds it.

If companionship in distress is any consolation, we must remember that people in other countries are undergoing worse troubles. Thanks to Providence! Our country has not yet become a theatre of War; and barring occasional air-raids on some coastal towns, we have thus far been saved from the horrors and atrocities to which people in war-ridden countries are subjected.

BRITISH EXAMPLE

Take the case of the British people themselves. We have it on authority (*A people at War*) that in Great Britain people are enduring severe hardships, much actual danger and many irksome restrictions. Working hours are long; leisure time is short and war-time duties have been shouldered by every class of people. Yet, the courage, determination and the cheerfulness of the people have not failed them.

LIGHTING RESTRICTIONS

To take the lighting restrictions first: With the coming of night, every home in Britain becomes an island lost in a sea of darkness. A policeman with a red lamp conducts walkers across the road in the blackout.

Citizens who were hitherto hugging their pound notes and cheque books, have now to preserve and carry with care their coupons and ration books. Food and clothes rationing means that all must share alike from the supplies available.

Fifty-two coupons for clothing for a year is the only allowance for adults. A man's shirt and tie cost him six coupons, his suit 26; which is exactly half his total allowance for one year.

WOMEN'S LOT

Women fare no better. A woman's woollen dress consumes 11 coupons, cotton dress 7, a pair of artificial silk stockings 3, and 5 coupons have to be given for obtaining a pair of shoes.

Housewives have to queue-up for advice and guidance on food matters at one of the many Food Advice Bureaux established near the main entrance to all shops in many towns. They have to take good care not to permit waste of any kind. For, it is a punishable offence to waste food or paper. And the poor housewife, after a long and embarrassing shopping, has to endure a tiring wait for a bus, as services have been reduced in town and country.

Every woman in Britain between the ages of 20 and 25 is registered, and with the exception of those working 55 hours a week or with young children, may be called on for Fire Guard duties up to 48 hours a month. From shops and offices in the towns, Britain's women have come forward to replace the men on the farms. Girls who worked in beauty parlours are driving Diesel-engine tractors; shorthand typists are tending cattle; chorus girls are working back-breaking hours thinning the beet crops. The Women's Land Army is now over 50,000 strong and is growing rapidly.

Every able-bodied male citizen in Britain between the ages of 18 and 60 carries out some essential War duty, up to 48 hours a month in addition to his daily work. Most of them do much more, as Home Guards, as members of the Royal Observer Corps, or National Fire Service, as Wardens, as Members of a First Aid or Ambulance Unit, as Fire Guards or as Special Police. Each of these duties involves specialized training and frequent exercises.

HOW LONDON TOOK IT

For over two years, in Britain, says the writer, hardly a night passed without people being killed and homes being destroyed; and night after night, bombing continued. The German High Command set out to break the morale of a whole people by a ruthless attack on their great capital city. Huge areas were swept by fire. Historic buildings were destroyed. Night after night, week after week, month after month, the attack was maintained. But the people of London held on grimly. Their resolves were not weakened. Their spirits were not dismayed. And to-day the devastation in London and many other cities in Britain has become the symbol of a people's will to resist, and of their determination to go on to the end.

No petrol is obtainable in Britain for pleasure motoring. Theatres and cinemas close early, so that audiences can be back at their posts in case of air raids. Luxury articles and expensive clothes are no longer being made. A purchase tax of 100 per cent on the wholesale price has been imposed on goods such as silk dresses, leather trunks and bags, fur coats, cut glass and jewellery.

Restaurant meals are giving way to meals in community feeding centres. At these feeding centres, thousands of inexpensive meals are served daily for war workers. The elaborate menus of peace-time have given way to a simple card, giving the three-course meal now served in all restaurants.

Excursion trains have been cancelled. Passenger trains have made way for goods trains. Seaside towns cannot be entered without a pass from military or police authorities.

The British citizen has for many years been the most highly taxed wage-earner in the world. He remains so in war-time. To-day a single man earning £500 a year, pays £156–2–6 i.e., nearly one-third of his income, in tax. A married couple with two children, earning £8,000, pays £5,082. The standard rate of income-tax is 10 shillings in the pound, rising to 19 shillings, 6 pence in the pound on the higher incomes. Four million wage-earners who did not pay direct income-tax in peace-time, now return an assessment.

In spite of heavy taxation, the British people have already put over four thousand million pounds into National Savings.

BRITISH WORKERS DO THEIR PART

Now, a word about the British worker. The British Trade Union movement has grown out of the struggle to protect certain fundamental rights, viz., the right of each trade to decide its own conditions of employment, the right of the worker to limit the hours he works, the right of the worker to change his employment if he so decides. All these rights for which they have fought so hard, the British Trade Unions have voluntarily surrendered for the duration. Strikes are no longer allowed and that by agreement of the Labour Unions themselves. Limitation of workers' hours to 48 a week has been suspended in all vital War factories. Long hours are being worked willingly under the hard and exacting conditions of many industries.

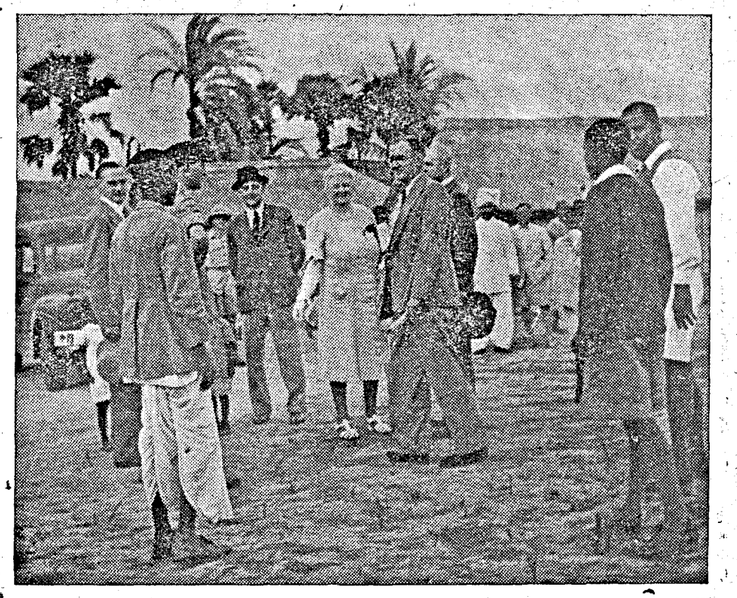
This catalogue of hardships is by no means exhaustive, but merely illustrative. Let it not however be thought that it is recited in a spirit of complaint. It is merely an attempt to picture War-time life to-day, almost all the world over. It would be churlish to complain of the absence of mere amenities and pleasantries of peace-time, and even the rigours of civic life, when we know that there are men who are risking their very lives on land, sea and air, in order to preserve our precious heritage for generations yet to come. It is an ennobling thought that we are contemporaries of such men and are privileged to share not only the glory of a great tradition, but also the burden, however small, each in his own way, of the responsibilities and hardships of these stirring times.—*A talk broadcast from A.I.R., Madras, on Monday, Jan. 24.*

GREEK RED CROSS THANKS MADRAS!

The following letter, dated 29th December 1943, has been received from Dr. A. P. Cawndias, O.B.E., M.D., F.R.C.P., President, Greek Red Cross Executive Committee, 17, Bentick Street, London W.1., by the Treasurer, Greek Relief Appeal Fund, c/o Imperial Bank of India, Madras:—

In confirming my cable of to-day's date acknowledging receipt of £10,000 through the Imperial Bank of India, London, from the Greek Relief Appeal Fund in Madras, I would like to express the sincere thanks of the Greek Red Cross to all the kind helpers for their generous support of our worthy cause.

In the tragic days through which we are now passing, the magnificent co-operation of our friends both far and near to assist in relieving the sufferings of our compatriots is a very great encouragement, giving us renewed spirit to carry on our difficult task. Believe me, the wonderful help you are giving will never be forgotten by the Greeks.



VICEROY'S TOUR.—Their Excellencies the Viceroy and Lady Wavell recently concluded a tour of Bihar, Bengal and Assam. Photo shows *Lord and Lady Wavell at a relief camp in Diamond Harbour Subdivision, Bengal.*

TO CERTAIN EXPERIMENTERS WITH TRUTH

Rondeau

Explain away your cowardice.
Tell us how Peace and Mercy kiss
In Co-prosperity's delight,
So that you have no need to fight
For things you clearly would not miss—

Justice and Freedom's fortalice,
The right to speak (or even hiss)
As you are moved by truth (or spite).
Explain away!

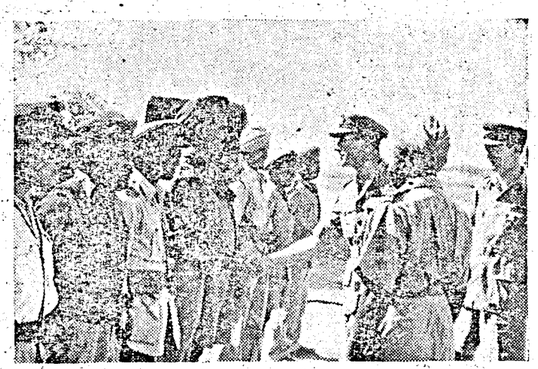
Perhaps it would not be amiss
To tell the Chinese of the bliss
The Japanese have brought, or might
Hereafter bring, if treated right.
Their wounds and woes you might like this
Explain away.

—*R.G.*

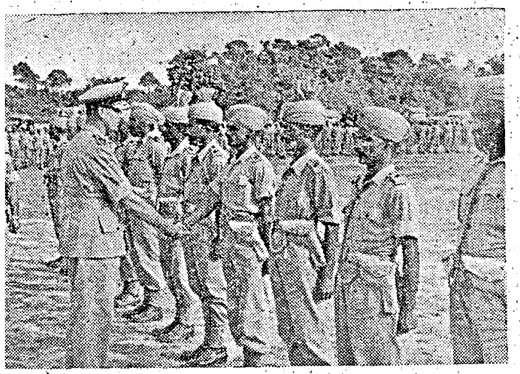
LORD LOUIS MOUNTBATTEN'S

Thousands of soldiers, sailors and airmen were visited by Admiral ord Louis Mountbatten, Supreme Commander, South-East Asia ommand in a rapid three-day tour of the Arakan front. The Supreme ommander visited troops in some of our most forward position.

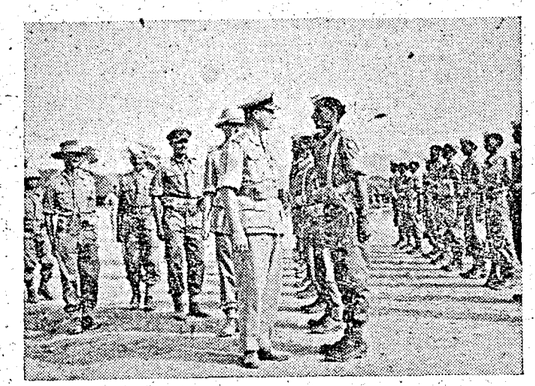
Royal Air Force personnel on a forward air-field in Arakan being addressed by Lord Louis.



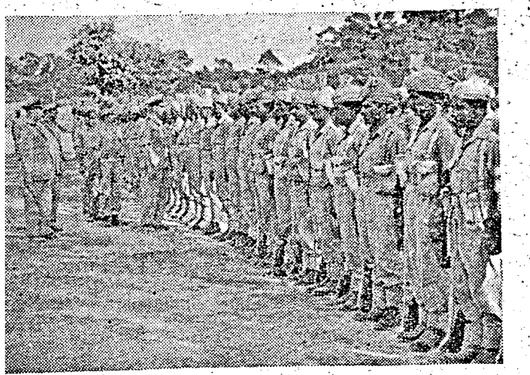
Indian Air Force Officers on a forward air-field being introduced to Lord Louis.



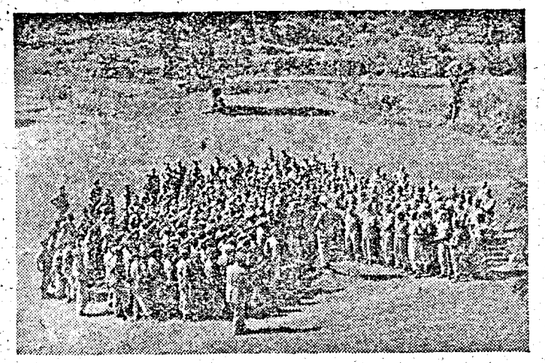
Lord Louis meets V.C. Os. of an Indian Regiment.



A fine body of Indian troops being inspected by the Supreme Commander.

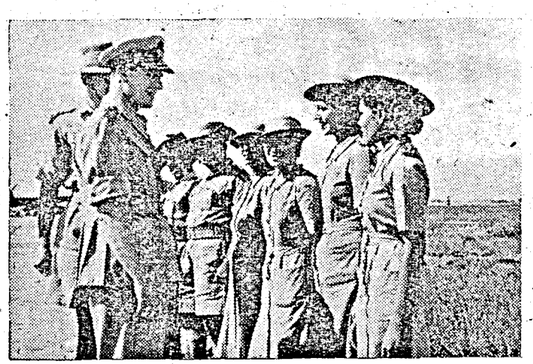


Inspecting an Indian battalion somewhere in Arakan.

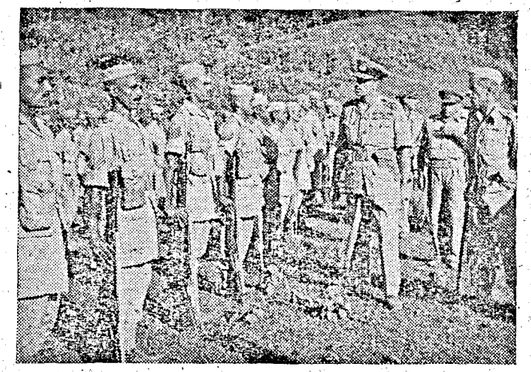


A batch of British troops being addressed by Lord Louis in a clearing in forward area.

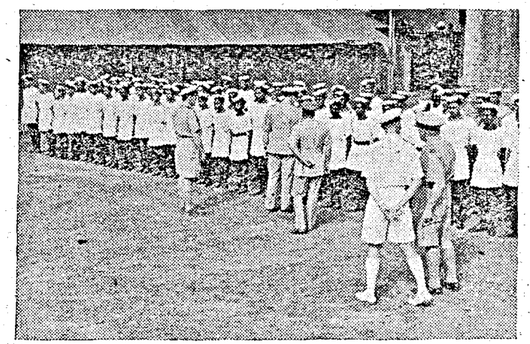
TOUR OF THE ARAKAN FRONT



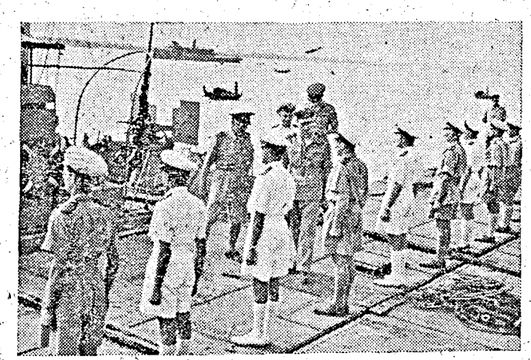
Hospitals in the forward areas were also visited by the Supreme Commander and here the Supreme Commander is seen talking to a sister of I.M.N.S.



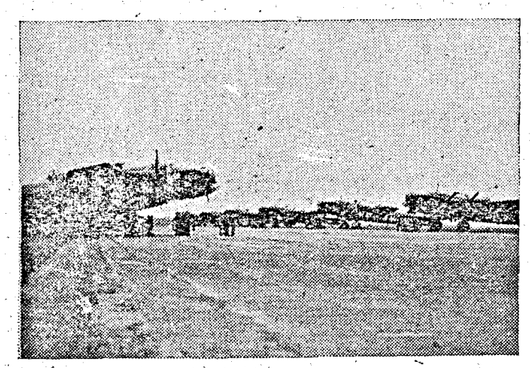
Indian troops back from a recent patrol action with the Japanese being inspected by the Supreme Commander.



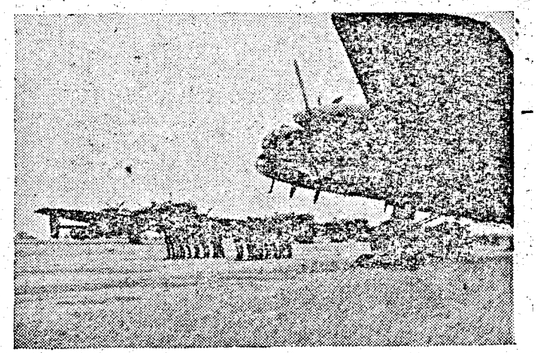
Lord Louis Mountbatten inspecting ratings of the Royal Indian Navy serving with Coastal Forces.



The Supreme Commander inspecting officers of the Royal Indian Navy during his visit to the Coastal Forces.

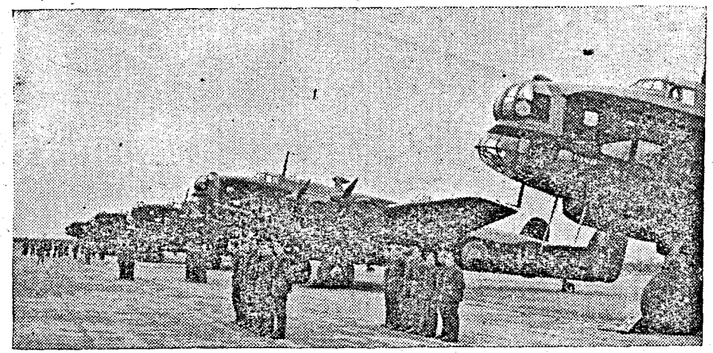


His Highness the Jam Sahib of Nawanagar inspected a Madras Bomber Squadron "somewhere in England." Photo shows a view of the scene before the arrival of His Highness.

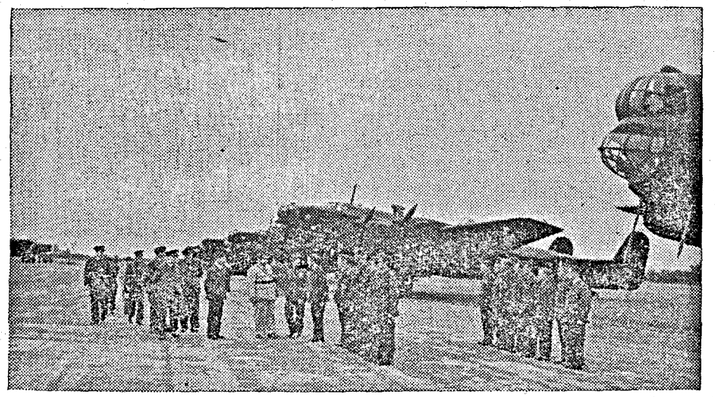


Another view of the scene before His Highness the Jam Sahib's arrival.

VISIT TO A MADRAS BOMBER SQUADRON



His Highness the Jam Sahib of Nawanagar paid a visit to the Madras Bomber Squadron "somewhere in England." Photo shows *crews and machines lined up on the tarmac awaiting the arrival of the Maharajah.*



His Highness inspected the crew of the Madras Bomber Squadron. Photo shows *a member of one of the crews being presented to His Highness.*

BRITAIN'S WAR-TIME ECONOMY

By DONALD TYERMAN

THE main feature of Britain's economy today is that the war machine is now running smoothly at its highest speed. It is this fact that accounts for the unusual absence of criticisms, constructive or otherwise, of the war economic policy which for four years served as a spur to greater effort. It accounts also for the predominance in economic and financial discussions of post-war themes.

Attention is focussed on Britain's economic situation and opportunities after the war, not because the war is regarded as over bar the shouting, but because for the most part shouting is regarded as no longer necessary.

In other words, the stage of total mobilisation and maximum war production so often heralded has been reached. In a pregnant speech earlier in the war Mr. Churchill spoke of three successive phases of war production: phase of preparation and equipment when very little is produced; phase of movement when a lot is produced; the final phase when as much as physically possible is produced. After a period longer than the whole length of the last war, this final phase has been reached.

A clear sign that the turning of attention in discussions to post-war problems does not imply any distraction from war effort is that it is not accompanied by any pressure for relaxation of war austerity. There is no demand for a reversal of the engine.

1944—HARDEST YEAR

It is accepted that the war production must run at top speed until the war is won; that there can be no restoration of civilian production until the phase of demobilisation starts; that, in fact, 1944 will be the hardest year of the war in terms of toil, sweat and short commons.

It is for this reason that some surprise is being expressed here and there about the cabled and not very specific reports from the United States to the effect that American war production is now so large that it may be possible to switch back a part of the output capacity to supply civilian needs.

Striking differences between British and American war economy should be appreciated. Britain's wartime productive effort has been achieved in the main by curtailment of consumption and by drafts on capital assets. The staggering output of the United States, on the other hand, has been mainly achieved by an actual increase in the total production; by British standards only the fringe of the civilian consumption has been shorn away, yet the United States is producing sufficient in every category of war equipment to decide the issue in two total wars—in Europe and Asia.

It is, of course, widely realized in Britain that in the final phase of producing any article of war equipment, a point inevitably comes at which enough has been produced for equipment and maintenance stocks. This has happened in 1943 in several branches of the British war equipment. But when this happens in Britain the choice is not between continuing to produce this particular article and going back to civilian work; the labour, plant and materials are too urgently needed, as soons as free, for production of some other war article which is not in ample supply. In fact, when war historians write the history of Britain in 1943, the main theme—after the achievement of total mobilisation—will be tansfer of great masses of labour and capacity from old to new tasks as the strategic plans have demanded in the main from military ordnance to aircraft and ancillary manufacture.

Britain's mobilised millions, men and women, when fully engaged must serve as a busy stage army moving from task to task as each successive job is completed—under the direction of the Ministry of Labour and National Service which has been one of the most powerful single factors in Britain's achievements.

In the balance between war and civilian production, there is no financial pressure in Britain for an increased flow of civilian goods and services. In other words, there has been no inflationary increase in the flow of purchasing power (after taxes and savings) threatening the whole structure of wages and prices in the absence of sufficient goods and services to take the flow up at the current prices.

NEW C.-IN-C. OF ARMY IN S.-E. ASIA COMMAND

GENERAL SIR GEORGE GIFFARD, K.C.B., D.S.O.

GENERAL SIR GEORGE JAMES GIFFARD, K.C.B., D.S.O., whose appointment as Commander-in-Chief of the Army Group in South-East Asia was announced on Monday (January 24) has spent most of his career in West and East Africa. He was born on 27th September 1886, and began his army service as a 2/Lt. in the Queen's Regiment in 1906. He was promoted Colonel in 1923 and in 1936 he became a Major-General, in 1938 Lt.-Genl. and full General on December 12, 1941. He passed the course at the Imperial Defence College and had the rare distinction of graduating at both the Staff College and the Royal Naval Staff College.

General Giffard's association with Africa began in 1911 when he was employed with the King's African Rifles. He became temporary Lt.-Col. and from 1918 to 1919 was Column Commander with the rank of Temporary Colonel. He subsequently became Staff Officer to the Inspector-General, W.A.F.F., as G.S.O. 2. In 1933, he became G.S.O. 1, Aldershot Command, and served in this position until 1936. He was A.D.C. to the King from 1935 to 1936. From 1936 to 1938 he was Inspector-General, R.W.A.F.F. and the King's African Rifles, and from 1938 to 1939 he was Inspector-General, African Colonial Forces. In July 1939 he was appointed Military Secretary to the Secretary of State for War and held this post until February 1940. He then became G.O.C.-in-C. Palestine and Trans Jordan, and held this appointment until June 26, 1940, when he went to West Africa as G.O.C.-in-C., a position he held up to July 11, 1942.

Gen. Giffard is in a unique position in the regular British Army in that he had command of operational units in one of the few jungle campaigns of the last war. Against the Germans under General Von. Lettow Vorbeck in East Africa he operated with mobile self-supporting columns in country not dissimilar to the jungles of Burma and encompassed the defeat of the enemy in that area.

From 1914 to 1921 he took part in operations against the Mereham tribe and received a medal and clasp. He also saw service in British, German and Portuguese East Africa, in Nyasaland and Northern Rhodesia from 1914 to 1918. He was wounded in this campaign and was four times mentioned in despatches. He was decorated with the French War Cross and the Military Order of Avis (Officer) and also received the British War Medal, the Victory Medal and the D.S.O. A further mention in despatches appeared in the *London Gazette* of April 1, 1941. Gen. Giffard has until lately been in acting command of the Eastern Army.

There's blokes, says Bill, what thinks the Jap
Is full of fine bonhummy.
I met a chap what really thought
They're treating Burmese as they ought.
He was a blinking rummy chap,
Or fishy more than rummy.
Lor luv a duck! says Bill to me.

NEW COMMANDER OF FOURTEENTH ARMY

LIEUT.-GENERAL W. J. SLIM, C.B.E., D.S.O., M.C.

LIEUT.-GENERAL WILLIAM JOSEPH SLIM C.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., whose reappointment as Commander of the Fourteenth Army was announced on Monday (January 24) was born in August 1891. He was first commissioned in August 1914. He passed through the Imperial Defence College and graduated from Staff College.

He joined the Indian Army in 1920, serving with 6th Gurkha Rifles. During the succeeding years he held various staff appointments and attended the Staff College, Quetta, in 1927. In 1934–35 he was instructor at the Staff College, Camberley. He commanded a battalion of 7th Gurkha Rifles in 1938 and in 1939 he became Commandant of the Senior Officer's School at Belgaum.

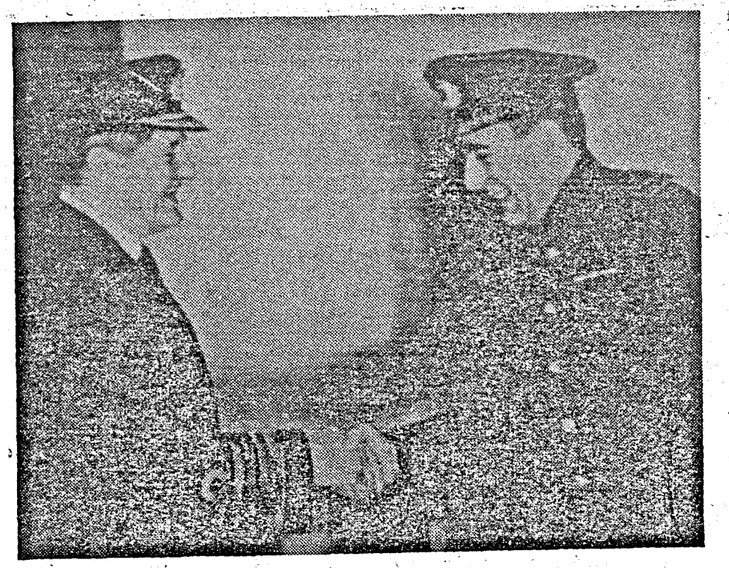
In June 1939, he became temporary brigadier and on the outbreak of war was appointed to command the 10th Indian Infantry Brigade of the 5th Indian Division. The Brigade was in the first attack on the Italians at Gallabat and thereafter in the advance into Eritrea, where General Slim was wounded by machine-gun fire from Italian aircraft. General Slim was then appointed to command one of the Indian Divisions which went to Iraq at the time of the rebellion, drove back the Vichy French in North Syria and later invaded Northern Persia and reached Teheran. After this General Slim went still farther north to Kasvin to meet the Russian Army representatives with whom peace terms were jointly arranged. In January this year he was awarded the D.S.O. for services in Iraq, Syria and Persia.

In March 1942, he was made Acting Lieut.-General and appointed to command 1st Burma Corps. On the evacuation of Burma he was appointed in June 1942, to command a corps in India.

In the Great War Lieut.-General Slim served in France, Belgium, Gallipoli and Iraq. He was wounded and won the M.C.

There's blokes, says Bill, what thinks their skins
Is precious as a jewel.
But when you looks you sees a squirt
Not quite so good as honest dirt.
And white or black for just two pins
I'd beat them up like gruel.
Lor luv a duck! says Bill to me.
Gorblimey, Bill! says I.

There's blokes, says Bill, what thinks the Hun
Will treat them like a brother.
To-day's newspiper says, I see,
This Gandhi chap wants us to be
All pals together, having fun—
It's such a shime to have this bother.
Lor luv a duck! says Bill to me.
Gorblimey, Bill! says I.



Admiral Sir Bruce Fraser (left), *Commander-in-Chief, Home Fleet, greets Vice-Admiral Golovko* (right), *Commander-in-Chief, Soviet Northern Fleet, aboard his flagship, H.M.S.* Duke of York, *on his arrival in Soviet waters shortly after the successful action against the* Scharnhorst. (A radio photograph.)

LENIN AND THE RED ARMY

By I. MINTZ

THE organization of an army with its corps of officers and a proper machinery of mobilization is a task which demands the maximum effort of a country over a course of many years. So history teaches us. The creation of an army in a short time is a feat of national energy and a tribute to the genius of its leaders. It was without army and without arms that the Soviet Government faced the world in 1918 when Germans treacherously fell upon the Soviet land. They already saw themselves masters of resources and foodstuffs of Russia and had visions of world domination. "First Russia and then the whole of Europe" bragged German generals.

Over thirty German divisions invaded Soviet Russia. It seemed that nothing could stop the German hordes in their advance eastward. But the road to the realization of the Germans' schemes was barred by a force that seemingly rose out of the ground. These were the first detachments of the Red Army.

But this was not a miracle. Right from the very establishment of the Soviet rule, Lenin's far-sighted genius had detected the coming danger; he saw that the German beast of prey was preparing to pounce upon the young Soviet republic. The few thousand Red Guards, who had secured triumph in the Revolution, were not enough to contend against a Germany armed to teeth. A big regular army was needed and Lenin at once set about forming one. He called military men together and discussed with them plans for the creation of an army; he studied the regulations of the Red Guard detachments and familiarized himself with the State divisions of the old army. At length, on January 28, 1918, Lenin signed a decree for the formation of a workers' and peasants' Red Army.

The entire country enthusiastically supported Lenin's decision. Thousands of volunteers flocked to the new army. Finest sons of people joined its ranks.

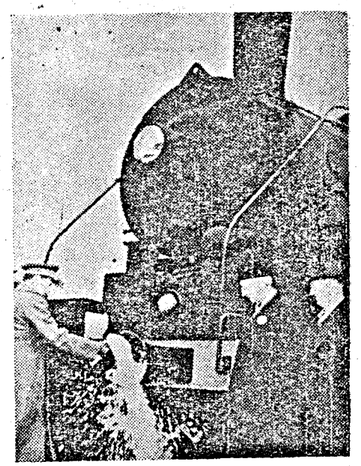
DAY OF BAPTISM

However, it was not the date of the signing of the decree which became the anniversary of the Red Army's formation. Over its cradle waved standards of battle and thunders of war resounded. It was the day of the Red Army's baptism to fire which came to be celebrated as its birthday. Germans had seized Pskov and were moving on Petrograd. But, beyond Pskov, German advanced forces collided with the newly-formed Soviet regiments marching from Petrograd. This was February 23, 1918. Germans' dream, of mastering Petrograd and then hurling all their forces for the subjugation of Europe melted away like snow in sun rays. Germans were forced to maintain a good forty divisions on the Soviet frontier; in other words Germany was virtually compelled to fight a war on two fronts.

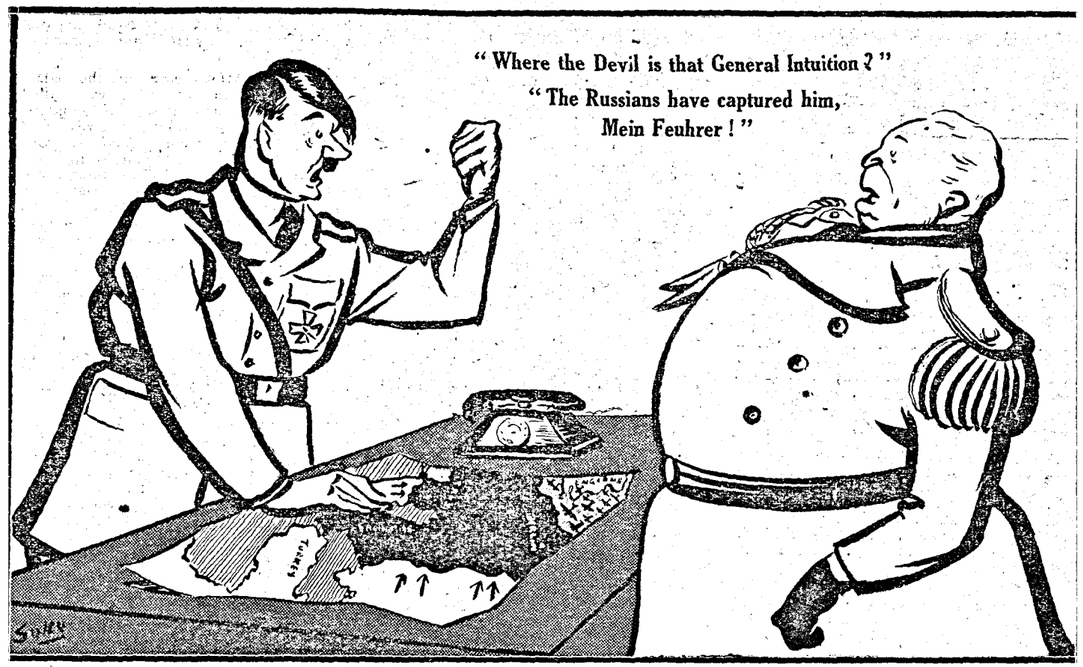
The Red Army, born in the battle against German invaders, was called upon to fight a long and attenuating struggle against White Guards and forces of intervention. The struggle was directed by Lenin and Stalin. In the room adjacent to Lenin's office, telegraphic and telephone apparatuses were installed. The operators kept contact with Petrograd, Tsaritsyn, Kharkov, Smolensk and scores of other towns and sectors of the front.

Lenin received reports and issued hundreds of orders and recommendations. The published correspondence of Lenin on military subjects alone will fill a large volume and if we add his passionate appeals to the people, his speeches on the Red Army and his reports on the country's military situation we get a good six volumes. As head of the Council of Workers' and Peasants' Defence, set up on November 13, 1918, Lenin concentrated in his hands all the problems of war—mobilization of the industry and sources of supply; the operation of railways and, above all, the formation and replenishment of the Red Army.

Lenin drew up strategical plans of the Red Army. The foe was pressing from all the sides: from east, west, north and south. But where would the main blow be struck? Where should the main forces be directed? In the spring of 1919, Kolchak was moving down on the Volga from which the march on Moscow was planned. At the same time Yudenich's White Guards reached the gates of Petrograd. To surrender the city would mean forfeiting at least fifteen per cent of the Soviet industry which, even as it was, could barely supply the army with ammunition.



Russian General Rudenko christens first of 800 locomotives built by United States for Soviet Government. (A radio photograph.)



—*Specially drawn for the* MADRAS WAR REVIEW.

There were some who recommended concentrating all the forces outside Petrograd. But Lenin was of a different opinion. Yudenich's foray was an adventurous gamble, Lenin argued; he had no rear area in which to develop the campaign. But Kolchak was a different matter—he had behind him Siberia and the Urals with their big resources manpower and raw materials. The chief danger lay in the east.

FINEST FORCES

At Lenin's orders the finest forces of the Red Army were hurled against Kolchak. The documents and admissions of the enemies subsequently confirmed how right he was. Yudenich's advance against Petrograd was intended only as a diversion; Lenin was always prompt to espy danger and immediately took the most energetic measures to avert it. At his orders, new divisions, reinforcements and ammunition were rushed to the threatened sectors. Lenin personally verified which divisions were dispatched and how soon they would arrive. Wherever danger threatened most and wherever the fate of the country was at issue and a decisive turn in the tide of affairs had to be secured, Lenin sent his trusted associate—Joseph Stalin. All the decisive operations, all the plans for big battles, which resulted in victory, were worked out and carried into effect by Stalin. The defence of Tsaritsyn against bands of the German agent Krasnov, the liberation of the Ukraine and Belo Russia from German invaders, the defence of Petrograd and the defeat of Deniking's hordes, these were all organized under the direct captaincy of Stalin.

MILITARY INVENTION

Lenin kept a close eye on the development of military invention. Engineers often came to see him regarding projects for new innovations. He also kept a close watch on the changes in the enemy's tactics. It was Lenin who conceived the idea of employing aircraft against cavalry in which the enemy possessed an overwhelming superiority. The leader of the Red Army insisted on the creation of a Soviet cavalry force sufficient to nullify this superiority.

On whatever subject Lenin spoke in the public—whether it was on public education, industry or culture—he invariably demanded that the formation of the Red Army be expedited and its might strengthened: "with a strong Red Army we shall be invincible. Without a strong army we shall inevitably fall a victim to Kolchak, Denikin, Yudenich"—this was his constant cry.

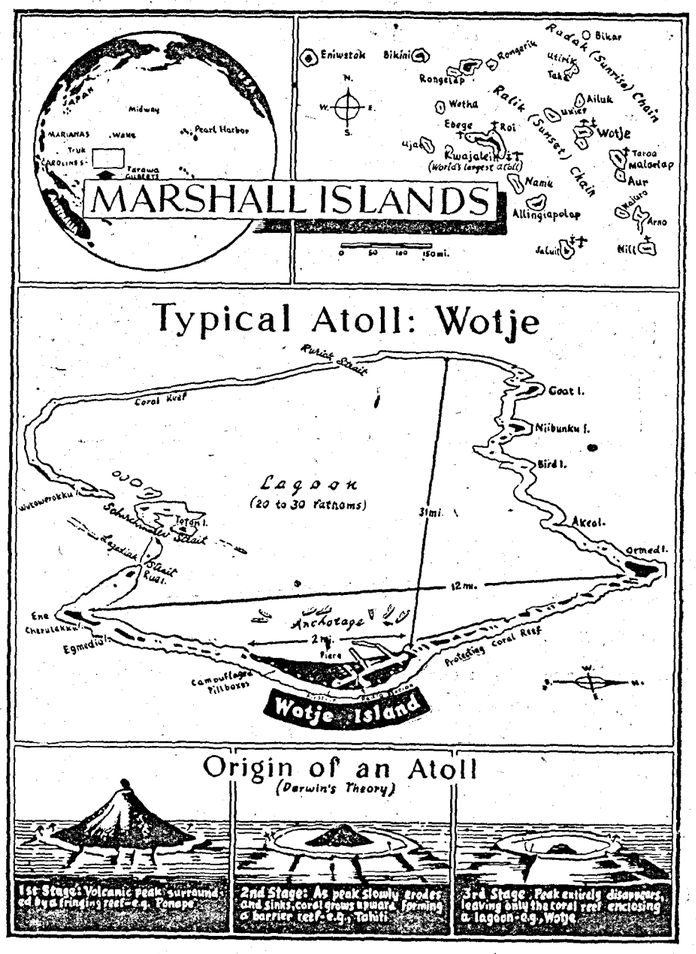
This call became a command for the Soviet people. Exhausted by the world War and then by three years of Civil War, Soviet Russia was hurled far back in its development even compared with the old backward Russia of the Tsarist times. Could an exhausted country maintain an army, and, what is more, an army answering to modern military standards? Many foreign observers affirmed that the attempt was futile. But the Soviet people, led by Stalin, clenched their teeth and rolled up their sleeves; and proceeded to restore and then to reconstruct the national economy. Five-year Plans of Stalin radically changed the face of the Soviet country, and this led to fundamental reconstruction of the Red Army. It was supplied with the most up-to-date weapons. Stalin, Lenin's great colleague who, together with him, had created the Red Army and, together with him, vanquished the enemy hordes, put Lenin's commandment into practice, and the Red Army became a formidable force.

The task of ridding the peoples of the Soviet Union and all freedom-loving nations, from the brown scourge and saving them from the violence and rapine of Hitlerite brigands is the noblest task which ever confronted the armed forces of any country. Shaped and moulded by Lenin and Stalin, surrounded by the affection of Soviet people and inspired by the support of progressive mankind, the Red Army, led by Stalin and together with its gallant Allies, will certainly accomplish its historic emancipatory mission.

THE MARSHALL ISLANDS—A LESSON IN WAR-TIME GEOGRAPHY

THE accompanying drawing forms a geology. The lesson in wartime geography and globe at the top left represents the world as it would appear seen from the moon when the moon is directly over the centre of the Pacific Ocean. The small rectangle encloses the Marshall Islands, an important scene of fighting. The same area is shown in an enlargement at the right of the globe, with the tiny islands named.

At the centre of the illustration is a representation of one of these islands: Wotje, which is known to be a strong Japanese defence base. The locations of the Japanese air strip, pillboxes, radio station and piers are given on the drawing. As can be seen, Wotje is not a conventional island, but what is known as an atoll, a circle of low, flat reefs enclosing a shallow lagoon.



ATOLL

Darwin, the great naturalist and evolutionist, as a youth formulated the accepted theory of how atolls were formed. (See lower third of drawing.) First, the peak of a volcanic mountain rose above the sea. Volcanic rock is soft and easily wears away. As the cone of the volcano were down, the tiny animals that make coral built a reef around the outside (second stage).

Eventually, the top of the mountain sank out of sight leaving just the coral reefs, broken up by occasional straits through which the tide ran in and out of the lagoon at the centre.

Atolls are important to-day because many of the bases which lie between the United Nations and Tokyo are built on them. An atoll has almost no commercial value. The limit of vegetable life is a palm tree or two. Rarely is its surface more than seven or eight feet above high tide. Where it is (note black areas in the drawing of Wotje), however, there is often an excellent site to build an airfield, establish an anchorage and dig defences.

The atoll then becomes a formidable defence position. In taking Tarawa atoll in the Gilberts (the Gilberts are now in United Nations hands; see the globe for their position), the United States Marines paid a heavy price in casualties. The atolls of the Marshalls seem to be next on the Allies' list. Almost every day United States Army Liberators bomb the Marshalls; sometimes twice a day. The big bombers pummel Wotje's aerodrome, tear up Taroa's runways, buildings and anchorage, damage Jaluit's shore defences, all of which were secretly installed since the Japs took over the Marshalls under a mandate from the League of Nations in 1920 and began to fortify them contrary to the mandate agreement.

GEOGRAPHY OF THE MARSHALLS

The Marshalls consist of 33 atolls with a total land area of only 160 square miles scattered over 150,000 square miles of sea. They are strung in a double chain: the Radak, or Sunrise, group on the east; the Ralik, or Sunset, group on the west. Twenty years ago when the Japs took over, the atolls had a population of 10,000 Micronesian fishermen and boatmen.

To-day the Japs are the only ones who know the true strength of the Marshalls' defence. United States reconnaissance, dating from the Navy's first raid on the islands in January 1942, has put the main Jap works on five atolls whose names are worth remembering because they occur so frequently in the daily war communiqués. The five are:

Kwajalein, world's largest atoll, an 80-mile string of islet is the hub of Marshall fortifications. It has a major airfield (on Roi islet), a seaplane anchorage and submarine facilities. In its tremendous lagoon, raiding United States planes have caught cruisers, carriers, seagoing merchantmen and many varieties of inter-island craft.

Wotje, 31 miles long, a cluster of 60 wooded islands, has important runways, hangars, a radio tower, docks for small ships.

Maloelap, 32 miles long, densely populated, has an airfield (on Taroa island) big enough for bombers.

Jaluit, 33 miles long, administrative centre, has an airfield and a big-ship harbour.

Mili, 23 miles long, a nest of 100 islets, has a strongly garrisoned airfield, a lagoon that provides good anchorage for surface vessels.

HE ALONE KNOWS

HIDDEN TREASURE IN RANGOON!—Somewhere in Rangoon to-day lies hidden treasure—real Scotch whisky. And somewhere in Indian R.A.F. Flight Sergeant pleasurably anticipates the day when he can dig it up and stand his squadron friends "burra pegs all round."

Early in 1942 Flight Sergeant W. Cummings,—"Lofty" to his pals—of 6, Horsham Road, Handcroft, Sussex, was serving with a fighter squadron, which was based on Rangoon harassing the advancing Japanese. Before the Jops occupied the city, "Lofty," with uncanny foresight, buried two cases of real scotch. On a scrap of paper he sketched a rough map showing the location of his buried treasure.

To-day, "Lofty" carefully preserves that scrap of paper in his pocket wallet, firmly resolved that when he gets b ck to Rangoon he will use it to produce the goods and drink to the damnation of the retreating Japs.

JOKERS OF THE R.A.F.

By RALPH MICHAELIS

FLYING against the enemy has its humours; and there are plenty of laughs to be heard over enemy territory.

Going around the various Royal Air Force airfields in the course of my work as an air correspondent, I am constantly hearing about the deeds of some fantastic joker.

I'd like to tell you a few of them.

A Sunderland flying boat sighted a German battleship escorted by a couple of destroyers, off the coast of Norway.

The battleship challenged the Sunderland with the code message "I.K." The Sunderland crew had not the faintest idea what the message meant. So the Captain told them to reply—"I.K." But this did not satisfy the Germans. They challenged a second time with "I.K." and—for the second time—the Sunderland replied—"I.K." Back came the methodical Germans for a third time with the challenge "I.K."

This time the Sunderland Captain could not resist making the obvious reply.

"Oh, tell them nuts," he said.

And so the radio operator signalled back, "Nuts."

There was a short pause while the Germans got out their secret ciphers and started to decode this cryptic message.

"It took them exactly thirty seconds to find out the meaning of 'nuts'," the Captain told me, "then they let us have 'everything'."

The crew of this particular Sunderland were a famous bunch of humourists.

One afternoon they were flying low over a Norwegian fjord when they spotted a couple of very fat German officers idling in a row boat.

"Let's scare the lives out of those two birds," said the Captain, and he dived towards the row boat.

As soon as the Germans spotted the Sunderland they grabbed their oars and started to row up the fjord at a tremendous pace. They had not gone far when one of them missed the water altogether with his oar and went head over heels backwards into the lap of his brother officer.

The sight of these two fat Germans trying to race the airplane up the fjord struck the gunners as so funny that they had difficulty in sighting their guns.

* * *

One of the radio operators in a night bomber group is a great practical joker.

One of his jokes is to tune into a German receiving station and tell them he thinks about them. In fact his parades of Hitler speeches are known from Hamburg to the Ruhr, to the vast entertainment of his own crew, and the annoyance of the helpless enemy.

But his best joke is the one which I have recorded in my book "From Bird Cage to Battle Plane—a History of the R.A.F." which was published recently in New York. Here it is:

One night the bomber in which this radio operator was flying was caught in a cone of searchlights. Anti-aircraft shells were bursting all around, and the pilot was throwing the aircraft about in all directions in an attempt to get away from the searchlights. But he was unsuccessful. More searchlights fastened on the airplane, so that the crew had to shade their eyes from the blinding glare.

The radio operator turned the knobs on his radio set and tuned in to the German station down below. And all at once the Germans listening in their control room heard the following announcement:—

"Achtung! Achtung! Germany calling! Germany calling! Here is Goering! Put out those damn lights"

BLEW HIMSELF UP

The Captain of a German mine layer was pulled out of the North Sea the other day, by the boys on one of our sea-air rescue service launches (these are high speed motor boats used for picking up airmen—our own or the enemy's—who have crashed or baled out into the sea) and this German Captain was cursing the "incompetent English" at the top of his voice.

The boys on the launch could not understand at first what was biting him. So he told his sad story, and here it is:

"Every day for months passed the German skipper had taken his trawler to a certain stretch of water; and there he had methodically sown his mines. And every night following his expeditions, the British minesweepers had gone out and swept his mines up again. But one night the British did not go out for some reason. The methodical German, proceeding as usual with his unlawful vocation on the following day ran into one of his own mines and blew himself up."

At a certain school in Bruges, the children on their Speech Day were questioned by a distinguished Nazi visitor.

A small boy of six or seven was called on to the platform and was asked: "And what would you like to be when you grow up?"

"An airman," answered the child without hesitation.

"Good, good, that is a beautiful ambition. And you will be able to go for long journeys in your aeroplane. Where will you go?"

"Oh, Monsieur," answered the child, surprised, "Of course I shall go to England."

DEHRA DUN TRAINING CENTRE

With the recent opening of a St. Dunstan's Hostel and Training Centre in India, at Dehra Dun, war-blinded Indian soldiers now have the opportunity to become useful citizens.

Initiated by a representative of St. Dunstan's in India, Lieut.-Col. Sir Clutha Mackenzie, who himself was blinded in the last war, the centre in India was started in the middle of 1943.

Already nearly a score of blind soldiers are learning useful handicrafts. The hostel at Dehra Dun comprises quarters in a pleasantly wooded valley at the foot of the Himalayas, which were formerly occupied by Italian generals captured in the Western Desert.

In addition to receiving special training which will enable them to read newspapers and books, these men are also taught various trades which they may practise later either as a hobby or to supplement their income from pensions. They also learn how to travel alone and to eat their meals with their own hands.

Special attention is paid to their health. Treatment is given to remove pain and to restore any degree of vision there might be. Plastic surgery is also employed to remove scars and cuts.

St. Dunstan's in India, as in England, is being run on voluntary subscriptions. A dance at Dehra Dun last Armistice Day brought in nearly Rs. 2,000. An unusual gift came in the form of a bale of cotton yarn from a firm in Cawnpore. It was used by the blind soldiers for making 'niwar' during trade training hours.

COMRADES-IN-ARMS

Teams made up of Indian and British soldiers are serving in India's mixed gunner units which are located all over India.

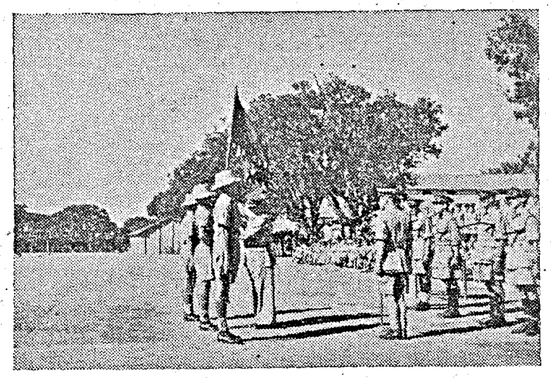
Many of the Indian gunners are South Indian youths, who have enlisted in the greatly expanding Indian Artillery.

South Indians speak many languages —Tamil, Telugu, Kannada or Malayalam, with or without a smattering of Hindustani. A common language was thus the first difficulty. British N.C.O. instructors were obliged to train the crews in the use of the guns and the intricate range-and direction-finding equipment entirely by signs and silent demonstration.

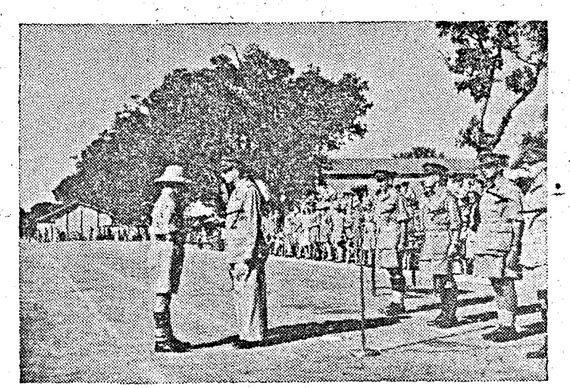
Food on a gun-site is another problem; the South Indian soldier and the British Tommy have different tastes and views about what they would like to eat. So at each meal the gunners gather round a camp fire, the South Indian to boil his rice and fry his vegetables, and the Tommy to cook his beans.

There is an excellent spirit of understanding among the men of these mixed units. The Tommy sits through an Indian talkie show during the brief spells of time off with the Indian gunners. He samples Indian foodstuffs offered to him by a man from Madras, Tinnevelly or the West Coast. Invitations to spend his leave in an Indian's home are not infrequent.

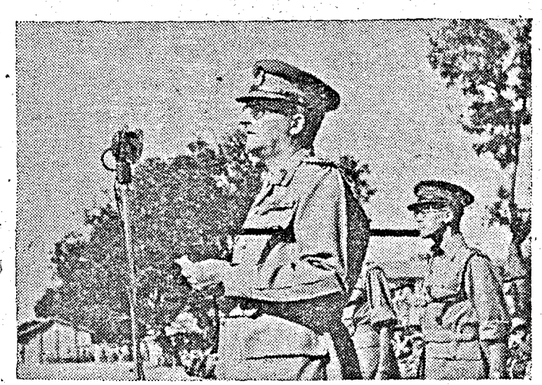
O.T.S. PASSING-OUT PARADE AT BANGALORE



Lieutenant-General Sir Noel Beresford Peirse, K.B.E., C.B., D.S.O., G.O.C.-in-C., Southern Army, recently attended the passing-out parade of a course of Officer Cadets at the O.T.S., Bangalore. The Wavell Banner was also presented to the champion company over the period of the last three months. Photo shows *the General making the presentation.*



Officer Cadet D. Carr, the best Cadet of the course passing out, receives his award and congratulations from the General.



Addressing the assembled Cadets Lieutenant-General Sir Noel Beresford Peirse said: "A high morale in your platoon is the only road to Victory."

WAR DIARY

BRITAIN AND GERMANY

19TH JAN.—Mr. Anthony Eden, British Foreign Secretary, made a statement on the Russo-Polish situation.

Lord Beaverbrook made a statement on the future of civil aviation.

20TH JAN.—Dover guns shelled a German convoy. A big German vessel near Cape Griz Nez was sunk.

Mr. Churchill received the Polish Prime Minister and the Polish Foreign Minister when Anthony Eden was also present.

The Royal Air Force made a very heavy bombing attack on Berlin. Allied bombers attacked targets in Calais. Canadian planes attacked two German destroyers in the Channel.

21ST JAN.—London and places in England were raided. Eight German aircraft were destroyed.

Important industrial centre in Central Germany, Magdeburg was heavily bombed and 2,000 tons of bombs were dropped. Berlin was also attacked.

22ND JAN.—The Air Minister Sir Archibald Sinclair said that the battle of Germany ranked with the battle of the Stalingrad and the battle of the Atlantic among the decisive battles of war.

23RD JAN.—Lieut.-Genl. Carl Spaaz, the American bombing chief for the Second Front, has arrived in England.

24TH JAN.—The Allied bombers attacked military objectives in western Germany.

Sir Stafford Cripps said that 1944 was going to be the hardest and most difficult year Britain had experienced in this war.

25TH JAN.—Mr. Anthony Eden announced in the Commons that the British Government do not recognize the Bolivian Junta as the legal Government of Bolivia.

* * *

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND ATLANTIC

19TH JAN.—The House of Representatives postponed the consideration of the U.N.R.R.A. legislation.

21ST JAN.—President Roosevelt met his Cabinet.

22ND JAN.—At least one U-boat was sunk, two others were probably destroyed and a number of others damaged by vessels and aircraft protecting an important Atlantic convoy bound for the United Kingdom some weeks ago, states an Admiralty and Air Ministry Communiqué issued to-day.

23RD JAN.—President Roosevelt created a War Refugee Board.

24TH JAN.—The United States have refused recognition of the new Bolivian regime and the United States Ambassador to Bolivia has been recalled.

* * *

INDIA, BURMA AND CEYLON

19TH JAN.—His Excellency the Viceroy visited Gorakhpur.

20TH JAN.—To-day's South-East Asia Command Allied War Communiqué says that Allied advance continued in Burma and Jap attacks on Arakan front repulsed. Other details of Allied bombing are also given.

His Excellency the Viceroy gave interviews to the Governor-designate of Bengal at Lucknow.

Mr. Amery answered a number of questions about India in the Commons to-day.

Sir Firoz Khan Noon is appointed a representative of India at the War Cabinet.

21ST JAN.—His Excellency the Viceroy visited Allahabad and Benares. A communiqué from South-East Asia Command says that Eastern Air Command Air Forces attacked Bangkok on 19-20. Other details of air activities are also related. The Allied troops occupied Sinohbyin in Arakan. American trained Chinese forces have been active in the Hukawng Valley.

22ND JAN.—His Excellency the Viceroy and party arrived in Bombay.

The Right Honourable R. G. Casey assumed office as Governor of Bengal.

The Government of India have decided to appoint a High Commissioner for India in Australia.

23RD JAN.—His Excellency the Viceroy visited slum areas in Bombay.

The South-East Asia Commands Communiqué issued to-day states that Jap positions near the Yu and Chindwin rivers' junction were pounded. A village near Maungdaw was captured. Mogaung, Prome, Pegu and Myingyan were bombed.

24TH JAN.—His Excellency the Viceroy visited grain shops and mills in Bombay.

To-day's South-East Asia Command communiqué says that Chinese forces have taken Mingru Ga. One strong enemy position in the Jaro Arc was occupied.

25TH JAN.—His Excellency the Viceroy left Bombay for Belgaum.

General Sir George Giffard has been appointed Commander-in-Chief of the Army Group in South-East Asia and General W. J. Slim has been appointed Commander of the Fourteenth Army.

RUSSIA AND FINLAND

19TH JAN.—The Soviet troops captured Krasnoye Salo, Peterhof, Ropsha and Shubino. It is stated that 550,000 Germans were killed in the past two months.

20TH JAN.—Russians captured Novgorod north of Lake Ilmen, an important town at the junction of five important railways. General Vatutin's men are making rapid progress in their advance on Roono.

21ST JAN.—The Red Army captured Mga on the Leningrad front.

22ND JAN.—The Russian divisions on the Pripet front have crossed the river Visha at several points. Soviet troops landed south-east of Kerch in Crimea.

23RD JAN.—German defences within 20-mile radius of Leningrad are disintegrating rapidly. Red Army troops are closing in on the outskirts of Tosno.

24TH JAN.—Soviet troops have captured Pushkin and Pavlovsk-Slutsk and have cut the Gatchinka-Narva railway line. Russians are now within four miles of Chudovo.

25TH JAN.—The Russians have increased their pressure at Kerch. Russian troops have closed in on Gatchina.

* * *

ITALY, AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

19TH JAN.—British troops of the Fifth Army have made several crossings of the Garigliano river. On the Eighth Army front, Canadian troops have withdrawn to their original positions.

20TH JAN.—The Allied forces captured Minturno. The Fifth Army continued its advance in the Tyrrhenian sea sector.

Marshal Badoglio told "my basic policy is to push the Germans from Italy and to render maximum aid to the Allies. All Internal Italian questions take second place."

21ST JAN.—Pressure was maintained against the enemy on both the fronts. British and American troops of the Fifth Army landed in the West Coast

FOR YOUR RADIO DIARY

JAN. 29.—BOMBAY—8-20 p.m. "War Commentary."

JAN. 29.—LAHORE—9-45 p.m. "Yesterday in Chungking." By Victor Kiernan.

JAN. 30.—BOMBAY—8-20 p.m. "What the Enemy thinks." By S. Natarajan.

JAN. 30.—TRICHINOPOLY—9 p.m. "The Challenge of Peace: Rehabilitation." By Dr. R. N. Poduval.

JAN. 31.—DACCA—8 p.m. "Japan on the Defensive." By P. C. Mitra.

JAN. 31.—LUCKNOW—9-45 p.m. "Twilight of Fascism—Nemesis." By Rev. A. G. Davies-Leigh.

of Italy between Nettuno and Tiber Estuary.

22ND JAN.—The Allies have occupied Nettuno, 32 miles south of Rome. All airfields in Rome area have been knocked out.

23RD JAN.—The substantial beach-head seized in yesterday's landings on the west coast of Italy has been widened and deepened. American troops have enlarged their bridgeheads across the Rapido river.

24TH JAN.—On the main Fifth Army front fierce counter-attacks have been launched against Allied troops at numerous points. Patrols have been active on the Eighth Army front.

25TH JAN.—Allied forces are approaching the Appian Way. The port of Anzio is in Allied hands.

* * *

VICHY, FREE FRANCE AND OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

19TH JAN.—M. Riad el Solh, the Labanese Premier said the independence of Labanon would remain absolute.

21ST JAN.—Allied bombers attacked targets in Northern France.

23RD JAN.—Allied aircraft attacked military objectives in Northern France. Fierce battles are in progress in Yugoslavia.

24TH JAN.—Northern France was raided by the Allied bombers.

American aircraft raided Sofia at noon.

* * *

THE FAR EAST

19TH JAN.—American troops in the Arawe area of New Britain have advanced 1,000 yards into Japanese territory. Allied bombers raided Amboina and set fire to a 9,000-ton Jap ship and bombed Hansabay, the Jap supply base in New Guinea.

20TH JAN.—Three Jap merchantmen were sunk at Rabaul by bombs. Two others were damaged. Twenty-one Jap planes were shot down.

The United States War Secretary, Mr. Henry L. Stimson said that Jap resistence in Northern New Guinea may be collapsing. He added that Allied troops were making steady progress in South-west Pacific.

21ST JAN.—A British submarine sank a Jap cruiser and three large supply ships in the northern approaches to the Straits of Malacca. United States submarines have sunk 12 more Jap vessels in the Pacific and the Far East.

The Japanese Primier made a statement on the war.

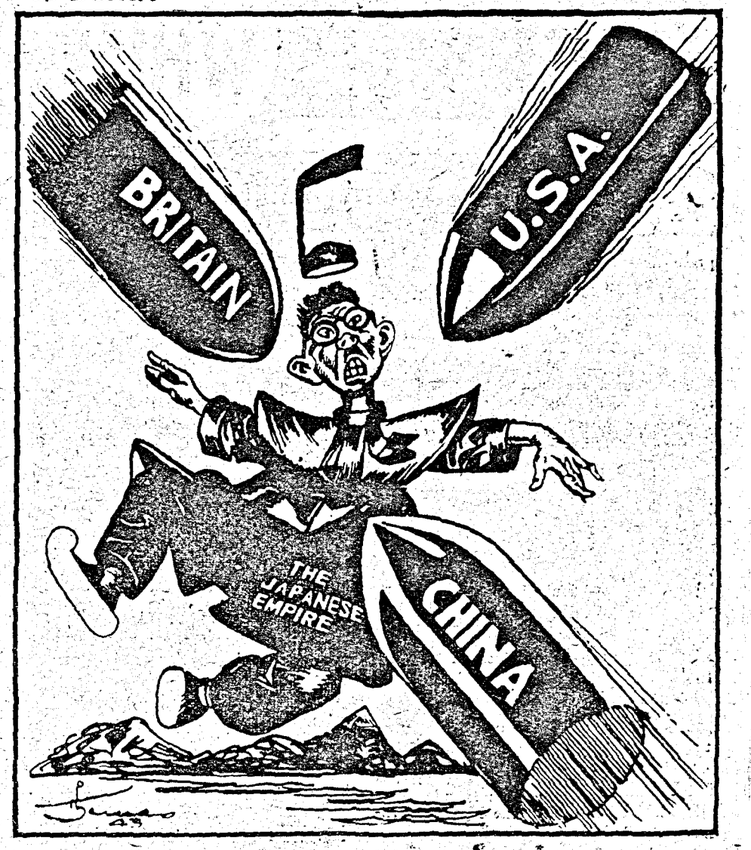
Bombers based on the Aleutians bombed Paramushiru island.

22ND JAN.—The Allied planes attacked Amboina, Madang, Ramu valley, Hansa Bay, Empress Augusta Bay and Bougainvilla, etc.

The Australia-New Zealand agreement reached on 21st is published today.

23RD JAN.—The New Zealand Minister to United States Mr. Walter Nash advocated the creation of trusteeship for South Pacific.

Jap Busters



Paramushiro island, the important Japanese naval and air base 1,800 miles from Tokyo has been bombed for the second time.

United States planes attacked Hongkong and Marshall Islands.

24TH JAN.—The German Ambassador in Tokyo, Heinrich Sthamer had one hour's talk on the international situation with the Japanese Foreign Minister, Mamaru Shigemitsu.

Australian troops cleared the Japanese from their fox-holes in the Upper Faria river area of New Guinea.

Six men who attempted to murder Wang Ching Wei, the Prime Minister of Nanking Government, were arrested and immediately executed.

25TH JAN.—Only 300 yards separated two arms of the Australian princess closing on the Japanese in the Finisterre mountain area of New Guinea.

THEY SAY IN VIENNA . . .

What is robbery? If a child steals it is *mania*; if an adult steals. *Kleptomania*; and if a whole nation steals, *Germania*.

* * *

Hitler sent a man to Vienna to find out how things were going on. The man came back and reported: "No potatoes, no fruit, no butter, no meat".

"Thank goodness," said the Fuehrer, "that I only promised the Viennese workers work and bread".

* * *

A Viennese schoolboy wrote in his composition: "The wicked Jews would have ruined our country if the Fuehrer had not forestalled them".

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MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. V FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 1944 No. 22

ON THE OFFENSIVE

THE United Nations are on the offensive and out of Great Britain and Italy our airmen are dealing mighty blows at the heart of Germany Stores of guns, aircraft vehicles, munitions, and fuel landing craft and equipment of every sort are now being assembled at bases all over the world to reinforce our offensive operations

GENERAL GEORGE C. MARSHALL, *Chief of Staff of the United States Army at Washington on Monday, January 31*

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[NOTE.—*The summary of news and comments contained in the* MADRAS WAR REVIEW *generally relate to events and statements published till Wednesday, every week.*]

HARDEST WORK YET TO BE DONE

"I know of no evidence to show that the enemy is on the point of giving in. The German people are in the hands of a desparate gang of criminals, who stand condemned by the whole world. They will not lose their grip on the instruments of their crimes until they are forced to do so or until those instruments break in their hands.

We have to break the Nazi will to resistance before we can have peace in Europe, and after that we have to deal with the Japanese barbarians, whose foul deeds you have heard of this week. You have only heard of a few of these terrible atrocities. The world will not be safe until we have subdued, and rendered powerless, these cruel barbarians who conceal, under the cloak of western civilization, the foulest and most depraved instincts of cruelty. Our task is not done. It may be that the hardest work has yet to be done."

MR. C. R. ATTLEE, *Deputy Prime Minister, at Sunderland, on Monday, January* 31.

◆

WILL TRACK DOWN AND PUNISH THE JAPANESE

"American objectives in India or elsewhere in continental Asia are to expel and defeat the Japanese in very close collaboration with our British, Chinese and other Allies in that theatre. There is no question but that the Allies will track down and punish all Japanese individuals responsible for the recently disclosed atrocities.

The United States' task in the closest collaboration with British, Chinese and other Allies, is military—expelling the Japanese from Burma, Malaya, Java and other territories. We propose to help each other on the road and waters and above them eastward to these places and beyond Tokyo. No matter what individual or individuals are in command in the given areas, the purpose is the same. There will, of course, be plenty of problems when we get there. Their solution will be easier if we all employ to the utmost our resources of experience and good faith."

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT *at Washington, on Tuesday, February* 1.

MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. V FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 1944 No. 22

THE THREE-PRONGED RUSSIAN OFFENSIVE

THE Red Army has scored important and spectacular successes on the Leningrad front. The freeing of the City of Lenin completely from the German blockade is an achievement of great importance. Russia's two North Front Generals followed up this great success by a drive from north and east to cut off the retreat of von Kuechler's armies. General Govorov pushed down from Gatchina along the railway, and General Meretskov, after breaking through the intermediate German positions along the Novgorod-Luga railway, pushed his tank spearheads piercing the German lines for a number of miles. His drive has resulted in the capture of the railway junction town of Tosno (Jan. 27) and the important railway station of Lyuban (Jan. 28) 50 miles south-east of Leningrad. The capture of four other railway stations south of Lyuban, and the occupation of Chudovo, 70 miles south-east of Leningrad, the last German stronghold on the Leningrad-Moscow railway, have resulted in clearing the enemy from the vital trunk railwayline from Moscow to Leningrad called the "October Railway" in commemoration of the October Revolution of 1917.

Two-fold Significance

THIS successful offensive on the Leningrad front may be stated to have a two-fold significance. Firstly, as General Govorov says, "A task of historical importance has been solved as a result of these battles. The City of Leningrad has been completely freed of enemy blockade and of barbaric artillery shelling." Secondly, it has got a much greater military significance, as it severely complicates matters for the Germans along the whole front. For a long time, all was quiet on this sector from the Gulf of Kronstadt to Lake Ilmen. Suddenly it has flared up into activity and become the scene of a major Russian offensive necessitating drain of German reserves. As a result of swift Russian moves, the German North Front defences reported to be the strongest on the whole Russian front, have been virtually liquidated.

OTHER troops of the Red Army are thrusting further south towards the trunk railway linking Staraya Russa with Pshov. One of the most powerful German strong points between Leningrad and Kiev is Staraya Russa, which has withstood the repeated assaults of the Red Army, but General Meretskov has exploited to the full the capture of Novgorod and is menacing Staraya Russa.

AT the northern end of the eastern front, General Govorov's tanks and artillery have made the Germans withdraw to Kingisepp, the last big Russian town before the Estonian border. There is a big double push by General Govorov's and General Meretskov's forces to encircle von Kuechler's army of 300,000 men. If General Meretskov's Volkhov front-line joins General Popov's new drive beyond Novo Sokolniki, the German bastion north of Nevel 50 miles west of the Latvian border, which was captured by the Red Army on Saturday (Jan. 29), the Red Army would have successfully developed a double thrust towards Latvia.

Immense Plan of Encirclement

HOW immense the Red Army's plan to encircle von Kuechler's forces is can be realized by the fact that General Popov's drive 250 miles south of Leningrad is sought to be linked up with the massive attacks north of Lake Ilmen. The Red Army is flinging its net wider and wider. On the one side, it is trying to tighten the arc around the Germans to the east, and on the other it is pushing forward west. The idea is to execute a double encirclement so that even if the Germans slip through the first ring they will be caught in the wider trap closing in farther west. The rapid speed of the Red Army's advance has thrown into confusion Kuechler's troops.

THE capture of Kingisepp at the Leningrad-Norva railway, nine miles from the Estonian border, is yet another feather in the Red Army's cap. The next line of German resistance after this will probably be along the northern course of the Luga which forms the Estonian boundary. The river Luga has already been crossed by the Russians at a number of points. Thus within less than three weeks since it launched its three-pronged offensive from Leningrad area on January 14, the Red Army has reached the Estonian frontier. The forces led by General Govorov who launched the offensive have smashed in four days the German defences built up during more than two years.

HOW far the double encirclement plan which has matured as a result of the three-pronged offensive on the Leningrad front will achieve its objective will be seen in a very short time.

A Special Military Mission, headed by Major-General Ralph Royce, Commanding General of United States Army Forces in the Middle East, paid a visit to His Majesty, King Ibn Saud of Arabia, at His Majesty's palace on the outskirts of Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, recently.

Jeddah, forty miles from Mecca, is the only nearby port to which Moslem pilgrims to Mecca can come. The King had just returned from Mecca where he had been for some time for the annual pilgrimage. Later he will return to his palace at Ryuahd, several hundred miles to the north and east of Jeddah. Photo shows *King Ibn Saud seated at banquet table during the dinner given in honour of the American Military Mission. The King is flanked by the American Minister, Mr. James Moose* (right) *and Mr. Jorden, British Ambassador* (extreme left).

RUNNING COMMENTARY

Hitler raises the Red Bogey Again

Broadcasting from his Headquarters on the eleventh anniversary of his seizure of power, HITLER made yet another attempt to alienate the Allies from Russia by raising the Red bogey again. Throughout his speech a certain fear of the approaching doom of the Axis powers is clearly noticeable. He said, "The saving of Europe is a problem solely for the German people . . . . This struggle will end in the greatest and most splendid victory of the German people." But every passage in his speech belies this pretence at confidence in German victory. His frantic attempt to sow the seeds of dissension between Britain and Russia even at this late stage is sufficient to show that he is convinced in his heart of hearts that German militarism cannot stand as against Allied unity. He conjures up a frightful vision of post-war Europe with Bolshevism stalking triumphant, and wants to goad Britain to fall out with Russia, because, after the war, the military prospects of a fight against the colossus of Soviet Russia will not be bright and the British Empire which will have to bear the brunt of the losses will not be able to carry out this task. His solicitude for the interests of the British Empire is not likely to deceive anyone, and HITLER knows it well, but he is still hoping against hope that something would happen to create disunity among the Allies.

As regards the ultimate end of this war, he admits, unconsciously, the truth when he says :

"This war cannot work out any differently from any other war in history."

All wars of aggression in the past have ended only in one way—the defeat and discomfiture of the aggressors. In picturesque language HITLER tries to strengthen the morale of his people. He says :

"Some of the best of our people have fallen in the storm, but every storm must subside some day. Then from the grim clouds the sun will shine forth once more on those who have remained steadfast and true to duty throughout the worst days."

But the New York *Times* points out that the sun goes westwards over Germany, rises to the thunder of the advancing Russian guns, and goes down to another thunder on the left over Italy, and to the mustering sounds of men and machines in Britain.

* * *

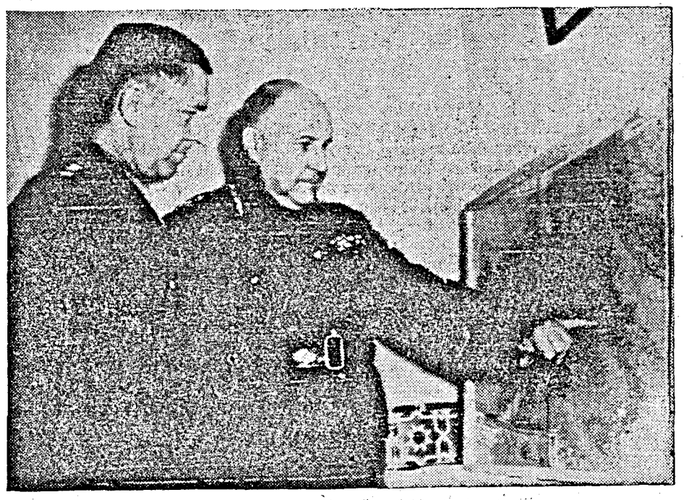
Britain preparing for the Zero Hour—Churchill's 1918 Statement on Strategy of Victory

HITLER's spectre of the rising tide of Bolshevism *will not*, in the least, distract the attention of the British or deflect them from their duty of annihilating Nazism. Britain is preparing with great speed for the Zero Hour, when a full-scale attack on HITLER's *Festung Europa* will take place. This time the Allies are not in a mood, nor in a need, to take chances. They know what they have to do, and they are ready for it. Mr. CHURCHILL has indicated what the ideal strategy in a situation like this should be a quarter of a century ago. In a memorandum he submitted to the Imperial War Cabinet in August 1918 during the last war, he wrote :

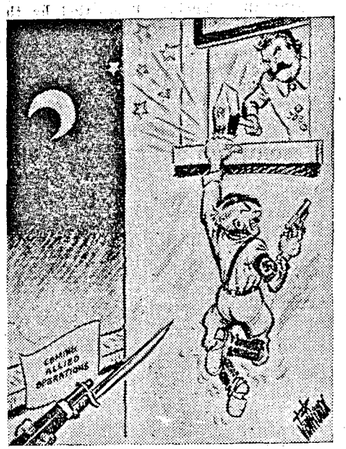
"What is going to win a battle like this is the intensity of the fighting effort during a limited period of time. The only way to save life is to secure the superiorities necessary for speedy victory."

What are these "superiorities ?" They may be stated to be three in number—the fighting forces, production, and morale on the Home Front. As regards the first, there is now a colossal military organization which is in a state of readiness, awaiting the word "Go." The great invasion of Sicily was something like the dress rehearsal of one act of the great invasion that is about to be launched by this mighty Allied force. It may be recalled that as many as 3,000 naval crafts of all shapes and sizes were used in the invasion of Sicily. One can imagine the magnitude of the shipping problem in the case of an invasion of Europe itself. The United States Navy Under Secretary has given some rough idea of the vastness of this problem. He said that the success of the 1944 offensives in all theatres would depend upon the construction of 68,000 landing craft called for in the American *shipping programme.*

GOERING, THE "MORALE BOOSTER" TOURS BOMBED AREAS—Goering's famous boast that no enemy planes would ever fly over Berlin is never mentioned now as the R.A.F. attacks have made the German capital the most bombed in the world. He has just completed a three months' tour in the bombed areas throughout Germany giving "pep-talks" to factory workers, anti-aircraft units, fighter stations, etc. Photo shows: *Hertmann Goering visiting an Army training centre. He is watching a young soldier at target practice.*



Lieutenant-General Jacob L. Devers, Deputy Commander-in-Chief, Mediterranean Theatre, meets General Sir Henry Maitland Wilson, Commander-in-Chief, in Algiers.



HITLER is keenly watching with apprehensive eyes the progress of the Allied ship-building programme. His despatch of ROMMEL for inspection of Europe's western and north-western fortifications betrays this apprehension and anxiety. HITLER's decision to reinforce the defence of Heligoland, which is the headquarters of Germany's serial mine-layers, is also inspired by a fear of what is to come. Germany's defensive naval strength has been, as our readers know, considerably crippled by the destruction of the mighty German battleship *Scharnhorst* and the sinking of three destroyers in the Bay of Biscay.

* * *

German Production affected—Effect of R.A.F. Raids and Allied Blockade

As regards production, the Allied programme is proceeding in many directions ahead of schedule and Allied blockade is having its effect in considerably slowing the pace of German production. Already grand work has been done by Allied Air Forces in blasting German centres of war production.

There is an unceasing and almost daily increasing offensive in the Allied strategic air war on Germany. German industries are feeling the weight of the mass air battles, concentrated bombing, and round-the-clock bombing by the R.A.F. at night and the U.S.A.A.F. by day. It is probable that HITLER may, as a reprisal, launch an abnormal counter-offensive just before the final showdown. There is not much chance now of an actual invasion of Britain from the Continent, but Lord CROFT, Britain's Under Secretary for War, says that HITLER may still launch an attack on the British Isles by air-borne units. In their despair, the Nazis may try to make good the promises they have

(*Continued on page* 7.)

"GENEROSITY OF THE PEOPLE OF MADRAS"

SIR STAFFORD CRIPPS has sent the following telegram, dated January 28, to His Excellency Sir Arthur Hope, the Governor of Madras :—

"I gratefully acknowledge further magnificent gift of £1,870. The generosity of the people of Madras has given us valuable assistance in providing aircraft with which the Royal Air Force carry out their splendid work over the battle-fronts."

THESE MEN OUR FRIENDS

(*By* R.G.)

This one off Crete
Saving others himself would not save.
When dive-bombers hammered holes in the fleet
And the sea shuddered under an oily coat
He, who was strong and brave,
Plucked the poor swimmers from Death's throat,
Spendthrift of courage and strength.
Having no more to spend
He too was picked up at length
And made an end
Dying on the deck. Think on these things.

This one, yet younger,
Whom the young man's hunger
For mastery drove into the air
Long before the war, and made
A test pilot, eager to do and dare
In his searching trade,
They sent over Dunkirk when they threw
Pitiful y few squadrons against the advancing
Tide of metal. Plummeting out of the blue
And in mastery dancing
Through the aerial mellay, his Spitfire
A rapier in his hand, he may have seen
The German squadrons break and retire.
But he did not return. He has been
And is not. Think on these things.

This one in Arakan
Breaking a path through the jungle and straining
To hold an untenable ridge for the sake
Of an ill-fated plan,
Grimly bearing the fever and the raining,
The hunger and exhaustion of the campaigning,
Like a bear at the stake
Baited by hounds on every side,
Many times wounded at last
Out in the jungle died.
We knew him well in the past:
But that is done. Think on these things.

This one in Singapore
Joined the volunteers and in reserve
To the regulars learnt to serve
While there was yet time, before
The ant columns of the Japanese,
Swarming to the shore and trickling through the trees
And over the causeway ended
A century in two months. His eye
Was true and his hand like a vice. Some splendid
Deed should have been his to do or die.
But like a trapped animal in a doomed city,
Food, ammunition, water, little or none,
He could only fight on till all was done.
Now he rots a prisoner, disdaining pity
But his worth utterly wasted. Think on these things.

Turn the globe round. Where will you not find
A place of dead men known to you, a scene
Of endurance staged by one of your kind?
They have been
And are not. Think on these things.

HOSPITALITY TO INDIAN TROOPS

Officers and men of H.M.S. Force in Madras were entertained by His Highness the Maharaja of Travancore to a magnificent garden party and a feast of dancing on Sunday, January 30th.

Royal hospitality still has a flavour all its own, for though royalty to-day retains its ancient dignity, it is informal and seeks to know its people.

Wandering at will among their guests, their Highnesses the Maharaja and Maharani chatted with them, introduced many of Travancore's soldiers to His Excellency the Governor of Madras and to other distinguished guests.

The Diwan of Travancore, Sir C. P. Ramaswamy, also moved proudly among the soldiers of Travancore, congratulating them and among the hundreds of guests military and civilians in the palace grounds.

The Maharaja was particularly pleased to see members of the Women's Auxiliary Corps (India) among his guests and had a special word of welcome for them.

Tea over, there was a rush to a conjuring show of great skill where the magician, a Punjabi with facile tongue and even more facile fingers, broke conjuring tradition by bringing not rabbits but roses out of a hat.

But the *piece de resistance* of the evening was a finished performance in Kathakalli dancing dominated by the famous Gopinath in "Mudras" and peacock and Rama dance. Rarely have soldiers Indian or British been privileged to see as fine exemplars of the art as Travancore provided and great bursts of applause testified to public appreciation.

FORWARD BAKERY'S 5,000 LOAVES A DAY

Nearly 5,000 loaves of bread are manufactured daily in a field bakery "somewhere on the Assam-Burma border". The bakery is supervised by a Madrassi Subedar, barely 23 years old, who designed and built the ovens. During Christmas he produced cakes, buns, rolls and biscuits for distribution to troops.

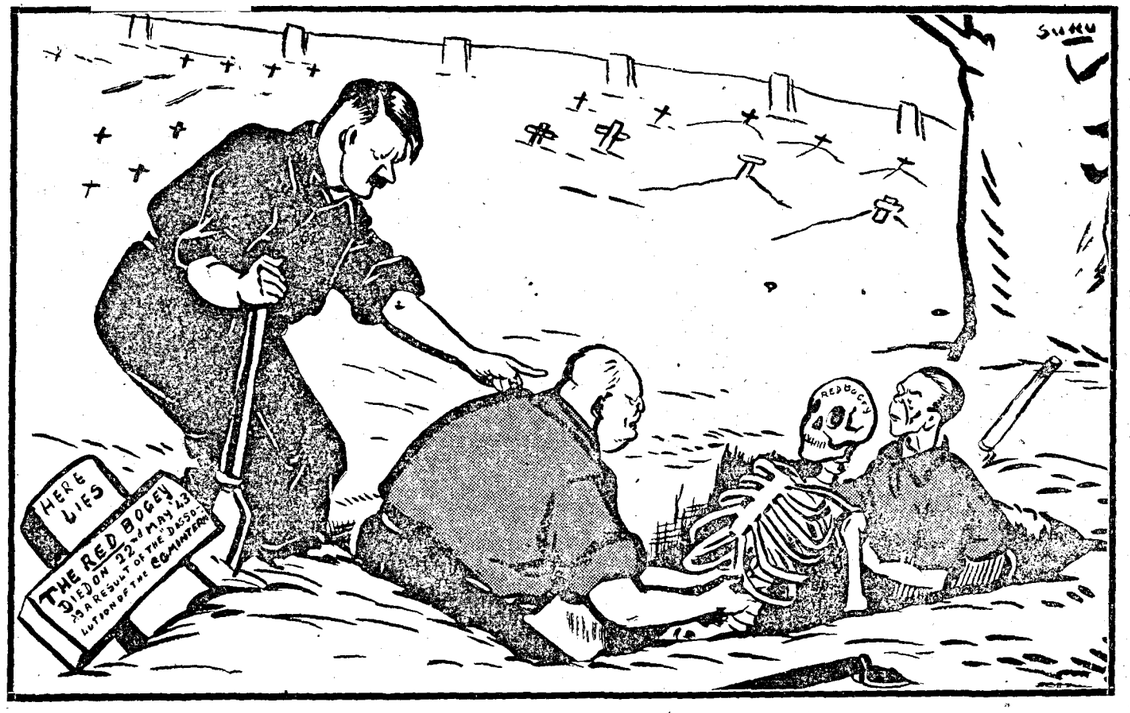
The quality of the bread, which is produced under hygienic conditions, comes up to the highest "home-made" standards. Work begins at 3 a.m. the last batch of loaves has left the oven by 5 p.m.

A stick of bombs fell around the bakery in an air raid, but baking went on and the loaves were duly delivered. In addition the men grow their own fresh vegetables for which seeds are provided free.

It was the raw recruit's first turn of sentry duty. So his voice was rather shaky as he exclaimed: "Halt! Who goes there?"

Out of the darkness came the startling reply: "Foe!"

"Have a heart, chum," the sentry protested "I haven't had time to learn the answer to that one let!"



—*Specially drawn for the* MADRAS WAR REVIEW.

RUNNING COMMENTARY

(*Continued from page 5.*)

made to the Germans regarding reprisals for the R.A.F. attacks on Germany. Further they may try to damage as much of the tremendous quantities of Allied equipment and supplies which are reaching the invasion ports. They may do this by aerial bombardment and even by using air-borne suicide squads. The Germans have a bomber force in reserve for this purpose. Their fighter strength in Europe has now been *increased* to about 2,000 front-line aircraft.

In a speech recently Sir STAFFORD CRIPPS referred to the probability of the enemy reprisals and said, "We *have got to be prepared* to meet the most violent onslaught of the enemy in the coming months." He added, "The year 1944 is going to be by far the most difficult not only on the fighting fronts, but on the factory front at home." On Britain's factory front now everything is brisk and bustling. The shortage in man-power has been met by the co-operation of women in war work. More than half the factory workers are women.

Morale of the British People

We have roughly touched on two of the three "superiorities" required for victory. As regards the third, viz., morale, it may be noticed that the British people seem to be more preoccupied with rehabilitation plans and post-war schemes and controversies on political and social questions than with the fact that barely twenty miles away across the Channel the enemy stands ever vigilant and watchful. The British people have tightened their belts and are undergoing willingly privations to enable vast quantities of food to be stored up both for invasion purposes and for rehabilitation. They have consented ungrudgingly to have their rations reduced. In spite of heavy war taxation the British people are responding readily to war effort appeals and investing large funds in campaigns such as the War Weapons Campaign (£469 millions), the War Ships Campaign (£545 millions) and the Wings of Victory Campaign (£615 millions).

Thus it will be seen that the morale of the British people is more sound to-day than ever before, and no amount of Hitlerian propaganda to weaken their morale or create disunity as between the Allies would have any chance of success. —

There's blokes, says Bill, what thinks this war
Is fought to line their pockets.
If I could get a toe behind
Just where their chassis is juiciest lined
I wouldn't bother to shout 'Fore!'
But send them off like rockets.
Lor luv a duck! says Bill to me.
Gorblimey, Bill! says I.

—*R.G.*

BRITAIN'S BUILDING VOLUNTEERS

By PHILIP MURRAY

CONSTRUCTION workers have been the pacemakers in Britain's race for victory. They have worked by torch-light in the black-out in the dead of winter, in snow, mud and slush in which men and machines have got bogged. They have worked all hours of the day and night to keep the homes of other war workers habitable after severe air raids.

Since early in 1942 the first on the scene of any new and urgent war building job have been the men of the Special Repair Service. These are the specialists—the Building Volunteers—who with the blessing of their respective Unions have set aside Union conditions and will turn their hands to any work in an emergency. They just go to the job and get on with it without asking questions. Of course, a craftsman can seldom work at another craft. But he can work as a labourer—and does.

HARD-EARNED PRIVILEGES SACRIFICED

Why have these men and their Unions given up so freely many of the privileges they fought so hard to gain is a question which naturally arises.

At the outbreak of war civil building on a large scale stopped. Building operatives by the thousand joined the Services or found other jobs. Later, therefore, when the war building programme increased in size and tempo, the brunt of construction work fell on the shoulders of older men and inexperienced youngsters. They gave their skill and strength unsparingly—but the shift of the working centres from town to country resulted in uneven distribution of the labour force, with inevitable results when the new year blitzes of 1941 came along.

At that time first aid repairs had to be given to houses if the morale of the nation was not to suffer and production in the war factories was to be maintained. Small local builders, most of them employing less than 20 men, were mobilized to do the job. But it was soon found that after a heavy attack they needed outside help.

Early in 1941, Britain's Minister of Works had been instructed by the War Cabinet to form a Directorate of Emergency Works to mobilize building labour for the rapid repair of damaged War factories.

So well did this organization function that in all fundamental principles it has not been changed since. The regional teams are still kept as independent as possible and take a great pride in getting to work as soon as, sometimes before, an air raid is over.

The S.R.S. soon proved its worth. It prided itself on "quickness off the mark." In the first blitz on Plymouth, the target of some of the Nazis' most savage raids, many thousands of houses were destroyed, although factories were but little damaged. On the morning after this raid more than 400 men from all over Devon and Cornwall were at work and within four days there were 1,800 imported men on the job. Nearly 3,000 houses were repaired and reoccupied within two weeks of the raid.

REPAIR MEN UNLOAD BURNING MUNITIONS

Again in Liverpool each night for nine nights the city was bombed, but the work went on and houses, factories, roads, railways and docks were put into some sort of useful order. During one raid volunteers were called from the repair men to unload a munitions ship which was on fire; there was no shortage of offers and the selected men went on board. The ship steamed out to sea, and unloading was started where an explosion could do no damage to the docks.

Meanwhile, the repair of factories went on apace. In the Midlands one factory appeared to be hopelessly and permanently out of action, with hardly a girder left in its original position. S.R.S. men were rushed in to work on the morning of Easter Sunday, 1941. Within seven days part of the factory was working again, and in three weeks it was in almost complete operation.

SELF-RELIANT SHOCK SQUAD FORMED

Later, a shock squad of 600 men was formed in ten compact, self-reliant flying squads, complete with mobile feeding and sleeping accommodation, materials and equipment. Each squad was equipped with specially designed vehicles—three fitted with 16 bunks each, a fourth with 12 bunks and a kitchen to provide the squad with three meals a day for seven days.

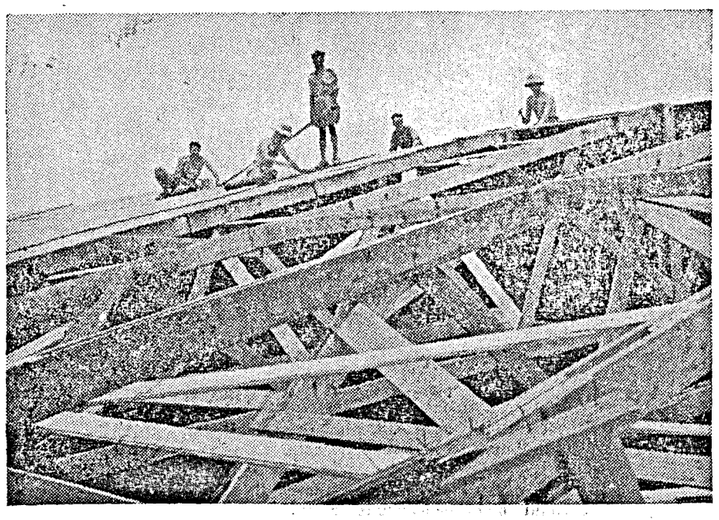
A five-ton lorry acted as tender to the convoy carrying equipment and sufficient materials to enable the squad to be independent for seven days. Thus when a town is bombed overnight, the men can arrive early the next morning and get to work without calling on local resources for billeting, food, tools or even materials.

Gradually the focus of the builder's war effort changed again, for another huge programme of airfields and camps for the accommodation of the United States Forces in Britain was started.

VOLUNTEERS SIGN FOR A YEAR

The immediate solution was to use the S.R.S. The long-term solution was to appeal for "Building Volunteers" who, under a war-time Act of Parliament—the Essential Work (Building and Civil Engineering) Order—have both special benefits and special obligations.

The men sign on for a year. At any time after nine months they can give notice to quit, but providing they can get permission from a National Service Officer, they can, like any other scheduled workers, give a week's notice at any time. Similarly, after giving seven days' notice, they can be removed from the Building Volunteers' Register. This is important, for under peace time conditions a building operative is never sure of his job from hour to hour, even if he is a good worker. In the Building Volunteers he is guaranteed a year's continuous work—unless he misbehaves himself.



Aircraft crates which a few years ago housed fighter planes, brought by sea to India, are to-day being employed in a variety of ways. Picture shows airmen working on the roof of a hangar made from aircraft crates.

GUARANTEED WEEK'S WAGES

Further, he gets a guaranteed week's wages—a matter of vital importance during the British winter, when work often has to be stopped. When working on the payment by results (or bonus) system the men are paid for a minimum of 8 hours a day (4 hours on Saturday) so long as they are capable of and available for work during normal working hours.

When first taking up employment with the Building Volunteers the recruit is issued with a travel warrant and travelling time to that job is paid. Thereafter when transferred from one job to another he is issued with a travel warrant and travelling time is paid at plain time rates.

At the end of every 8 weeks of work away from home the men are entitled to a return railway warrant to spend two nights at home. This includes the Sunday night, and if a man travels back on the first train available on Monday he does not lose his guarantee of wages for the rest of the week.

HOLIDAYS AT FULL TRADE RATES

A member of the Building Volunteers gets one day's holiday at full trade rates for every six weeks of work. Usually men have to save up these holidays until they have been enrolled for six months.

The S.R.S. has been brought into the Building Industry holidays-with-pay scheme, which provides for the payment by employers of weekly contributions which are paid out in the following year as holiday credits. For the year from April 1st, 1943, Britain's Ministry of Works will accordingly pay the contributions and stamp the holiday cards as required under that scheme, as well as allowing one day's holiday for each six weeks of work.

The fact that the men are serving Britain on vitally important work and under Ministry of Works orders is taken into account when deciding the order of call-up of building workers for military service.

A soldier whose main trouble was 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."

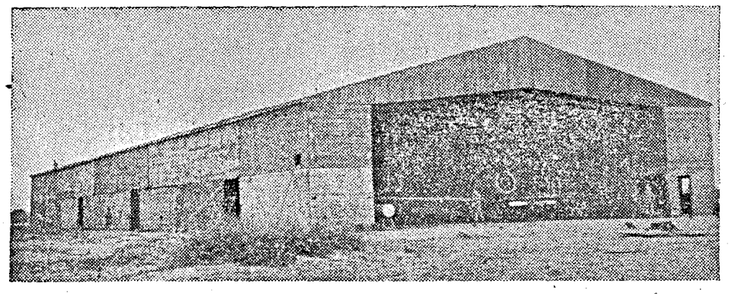
"Yes," replied Tommy. "But you nearly had me when the prisoner escaped."

CLUBHOUSE OUT OF AIRCRAFT CRATES!

AIRCRAFT crates which a few weeks ago housed fighter planes brought by Liberty ships from Britain and the United States are to-day in service with the Royal Air Force in a new role—as bungalows, workshops, and, in one instance, as an aircraft assembly hangar.

On one station in Western India, where the officers and men have to sleep in tents pitched on a strip of silver sand, the N.C.Os. have provided themselves with a little home comfort by building a clubhouse out of two aircraft crates.

A more ambitious use of aircraft has been the construction of a huge hangar at an assembly depot. Fifty crates have gone into the building, the crates forming the sides being used as offices, storerooms and workshops. The rafters and roof are constructed of broken down crates, and the whole job has been carried out by airmen on the station.



Here is a picture which shows 50 of these crates built into a huge hangar at an aircraft assembly depot.

ARMY COMPENSATION FOR CIVILIANS

The Southern Army has recently issued an order clarifying and improving the procedure for payment of compensation to civilians for damage done to property and crops by troops during field training and field firing.

It has always been the Army's policy that investigation of such damage should be made without delay and that prompt payment should follow. To this end a military compensation officer is appointed to act in liaison with a civil opposite appointed by the local civil authorities.

The duty of these officers is daily to inspect damage to property during manœuvres, to assess its value and to pay the agreed compensation *in cash on the spot*. The military compensation officer carries with him sufficient cash to cover all likely damage and obtains a receipt at the time of payment.

Small claims have always been promptly settled. But delay has occurred in the submission of large claims until both troops and compensation officers have dispersed. Investigation has consequently been difficult and, owing to the initial delay, the Army has been unable to make compensation with its customary promptness.

To obviate this, Army authorities are now insisting that all claims must be preferred and settled within three weeks of the last day of the training, which gave rise to them. Local Commanders must obtain a Clearance Certificate from the local civil authorities on the expiry of this period.

It is essential to the working of the compensation scheme that all inhabitants of areas in which projected training operations are to take place should acquaint themselves through the local authorities with the name and location of the Civil Officer appointed to liaise with the military compensation officer. Claims must be submitted immediately they arise and before dispersion of troops.

In the case of field firing, where larger claims for the evacuation of land and villages are likely to arise, the probable cost of compensation and damage is assessed by the local military headquarter in co-operation with the civil authority on the basis of so much per day, half-day or *hour before training begins*. Claims are settled monthly or at the end of the specific period in which training has taken place.

GURKHAS' STUBBORN FIGHT FOR VILLAGE

THE Gurkha Rifles, serving with Eighth Indian Division in Italy, led the frontal attack on the German winter line on the River Sangro, writes an Indian Army Observer. The wresting of the village of Mozzagrogna from the Germans took over 36 hours of ceaseless fighting but despite fierce counter-attacks the Gurkhas, with the help of two British companies and another Indian detachment who joined them later, finally succeeded in ousting the enemy from their strongholds.

Supported by a heavy artillery barrage the Gurkhas crept to the village after nightfall. The main objective lay on the far side of the village. The advance provoked serious opposition, both in the surrounding woods and the streets, but the leading companies broke in with bayonet and kukri and fought their way through.

Against firmly entrenched enemy forces the Gurkhas again put in a succession of bayonet charges. Prominent in this action was Jemadar Jita Ghale, champion shot of the Indian Army for several years. Although wounded he personally led his men in the hand-to-hand fighting.

As the Gurkhas began to take hold heavy shelling and desperate counter-attacks followed. But Captain T. Allen, one of the company commanders, although twice wounded, organized such a stubborn resistance that the attacks made no headway until the enemy sent his tanks and flame-throwers in the morning. Even then the Gurkhas did not retire; they drew apart and let the tanks go through. They fought the German infantry who came in the wake of the tanks.

Orders were given at this stage for a slight withdrawal to a position just behind the village which was more favourable to meet further tank attacks. Owing to damage to W/T sets the order did not reach all. Small parties of Gurkhas fought on in different parts of the village. When this became apparent the British companies ignored the order for withdrawal and stood their ground in order to get the Gurkhas out of what might have developed into a death trap.

Captain John Huban, commanding the third company, organized a stand to assist the forward companies but was killed in the close fighting that ensued. Subedar Ujibahadur Gurung, who had taken over command from the wounded Captain Allen, managed to extricate the two forward companies but held on in the town for four hours to get the wounded away and to collect the isolated parties still waging their own war against German sub-units.

On the second night fresh Indian troops arrived and the village of Mozzagrogna was occupied.

PICTURES FROM THE ITALIAN FRONT

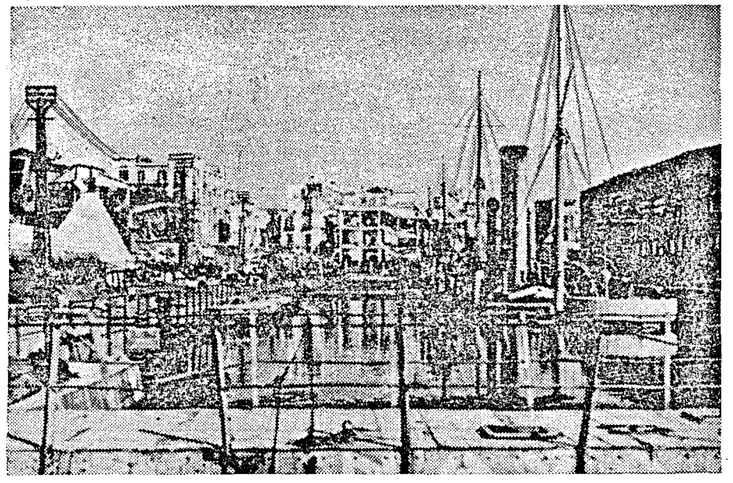
INDIAN TROOPS IN ITALY.—Indian soldiers fraternising with and introducing themselves to the inhabitants. These were the first Indian troops these villagers had seen.

INDIAN TROOPS IN ITALY.—A recce patrol of men from the Punjab.

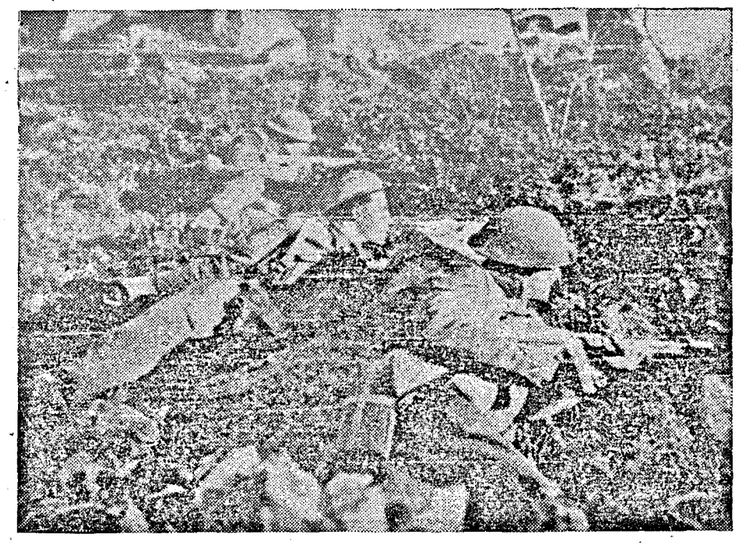
FOR THOSE

[*"Hymn for Airmen" was sung at a recent Battle of Britain memorial service in Cairo Cathedral. It was written in a London Tube train in July 1940 by Air Vice-Marshal (then Group Captain) E.B.C. Betts, D.S.C., D.F.C. The hymn was set to music by Flight Sergeant Clifford Harker, former organist at Durham Cathedral, now organist at Cairo Cathedral.*]

Inspire, O Lord, our men who fly
Their winged chariots on high
Across the dark and tortured sky.
Take them beneath Thy loving care,
Protect them wheresoe'er they fare
From all the dangers of the air.



SHAMBLES OF NAPLES' WATERFRONT AFTER GERMAN RETREAT.—Devastation of the waterfront of the great Italian seaport city of Naples is shown in this photograph made after the Allied Fifth Army liberated the city. Retreating German forces scuttled ships and blasted harbour installations in a methodical programme of destruction. Reconstruction of the harbour is proceeding under direction of Allied Military Government and Neapolitan officials.



British Infantry moving forward on the Fifth Army Front.

PERIL IN THE AIR

Thy sheltering wings, O Lord, extend
And succour, help, protect, defend,
Where Man-made thunders roar and rend.
Give them the only aid that's sure,
A steadfast courage to endure,
The strength of ten that fills the pure.

Bear Thou them up upon their way,
Be Thou their comfort and their stay
Through perils of their every day.
Grant them Thy shield from all that harms
And peace at last from war's alarms
Within Thine everlasting arms.

AN ENEMY COUNTER-ATTACK WAS REPELLED

THE story of how Indian troops repulsed a counter-attack against a ridge in Central Italy is told by an Indian Army Observer.

The enemy had been making preparations, and suddenly his guns opened fire. Our guns fired a few ranging shells and then waited for the advance of the enemy.

The German mortars opened up. Their range was perfect for their gunners knew the ground thoroughly. These multiple-mortars of "Nebelwerfers," known as "sobbing-sisters" to us, make a terrific din. Overhead Focke-Wulfs dived out of the clouds, dropped their bombs, and serried away from the ever-watchful Spitfires which were always on their tails. The air was full of shell-bursts from Borers and anti-aircraft guns. Over the trenches were the bursts of the German anti-personnel shells fired from their field guns.

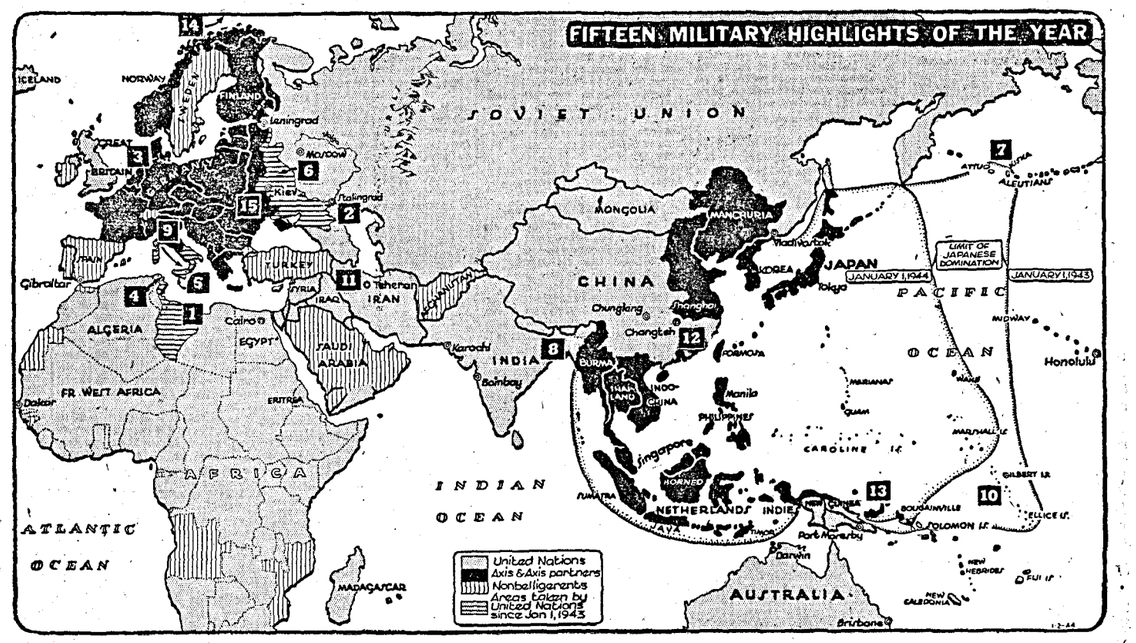
After fifteen minutes of this intense shelling and mortaring the Germans left their trenches and dug-outs and charged Their machine-guns opened up for the first time and their mortars increased their rate of fire. From every farmhouse the enemy poured fire in our direction. Then the Company commander gave our gunners the signal to open up with the 25-pounders. Their rate of fire was so rapid that the enemy believed them to be automatic. A screen of bursting shells fell some 300 yards in front of our trenches. The Germans caught in the open had to duck and run. All the while our Vickers machine-guns and Bren guns were sweeping the ground and searching every dip and available cover for the enemy. Our tanks and anti-tank gunners waited for the mark IV tanks but they never came for the Germans had had enough. A few of the enemy got through the barrage but our men leapt out of their weapon pits with grenades and fixed bayonets, and before long the Germans came forward with upstretched arms. The shelling died down. When the German guns fired a round at our trenches, they received more in return than they bargained for. Finally, there was quiet once again.

Stretcher-bearers in jeeps went forward and brought back wounded, both ours and German.

Throughout the attack messages piled up. Signals lay heaped before the General Staff at formation H.Q. Methodically a staff officer went through the pile and scribbled on a pad memo. for the evening sitrep, "An enemy counter-attack was repelled."

The old question. "Why is a ship called 'she'?" was raised recently at an informal "quiz" contest among members of the Allied navies in London.

A bright Netherlander provided the most interesting answer. "A ship coming into port always attaches herself to the buoys," he said.



—*With acknowledgments to New York* Times.

1. JAN. 23—British take Tripoli.
2. FEB. 2—Germans surrender at Stalingrad.
3. FEB. 24—Bombing of Wilhelmshaven opens "round-the-clock" Allied attacks on Germany.
4. MAY 7—Allies take Tunis and Bizerte, ending Battle of Africa.
5. JULY 10—Allies invade Sicily.
6. JULY 12—Russians open summer offensive.
7. AUG. 21—Americans retake Kiska.
8. AUG. 25—Lord Louis Mountbatten appointed Commander of Southeastern Asia.
9. SEPT. 3—British land in Italy.
10. NOV. 21—Americans invade Gilbert Islands.
11. NOV. 28-DEC. 1—Teheran meeting maps Allied strategy in Europe for 1944.
12. DEC. 9—Chinese recapture Changteh.
13. DEC. 16—Allied forces land on New Britain.
14. DEC. 26—British sink the *Scharnhorst*.
15. DEC. 30—Russians win Battle of the Kiev bulge.

MAIN TRENDS AND EVENTS OF 1943

By JOHN STANTON

THE year 1943 was a year of battle. It was also a year of preparation for the knockout blows of 1944 and for the peace to come. Everywhere around the globe the forces of the United Nations were on the offensive, and as the armies drove forward Allied statesmen, in a series of historic conferences, forged a tighter unity among the powers of the grand alliance.

The tide of war had turned. The years of Axis victories were over. In 1939 Poland had fallen. In 1940, Norway, the Netherlands, Belgium and France had gone down. In 1941, the Wehrmacht overran Yugoslavia and Greece and carried the war to the gates of Moscow, while Japan attacked the United States and made the struggle truly global. In 1942, German legions thrust deep into the Caucasus and invaded Egypt, a giant pincers movement that for months threatened the entire Middle East. In Asia, Japan won an empire. The Axis tide had reached its high-water mark. In the closing days of 1942 American and British forces landed in North Africa. Russia struck back. The United Nations thereafter never allowed the advantage gained then to slip from their fingers.

In the struggle for Allied victory the United States took a great part. American fighting man-power abroad grew in a year's time from 1,700,000 to 3,800,000. American factories, performing miracles of production, turned out 52,000 airplanes, 23,000 tanks, 40,000 pieces of artillery and much else in one eight-month period.

THE WEST

The skies over Germany—Allied strategic plans call for German defeat first, for Japanese defeat second—were dark as 1943 closed. The armies of the Reich were in retreat. The power of Germany's foes was being felt on every side.

In the East the Red army was driving the German invaders from Russian soil, while in the Mediterranean theatre American and British forces were moving slowly up the Italian peninsula. Overhead Allied air fleets smashed at German cities, industries and communications. In Britain powerful armies were gathering for the moment of Allied assault upon the western walls of Hitler's conquered continent. The Reich, looking forward to a grim year, could look back upon four major defeats in 1943.

(1) Germany suffered its greatest blow of the year on the blood-soaked steppes of Russia. There the Red Army, after eighteen months of bitter warfare which saw the loss of an estimated 4,000,000 Russian soldiers, 527,000 square miles of Russian land, 30 per cent of the Russian population, 50 per cent of the food-producing areas, 40 per cent of the coal deposits, 50 per cent of the steel and cast iron and 40 per cent of the machine-tool industry, took the offensive with a power and force that astonished the world.

OVER RUSSIA'S PLAINS

From Stalingrad on the Volga and the shadows of the Caucasian oil derricks, the Russian troops in drives of

late winter hurled the once-invincible Wehrmacht legions across the snowy plains of the Donbas. Russia's wet spring halted the offensive. Then in the summer the Red armies moved forward again and in the greatest sustained assault in the history of modern warfare rolled the Nazi forces back across the Dnieper, freed the cities of Kharkov and Kiev and hundreds of lesser towns. By the end of the year about 300,000 square miles of Russian national territory had been redeemed.

These were defeats of first magnitude for the Reichsfuehrer. They demonstrated that German man-power, backed by the industry of captive Europe, was not up to the task he had set for it on June 22, 1941, when he launched his forces into Russia. Land for which he had spent hundrdeds of thousands of German lives, land upon which he had planned to build the new German super-State, slipped from his grasp.

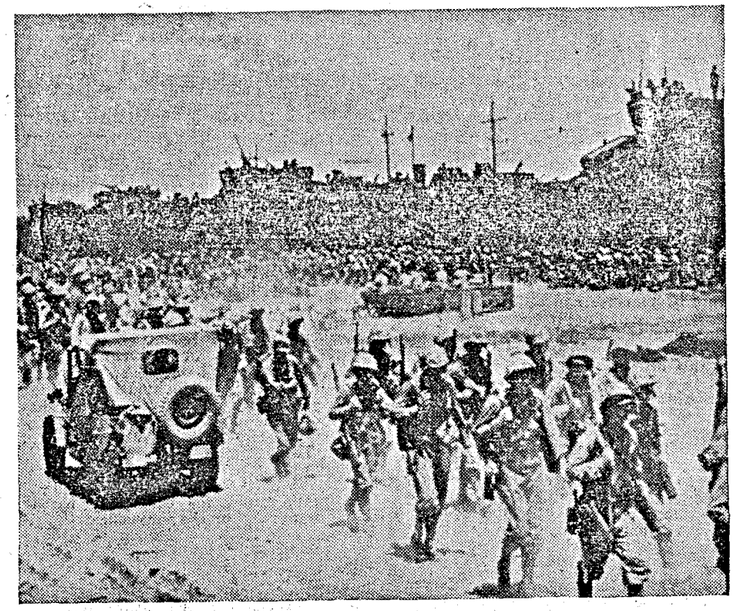
(2) There was defeat in the Mediterranean theatre. British and American armies were on the march. In Tunisia they trapped and crushed the veteran desert armies of Field Marshal Erwin Rommel. More than 175,000 prisoners were taken, including eighteen generals, bringing total Axis losses in three years of African warfare to 950,000 men killed or captured, 2,400,000 gross tons of shipping sunk and 8,000 airplanes shot down or destroyed on the ground. The Italian empire was gone. Nazi dreams of African empire were buried in the German graves that stretch all the way from El Alamein to Cap Bon. The Mediterranean seaways were open to Allied shipping, bringing the ports of the Far East 7,200 miles nearer New York, 7,300 miles nearer Southampton.

BATTLE FOR ITALY

Then the Allies struck at Italy, crossing the sea to conquer Sicily in thirty-eight days of lightning warfare. Under this blow the regime of Benito Mussolini collapsed after twenty-one years of power. Italy, under King Victor Emmanuel and Marshal Pietro Badoglio, surrendered unconditionally to the Allies. Its 1,500,000-man army disintegrated, some of the units turning their weapons over to Yugoslav and Greek patriots, thus strengthening Germany's enemies. The Italian Fleet, second largest in Europe since the destruction of the French Fleet, came under United Nations control. The Italian Government was recognized as co-belligerent with the Allies against Germany. Hard-pressed German manpower had to undertake the defence of the Italian "boot" against General Dwight D. Eisenhower's troops, who came swarming on to the Italian mainland along the Calabrian coast and at Salerno and began to fight their way north toward Rome against stiff Nazi resistance.

DEFEAT IN THE SKIES

(3) There was defeat for Germany in the skies. Starting in February and continuing with mounting effectiveness throughout the year, Allied air fleets pressed home a strategic offensive against German industry. Twenty-five major cities—including Berlin, the capital, that escaped almost unscathed while German bombers were



United States Marines disembark on shores of Cape Gloucester, New Britain.

hammering Warsaw, Rotterdam and London—were placed on the target list. By the end of the year nine were so thoroughly battered that they were believed useless for further war production. The remaining twelve were heavily damaged. Estimates were that more than 300,000 tons of bombs have been dropped on the targets since March 1. The *Luftwaffe* pulled in its fighter planes from the fronts to halt these attacks. Though they took heavy toll of British and American fliers the assaults aimed at the heart of Germany's power to wage war grew in fury.

(4) At sea there was also defeat for the Reichsfuehrer. Germany had counted on the U-boat to halt the flow of supplies and men across the seas to the fighting fronts. That plan failed when Allied counter-measures ended the threat. In the early months of 1943 submarines were destroyed at the rate of two a day, one a day at some periods. In August, September and October sixty were sunk, twenty-seven by American forces and thirty-three by British and Canadian. Carrier-based aircraft—they sank twenty-one of the twenty-seven destroyed by Americans—together with other new methods of attack provided the answer to submarines. American shipyards, building a monthly average of 1,600,000 gross tons in 1943 against 700,000 gross tons in 1942, provided the bottoms to move the supplies over the seas.

FROM ALL SIDES

These defeats complemented one another to compound Germany's difficulties. The Red Army tied up some 200 Nazi divisions in gigantic battles, divisions that might otherwise have been used in the west, and the Russian front absorbed the greater part of German war production. German divisions that might otherwise have been used in Russia were pinned down in Italy and forced to guard against the long-awaited invasion from the west. Increased Allied war production and the victory over the U-boats aided Russia, for the United States alone sent some 6,500 lend-lease airplanes, 3,000 tanks, 125,000 submachine guns, 145,000 trucks, 25,000 jeeps, and much other equipment, to the Red armies. British and American bombers cut Germany's production.

THE EAST

In the Far Eastern theatre of war the year ended on a somber note for Japan. The victories of 1942, which won for Nippon an empire in Asia and Oceania containing most of the world's tin and rubber and large shares of its oil and rice, had been followed by months of draining defeats. The year opened with a sober message to the Japanese people from Premier Hideki Tojo. "The real with Emperor Hirohito's telling the with Emperor Hirohito's telling the Japanese Diet in an imperial rescript: "The war situation is most serious."

Behind Japanese worry lay America's growing might. The expectation of the Japanese High Command that America's strength would be dispersed in two great theatres of war had been disappointed. Instead the United States had been able to bring great strength to bear in the west and at the same time to build up its forces in the east. The American Navy, of whose seventeen battleships two

were sunk and six damaged at Pearl Harbor, had recovered from this and subsequent losses and grown into a mighty striking force of 850 fighting ships, a force believed to be three times that Japan is able to bring into action.

ATTACKS IN THE PACIFIC

Japan felt the power of her enemies probing along the periphery of her stolen empire all through the year. In the North Pacific her forces perched on the outermost of the Aleutians were destroyed or driven out. In the Central Pacific, Makin and Tarawa islands in the Gilberts were captured in a bloody assault by marines and soldiers, the first step in an island-to-island advance on Truk, Japan's "Pearl Harbor." In the South Pacific, Americans, who a year ago were just bringing the battle for Guadalcanal to a successful close, moved up the Solomons "ladder" of islands 500 miles to Bougainville, threatening the Japanese base at Rabaul on New Britain Island. General MacArthur's Americans and Australians cleared part of New Guinea's north shore of Japanese and crossed to New Britain in a multiple drive aimed at Rabaul, thus opening what the Japanese Emperor called "the decisive stage in which the rise or fall of our nation will be determined."

The Japanese felt growing Allied power on the Asiatic mainland. On the ground in China the protracted bloody struggle with Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek's troops continued indecisively. In the skies, American aircraft changed the aspect of the war. No longer were Japanese "terror" raids permitted upon Chungking and other cities. Heavy blows were dealt to Japanese bases and shipping. In India, under Lord Louis Mountbatten, once head of Britain's Commandos, since August Supreme Commander in South-east Asia, foces were being mustered to redeem the wealth of Burma and open the roads over which supplies could flow to the Chinese armies. Success would mean that the weight of Allied land power could be brought to bear against the Japanese armies upon the continent of Asia, where a final decision might be forced.

THE CONFERENCES

What in the end may prove the greatest defeat suffered by the Axis during 1943 did not take place upon the battlefield. The defeat was diplomatic, stemming from the new spirit of agreement and unity built during the year by the statesmen of the Allied countries. Germany had attempted to use old suspicions existing between Communist Russia and her capitalist allies to keep them divided while she defeated each in its turn. Japan had hoped the clash of rival interests in the Pacific would keep her enemies apart. These hopes had failed, and in their failure the prospects of the United Nations, not only of winning the war but also of winnfng the peace, grew brighter.

ALLIED CONFERENCES

Six conferences were held during the year among leading figures of the United Nations' world. President Roosevelt and Prime Minister Churchill met at Casablanca in January. They met again at the White House in May and during August they held a series of talks at the President's Hyde Park estate, at the Citadel of Quebec and at the White House. In October, the Conference of Foreign Ministers, the twelve fruitful meetings of Secretary of State Cordell Hull, Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden and Foreign Commissar V. M. Molotov, occurred at Moscow. In November and December came the climatic sessions: President Roosevelt and Prime Minister Churchill travelled to the Middle East to confer with Generalissimo Chiang of China at Cairo and with Marshal Stalin of Russia at Teheran.

These meetings were concerned with the war. It was necessary, Prime Minister Churchill said, for the leaders to keep always a march ahead of events on the battlefields and events were marching fast. At Casablanca, with the campaign in Tunisia still under way, the invasion of Sicily and the attack on Italy were planned. New blows against Japan were plotted at Washington in May. The decision to invade Europe from the western seas in 1944 was taken at Quebec. At Cairo and Teheran the final preparations for the great blows of the new year, for the intensification of the war, both in the east and in the west, were completed.

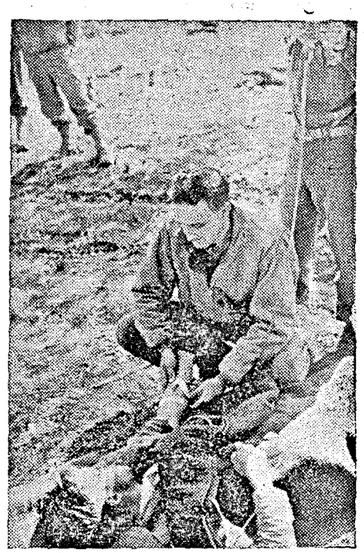
The meetings were also concerned with the peace. There were signs that the political problems of the future were on the agenda at all of these meetings. After Casablanca the two western leaders reiected a Nazi peace offensive with a demand for "unconditional surrender." After Quebec they made plain their determination that this time the men responsible for the war, the Nazi leaders and Prussian and Japanese militarists, would not escape. But it was not until the Conference of Foreign Ministers and the meetings in the Middle East that the shape of the future began to emerge.

PATTERN FOR THE FUTURE

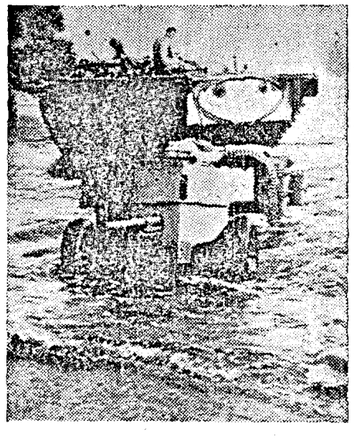
From these sessions the peoples of the Axis countries learned what "unconditional surrender" would mean, the peoples of the conquered countries what an Allied victory would hold. From Moscow came a demand for the punishment of war criminals. The pattern for the conquered countries seemed set in a declaration favouring re-establishment of Austrian independence. For Germany the future seemed indicated in a declaration to encourage Italian democratic groups, suppress fascist organizations. At Cairo it was decided to strip Japan of her power to wage war, take away all the territory she acquired by conquest after 1895, reduce her to the status of a third-class power. Many problems—the Russo-Polish boundary dispute outstanding among them—were left for the future lest debate of them now should disturb Allied unity. The over-all picture Moscow, Cairo and Teheran produced was of a peace in which the rights of small countries would be respected, a peace small-nation politics would not be permitted to endanger.

THE HOME FRONT

America worked hard in 1943. It produced more than 50 per cent more munitions than in 1942 more than 5 per cent more foodstuffs than the all-time record yield of the previous year. It sent its man-power to the training camps



UNITED STATES MEDICAL OFFICER GIVES BLOOD TRANSFUSION TO GERMAN PRISONER IN ITALY.—An American medical officer administers a blood transfusion to a wounded German prisoner who fell into Allied hands during the campaign against German forces on the Italian mainland.



American tank becomes front end of trailer as it churns up beach near Cape Gloucester, New Britian, pulling guns and military vehicles for United States' marine's advance on Jap-held island.

and fighting fronts in increasing numbers and enlisted an additional 3,000,000 women to hold its working force at the 65,000,000 mark. The effort strained the national economy.

Foremost among the home-front problems brought by the war was the increasing danger of inflation. The country had more money to spend and proportionately less to spend it on than at any

other time in its history. The excess spending-power—the "inflationary gap" men came to call it—was variously estimated at from $25,000,000,000 to $44,000,000,000. Bidding for scarce goods, it forced prices up. At many vital points they penetrated the anti-inflation ceilings set in 1942. The price increases, particularly in the case of foodstuffs, brought demands for higher wages. The prospect of a race between prices and wages loomed threateningly. Efforts to reduce the excess spending power by higher taxes and increased war-bond sales were not wholly successful.

Through the year the struggle to hold prices and wages stable was fought out. In April President Roosevelt issued a "hold-the-line" order against further increases but pressures continued, increased. In one aspect of the fight the country's 530,000 coal miners struck four times to win the largest part of their wage demands. Their victory opened the way to campaigns for increased wages by the 1,450,000 railroad workers—the Government took over the railroads to prevent a strike and the workers gained some of their demands—and the 350,000 steel workers. There were other aspects. Farm groups sought higher prices. Some business groups worked against the OPA. By the end of the year the inflationary forces had won some ground.

STRAINS OF WAR

Underneath this dominating issue other problems plagued the nation. Man-power shortages and dislocations grew more serious. Prisoners of war worked in America's fields and the need for a national man-power mobilization act was under intermittent debate. This question, entwined with serious sociological considerations, received sharpest reflection when Congress passed and the President signed a bill putting pre-Pearl Harbour fathers last on the draft lists. Shortages in civilian goods also grew. Despite record crops there were shortages in foodstuffs. In March canned goods were rationed and housewives learned to count in "points" as well as money when making purchases.

These were among the questions Americans discussed in 1943. The discussion took place in a new political atmosphere. The Republicans had made important gains in the Congressional elections of 1942 and Congress was more independent, less responsive to Administration leadership, than at any other time during President Roosevelt's three terms. The elections of November, 1943, mostly for State and local offices, showed a continuing Republican trend. The country, many observers thought, was satisfied with the Administration's conduct of the war, dissatisfied with its efforts to solve the problems of the home front. It will hand down its final verdict in the Presidential election of 1944.

New York *Times*.

They tell an anecdote about a soldier on guard duty for the first time at night. He heard a strange noise, fired at it, then called out: "Who went there?"

JAPAN'S INCREASING ECONOMIC DIFFICULTIES

WHILE Japan's setbacks in the Southern Pacific are a source of much satisfaction to the Allies, it must not be inferred that the enemy is any nearer willingness to accept unconditional surrender, and this becomes more obvious on consideration of Japan's economic position. Indeed, she has grave and fundamental economic weaknesses, but on the other hand for years she has been preparing for unlimited aggression in the Far East and has made up a lot of ground.

Nevertheless she still suffers from a shortage of certain materials such as copper, cobalt, antimony, cotton, silk, rayon and staple fibre, wool, salt and potash.

The textile industry was in peacetime the most considerable. She imported raw cotton from the United States and from India, and exported cotton piecegoods all over the world and in particular to the Pacific area. Her entry into the war immediately cut off her two main sources of supply; she was forced to rely on the meagre production of raw cotton in the countries she eventually overrun. Given ideal conditions for the growing of cotton, such as those in the United States, it is estimated that it is impossible for Japan to obtain from occupied countries sufficient quantities of raw cotton to meet half her own normal internal requirements. In no circumstances could she obtain sufficient raw cotton to meet the needs of the inhabitants of the "Co-Prosperity Sphere." The use of rayon and silk can only help her out of this difficulty to a minor extent.

COTTON SCARCITY

Formerly the world's largest producer and exporter of silk, which represented a most important item in her agricultural economy, the silk exported to the United States is available to alleviate the cotton shortage. But in order to step up food production the authorities have reduced the production of silk by about a third. While very great strides in the production of rayon and staple fibre have been made, two facts plainly emerge: (*a*) Japan's supply of wood pulp is limited; (*b*) Japan is gravely handicapped by a small quantity of caustic soda.

Normally Japan imported wool in vast quantities from Australia. She is now obliged to rely entirely upon the resources of North China and Mongolia. Wool has become a necessity for the Japanese. Staple fibre uniforms will not stand up to the wear and tear of war and, in the colder climates, wool is essential for warmth.

Japan faces a tremendous shortage of raw cotton. She has been obliged to close down nearly all her cotton mills. She is compelled to substitute rayon, staple fibre and silk mixtures, but she is not able to do more than meet her own peacetime requirements of textiles. She has no surplus for export, and what she has is of extremely poor quality. It can therefore be said that the production of textiles is a major problem for Japan at the moment, and one which the acquisition of large territories in the Far East has done little to alleviate.

Against these shortages must be set surpluses in other directions. For example, with the production of Formosa there is ample sugar, but the difficulty is what use to make of the huge sugar production of the Philippines and the Netherlands East Indies.

With rubber the situation is not dissimilar. Requirements are roughly 70,000 metric tons a year and Indo-China, now in Japan's occupation, can supply practically all that Japan wants. In fact, she is faced with the problem of what to do with a production which is about 90 per cent of the total world output. Germany's rubber deficiency is nearly as great as Japan's surplus, and the former could be met but for the British blockade. Cargoes are said to have been brought to Europe by submarines, but if so the quantity is too small to relieve the situation. Through her conquests she has also acquired enormous quantities of coal, oil iron ore, raw materials of the aluminium industry, tin, magnesite for production of metallic magnesium, wolfram, chrome and vegetable oils, lead and a virtual monopoly of cinchona bark, the only source of natural quinine, vital to troops operating in malaria-infested districts.

The limiting factors for Japan in the advantage she can gain from newly acquired rich territories are shortages of skilled labour, and, above all, of shipping. These are the two fundamental weaknesses of the whole Japanese economic system. These are the chinks in the Japanese armour.—*Financial Times.*

Hitler and Goering were at Ostend gazing sadly across the Channel towards England. Suddenly Goering said, "Adolf. I have an idea. When I was at school I remember we learned a story about a man who divided the sea in order to enable his army to cross on dry land." Then he added doubtfully, "But I think that man was a Jew."

Hitler cared little for that and immediately sent for a Rabbi. When he arrived, the Fuehrer asked him, "Is it true that a Jew once divided the sea, leaving dry land for his army to cross?"

"Certainly," was the answer. "That was Moses."

"Where is he now?"

"I am afraid he has been dead a long time."

"Then tell me how he did it."

"By striking the sea with a stick given by God."

"And where is that stick now?" shouted the excited Fuehrer.

"The stick," was the quiet reply, "Oh, that is in the British Museum."

CAUTIONARY COUNSELS

(*By* R.G.)

No. VII. Abdulla, Who Wangled Petrol and Scorched Himself to Death.

Abdulla was not really vicious.
He only found high speed delicious
And therefore bought himself whole fleets
Of cars to rush about the streets
And down the open roads and lanes
As though in low-flying aeroplanes.
But he was really sorry when
He killed a careless goat or hen;
And if a woman down he knocked or
Flattened out he fetched a doctor.

Through years of peace Abdulla trod
Upon the gas and felt a god,
Nor did the war at first impede
His usual bursts of headlong speed.
But when war's difficulties grew
And tankers came here none or few
He was informed he must reduce
His monthly gluttony of juice
And curb his locomotive passion
Within the limits of his ration.
However he might ask for more,
They only showed him to the door:
However he might rave or shout
The A.R.O. just showed him out.

Then to Abdulla tempter showed
Where the black market petrol flowed:
And (it's with grief the fact I tell)
Abdulla listened, saw and fell.
Of coupons by a cunning racket
He crookedly amassed a packet;
And when the coupons too ran out
He stifled shame and bought without!

See now the villain take the road
And (well concealed) a monstrous load
Of tins and tins of petrol stowed.
From Saidapet to Coimbatore
And Mettupalaiyam and Coonoor
And Gudalur and Bangalore
And back to Saidapet once more:
Then off upon a southward road
To Madura the blest abode
Of gods and mills and two Collectors,
Or north and west through other sectors
He races in a dusty cloud,
Driving like Lucifer the proud
And scattering the tardy yokel
With blasts electrical and vocal.

It was too good to last. It seems
Two tins were leaking, and the streams
Of petrol went on pouring while
Abdulla dashed from mile to mile:
And when the heedless idiot lit
A cigarette, that finished it.
The tins acquired by wangling sordid
A costly funeral pyre afforded.

Moral

Use petrol carefully and go
(As wartime drivers ought to) slow.

"WE DO EVERYTHING" WORK OF I.E.M.E.

THE scene is the Indo-Burma front. An emergency call goes out and within a short time a handful of men of the Indian Electrical and Mechanical Engineers are on the spot: ready to perform one of their quietly spectacular jobs of improvisation, and thereby to avert probable disaster to an isolated body of British and Indian troops menaced by a sudden Japanese thrust.

The troops were holding a forward position. Overnight a rain-storm broke and stretches of the road connecting them with the base area were washed away; simultaneously patrols reported that the Japanese were massing for attack.

Reinforcements and supplies were needed, and immediately, to move them forward hundreds of lorries had, somehow, to be got over the washed-out road. The job was turned over to a small force of I.E.M.E. men who borrowed a number of winches and breakdown lorries from other units. A "cable railway" was improvised and, hour after hour, day and night, the convoys were winched over the worst parts of the road.

The vital trucks arrived in time, the troops were reinforced, and the Japs were beaten back. And the I.E.M.E. had done another typical job in characteristic fashion.

The I.E.M.E. came into being on the first of May last year. It was modelled on the successful R.E.M.E., itself a child of this war and a product of the belief that a craftsman's job—and tools—must be handled by a specialized craftsman.

The motto of the corps is "Omnia Facimus"—"We do everything." It is a motto they have earned, for every piece of military equipment, from watches to big guns, from typewriters to tanks, is their responsibility.

Their functions, as described recently by Major-General D. R. Dugid, Director of Mechanical Engineering, are, briefly, to get damaged equipment repaired and back to the fighting troops and to cut down rearward movement of damaged material to the irreducible minimum.

To meet its needs, the corps developed the four-echelon repair system: first echelon—the light aid detachments, small mobile units operating in the forward areas; second echelon—mobile workshops which function on the fringe of the battle; third echelon—semi-mobile workshops on the lines of communications; and fourth echelon—static base workshops well outside the battle area, equipped with the most valuable and intricate equipment available, and capable of doing every conceivable type of repair work.

Indicative of the I.E.M.E.'s versatility and scope of activities is the fact that they make surgical instruments and artificial limbs for Indian hospitals.

Biggest problem to-day facing I.E.M.E. is the shortage of skilled Indian officers and Armament Artificers—the king-pins of the corps units. The situation is being met by a vast and accelerated training scheme for both officers and men, but it is not anticipated that the benefits of these will be reaped for many months.

LANDED IN INDIA ON SUNDAY AND SHOT A LEOPARD ON THURSDAY

How many people have been in India for years and yet have never set eyes on a wild animal.

Sgt. Mervyn Phillips is an exceptional case. He landed in India from the U.K. on a Sunday, and on the following Thursday afternoon was kneeling by his first "kill"—a leopard measuring 7 feet from nose to tail-tip.

Strangely enough the animal was not hunted in the midst of thick jungle. It was at large in a main road near an important military headquarters right in the heart of a busy town.

How it got there is a mystery but it is believed that it was the "pet" of a local civilian. However, it was a danger to the public.

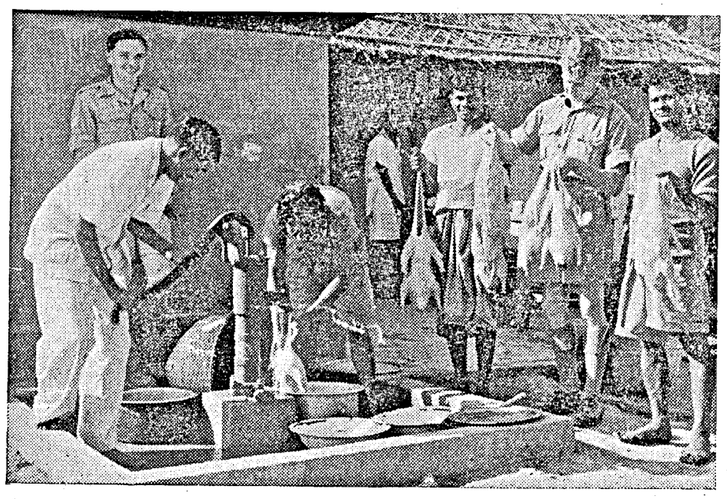
Sgt. Phillips was waiting for his pay when two excited men rode up on bicycles, one mauled on the forearm, shouting that the animal was at large. Orders were given for it to be shot and Phillips ran to a near-by armoury, grabbed a ·303 Service Rifle and ten rounds, and was soon on the scene.

"The road was bounded on each side by a 9-foot wall and there were scores of people standing along the tops" said Phillips.

"I jumped up at a point where the wall was empty and, looking over, spotted the leopard only about 15 feet away from me. When it saw me it tried to leap up the wall at me. Fortunately it fell back again and as it hit the ground I got it behind the ear with a quick shot. I think it was dead then, but I've never shot big game before; so I put two more shots into it to make sure."

Sgt. Phillips, a regular soldier, was in India before from 1934–37, but the only living things he has ever shot before this were Germans in France during 1940.

Sgt. Mervyn Phillips is seen sitting by the side of his first "kill" a leopard measuring 7 feet from nose to tail-tip.



X'MAS WITH THE R.A.F. ON BURMA FRONT.—Wild boar, python steaks and roast sucking pig took the place of the traditional turkey for Christmas dinner for R.A.F. air and ground crews at forward airfields on the Burma Front. Open air church services were held at all airfields on Christmas morning. Indian cooks assisting Corporal N. Foster (No. 1051686) of 4, Ramshill Road, Scarborough, Yorks, to pluck and wash geese.

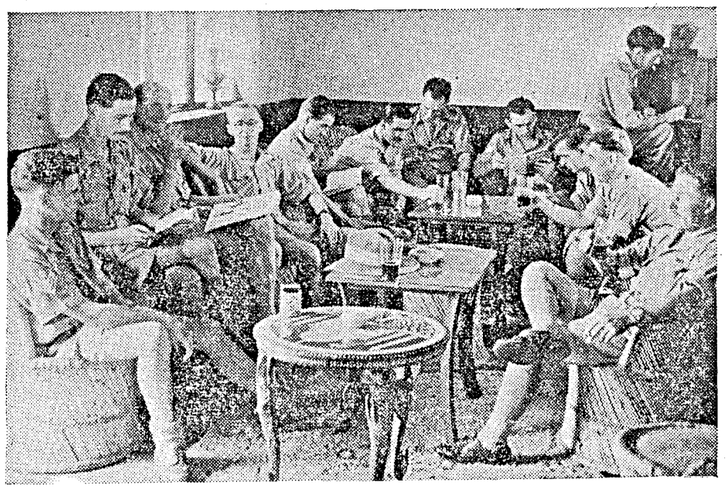
MADRASSI SOLDIERS MAKE MERRY

Madrassi troops somewhere on the Assam-Burma border are showing that Madrassis of all creeds can come together as a man over good fare and in good cheer.

On the afternoon of Christmas day men of all creeds sat down at festive boards, turned on a gramophone with Madrassi records and exchanged tales of home over sweets and cakes made by themselves. Sepoy Raju of Tanjore treated his comrades to songs of the South and in particular to some of his own compositions now celebrated in the unit.

Feasting off a meal of mutton kurma and bread pudding, men of a G.P.T. company were content to forget the night's labours, when they had themselves worked under the expert supervision of Subedar Gabriel of Tanjore to turn border goat to Madrassi delicacy.

A signal unit went one better by erecting its own pandal with decorated archway and inviting its officers to share in its festivity. At the head of a long common dining-table proud Havildar Nazir Ahmed Khan of Guntur did the honours with true southern liberality. In sumptuous procession came pulao, kheer and sambar. Lance-Naik Jacob of Trivandrum made a finished little speech of welcome.



A comfortable Sergeants' mess made by the men themselves out of aircraft-packing cases at a Flying Boat Repair Unit at Karachi.

WAR DIARY

BRITAIN AND GERMANY

26TH JAN.—The Minister of Economic Warfare, Lord Selbourne said, "Germany is facing arising scale of military operations with declining production capacity. That is what we mean, when we say the position is very serious for Germany at the moment."

27TH JAN.—The Foreign Secretary, Mr. Anthony Eden made a statement on Argentine's break with the Axis.

The Deputy Prime Minister, Mr. C. Attlee said in the Commons that the Governments of the Commonwealth including the Government of India were in constant touch on all subjects of common interests including post-war trade.

28TH JAN.—Mr. Eden made a long statement about the treatment of British prisoners and internees in Japanese hands.

Last night Allied aircraft raided Berlin and dropped about 1,500 tons of bombs.

There was slight German air activity over part of East Anglia and South-east England.

The Inspector-General of A.R.P., Wing-Commander, Hodsell warned the British public of German counter-offensives, when the "Second Front" starts.

29TH JAN.—German planes raided London.

The Allied bombers attacked Berlin, Frankfurt and other places in Germany.

30TH JAN.—Early last night German aircraft bombed places in East Anglia, South-east England including London area.

United States bombers raided Burnswick.

Hitler gave a broadcast talk to his people on the occasion of the 11th anniversary of his seizure of power.

The Chinese military mission has arrived in London.

31ST JAN.—Berlin was again heavily bombed last night.

Hitler has promoted four of his generals.

1ST FEB.—Mr. Churchill told the Commons that Lord Halifax's speech about co-operation in the British Commonwealth was not a pronouncement on behalf of the British Government.

Mr. Churchill had an audience with the King.

* * *

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND ATLANTIC

26TH JAN.—President Roosevelt in a message to Congress denounced as meaningless and futile the provisions of the bill designed to enable American Armed Service men to take part in the Spring Presidential elections.

28TH JAN.—The United States has suspended oil shipments from the Carrebian area to Spain for the month of February.

29TH JAN.—The "world's most formidable battle ship," 45,000-ton was launched to-day.

Missouri.

30TH JAN.—A National Committee for combating Nazi Jew baiting has been formed in United States.

1ST FEB.—President Roosevelt at a Press Conference talked about Jap-atrocities, etc.

* * *

INDIA, BURMA AND CEYLON

26TH JAN.—His Excellency the Viceroy covered over 198 miles by car visiting a number of villages in the district of Bijapur.

A meeting of the Viceroy's Executive Council was held at New Delhi.

In the Chinhills area Allied forces engaged the enemy in several places.

Minor Japanese attacks on Rasabil were repulsed. Allied planes attacked Japanese positions near Maungdaw.

27TH JAN.—Mr. Amery answered several questions about India in the House of Commons.

The Viceroy decorated at Poona with medals officers and men of a brigade of which he was formerly the Commander.

28TH JAN.—The Government of India have decided to publish the stories of Japanese frightfulness committed against Allied prisoners of war and internees.

"You are definitely helping to win the war" said the Commander-in-Chief, addressing Women's Auxiliary Corps (India) at New Delhi.

29TH JAN.—His Excellency the Viceroy returned to New Delhi.

31ST JAN.—To-day's South-east Asia Command War Communiqué on activities on the Burma Front gives details for the past few days.

1ST FEB.—General Stilwell told a Press Conference at New Delhi that Chinese forces have penetrated 100 miles into Burma.

* * *

RUSSIA AND FINLAND

26TH JAN.—The Russians captured Gatchina, the main German stronghold in the original Leningrad seige line. It is the junction of Tosno-Narva and Leningrad-Luga railways. Soviet troops are driving swiftly on Sprinsk.

Russia has not accepted the American offer of mediation in the Polish-Russian dispute.

27TH JAN.—The Russians have captured the district centre of Tosno and the railway junction of Volosova. Soviet tank columns are advancing towards Luga.

The Soviet Commission investigating German atrocities in Klin Katyn forest issued its report yesterday.

LAST MONTH. . .—

1ST JAN.—Berlin Heavily bombed.

4TH JAN.—Soviet troops crossed the Polish Frontier.

5TH JAN.—The Red Army took Berdichev.

8TH JAN.—Troops of the Second Ukrainian front captured Kirovograd.

12TH JAN.—Troops of First Ukrainian front captured Sarny.

14TH JAN.—Troops of the White Russian Front captured Mozyr.

18TH JAN.—Mr. Churchill returned to London.

20TH JAN.—Russians captured Novgorod.

21ST JAN.—Red Army took Mga.

26TH JAN.—Soviet troops seized Gatchina.

28TH JAN.—United States Marines captured Natamo Point in New Britain.

29TH JAN.—Soviet forces captured Chudovo and Novo-Sokolniki.

31ST JAN.—Russians resume offensive in the Dnieper bend.

28TH JAN.—The Soviet troops captured Synban. The railway line Bateskya-Dno has been cut. The Red Army is beginning to menace a huge army grouping of three lakhs men.

A change in the structure of the Soviet Union involving extension of rights of individual republics to manage their own foreign affairs is foreshadowed in an official announcement issued in Moscow last night.

29TH JAN.—The Russians captured the German stronghold of Chudovo and Novo-Sokolniki.

30TH JAN.—The Russians are advancing towards Narva, the first important town over the Estonian border. Soviet troops are within 12 miles of Kingisepp on Luga river. The Red Army is within 66 miles of the Latvian border.

31ST JAN.—The Russians have resumed their offensive in the Dneiper Bend. They have reached Kingisepp. Soviet flying columns are within 10 miles of the Estonian border.

1ST FEB.—The Russian troops have captured Kingisepp, the last big Russian town before the Estonian border and also Orla one mile from the Estonian border.

M. Molotov talked about Soviet Foreign policy.

Nikolai Shvernik has been appointed the First Deputy President of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the U.S.S.R.

* * *

ITALY, AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

26TH JAN.—British troops of the Fifth Army have captured Monte Ceracon. American forces have crossed the Rapido river north of Cassino and the American Fifth Army patrols have penetrated into Cassino itself. Allied spearheads are within 25 miles of Rome. Fierce fighting is going on for Littoria and Aprilia.

27TH JAN.—Allied troops have been in their first clash in the bridgehead south of Rome.

The Secretary of War of the United States Mr. Henry L. Stimson made a statement on the Italian situation.

Mussolini's health is said to be worse.

28TH JAN.—German troops are massing outside Rome for a decisive battle. "Everything is going wonderfully well" said General Alexander, Commander-in-Chief in Italy.

29TH JAN.—The British have captured a bridge 12 miles up the Anzio-Albano road.

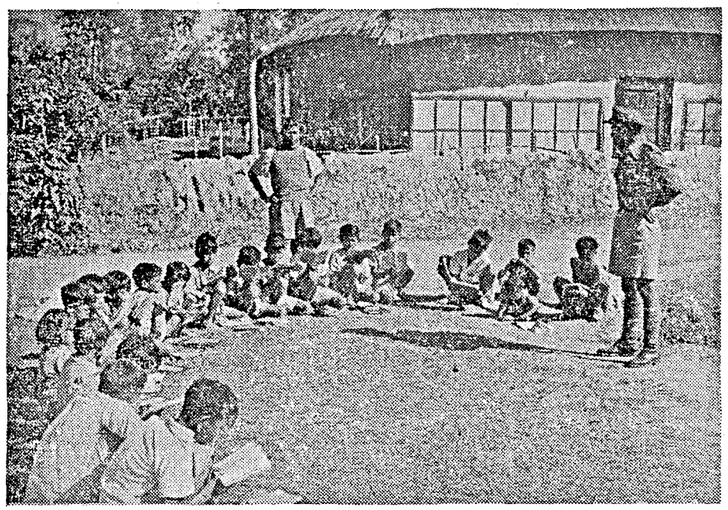
30TH JAN.—The Fifth Army troops have captured Contoneira, Carocetta, Campo-Morto and Borgo Monteno.

Mussolini has appealed to Italians to fight against the Allies.

31ST JAN.—The American troops have pierced the Gustav line. Germans withdrew near Albano.

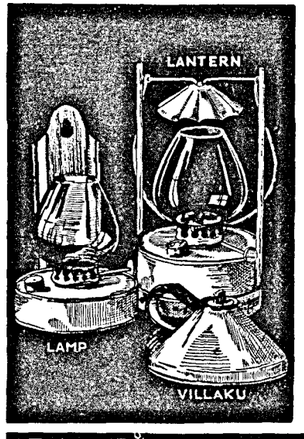
Admiral Sir John Cunningham, Commander-in-Chief of the Mediterranean naval forces, has been ashore at Anzio with Admiral Frank Lowry, United States Navy Commander-in-Chief of the Nettuno naval expedition. Later they held a conference aboard a British warship.

1ST FEB.—British troops thrusting to within 19 miles of Rome have outflanked the German fortified line south of the Albano mountains. Cassino is in danger of toppling.



A twenty-one year old Assistant Adjutant of the Indian Air Force gives some useful elementary pointers to a number of young Manipuri school-children close to an R.A.F. forward airfield.

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

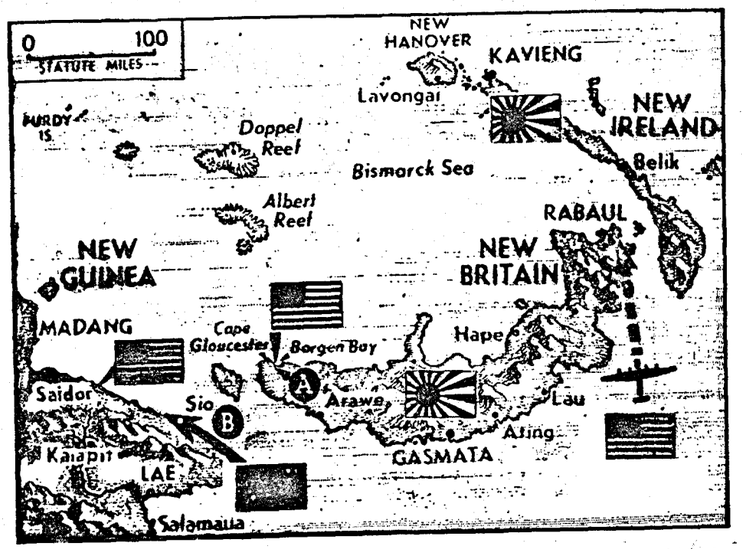
BURN VEGETABLE OIL
SAVE KEROSINE FOR THE WAR

VICHY, FREE FRANCE AND OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

27TH JAN.—Marshal Tito's counter-offensive in Yugoslavia has swept the Germans from Bosnia. His troops occupied Prujavo.

Objectives in Northern France and Holland were attacked by the Allied bombers.

31ST JAN.—M. Stalin has replied to the Yugoslav Premier M. Puritch who made a formal proposal for a treaty of



The above map is useful for judging the intensity of the Allied attack upon Jap positions in the South Pacific. For instance, Allied planes raided Rabaul for the 15th time on January 15, and also blasted Kavieng the same night. Meanwhile, Allied planes caught a 6-ship Jap convoy just north of Kavieng, sank a 10,000-ton cargo vessel and set afire two smaller craft. On January 16, Allied planes broke up an attempted enemy attack on the new United States base at Saidor and shot down 17 Japanese fighters and divebombers with only minor loss. Allied planes dropped 87 tons of bombs on Jap positions east of the United States base at Arawe and destroyed several barges along the New Guinea coast which were trying to bring supplies to the enemy garrisons.

FOR YOUR RADIO DIARY

FEB. 6.—TRICHINOPOLY—9 p.m. "The Challenge of Peace: A United Nations University."

FEB. 7.—LUCKNOW—9-45 p.m. "Twilight of Fascism: the Writing on the wall." By S. V. Puntambekar.

FEB. 8.—PESHAWAR—9-45 p.m. "Facts and Fabrication: Analysis of Axis Broadcasts." By E. A. Thakurdas.

" " CALCUTTA—9 p.m. "The Complete Imperialists: Japan Disgorges."

" " LUCKNOW—9-45 p.m. "The Setting Sun: Analysis of Japanese Radio Propaganda." By Dr. Fred M. Perrill.

FEB. 10.—LAHORE—9-45 p.m. "Lies as Allies." By Kushwant Singh.

" " MADRAS—9-45 p.m. "All out to win: Save More."

" " TRICHINOPOLY—9-45 p.m. "On Land, Sea and Air: Humanity Uprooted." By M. Ruthnasami, C.I.E.

FEB. 12.—BOMBAY—8-20 p.m. "War Commentary."

" " LAHORE—9-45 p.m. "Yesterday in Chungking." By Victor Kiernan.

" " LUCKNOW—9-45 p.m. "Let Japan Speak: the cause for cultural unity." By S. S. Dhawan.

" " MADRAS—9-45 p.m. "Allied Contribution: Idealism for U.S.A." By H. S. Town.

alliance that "Now is not the time" for it.

* * *

NEUTRAL COUNTRIES

27TH JAN.—The Spanish Foreign Minister, Count Jordana made a statement on the Spanish neutrality.

31ST JAN.—It is revealed that Sir Samuel Hoare, British Ambassador in Madrid, had an interview with General Franco at the week-end.

The Duke of Alba, Spanish Ambassador to Britain, has arrived at Madrid.

1ST FEB.—The Turkish town of Gerede with 25,000 inhabitants has been destroyed by an earthquake which lasted 50 seconds. Tremors were felt throughout Turkey.

* * *

THE FAR EAST

26TH JAN.—General MacArthur has been awarded the Distinguished Service Medal. He is 64 to-day and celebrated his birthday with the Sixth Army in New Guinea.

Fifteen districts of Tokyo and eight of the industrial town of Nagoya are to be evacuated it is reported.

27TH JAN.—In the attack on shipping in Simpon Harbour and Keravia bay five Jap cargo ships and one oil tanker were sunk. Allies attacked Momote and Lorengaw airfields.

Rear Admiral Osborne R. Hardison said that the Japanese are conserving that major naval units awaiting for a chance for a sharp smash at Allied air and surface forces in the Pacific.

28TH JAN.—United States Marines have captured Natamo point, the former Japanese barge base in North-Western New Britain. American troops in Bougainville have extended their positions east of Torokina river.

29TH JAN.—"One-third of the Japanese merchant fleet is now in the bottom of the Pacific" said the American Senator Harry S. Truman.

30TH JAN.—Americans attacked Marshall Island atolls Taroa, Wotye and Kwayalein. Allied bombers attacked Lakunai aerodrome in Rabaul. Twenty-three Jap planes were destroyed.

31ST JAN.—A Navy department statement says that United States submarines have sunk 14 more Japanese vessels in the Pacific and the Far East.

Australians occupied a chain of Japanese-held villages 18 miles south-west of the Jap coastal base of Bogadjim.

1ST FEB.—It is officially announced that Americans have landed near Roi and Kwayalein in Marshall Islands and established beachheads elsewhere. Commander-in-Chief of the United States forces in the Pacific, Admiral Chester Nimitz announces that the Japanese were resisting strongly.

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MADRAS WAR REVIEW

VOL. V FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 1944 No. 23

Lieutenant-General WILFRED LINDSELL

ndia is doing VERY WELL

The Allies had so far three main bases, the United Kingdom, the United States and the Middle East. India should be the fourth. She had not yet developed into one, but was coming on rapidly, and eventually she would have to sustain much larger forces than the British Expeditionary Forces to France ¶ India's prime need was the development of her ports to a much greater capacity than at present, in order to make possible the bringing in of the immense tonnage of stores not manufactured in the country, and the immense number of personnel required for the conduct of major operations Transport was another vital factor ¶ India is doing very well, but she can do better. She is producing clothing and general goods for the army worth about Rs. 150 crores a year, but with her labour, machinery and raw materials is it absurd to suggest that she cannot produce more ¶ The traditional orientation of India's strategy was one of defence against the possibilities of invasion from north-west. That had been altered, and India had had to re-orient her military structure to one of defence against the threat from the East, and soon she must pass to the offensive against her enemy from that quarter

Lieutenant-General WILFRED LINDSELL, Principal Administrative Officer, India Command, at a Press conference in New Delhi on Sunday (February 6)

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[NOTE.—*The summary of news and comments contained in the* MADRAS WAR REVIEW *generally relate to events and statements published till Wednesday, every week.*]

GRIM AND BLOODY STRUGGLE

"We have before us a grim and bloody struggle, fighting as we are against a grim and determined enemy. The Allies may get reverses but the ultimate issue will never be in doubt."

LIEUTENANT-GENERAL, A. E. NYE, *Vice-Chief of the Imperial General Staff, at London on Wednesday, February 9.*

◆

GERMANY WILL BE ATTACKED FROM ALL SIDES

"Hitler's weak and illiterate speech heralds the military collapse of Germany. The series of great Allied military victories in 1943 proves that the war against Germany has already been decided in favour of the Allies and that 1944 will present this decision to the world as an accomplished fact.

The Allies do not underestimate the present strength of Germany and know that the great struggle lying before them will demand many sacrifices, but any prolongation, although it will cost the Allies much, will signify for Germany, practically the extinction of her younger generation.

It is no longer a secret that the so-called Second Front and invasion of the European Continent are agreed upon by the Allies, that the preparations for it are in more than full swing, and that Germany will soon be attacked from all sides."

—DR. BENES, *President of Czechoslovakia, in a message to State Council.*

◆

WE MUST BRACE OURSELVES

"The German war machine is still formidable. Who can say that U-Boat menace will not re-appear, that we shall not again be heavily bombed, that Hitler will not use gas as the last throw of gambler's dice? We must brace ourselves to make an increasing military effort, and at the same time we must contrive, in some way, to support the additional burden entailed in preparing the structure of peace."

LORD MCGOWAN, *Chairman of the Imperial Chemical Industries, at Edinburgh on Saturday, February 5.*

MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. V FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 1944 No. 23

MARSHALLS—A GREAT MORALE-BLOW TO JAPAN

MR. JOSEPH GREW, a former United States Ambassador to Japan, now Special Assistant to the U.S. Secretary of State, told the U.S. Senate Military Affairs Committee on Wednesday, "Our victory in the Pacific must be complete and irrevocable. Unless we continue our determination to destroy the Japanese military machine and caste and cult once and for all, our sons and grandsons will be fighting this war over again in the next generation."

ALLIED leaders in charge of operations in the Pacific have long been planning a far-flung campaign which will bring about the defeat of Japan and the annihilation of its military machine. The spectacular invasion of the Marshall slands, which form the outer fringe of Japan's Central Pacific island fortresses, is one of the important steps in the execution of Allied global strategy against the Axis. These apparently trifling group of islands in the vast Pacific Ocean, 9,000 miles from the Bering Sea to the Antarctic and 10,500 miles from Singapore to Panama, are of tremendous strategic value, because the Allied approach to Tokyo by way of the Pacific entirely depends upon command of the bases which have been built upon these islands. There is such a large expanse of water separating Japan from the United States and Australia that unless the Allies are in possession of the Pacific islands which are called "fixed aircraft-carriers," it will not be possible for even highly developed modern means of warfare to penetrate to Japan.

The Mandate and Japan

THESE islands which were first discovered by De Saavedra got their name from Captain Marshall who explored these islands in 1788. In 1885–86. the Marshall Islands were annexed by Germany and remained in her possession until the First World War. When peace came they were mandated to Japan as a result of an agreement with Great Britain in 1916, which was confirmed at the Peace Conference. The agreement provided that all German islands north of the Equator—the Marianas; Yap and the Pellew islands; the Caroline and the Marshall Islands—should be under Japanese protection, while those south of the Equator were to be the concern of the British Commonwealth. Japan used the mandated islands for her sinister purposes. They gave her a long salient into the Central Pacific between the United States and the Phillipines. Possession of the islands brought Japan 2,000 miles nearer to America and 2,000 miles southwards towards Australia. It was hoped that Japan would be faithful to the terms of the mandate, but she converted the mandated islands into so many strongly fortified defence positions. In 1934, Japan gave notice of withdrawal from the League of Nations. This became effective in February 1935. After this she refused to return the mandated islands, but retained them as colonies. Then came Japan's denunciation of the Five-Power Naval Treaty; she demanded naval equality with the United States and the British Empire in "global tonnage." Thereafter, she threw off all pretence and secrecy. Mysterious construction of airfields in the Pacific islands gave place to open installations of fortifications. Japan was making preparations to embark upon a great war to enlarge her empire.

Allied Troops on Japanese soil

IN the Japanese scheme of things the Marshall Islands occupy an important place. The islands consist of two chains or stretches of lagoon islands and atolls known respectively as Radak (sunrise) chain and Ralik (sunset) chain. An article published in this *Review* last month (January 28) gave an account of the atolls and how they became formidable defence positions. It may be recalled that in taking Tarawa atoll in the Gilbert Islands, which are all now in Allied hands, American Marines had to pay a heavy price. When the Allied attack on the Gilbert Islands (November 20, 1943) ended successfully, it was obvious that the next step would be the Marshall islands, for, during December and January the five important atolls of Kwajalein, Wotje, Maloelap, Jaluit and Mili were subjected to heavy air raids with a view to destroying the enemy's defence positions before the land attack was launched. It may be remembered that the first great attack against the Marshalls took place last year (February 1, 1942). It was a great naval engagement and the Allies scored a major success by destroying one 17,000-ton aircraft-carrier, 1 light cruiser, 1 destroyer, 2 submarines and 11 Auxiliary vessels. Exactly a year afterwards, American forces have landed in the Marshall Islands.

THIS is the first great morale-blow to Japan, because this is the first time that the Allies have set foot on territory that was held by her before the war. The Allies have captured Roi, a major airfield with sea plane anchorage and submarine facilities, which is 938 miles from the main Japanese naval base of Truk; Namu; Kwajalein, the world's largest atoll, which is the hub of the Marshall fortifications (the landing on which was made after the greatest and most intensified bombardment in the history of the Pacific War); Aebeye, north of the Kwajalein; and other islands. This is considered in Japanese military circles, according to the *German News Agency's* Tokyo Correspondent, as "a continuation of the decisive struggle for a break-through into Japan's inner defence zone whose main bulwark consists of the Marshalls, the Carolines (including Truk) and Mariana islands."

Towards Truk

THE importance of the occupation of the islands in the Marshalls group lies in the fact that the Allies have come nearer to Truk, Japan's main central Pacific base, the eastern approach to which was guarded by the Marshalls. Though it is true that Truk is still 1,000 miles west of Kwajalein and Tokyo is about 2,845 miles to the north-west, the fact remains that the Allies have appreciably weakened the outer defences of both Truk and Tokyo and shortened and ensured the supply lines linking the Central Pacific to Pearl Harbour. Incidentally, it has removed the threat of a possible Japanese counter-attack against the Gilbert Islands.

IT seems clear from the trend General MacArthur's operations are taking in the South-west Pacific that the Allies intend to take Rabaul and then go forward to Truk. It is only to be expected that the Allied double-thrust towards Truk would be slow and costly. The Japanese stand to lose far too much if they lose Truk, and stiffest opposition to Allied moves must be expected. But determined men are in charge of the job. "I have every confidence that we will put this over," said Rear Admiral Richmond K. Turner in charge of the amphibious operations, "We will not come back until we have finished the job." Till they finish it Japan will be having an uneasy time.

RUNNING COMMENTARY

Allied Prisoners of War—Japanese Atrocities

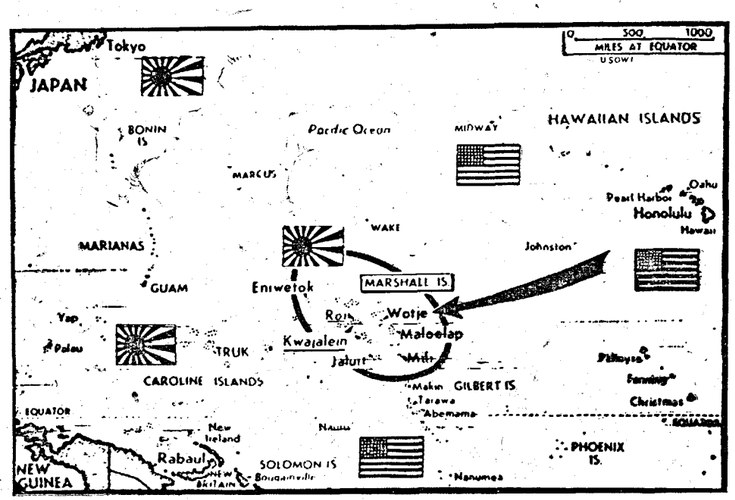
In a recent statement in the House of Commons (Jan. 28), Mr. ANTHONY EDEN, Britain's Foreign Secretary, made a shocking disclosure of Japanese atrocities in regard to the treatment of Allied prisoners of war. He said that thousands of prisoners from the British Commonwealth, including India, were forced by the Japanese to live under tropical jungle conditions without adequate shelter, clothing, food or medical attention. They were forced to work on building railways and making roads. Mr. EDEN said, "Our information is that their health is rapidly deteriorating, and a high percentage are seriously ill, and that there have been thousands of deaths." The number of deaths reported by the Japanese was however very modest: it was about 100. An eye-witness report of conditions in a prison camp in Siam, quoted by Mr. EDEN, stated that many prisoners were half naked and were skin and bone, unshaven and with long matted hair; they wore no hats or shoes. In a tropical climate where the neighbouring countries are practically uninhabited and where there are no local resources from which medical or other material relief can be got, the pitiable plight of Allied prisoners can well be imagined. In Java many of the Allied prisoners are confined to camps with no adequate protection in insanitary rooms infected with malaria. Such being generally the case in these camps, there is no wonder that the Japanese Government refused permission for neutral inspection of the camps, though they permitted visits by neutral inspectors to camps in the northern area comprising Hong Kong, Formosa, Shanghai, Korea and Japan itself. This was evidently because conditions in this area were generally somewhat tolerable.

* * *

Jap Atrocities in Hong Kong, Korea and Manchukuo Recalled

This might have been due to the details of the Hong Kong atrocities revealed to the public by Mr. EDEN's statement in Parliament last year (March 1942). It was a horrible picture that was then presented, but it caused little surprise to those who had

THE MARSHALL ISLANDS



studied the appalling record of Japanese conduct elsewhere, and knew that the official Japanese attitude not only condoned such atrocities, but actually even encouraged the Japanese soldiers to commit more of them. Korea suffered a similar fate. The story of Japanese spoliation and tyranny in Korea forms a separate subject by itself, but suffice it to say that, according to official Japanese figures, no less than 294,000 Koreans were flogged, in some cases to death, by the Japanese police between 1913 and 1918. In Manchukuo which is supposed to be an 'independent' state and a model of the 'co-prosperity' idea, the atrocities committed by the Japanese were of a most revolting character. In his book "The Secret Agents of Japan" AMLETO VESPA, an Italian eye-witness and a follower of MUSSOLINI, has exposed these atrocities. Some idea of the horrible outrages of the Japanese may be had from a prefatory passage of that book. VESPA writes:

> "This book has been written in fulfilment of my promise to make the real truth known, to stamp upon the forehead of Japanese militarism the burning brand of Cain; to expose before the conscience of the entire world the rapacious officers of the Japanese Army; to show the unfathomable abyss of infamy into which these savages in uniform are capable of descending; and, in the name of humanity, civilization and justice, to tell of the strangling degradation of which the people of Manchuria have been submitted under this crushing rule."

VESPA's story naturally produced indignation among the Japanese. Later he was caught in the Phillipines and put in a cage.

A Nazi German observer, EDUARD STERLING was among the sworn witnesses of the Japanese horrors in Nanking.

* * * *

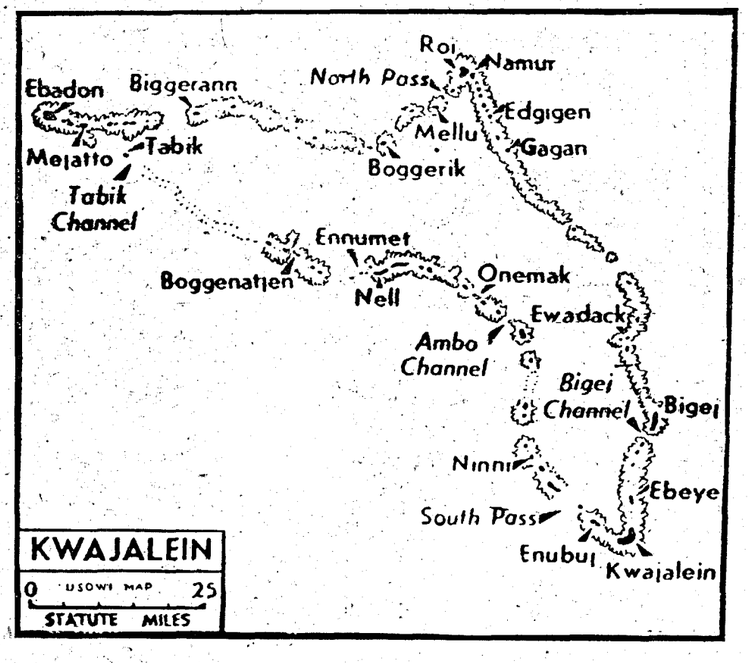
Ill-treatment of Indian Prisoners—India Government's Statement.

Mr. EDEN's revelations of Japanese barbarity in Hong Kong last year brought forth a ridiculous reply from the Japanese. They repeated their old fable which they had already used for the Phillipines. This was now transferred *mutatis mutandis* to Hong Kong. Before the fall of that city, Indian soldiers (previously it had been Filipinos) were, it seems "exposed tightly bound to face the Japanese." Tokyo did not care to explain why this astonishing method of defence

"MAGNIFICENT GIFT" FROM CHINA TO MADRAS

His Excellency the Governor has received a donation of Rs. 20,000 from Dr. C. J. Pao, Consul-General for China, on behalf of the Sino-Indian Cultural Association to be used for the relief of distress in this Presidency. His Excellency in gratefully acknowledging this splendid gift has written as follows:—

> "I am writing to thank you for the magnificent gift of Rs. 20,000 which you have sent on behalf of the Sino-Indian Cultural Association for the relief of distressed persons in this Presidency. I should be glad if you would convey to the Association, and through them, to the people of China, the grateful appreciation of the people of the Madras Presidency and of myself for their splendid generosity. The gift is all the more appreciated coming as it does from the hard-pressed people of China who have themselves suffered so grievously from the war, and whose long and heroic struggle against aggression has evoked the admiration and sympathy of all lovers of freedom everywhere.
>
> "I propose to use this most generous gift mainly to supplement the assistance being given by my Government to those who suffered from the recent cyclone in the Chicacole area of the Vizagapatam district, and to indigent refugees from Burma who are being provided with work by my Government. I am arranging for you to receive accounts of the way in which the money is spent.
>
> "I heartily reciprocate your good wishes for the New Year. It is my fervent prayer that it may see our joint arms crowned with even greater successes, and the cause of justice and freedom triumphant throughout the world."



had been resorted to by the Allies. Now Mr. EDEN has revealed how the Japanese have been treating Indian prisoners of war intheirhands. He said in his statement made two weeks ago,

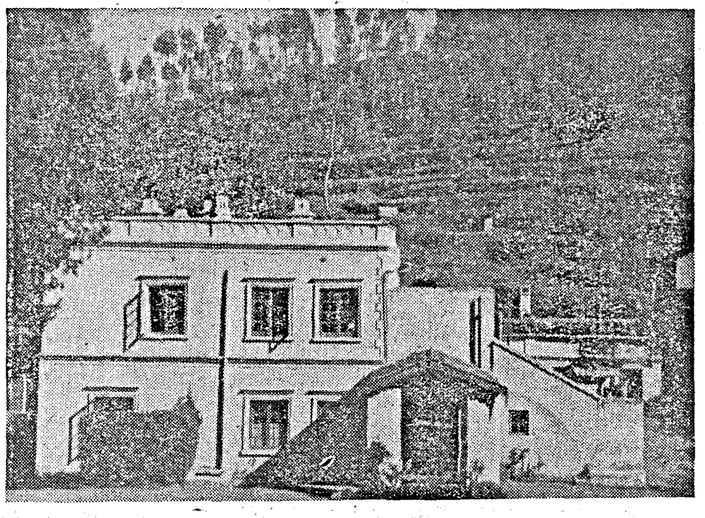
"A number of Indian soldiers captured in Burma had their hands tied behind their backs and were made to sit in groups by road, and then systematically bayoneted from behind in turn, each man receiving apparently three bayonet thrusts. By some miracle one man who collapsed, subsequently recovered and escaped to our lines. That is how we know."

It is only from some of the escaped prisoners that details of Japanese barbarities have become known to the outside world. Till now the accumulating evidence of crime and bestiality, which has reached official quarters from many sources, has not been published, becasue of the reasons given in the recent statement of the Government of India. The statement says :

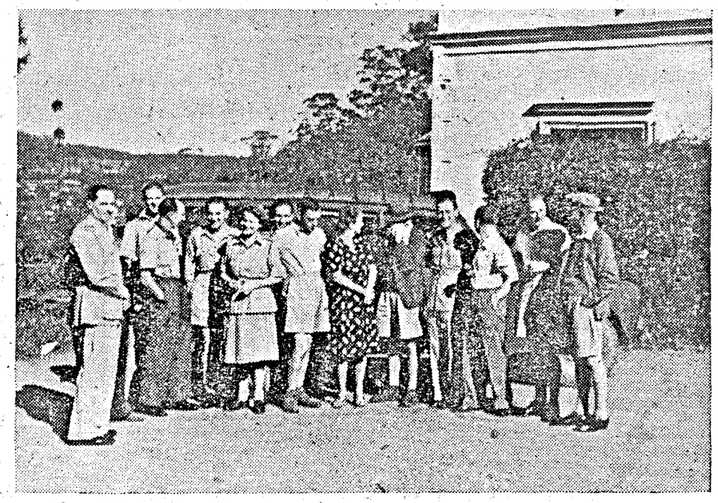
"The Government of India, in common with His Majesty's Government and the Allied Governments, have refrained hitherto from giving publicity to Japanese atrocities, as it was desired as far as possible to spare the feelings of relatives of prisoners of war and internees in Japanese hands and to give the Japanese no pretext for retaliation against those so unfortunate as to be in their power. It was further hoped that representations to the Japanese Government might induce a more humane attitude towards prisoners of war and internees generally and lead to some amelioration in their condition. The Government of India are now satisfied that these representations have failed to produce the desired effect and that the absence of publicity has encouraged the Japanese to persist in their inhuman treatment of prisoners of war and internees, of whom nationals of India form a large proportion."

This restraint has encouraged the Japanese to persist in their intolerable behaviour. They thought they could do anything and get away with it. But the leaders of the United Nations have spoken out condemning these barbarities. "Everyone was very startled and rightly so by the atrocity stories", said PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT at his Press Conference last week (February 1). He added that the Allies would track down and punish all Japanese individuals responsible for the recently disclosed atrocities.

"WALTHAMSTOW," OOTACAMUND



We published in our issue of January 28 an account of "Walthamstow," Cotacamund, the holiday house for R.A.F. Officers. The above is a photograph of the House.



AT "WALTHAMSTOW".—"We hate to say good-bye."

TREK ACROSS INDIA

A 28-year old aircraftman fitter from East Ham, London, trekked right across India to meet his brother on Christmas Day. He spent five days and nights in the train, stopped in six transit camps, went part of the way by river and finished the journey in an Army wagon.

He last saw his brother, also a fitter in the R.A.F, in June 1943 just before he went overseas, and then followed him a month later. They met for an hour in Bombay, were separated and then his request to be posted to his brother's squadron was granted. He travelled across India to South-East Bengal and got there just in time to have Christmas Dinner with his brother. Now they work together on the same aircraft.

FIGHTING ON THE ARAKAN FRONT

Firing High Explosive on the Jap positions only 800 yards away, in the Maungdaw area. Pte. W. E. Sheppard, Risca, near Newport, is feeding the High Explosive to the Mortor.

When Japanese bombers, escorted by fighters, raided the Chittagong area on Boxing Day, R.A.F. fighters of Sir John Baldwin's Tactical Air Force, of the Eastern Air Command, intercepted them and destroyed six of the raiding aircraft. Photo shows *the engine of a Japanese bomber destroyed by the R.A.F., being salvaged by Technical Intelligence officers, assisted by Indians from a nearby village. Mounting guard is a soldier of the West African Forces, whose presence in India has just been disclosed.*

DAILY PRAYERS

Daily prayers are said by a devout Indian villager outside the sergeants' mess of a R.A.F. squadron on a remote Assam airfield.

Beneath the soil where aircrews pass on their way to operations against the Japanese two of his children are buried. The small collection of huts where local inhabitants used to live are now in the middle of a R.A.F. camp. but two trees remained as a shrine over the grave, and he is allowed to return undisturbed to worship there.

The trees are left untouched by the airmen.

FIRST INDIAN R.A.F. OFFICER TO WIN D.F.C. NOW SERVING with I.A.F.

F/LT. SUKTHANKAR

FIRST Indian officer in the Royal Air Force to win the Distinguished Flying Cross, F/Lt. Shailendra Eknath Sukthanker has just returned to his home in India after an absence of more than four years.

F/Lt. Sukthanker is the only Indian officer who has been awarded the Path Finder badge—a badge worn by aircrews of the aircraft which go ahead of the main bombing force in order to mark the target.

He has led Royal Air Force bomber crews in heavy raids on Germany, Czechoslovakia and Italy. Essen, Cortmund, Berlin, Hamburg, Cologne, Munich, Pilsen, Nuremburgh, Augsburg, Bremen, Turin, Genoa and Spezia are a few of the towns he has located and on which he has dropped "target markers" for the main force of bombers. The "pathfinder" technique has increased the accuracy of night bombing enormously.

Born in Bombay 27 years ago, F/Lt. Sukthanker was educated at St. Xavier's High School and later at St. Xavier's College, taking his B.Sc. degree at the age of 21.

Early in August 1939, he left India for Germany to study textile chemistry but on the outbreak of hostilities he went to England. While studying at Victoria University, Manchester, where he passed his B.Sc. (Tech.), he decided to take up flying. He joined the University Air Squadron in January 1941 and enlisted in the Royal Air Force the following August.

He completed his navigation course in Scotland, in March 1942, and served in operational units both in England and Scotland.

Before he left England, he was decorated with D.F.C. at Buckingham Palace by His Royal Highness the Duke of Gloucester, deputizing for His Majesty the King Emperor who was ill.

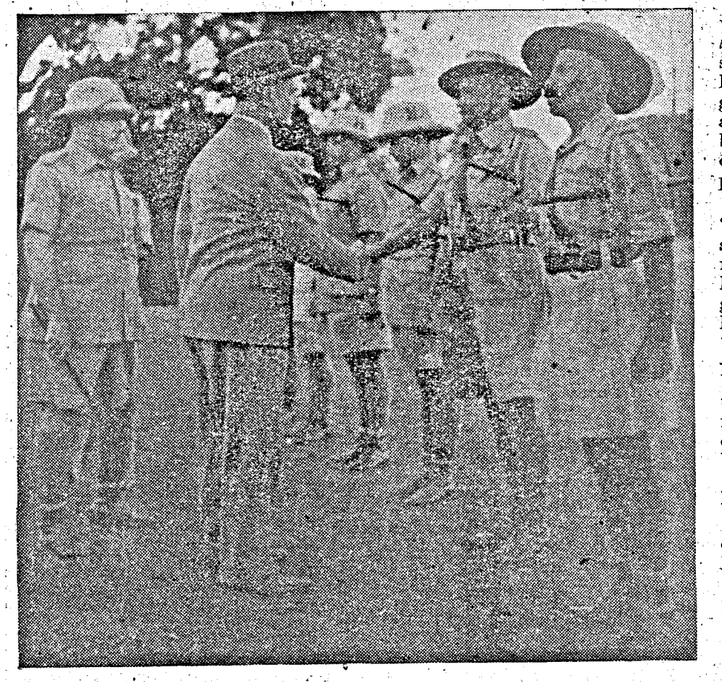
F/Lt. Sukthanker has now joined the Indian Air Force. "I like life in the Air Force and would love to make it my

A HUNDRED MADRASSIS AND ME

The faith of Indian soldiers in their British Officers is proverbial; it is an admitted factor in their fine battle reputation. This homely account of the relations of a young British Officer trained, as we happen to know, first with British troops and later with Punjabis, and now transferred to a Madrassi regiment whose men are strange to him in religion, customs and diet, may illustrate how affectionate confidence is so quickly acquired.

WE first met on a tiny little sandy square bounded by a few huts and overshadowed by Banyan trees, and like all such meetings, we eyed each other apprehensively; we each wondered the same about the other, well or badly trained? — pleasant or bad tempered? — would we get on well? However it wasn't long before we began to appreciate each other, while the work carried on as usual, and although I'll never know exactly what they think of me (apart from my own surmises!), I like *them* very much indeed. After using Punjabi names for a year or so, it took me some time to accustom myself to their names, and even though I hear them every day, I still haven't really mastered some of the tongue twisters.

Whilst at that particular place we used to go swimming every evening in the river close by; it was yellow with silt brought down by the rains, but it didn't deter us in the slightest, and the only minor difficulty I experienced was getting them all out of the water. Splashing the C.H.M. or ducking a Naik was always on the programme, which was invariably applauded with shrieks of laughter. May be I'm not in a good position to draw comparisons, but I find the Madrassi vastly amused by simple slapdash humour, which is an invaluable quality in any troops. Whenever we tried gymnastics, one fellow landed on his head time and time again, thereby literally convulsing the rest with laughter; but that fellow kept on trying in a manner which rather impressed me, and made me hope that they were all like that in their doggedness. After some time with them I found that once fired with determination nothing will alter them. One day we scraped together a football team and played the local police who were pretty good; they licked us hollow but we arranged another match in which we drew. We then promised to wipe the floor with them at the third match, but the brass-hats moved us away before we could play, MUCH to the disappointment of our team. In only two matches our team had built up enough confidence to take on anybody.



His Excellency Lord Wavell visited the Madras Regimental Lines in Cuttack in the course of his recent tour.

AMUSING INCIDENTS

We have a radio set in our company, which, at that time, was the main source of entertainment; dozens would sit round in a half circle listening for hours on end. I thought it was ghastly, but they liked it enough to ask sometimes for "Lights Out" to be put back thirty minutes so that they could listen to a particularly good programme.

Even the stern atmosphere of "Company Office" is sometimes softened by amusing incidents; the man who has two wives both wanting his total allotment (he settled that by giving his allotment to one and his land to the other), — telegrams stating "Wife dangerous. Start immediately," —the man who wanted extra rations because he was extra big, etc. Leave used to be an awkward problem, but it's been overcome now, and many have even had Casual leave as well as their War leave.

MARCHING-SONGS

Sometimes we have sing-songs, either spontaneous or organized, the latter depending on the availability of "squeeze-boxes" and someone to play them. The start is always tame, but after a few songs and dances things begin to warm up; they sit in a horse-shoe with the harmonium player at the head with a lantern. The songs are as varied in their own way as those of any country, some slow and apparently sentimental, some snappy accompanied with hand clapping, and some marching songs. By the way, their marching songs are quite as good as the British marching songs in their steady beat, and, believe it or not you Britishers, there are definite tunes which I quickly picked up. On the march one leader sings a line and the rest repeat, so they quickly learn a new song line by line. These sing-songs are something I shall never forget, with the ringing voice of the soloist, the full chorous of the company, the whirling dancers, the roars of laughter, all within an intimate circle of light reflected by the nearby trees.

The language doesn't prove a serious problem, as they are all taught Urdu, so when they talk amongst themselves and if their mother tongue is different, they use Urdu. I wouldn't go so far as to say that they all speak good Urdu, but at any rate they can make themselves understood, and understand. The majority couldn't speak a word of Urdu before they joined the Army, but they know that it will prove invaluable after the war.

SIMPLE AMBITIONS

Talking of 'after the war,' the average Madrassi has simple and reasonable ambitions for what he will do when he is finally discharged. All he wants is a house and a stretch of land sufficient for his needs where he can live with his wife and children, and preferably near his parents to whom he can give assistance if necessary. He has learnt a lot of new things in the Army, and although he agrees that there is room for improvement in his village, he is uncertain of how this is to be done or how he can apply his newly developed abilities. He has heard of "Post-war Reconstruction" from lectures by his V.C.O.'s but he considers it something beyond his sphere of life at home.

When we went to the jungle for training, we dropped into the new mode of living right away; some, in fact, were quite at home, and soon showed the rest what woods to use and how to cut them, where we could find wild vegetables, and how to thatch a hut without it leaking. (Personally I felt like a recruit again.) Bamboo was certainly one of God's gifts to mankind, for we found that it could be used for practically everything from huts and charpoys to cooking utensils and containers for anti-mosquito cream.

VARIETY OF FOOD

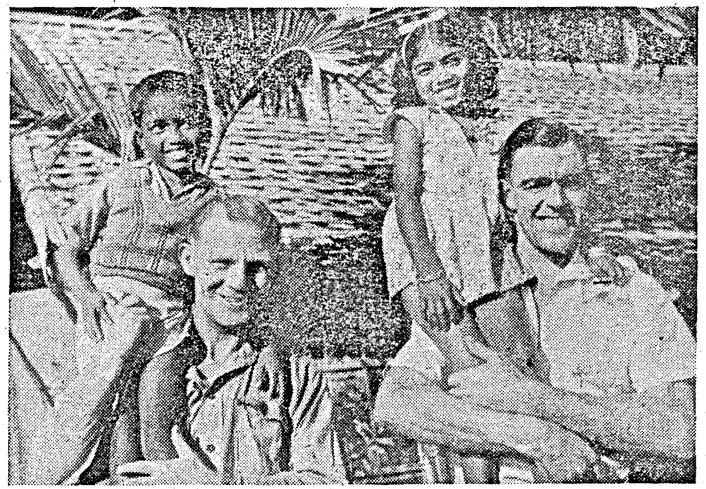
The food question is never a problem to the Madrassi in the Army because he has a far bigger ration than he ever got at home, and more varied too. When ata was introduced into their diet there was much wailing and gnashing of teeth, but after a few experiments they found that they liked it very much. In fact, on one occasion ata was accidently omitted from the rations, and they complained bitterly that although they didn't want to give up their rice by any means, they certainly wanted their ration of ata. I've tried all their foods and I like them very much, but the curry nearly burnt holes in my stomach; I'm quite satisfied that if ever necessary, I could live for a considerable time on their diet.

I think we've had most of our fun from swimming in the river nearby. About 90 per cent can swim and the other 10 per cent are learning fast. Coolie rafts coming down the river are soon swarming with all ranks leaping off and diving as it drifts by; the back chat with the coolies results in much good humoured laughter. One of our fellows provided an impromptu pantomime by poling a raft so vigorously that the pole broke and he toppled backwards into the water. Not so very funny on paper, but funny enough then to keep them laughing for a long time.

A HAPPY GANG

Generally speaking, we're a happy gang, with not more than our share of mundane troubles. The only big trouble is we have to work!

Let's take a look at some of the characters of the company. We'll start with the Subedar Sahib; he's a wily old rascal with double my years in age and service, and the only things I can teach him are the new developments. He knows more about the details of the company than I ever will and he knows I know, but I'd be darned sorry to lose him. In spite of his age he'd never be left behind anywhere, and he keeps the company just where he wants it. Then comes one of the Jemadars; he's young and almost cherubic but with a fiery temper; he's got all the 'go' a platoon commander should have, and certainly gets things done; by the way, what tales he could tell about local Government would make many a Tahsildar's skin creep. Then another Jemadar; he's quiet and looks a bit vague, but I've got a feeling there's more in him than meets the eye, — may be his



Tiny and Nora, have been "adopted" by the R.A.F. in India. They have five "guardians," and here are two of them: (left) 97975 LAC A Lambert, (age 34) of 70, Tremayne Place, St Austell, Cornwall, with Tiny and (right) 1151941 LAC K.F. Covill (age 30) of 36, Falcowfield, Old Chesterton, Cambridge, with Nora. They are acting as "shoulder carries," and the children like it immensely.

girl-friend would agree with me. The C.H.M. used to be in the I.T.F. too, and although he's nothing like the Britisher's conception of a C.S.M., he's another invaluable person in our little community; he's got a good voice too which comes in handy on a route march, — he knows all the words to "O Chinna Danna" too, and you couldn't sing *that* in every Indian 'drawing room,' either. I can't run through everybody, but I'll mention the sweeper; he wanders round all day looking perpetually worried and busy; nobody worries much about *him*, but I noticed that on the last scheme, he marched the whole way with us and swam the river as well as any. There's my orderly too; he's a queer cuss and at first I thought he just didn't know how to smile, but he creased up one day when another orderly fell down with a bucket of water. He looks as he's got all the troubles of the world on his shoulders, and although I'll admit I keep him busy, I can't quite see why he should seem so lugubrious, may be he's got a bad liver!

"TRUMPETS AND KETTLEDRUMS"

This is a collection of poems by "R.G." published in the **Madras War Review** *It is on sale at Higginbothams bookstalls and at "Victory House," Mount Road, Madras. Price Re. 1. The sale-proceeds of the book go to H E. the Governor's Amenities for Troops Fund.*

A young Austrian who had just joined the British Army was talking to friends.

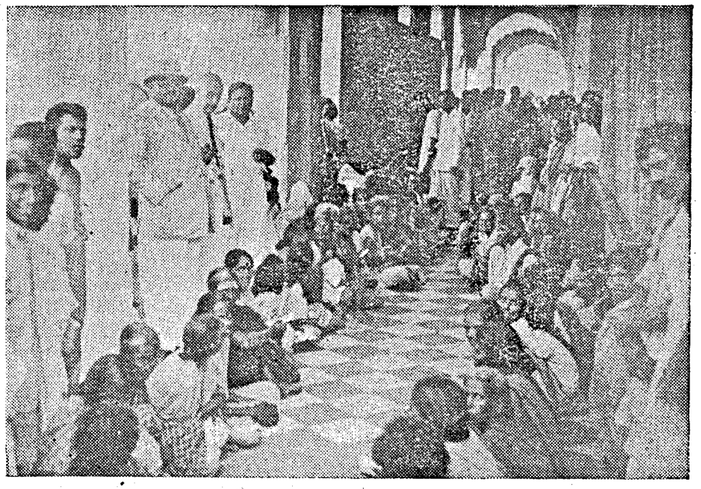
"We'll soon march into Vienna," he declared. "And then I'll mount guard in front of the station or the town hall, or best of all, in front of St. Stephen's Cathedral. And the Viennese will all come up and whisper and stare at me. I'll let them stare for some time, and when I've had enough of it, I'll call out: 'What the deuce are you staring at me for? Haven't you ever seen an English soldier before?'"

* * * *

After the bomb assault on Hitler in the Munich Brauhaus, the following notice appeared in the windows of several butchers' shops in Munich next morning, and was eyed doubtfully by the Gestapo . . .

"There will unfortunately be no lard or pork to-day as the swine was not killed yesterday."

NATIONAL WAR FRONT



"Victory House," Mount Road, was besieged on February 1, 1944 by a large number of women who wanted National War Front 'tokens' for firewood. Photo shows *the Raja Saheb of Khallikote Captain G. T. B. Harvey and Rao Sahib Albert Jesudasan explaining the situation to them.*

People waiting at the National War Front fuel depot at Royapuram Church compound to take half a gundu of firewood.

Two Belgian workmen travelling in a train near Antwerp were arguing in undertones, and one of them said aloud: "I'm absolutely fed up. I would rather work twelve hours a day for the Germans than two for my own people."

A German officer sitting near could hardly believe his ears and said, "Do you really mean that?"

"Of course," answered the Belgian, "I always mean what I say."

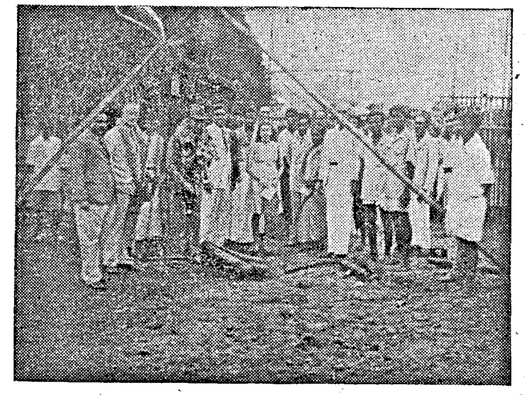
"In that case perhaps you will say i again—on the radio."

The Belgian agreed with surprising alacrity, and in time duly repeated hi word before a microphone. The announce was surprised and slightly embarrassed, an asked quickly.

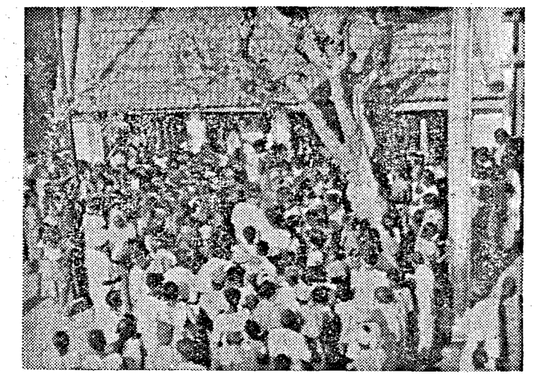
"And what is your trade?"

"Grave digger," was the laconic reply.

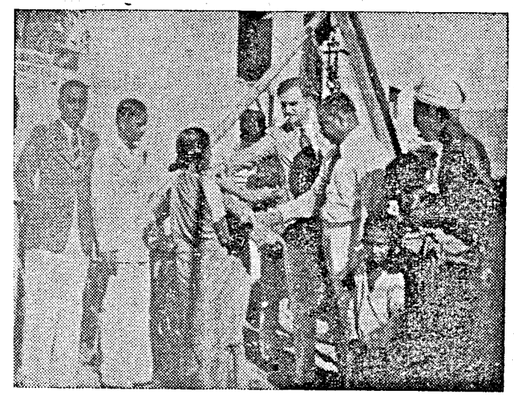
AND THE FUEL SHORTAGE



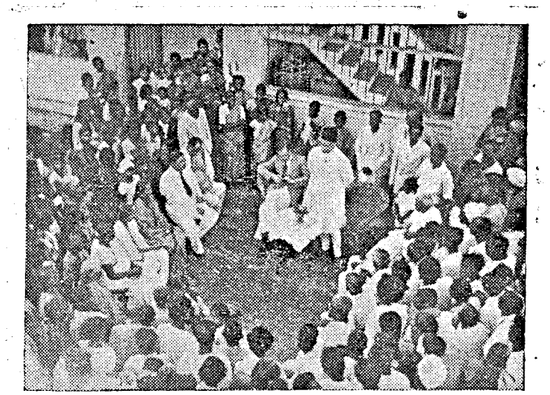
Inauguration of sales by Sir Hugh Hood, Adviser to H.E. the Governor of Madras, on the occasion of the opening of the National War Front fuel depot at Rayapuram.



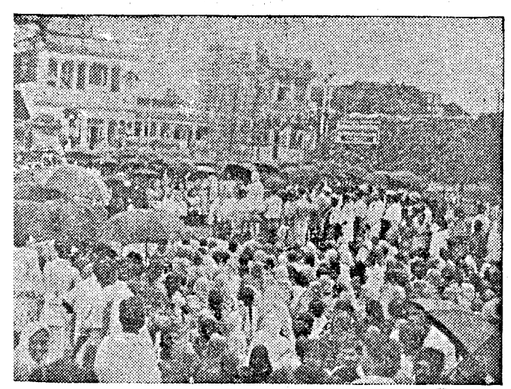
Crowds at the Rayapuram residence and office of Rao Sahib Albert Jesudasan, waiting for tokens to get firewood from National War Front fuel depots at Rayapuram.



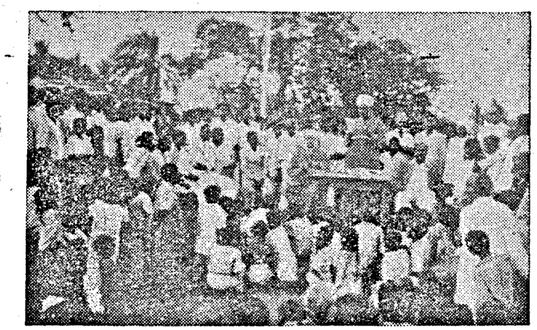
Inauguration of sales by Mr. H. K. Matthews, I.C.S., on the occasion of the opening of the Seventh National War Front fuel depot at Pudupakkam on 28th January.



The Mayor of Madras, Dr. Niyamatulla Sahib, addressed a public meeting at Pudupakkam on the fuel shortage. Mr. H. K. Matthews, I.C.S., presided. Photo shows *a view of the meeting.*



A public meeting was addressed by Captain G. T. B. Harvey at Rayapuram. Photo shows *a view of the crowd.*



The Eighth fuel depot of the National War Front was opened on 1st February at Chakkllipalayam, Perambur, by Captain G.T.B. Harvey. Photo shows *Dewan Bahadur M. Balasundaram Naidu addressing the meeting.*

FROM SOUTH POLE WITH SCOTT TO R.A.F. IN INDIA

HE is at present second-in-command of an Airmen's Holiday Camp, a grand outfit somewhere among the Nilgiris in South India. Bronzed now by an Indian sun instead of Polar snows, the blue, wide-seeking eyes roving over green, fertile hills in place of the desolate mountains of ice, Warrant Officer Hooper was the youngest member of Scott's Famous Expedition and is sole survivor of the Landing and Rescue Parties. He wears the Polar Medal and bar.

Hooper was born in 1889. His amazing career began at the age of eleven when he voyaged to New Zealand and Australia in a sailing ship, taking six months. At fifteen he returned to England in the renowned *Cutty Sark*, this voyage lasting five months. Home again, young Hooper joined the Royal Navy and served the following three or four years in navigation ship.

The restless spirit saw its chance in 1910, when Scott's Expedition to the South Pole was being organized. From among 8,000 volunteers, Hooper, was the youngest selected.

When the little all-wood Terra Nova reached New Zealand, the "Boy," as Hooper became known, was told by Captain Scott that he was to accompany the Landing Party. His wildest dreams were realized!

After a passage beset with dangers —engulfing waves that swept the ponies off their legs and despite every care dragged the dogs from their chains; and swamped the engine-room while the men, neck-deep in the water baled out—the unwavering band of scientists arrived in December 1910 at Antarctica, making their way between icebergs and floes to the great icy wastes and forbidding white mountains. Their camping grounds on the sea ice sometimes broke away, with men and beasts leaping over the widening gulfs of fathoms' deep water; 'killer' whales pushed their snouts up over the edges of the floes to snatch the ponies. . . no story of adventure is more thrilling than that of this airman who looks as calm as if he had never left the shores of England.

Warrant Officer Hooper, tells his story to a Junior Commander Marie Bourke.

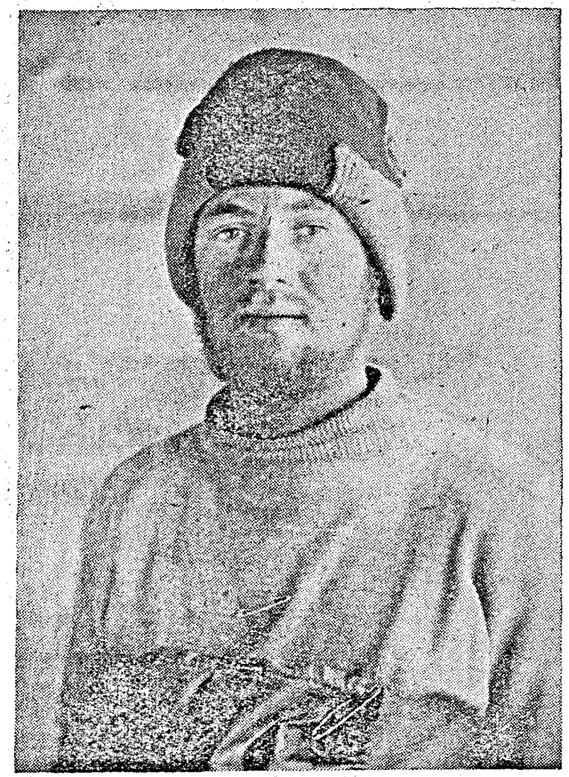
A TREMENDOUS FEAT

Scott's men set up their winter quarters at Cape Evans, so named after the second-in-command of the Expedition, Lieutenant (since Admiral) Evans. Some stayed to establish the base while a selected number, led by Scott himself, set off to lay the famous One Ton Depot. In October the following year, young Hooper was chosen to accompany Evans and two other men—the Advance Party for the Pole. Taking two motor-sledges and six others with three tons of food and fodder, they started out over a wilderness of ice that was either too hummocky or too smooth and slippery for rapid progress. After days of trouble with the motor-sledges, these gave out completely and had to be abandoned and the remaining sledges and supplies had now to be manhauled over the Great Ice Barrier. This tremendous feat was accomplished, as Evans himself has said, "by three men and a boy."

While on the frozen "veldt" the men never undressed to sleep, changing only their reindeer boots for others of dogskin which reached high over the knee. Camped at Mount Hooper —thus named to honour the boy of the party—the four built a gigantic cairn, visible for miles around, while awaiting Scott's arrival with the sturdy white Siberian ponies.

But food and fodder ran short. The ponies had to be sacrificed to the men and the dogs. At the foot of the terrible Beardmore Glacier the last pony was humanely destroyed and depoted there as rations.

These exhausting trudges lasted many weary months. They took the explorers over great ice waves and yawning crevasses; often the men were obliged to crawl perilously along ice-bridges spanning the dark depths between walls of ice. Temperatures varied from 30 to 73·3 degrees below zero. In due course Hooper returned to Cape Evans, the base, and later marched with others to One Ton Camp to lay another depot with extra rations for Scott.



Hooper, who "went into the Expedition a laughing boy and returned a staid, quiet young man." The dark marks on his face are frostbite.

When next the "Boy" went to One Ton Camp it was in March 1912. The small group took with them dogs for Scott, whom they expected to meet there after his having reached the South Pole. "Little did we realize," observed Warrant Officer Hooper, "that Captain Scott then lay in his tent, dying, only eleven miles south of One Ton Depot." Even as his men awaited him, the leader of the expedition halted but a few miles distant, his failing fingers adding weakly to that immortal diary entries of the hopes and prayers of himself and his remaining companions.

INDIAN MULES USED BY RELIEF PARTY

The months passed. The October Relief Party was despatched. Hooper —the laughing lad grown to a staid young man—was selected to be a member of the party. There were no ponies now, so they used the mules that had been given to the Expedition by the Indian Government.

Eyes that may one day contemplate the lonely sacred mound among those eternal snows will first perhaps notice a wooden cross formed by a pair of ski. The silent symbol of endeavour, if not yet laid low by blizzards, watches over the lowered tent that covers, under the ever-falling flakes, three noble men headed by Scott and which forms of itself a natural cairn. The ski belonged to Hooper, the "Boy" of Scott's South Pole Expedition.

The same relief party then searched for Captain Oates, but no trace of this gallant soldier could be found. A second cross was erected, bearing the inscription, "Hereabouts died a very gallant gentleman."

Later, the remnants of Scott's band turned their energies back to the primary object of the Expedition work in the cause of Science. So the "Boy's" part in the drama of these icelands was not yet finished and with the scientists he climbed the volcano, Mount Erebus, in search of geological specimens. They collected specimens of coal, fossilized wood, stones, birds, fishes, eggs, flowers and bacteria.

DECORATED WITH ANTARCTIC MEDAL

Hooper—the "Boy" of the dramatic band of men whose final honoured unit reached the South Pole only to find the flag of another nation planted there—returned to England in 1913. He and three other members of the Landing Party were decorated at Buckingham Palace with the Antarctic Medal.

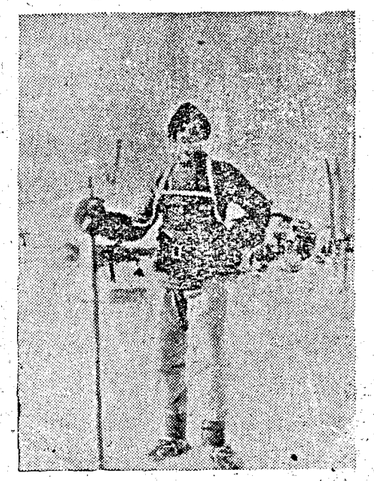
On the outbreak of war next year he joined the Army, serving in France, Salonika and in Egyptian campaigns. Very soon, however, he became sole survivor even of this little group; his three companions lost their lives in the North Sea during an encounter by their ship with the enemy.

In 1940, Hooper joined the Royal Air Force, and after nine months became Warrant Officer. He has since selected to remain in the ranks. Detailed for India, he has seen much of this lovely country.

Of all holders of the Antarctic Medal, those who are able meet once yearly, on the Friday nearest the seventeenth of January—the day Scott reached the South Pole—at the Cafe Royal

WARRANT OFFICER

Members of Scott's Landing Party at the Base, Cape Evans. Captain Scott stands centrally, holding ski-stick. The second in command of the expedition, Lieutenant (since Admiral) Teddy Evans is on the leader's left, standing with hands folded. The "Boy" of the party is third from right of picture. In the background is the hut they built at the Base, their winter quarters.

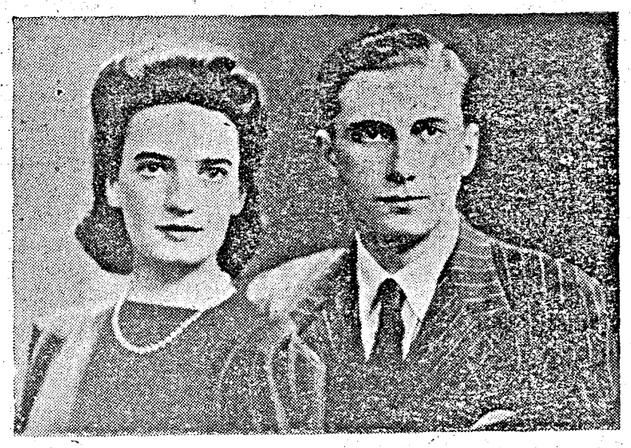


The "Boy," ready for the Advance trek over the ice lands. Each man of the expedition covered many hundreds of miles on foot.

Advance Guard of the Southern Party standing by one of their motor sledges—since described as the forerunner of the tank. The Advance Party took with them three tons of food and other supplies, choosing the camp sites of the explorers and laying food depots. Lieutenant Evans, second in command of the expedition, is seen next to Hooper who is at the extreme right of photo —the "mere boy who stood over six feet with not an ounce of spare flesh on him."

Camped at Mount Hooper, named after the "Boy" of the party. Hooper, arms folded and a companion huddled round the Primus stove to catch some of its warmth while cooking their pemmican—extract of beef—with 60 per cent of pure fat. Food was their one comfort and of this, when marooned by blizzards, the men often ran short. Seal's liver was a rare delicacy; pony flesh came to be greatly appreciated.

HOOPER STORY



Daughters of Warrant Officer Hooper. His son-in-law is a Wing-Commander in the Royal Air Force.

in Regent Street. The world's most exclusive club comprises thirty-four members representing eighteen Polar expeditions, the earliest dating back to 1887.

Warrant Officer Hooper, however, is the only survivor of both Scott's Landing Party who left England in the Terra Nova in 1910 and the Relief Expedition that found and helped to bury the body of the famous explorer in November, 1912. Hooper wears a white ribbon to which is attached a tiny silver rose. . . the Antarctic Medal and Bar.

Thus this airman now in South India served in the four services: the Merchant Service, the Royal Navy, the Army and the Royal Air Force.

"And why now the R.A.F.?" the bronzed, young-faced six-footer of fifty-four years was asked.

Before replying, his strong blue eyes that had been looking beyond the cultivated Nilgiris to frozen plains and plateaus of ice, to grim white peaks and yawning chasms, swept quietly back round the site of the Holiday Camp.

"That," said he, "is quite a different story."

THEY ALSO SERVE

(*By* R.G.)

These too we celebrate
Whose task not conspicuous but daily
Done in its appointed place
Underties the great
Fabric of defence with steely
Or elastic stress.

Not theirs the headlines
Nor the banners
And the thunder of the captains:
But if the front's red lines
Move forward and the gunners
Chalk up new victims

Not without this aid
Of observer and clerk
And hospital orderly
And the W.A.C.I. brigade
Working through the dark
And the long day

Is it achieved.
They also serve who only
Stand by, trained for the possible
Day of trouble, and have lived
Taut, disciplined inly
And outwardly, the invisible

Terror by night
Or the day of explosive storm
Calmly expecting.
Though some sit
Filing a paper or filling up a form
And war is not exacting

Blood or the intense
Strain of courage and body,
They too have forsworn
Ease, and with patience
Given themselves for freedom, ready
To devote themselves and burn

To the foot with constancy
And faith. Wardens all
And auxiliaries,
Whether in your own city,
Or jerked from home to a call,
Or to the eternities

Despatched by ill fortune,—
We the protected ones
Salute you. In this hour
You have girt on
Duty's harness, that shines
Brighter than glory and power.

PRISONERS IN JAPANESE HANDS: SHOCKING TREATMENT

By ADMIRAL H. E. YARNELL

THE announcement by American and British authorities of accounts reporting Japanese treatment of prisoners has sent a deep surge of horror, shock and anger throughout the civilized world. We have known that we fight a relentless, savage foe who made treachery and deceit an integral part of his method of warfare. We have had ample demonstration, in Japan's warfare against China, that calculated, ruthless brutality is part of his armament. But, until now, we have been reluctant to see clearly and to accept fully the whole scope of the character of Japanese aggression.

I think the reason for this strange forbearance has been, not charity, disbelief or lack of evidence, but a failure to recognize and admit the difference of ideas about human beings held by free men and those held by nations in which the individual is the slave of the State.

Because our whole experience has attempted to advance the dignity of men and the decency of life for everyone, we have seen an element of sovereignty in every individual and paid respect to it. We have viewed war as an evil, have reluctantly subjected ourselves to its distortions when necessary, and have fought because peace, decency and individual freedom were threatened.

AXIS SYSTEMS

It is difficult to accept the fact that the experience of other peoples has not produced the same loyalties. It is hard to recall that those political systems which subjugate the life of the individual to the life of the State can be ignorant, even contemptuous of the values we most cherish. Because we believe in human beings, we find it difficult to accept the idea of human beings who don't. But in Japan and Germany we have political systems whose whole pattern of loyalties contradict ours. These systems have taken human beings, potentially like ourselves, and given them inhuman loyalties, condoning inhuman acts and even demanding them. Kindness, humility, the sacredness of the individual have been replaced by false hardness, arrogance, discipline.

Japan and Germany outwardly present greatly differing civilizations. But the pattern of their authoritarian warfare has been horribly identical—the Japanese treatment of the Chinese, Filipino, Indonesian, Britisher and American has been the image of the German treatment of the Russian, Greek, Czech and Pole. It has not been the treatment of a nation by a nation, or a race by a race. Their inhuman cruelty has been, consistently, the weapon of States placing themselves above the individual in a war against all human allegiances which are higher than, and therefore the enemies of, the State. These States have been most viciously barbaric in their suppression of internal enemies, remember, and have as cruelly shed the blood of their own people who opposed them.

We must remember that terror and inhumanity are weapons deliberately chosen, and calculatingly used, by rulers in State despotisms. Their people are encouraged in the practice of inhumanity as part of the technique of their enslavement to the State. The humanity we have practised in the treatment of Japanese prisoners surprises these prisoners as much as we are surprised on encountering the evidence of Japanese atrocities. We must continue to surprise them, to meet outrage with decency, and to uphold our obligations as a civilized power. They have been led to expect barbarism and torture. We have given them food and medical care, and must continue to do so. The practice of humanity is one of our weapons against the enemy's artificial savagery.

We must show them that, despite the long period of forbearance dramatically set forth in the publication by the State department of the history of its fruitless protests against Japan's cynical breaches of honour and decency we are strengthened in resolve and unity by the onslaught of terror. We must be strengthened by our own anger and by the public opinion of the civilized world.

In neutral countries the horror increases. Enemy leaders must be made conscious of their exclusion and condemnation. Americans of Japanese descent on the home front have hastened to condemn the deeds of the Japanese militarists by increased participation in the war effort and mass contributions of blood to the Red Cross.

FINAL PROTEST

Our final protest against Japanese and German inhumanity will take the form of action—of hardened, increased resolve to pursue the war until the enemy's unconditional surrender.

The peoples of Asia already know the quality of Japan's domination and *will be strengthened in their resistance* by the knowledge that the western democracies know it, too, in all its ugliness. Japan will fight more desperately than ever, knowing that she cannot mislead us with pretence or promise, and that she is an outcast among civilized nations as long as her present system survives. We must increase our efforts to make sure that, throughout the world, mankind will be victorious over systems fostering and cherishing atrocity.

TURNING OF TIDE IN JAPANESE WAR

By SIR KEITH MURDOCH

THE last few months have brought not only a turning of the tide in the Japanese war but a wonderful development of local superiority of every sort. We have not much more than dented the Japanese perimeter in three or four of the more distant places. A 350-mile advance in the New Guinea area is our longest span and this cannot be expected to impress a regimental people of high morale some 3,000 miles away.

In some ways they have been affairs of outposts. But the Japanese have done their utmost to defend them. They have lost at least a quarter of their cruiser and destroyer strength, three battleships and two and a million tons of shipping and a large part of their air force. They have shown poor strategy in holding hopeless positions for slaughter, exposing convoys and repeatedly sending inadequate task forces. And now our ascendency is high. We have mastery wherever we can establish fighter cover for further advance.

ENEMY'S SPIRIT

The Japanese are not fighting badly. It is utterly wrong to base plans upon their diminishing morale. My personal advices are that the enemy is showing plenty of spirit and courage. He is a nasty, dirty and ruthless fighter, but he is poorly fed, ill-trained for emergency and as a modern resourceful user of precision machines, he is not in it with our men. Counting all in uniform there must be 2,000,000 fighting men rallied now on the eastern and southern sides of the perimeter.

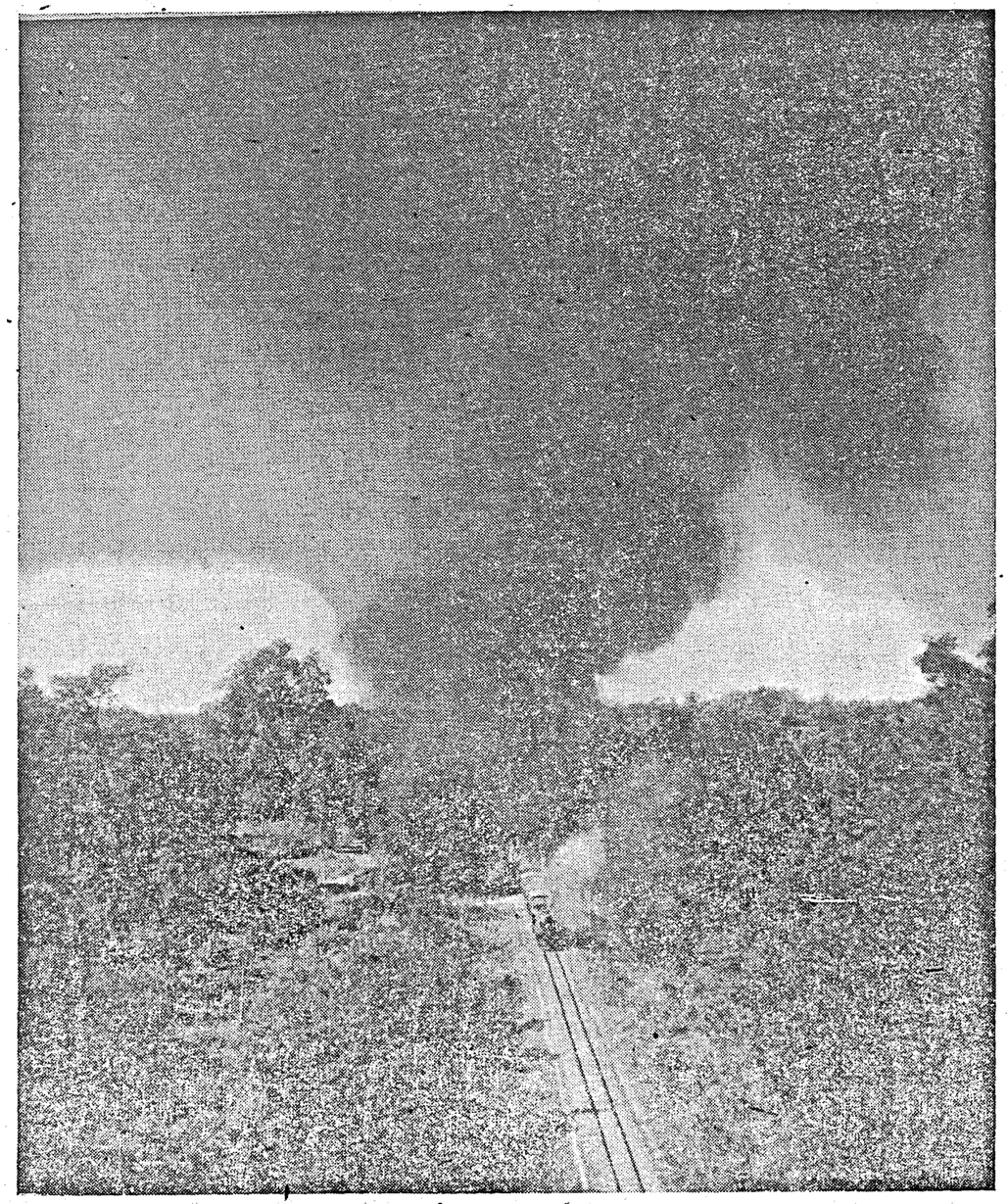
OUR GAINS

Our gains are, first, confidence. We know now how unnecessary were the Malayan days. Next we have made Japan stretched for shipping. She is using all manner of small ships and strings of barges, but she is short, and as our submarine bases close in and air attacks find larger targets, she will wilt. Thirdly, we have destroyed Samurai of the air force and destroyed at least a number of machines she had when the war began and know that even if she is making 1,200 planes per month, as is claimed, they cannot live in the air against American craft as now flown.

There is great admiration in British as well as Australian naval man for the American navy. Its Solomons Islands fighting has been plain, blunt interpid fighting, peculiarly brave undertakings at a time when America's naval strength was at its lowest ebb.

The Pacific presents an amazing picture of gradual assemblage of tremendous and most modern forces with preparation for their multiplication when Germany goes down. But it will be wrong indeed for any part of our people to expect victory without the utmost effort. Japan has surrounded herself with rings of terribly exacting defences. There may be one easier road—Russia. But Russia's ports and aerodromes are very vulnerable. Her single railway is within easy reach and her intentions, as we read them, have been deliberately and convincingly neutral.

R.A.F.'S DIRECT HIT ON JAP OIL TRAIN



This photo shows *a train on fire after being attacked by R.A.F. Beaufighters at KOKKOGON, about 40 miles along the branch line from PYINMANA, on the Rangoon-Mandalay railway. From the speed with which the train caught fire, it is considered likely that it was carrying oil.*

TEA WITH MRS. ROOSEVELT

By ERNIE PYLE

MISS MALVINA THOMPSON

MISS MALVINA THOMPSON, who is Mrs. Roosevelt's personal secretary, called up at 3-30 and said could I come over at 5 and have tea with Mrs. Roosevelt. Being a man of few words, I said "Sure".

I did add, however, that the only coat I had was an old gray one with the elbows out, and I mean out. Miss Thompson said they didn't care, if I didn't.

So I washed my face and at 4-40 put on my Army mackinaw and walked around Lafayette Park for 20 minutes to get up my courage, and then plunged into the White House.

A butler took my coat, and an usher stood waiting to escort me into the waiting room. I shook hands with him out of excitement which I suppose I shouldn't have done.

I sat in a small red velvet room on the ground floor, with a big painting of President Taft on one wall and one of Teddy Roosevelt on the other. Down the hall I could hear Mrs. Roosevelt laughing and talking with people.

I waited about a minute, and could sense by the movement of the voices that the First Lady was showing her other guests to the front door. And then she was at my door, with the usher introducing us.

WANTS TO SEE COAT

Mrs. Roosevelt is very, very happy-like. She said she wanted to see my coat because Miss Thompson had told her I would be ragged. So I showed her my elbows and said I sure wasn't fooling. I told her I thought it ridiculous to buy new clothes when I was out of uniform only a few weeks, and she said, "Perfectly ridiculous. I agree with you."

We went up to the second floor in an elevator which she operated herself, and nto a pleasant west room which had bookcases and several small desk pictures of the President scattered around.

There was a low tea table loaded down with shining samovars and teapots and white linen and cups and things. Mrs. Roosevelt said why didn't I sit on the end of the davenport next to the tea table, and she sat near by and started pouring the tea.

In a minute Miss Thompson joined us, and Mrs. Roosevelt very flatteringly quoted Miss Thompson as having said this was one tea she wanted to come to. I had supposed there was always a crowd at 5 o'clock tea at the White House, but there were only the three of us.

At first I was a little weakish, and sweaty around the upper lip, and I kept wiping my face with a handkerchief. But Mrs. Roosevelt kept talking and I didn't need to think much until after I had calmed down a little.

PACIFIC BOYS EGLECTED"

One of the first things she said was, "I wish you would do for the boys in the South Pacific what you've done for those in Africa." I told her we had considered that as the next trip, but had finally come to the conclusion I had better stick to Europe awhile.

She said well, may be, that was right, but she'd learned from her trip that the boys in the Pacific felt neglected. You have such a sense of Mrs. Roosevelt's sincerity and genuine interest in people that I had to hold on to myself to keep from saying, "Okay, I've changed my plans. I am going to the Pacific."

Mrs. Roosevelt spoke frequently of the President, either as Franklin, Mr. Roosevelt, or the President. I was amazed at the candid way in which she related what she had said to him about something, or what he had said to her.

Also she spoke of letters she'd had from two of her sons overseas, telling some very frank things they'd said. I felt gradually comfortable, as though I were with somebody without "side," and who paid me the compliment of trusting me.

A good part of her conversation was devoted to her feelings about preparing for the post-war period; how important it was that we have jobs all ready for the soldiers when they come back; how we must make factories more modern and homes more livable.

But the conversation wasn't all on such matters. She spoke of Quent Reynolds and his broadcasts, and of John Steinbeck, whom she has never met but admires.

SHE DISCUSSES WRITING

In turn I told her a couple of little war stories. Miss Thompson and I both smoked one cigarette after another. Mrs. Roosevelt didn't smoke, but seemed to keep herself busy at the tea table. After it was over I had the impression she had been pouring tea the whole hour, yet actually we only had one cup around.

Finally we got off onto column writing, and how long it takes each of us. Ordinarily Mrs. Roosevelt dictates hers at the end of the day, in about half an hour. I told her it took me half a day to write a column, and she said, "Yes, but you write a much better column than I do!" Since it is bad taste to dispute the opinion of the First Lady, I just spluttered into my tea.

I'd been worried about how I was to know when to leave. A couple of times I uncrossed my legs in small tentative rising gestures, but neither time did Mrs. Roosevelt or Miss Thompson respond to the cue, so I figured it was still all right.

Mrs. Roosevelt, even in private, talks with a sort of professional joviality on her face. But when you say something, she turns toward you and peers solemnly and intently at you, as though she were a little hard of hearing, though I don't think she is.

She dominated the conversation and that was the way I preferred it. I was glad Miss Thompson came, for although Mrs. Roosevelt was perfectly grand and easy, I was a little beside myself, and Miss Thompson seemed very natural to have around.

"ALL GOOD"

Finally I realized it was 10 minutes till 6, so I got up and said I must let them get to their other appointments. So they got up, and Miss Thompson said goodbye, and Mrs. Roosevelt took me back down in the elevator.

She said this was the same elevator the Teddy Roosevelt kids used to ride their ponies up and down in, and that it had never been redecorated and you could still see the hoof scars on it, and indeed it was very old and scuffer up.

We shook hands in the lobby, and I left with the feeling that I had been talking to a woman who is unique, who is remarkable, and who is all good. As a mutual friend said, you have a hard time to keep from loving her.

The butler held my old Army mackinaw, opened the door, and said a friendly goodbye. At the front gate one of the policemen asked how soon I was going back overseas. After that I walked off across Lafayette Park alone, in the chill dusk air, feeling light as a feather.

UNDER THE WELL-LADEN BANANA TREE!

A new rhyme may have to be written about the blacksmith's shop at a big repair depot of the R.A.F. in India, for it stands not "under the spreading chestnut tree", but under a well-laden banana tree from which the "smithies" pluck fruit as they work.

It is one of the many novelties that face the men who have set up this unit in a remote forward area. Flowering tobacco plants help to camouflage some of the workshops. Everything is in the open air—copper-smiths, fabric workers, carpenters and other tradesmen—and its location will enable damaged aircraft to be rapidly repaired, for its equipment includes cranes and "Queen Marys" on which aircraft can be carried.

WAR DIARY

BRITAIN AND GERMANY

2ND FEB.—Mr. Anthony Eden, Foreign Secretary told the House of Commons that Britain's policy towards war criminals applied just as much to Japan as to other enemies and she was in close touch with the United States Government on this question.

Last night Allied bombers attacked objectives in Berlin.

His Majesty the King heard from Air Vice-Marshal Sir Robert Saundby, Deputy Chief of the Bomber Command, what the Royal Air Force thought about the raids on Berlin. The King received in audience Air Chief Marshal Sir Arthur Tedder, Deputy Supreme Commander of the Allied expeditionary forces and Lieutenant-General Carl Spaaz, United States Strategic Bomber Chief.

General Montgomery made a statement on war.

The Admiralty announced that 10,056,000 gross tons of Axis shipping have been sunk or damaged by surface ships, etc., during the 52 months of war up to December 31, 1943.

3RD FEB.—Mr. Eden told the Commons that the long-promised debate on war situation would take place as soon as Mr. Churchill thought it "a good moment internationally."

One thousand one hundred United States Aircraft attacked targets in Wilhelmshaven.

4TH FEB.—Military targets in western Germany were hit by Allied aircraft. American bombers bombed Frankfurt in south-west Germany.

There was slight German air activity over parts of south-east England including the London area last night. A small number of German aircraft were over East Anglia, south-east England and London area. Bombs were dropped.

5TH FEB.—A munition dump blew up in a railway yard in the north of England.

6TH FEB.—British bombers attacked Berlin and places in West Germany.

Early this morning there was a little enemy activity mainly over parts of East Anglia and south-east England including the London area.

7TH FEB.—It is said that German capital has been moved from Berlin as a result of the aerial bombardment.

8TH FEB.—Allied planes attacked targets in Frankfurt.

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THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND ATLANTIC

3RD FEB.—Rear Admiral Emory S. Land, Chairman of the Maritime Commission reported that production in merchant shipyards in January dropped to 124 vessels compared with 208 in December.

4TH FEB.—The House of Representatives turned down legislation providing for a uniform federal ballot for servicemen and women.

American warships sank 3 German blockade runners in the South Atlantic within 48 hours, says a Washington Naval Communiqué.

5TH FEB.—President Roosevelt revealed at a press conference that he had undergone a minor operation at a naval hospital on Wednesday.

6TH FEB.—Lieutenant Franklin D. Roosevelt Junior, who is back in United States, says it is his personal opinion that the European war will be over by October.

7TH FEB.—Because of labour troubles President Roosevelt has ordered the Secretary of War to take over and operate seven plants of Fall River Massachusetts Corporations.

8TH FEB.—The United States Vice-President M. H. Wallace said that he expected that President Roosevelt would run for a fourth term if pressed.

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INDIA, BURMA AND CEYLON

2ND FEB.—To-day's South-East Asia Command Communiqué states that Allied forces continued to advance southwards in the Kaladan area.

3RD FEB.—To-day's South-East Asia Command Communiqué states that United States trained Chinese forces have captured Taipha Ga, in Hukawng valley.

4TH FEB.—The Standing Committee of the Civil Defence met to-day at New Delhi. Sir Firoz Khan Noon presided.

In the early hours of February 4, an enemy aircraft approached the coast of Orissa and dropped several bombs. No damage was caused and there were no casualties.

On the night of February 4, an enemy aircraft dropped a few bombs in the Vizagapatam area. There were no casualties and no damage to property.

5TH FEB.—His Excellency the Viceroy is on a visit to Bikaner from 3rd February.

To-day's South-East Asia Command Communiqué gives a statement of operations in Burma on 3rd and 4th February.

7TH FEB.—Lieutenant-General Wilfred Lindsell, Principal Administrative Officer, India Command, at a press conference, made a survey of India's part in the war in future.

To-day's South-East Asia Command Communiqué gives details of Allied activities on the Burma front on 4th, 5th and 6th February.

On 7th night an enemy aircraft approached the coast of Ceylon. One bomb was dropped, but there were no casualties and damage was negligible.

8TH FEB.—To-day's South-East Asia Command Communiqué says that Allied bombers attacked Heho and Aungban airfields on 5th and 6th.

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RUSSIA AND FINLAND

2ND FEB.—Russian forces have crossed the Goryn river in Poland. Heavy fighting is going on south-east and north-west of Rovno. The Red Army has reached the Narva river which means that Russians are at least 6 miles inside Estonia.

3RD FEB.—The Red Army has broken through the German defences in the Dnieper bend and two Russian armies have encircled about 10 German divisions. The Soviet troops have captured Smyela. Germans have evacuated Rovno and Luck in Poland. The Red Army has captured six towns in Estonia.

President Ryti of Finland at the opening of Finnish Parliament said yesterday, "At the present moment our position is serious."

4TH FEB.—The Gulf of Finland up to the mouth of the river Narva has been completely cleared of the Germans as also has the Novgorod-Leningrad railway. The Soviet drive inside Estonia continues.

5TH FEB.—Forces of the First Ukranian front have captured Luck, Rovno and Zdolbunov. Several railway stations in Estonia were captured.

6TH FEB.—Another 60,000 Germans are trapped in the Dnieper bend. Red Army maintains its rapid advance in Poland and Estonia. Russians have captured Aportolovo.

The Red Air Force bombed Helsinki, the Finnish capital for 2½ hours on Sunday evening.

The Official Soviet News Agency *Tass* issued a denial of a report that negotiations are in progress for a separate peace betwen Russia and Finland.

7TH FEB.—The Russian troops have closed in on Nikopol. German positions in Dnieper are rapidly collapsing. Soviet troops have penetrated into the eastern suburbs of Narva.

FOR YOUR RADIO DIARY

FEB. 13.—BOMBAY—8-20 p.m. "What the Enemy thinks." By S. Natarajan.

" " LUCKNOW—8-30 p.m. "Literature and War! World War: First Phase (Passive Suffering)" By K. K. Mehrotra.

" 15.—CALCUTTA—9 p.m. "War and the Man in the Street: the Journalist."

" " LUCKNOW—8-30 p.m. "This Global War: Review of Events." By S. N. Gosh.

Helsinki was raided a second time by the Red Air Force.

8TH FEB.—Troops of the Fourth Ukrainian front took Nikopol.

* * *

ITALY, AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

2ND FEB.—The Fifth Army is only 16 miles from Rome.

3RD FEB.—Fierce street fighting took place in Cassino on the Fifth Army front. In the Anzio bridgehead F. M. Kesselring has launched a counter-attack.

4TH FEB.—Rommel is reported to be in Italy. The Eighth Army troops captured Torricalla Cassino, the king pin of the Gustav line, is about to fall.

5TH FEB.—On the Fifth Army front American troops pushed farther west north of Cassino. On the Anzio front British troops repulsed German counter-attacks. Patrols were active on the Eighth Army front.

6TH FEB.—Bitter fighting is in progress in the streets of Cassino. Troops of the Eighth Army were engaged in active patrolling along the entire front.

7TH FEB.—Hard fighting continues in Cassino sector. The Eighth Army occupied the towns of Pizzoberrato and Montenerodomo.

8TH FEB.—On the main Fifth Army front American troops continued their attacks on Cassino. In the Anzio beach-head the Fifth Army consolidated their positions. On the Eighth Army front patrols were active.

* * *

VICHY, FREE FRANCE AND OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

2ND FEB.—Allied aircraft attacked targets in North France.

3RD FEB.—Allied bombers attacked Pas de Calais and other military objectives in North France.

Dr. Benes, President of Czechoslovakia, said "Hitler's weak and illiterate speech heralds the military collapse of Germany.".

4TH FEB.—Military objectives in North France were bombed by Allied bombers.

6TH FEB.—German airfields in Central France and objectives in North France were heavily hit by the Allied bombers.

8TH FEB.—Allied bombers attacked military objectives in North France.

A financial agreement and mutual aid agreement between the British Government and the French Committee of National Liberation were signed to-day.

* * *

NEUTRAL COUNTRIES

3RD FEB.—The Spanish Government have decided to maintain a policy of strict neutrality, it was announced after a Cabinet meeting at which Gen. Franco presided.

4TH FEB.—President Roosevelt declared at his press conference that Britain and U.S. were working together to see that Spain maintains real neutrality. The situation, he added, provided a good many head-aches.

5TH FEB.—The Argentine Government has broken relations with Vichy France, Bulgaria, Rumania and Hungary it is officially announced.

7TH FEB.—Vatican authorities have protested to Mussolini's Government at the incident in which armed formations of Republican police entered Vatican limits.

* * *

THE FAR EAST

2ND FEB.—American forces have captured Roi Island of the Marshalls Group in the mid Pacific. Landings were also made on Kwazalein and Namur Islands. American bombers raided Rabaul last night. In New Guinea Australian troops continue to advance.

The Australian Commonwealth Army Minister M. F. M. Forde made a statement on the war situation.

3RD FEB.—American troops have captured Namu, Gagan, Ebzell, Bebuu and Edgigen Islands in the Marshalls Group.

The Lord Mayor of Tokyo said that Greater Tokyo was prepared for air attacks.

4TH FEB.—United States Fleet has occupied the Kwajalein lagoon in the Marshall Islands. It is the largest Jap base east of Truk. Admiral Chester Numitz has issued his first proclamation as the Military Governor of the Marshall Islands.

5TH FEB.—United States troops landed on Eleya Island, north of Kwajalein, and occupied half of it. Two other small islands have also been occupied by the Americans. Eighty Jap planes were destroyed on the Allied raid on Wewak.

6TH FEB.—The occupation of the Kwajalein atoll is complete. Guggew, Biegj and -lber Islands have been captured and several undefended islands were occupied.

7TH FEB.—It is revealed that American naval forces bombarded south and east coast of Paramushiro Island, the most northerly of the Kurile Islands. Americans killed over 8,000 Japs in Marshall Islands.

8TH FEB.—United States bombers heavily bombed Rabaul.

R.I.N. WANTS SIGNALMEN AND TELEGRAPHISTS

The opportunities offered to young men by the Royal Indian Navy's Communications Branch will be explained to audiences and prospective entrants by an officer of H.M.I. Signal School during a forthcoming tour of Southern India.

The R I.N.'s Communications Branch is the "eyes and ears" of the Navy as it supplies the signalmen and wireless telegraphists who pass information to and from India's warships and Naval establishments by morse, semaphore, wireless and other means. It affords a magnificent opportunity of taking part in the defence of the country, and the work is interesting and the pay good, while the prospects are excellent. The technical knowledge acquired will be a valuable asset to a man when he returns to civilian life.

The tour programme of the officer, Lieut. R. H. Rutterford, R.I.N.V.R., is as follows :—

Bangalore	Feb. 8;
Coimbatore	„ 10, 11;
Mangalore	„ 13, 14;
Cannanore	„ 15, 16;
Tellicherry	„ 17, 18;
Calicut	„ 20, 21;
Ernakulam	„ 23, 24;
Kottayam	„ 25, 26, 27;
Quilon	„ 28, 29;
Tinnevelly	March 2, 3;
Madura	„ 5;
Tanjore	„ 7, 8, 9;
Madras	for some days after March 10.

His headquarters will in each case be the recruiting office, except at Tellicherry, where he will work at the travellers' bungalow, and at Tanjore, where he will make the railway retiring rooms his headquarters.

Those wishing to join the Communications Branch must have a good knowledge of English and be educated up to Matriculation standard, and be between 17½ and 24 years of age.

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MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. V FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 1944 No. 24

We Shall Defeat Hitler on His Own Ground

In the past months we have defeated Hitler's plan for world conquest. We have recovered some of his stolen gains and in the months to come we shall recover more, and we shall meet and defeat Hitler on his own ground

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT, *in a letter to the President of the Jewish Congress on Saturday (Feb. 12)*

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[NOTE.—*The summary of news and comments contained in the* MADRAS WAR REVIEW *generally relate to events and statements published till Wednesday, every week.*]

INDIANS PLAY CONSPICUOUS PART

"The United Nations continue to dominate the situation at sea, in the Atlantic, the Mediterranean, and the North Sea. The strategic air offensive in Europe against Germany's home front not only persists, but continues to grow by day and by night. On land, Russia's remarkable offensive effort has not flagged, and the Germans are steadily being evicted from Soviet soil. Meanwhile, some of the fiercest fighting of the war is now proceeding as the key battle of the whole Italian campaign is joined. In that campaign, Indian troops have, as in North Africa, played a conspicuous part in the drive northwards.

On our own immediate front, the Allied Air Forces of Lord Louis Mountbatten's Command have greatly increased their co-ordinated offensive action in depth, weight and frequency. The Indian Air Force in addition to continuing its hazardous and important reconnaissance work, is also in the offensive action on the Arakan Front."

H.E. SIR CLAUDE AUCHINLECK, *Commander-in-Chief, in a statement in the Council of State, on Wednesday, February 16.*

◆

OFFENSIVE AGAINST JAPAN

"From our own point of view, India is now actively concerned in preparing for the day when major offensive operations will be launched by sea, land and air against our Japanese enemy. To that end, immense work, not only in the training of our sea, land and air forces, but also in the development of our ports, and transportation facilities, of our depots, and large-scale maintenance plants, is proceeding apace against the day when the full military power of the United Nations will be deployed for the ultimate, inevitable, and complete defeat of Japan."

MR. C. M. TRIVEDI, *War Secretary, India Government, in a statement in the Central Assembly on Monday, February 14.*

MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. V | FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 1944 | No. 24

THE KANEV TRAP—ANOTHER STALINGRAD

THE story of the closing of the Kanev trap in the Dnieper bend by the Red Army is one of the most interesting and intriguing episodes of Marshal Stalin's great winter offensive. It was in the first week of last month (January) that Kirovograd was captured. Thereafter, there was a momentary lull. It was the calm before the storm, during which both sides were regrouping for the next move. In the middle of January, the Germans launched a series of violent counter-attacks north-west of Kirovograd. A few days afterwards General Vatutin's right wing north of Kristinovka was attacked by the Germans from January 24 to 29. The object of Field Marshal von Manstein in launching this double counter-attack was to draw off the Soviet troops from their great offensive. But Manstein failed—he could not prevent the advance of the Red Army to bottle up the German troops in the Dnieper bend and to cut Hitler's life line in this area—the Odessa railway.

THE pressure exerted from both sides by Generals Vatutin and Koniev on the Germans in this sector has been compared by the *Red Star* to a giant wine press squeezing the Germans into smaller and still smaller space. It has also been compared to a big circle of which the eastern and north-eastern arcs were formed by the troops of Generals Vatutin and Koniev respectively. The circle itself comprised an area of about 400 square miles formed by the captured towns of Kanev, Mironovka, Boguslov, Zvenigorodka, Shopla, Tsvetkovo, Smyela, and Bobrinskaya.

He asked for it—and got it!

WHY did the Germans allow the Red Army encircle them and pull off another "Stalingrad," smaller but by no means inconsiderable? Why did they not take care not to let themselves be trapped again in great numbers on the Eastern Front? It cannot be said that they had no idea that the Russians were planning an encirclement. For, after the loss of Zaporozhe, Melitopol, and Dneproptrovsk about four months ago, Manstein must have realised that the odds were against him in fighting a holding war on the western banks of the Dnieper. Then came the capture of Kiev by the Red Army next month (November 1943), and whatever little doubts were left in his mind should have been cleared by then. But Manstein clung on to his positions with amazing boldness and, what at times seemed to be, superb generalship. It was not that he did not know that another "Stalingrad" was in the offing. But that he had in fact asked for it—and got it. Since the day his counter-offensive failed against the Kiev bulge, he must have been expecting that things would be developing in the way they have done. But he had no other choice.

THE German High Command must have felt that the Balkan front must be kept covered even if it involved very heavy sacrifices. That was why they had ordered Manstein not to yield ground. In fact, Manstein's army in the Dnieper bulge seemed to have been intended to be a Balkan army with the specific purpose of holding the Bug River line and protecting Rumania from the advance of the Red Army. That explains why Manstein launched such tenacious counter-strokes east of Vinnitsa. It was part of the general plan to protect the Balkan countries.

Manstein repeats Stalingrad attempt

JUST as he attempted to extricate Paulus' army which was encircled at Stalingrad last year, so also he has been trying his best to break through the iron ring which the Russians have formed around Kanev. *Reuter's* Special Correspondent in Moscow reporting on Tuesday says that the savage battle of the Kanev trap is reaching the climax on either side of the narrowed Russian encirclement ring gripping its south-western corner, and that the remnants of the trapped divisions are struggling to hold on from hour to hour, while Manstein, now only 15 miles away, is desperately trying to open the way for them to break out to freedom. The German General could not attack from the east or from the north because Kiev and Fastov are in Russian hands. He could not attack from the west because Byelaya-Cherkov, Poloskove and Buki are with the Russians. So he chose the only line of attack open to him along the railway line which leads from Novo-Ukraina in the south to Smyela, which is within the Russian encirclement, in the north. Manstein's attempts to

break through in the narrow sector north-west of Zvenigorodka have not succeeded, because the counter-offensive was not reinforced by the transfer of German reserves from other sectors. To make matters worse for Manstein, it seems a large part of his own army between Kirovograd and Byelaya-Cherkov has been encircled by the Red Army.

The Capture of Nikopol

THE capture of Nikopol, about 120 miles south-east of Kirovograd, by the Russians is a great blow to the Germans, for it is the centre of Russia's manganese ore mining industry. According to a distinguished metallurgist, if Hitler lost Nikopol Germany's steel industry would be at a stand-still in six months. Further the iron ore centre of Krivoirog has been outflanked and almost surrounded by the Red Army. The German Command decided to hold these rich industrial cities and face the danger of another encirclement. They have not succeeded in their object, but have fallen victims to Soviet encirclement.

IN February last year, the Germans surrendered at Stalingrad, and in February this year a smaller "Stalingrad" has been staged at Kanev. "I believe," said President Kalinin, at an investiture last week (February 10), "that this year we shall inflict a final blow on the Fascist invaders and will clear the enemy from all territories of the Soviet Union." At the pace things are happening in different sectors of the whole Russian front, it seems as though the Soviet President's hope will be realized long before the year is out.

RUNNING COMMENTARY

"Battle for Rome will be Won"—Mr. Churchill on Confidence of Allied Generals

In a statement issued on Saturday last (February 12), Mr. CHURCHILL refers to reports he had received from General Sir HENRY MAITLAND WILSON, Supreme Allied Commander in the Mediterranean theatre, and General Sir HAROLD ALEXANDER, Commander-in-Chief of the Allied Armies, regarding the fight for the Capital of Italy. He says that both the Commanders have expressed their confidence that the great battle now proceeding for the capture of Rome will be won. Mr. CHURCHILL's statement that there is no justification for pessimism will go a long way to dispel the feeling of disquietude that might have been created by enemy propaganda. General CLARK, Commander of the Fifth Army, has also expressed confidence in the successful outcome of the operations. The situation on both the Cassino and Anzio Fronts is satisfactory. General CLARK has welcomed the German attacks because they presented an additional opportunity to kill Germans in large numbers. The German offensive began on the night of February 7 and succeeded in gaining some ground, but British counter-attacks have since regained all the lost ground in the northern sector of the Anzio front. General CLARK referred to the battle which is severely hampered by bad weather as a "battle of endurance" and said, "We can move on confidently to the next step—the joining up of our forces for a victorious march into Rome."

* * *

The broad position on the Italian battle-front may be summed up as follows: The Fifth Army is holding the Anzio bridgehead firmly, and there is a lull in the battle, which means that the Germans are regrouping their armies with a view to launching a full-scale counter-offensive to sweep the Fifth Army back into the sea. Bitter fighting is going on in the Cassino front, where the village of Cairo has been captured by Allied troops. The Germans are using the famous Benedictine Monastery on Abbey Hill, overlooking Cassino, as a fortress, which is being subjected to Allied shelling.

Allied bombers and fighters have been hammering at Marshal KESSELRING's massing of troops, and it is stated that Allied squadrons have flown 300 sorties in 24 hours against targets near the beachhead battlefield. Previously, anticipating early German counter-attacks against the beachhead south-east of Rome, Allied bombers attacked rail junctions and bridges in the triangle formed by Rome, Pisa and Florence. They were able to cut three railways leading into Rome from the north and eleven north-south roads leading through the City. This heavy bombardment had the valuable effect of delaying large troop concentrations of the enemy and thereby giving precious time to the Allied forces to consolidate the bridgehead.

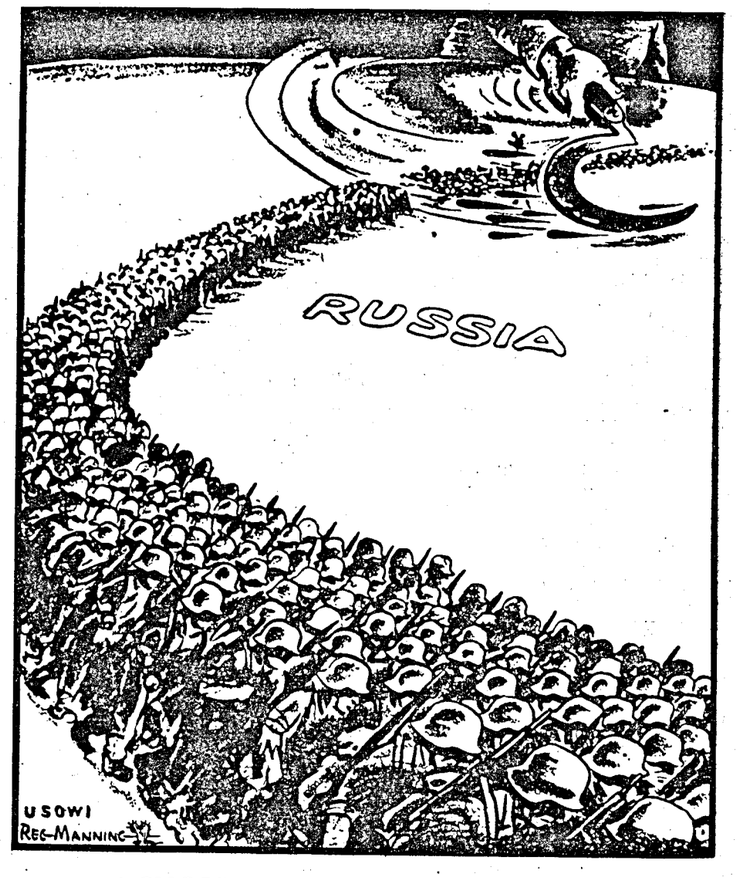
* * *

Kesselring's Plans to Protect the "Gustav Line"

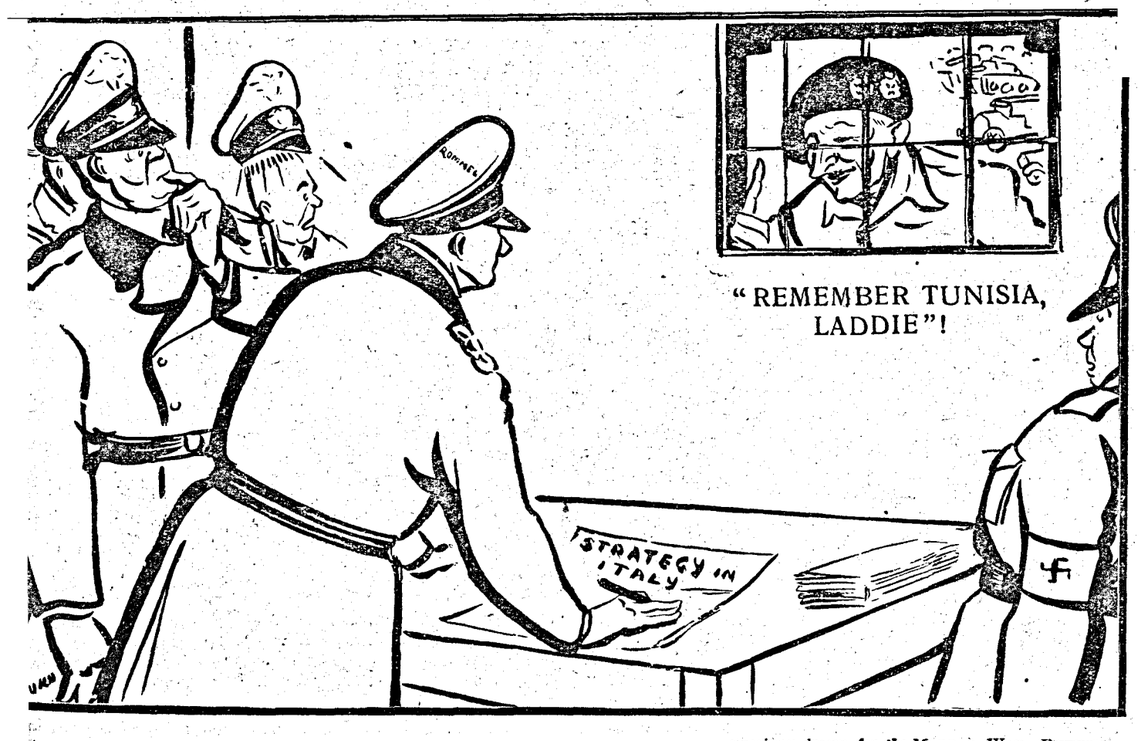
What are Marshal KESSELRING's plans? His immediate plan seems to be to clear the Rome-Capua railway of Allied forces. It is this railway which keeps the German divisions in the lower Garigliano sector supplied with men and munitions. It is likely that the Germans may intend building an uninterrupted railway line from the Albano region, which is about 20 miles south of Rome, to north of Littoria along the southern embankment of the railway. KESSELRING's ultimate plan is to try and smash the Nettuno bridgehead before the main Allied Fifth Army succeeds in smashing the "Gustav Line."

The fact that HITLER's S. S. bodyguard troops and some Balkan forces which have not been till now encountered in the Italian battle-front anywhere, are now making their appearance, shows the great importance the Germans attach to the liquidating of the bridgehead. But it may be pointed out that the "Gustav Line" has been pierced in several places in the south by the Fifth Army. The savage and cohesive way in which the Germans are resisting against the British, American and French forces in the various sectors and the fierce contest in the Battle for Cassino seem to show that the German Command in Italy is prepared to risk even encirclement of small forces rather than carry out large-scale retreat from the "Gustav Line." The capture of Cassino by the Allies in the near future would not have the effect of eliminating German resistance in the south.

Owing to the mountainous terrain and bad weather, the Allies are not able to exploit to the full their armoured superiority. If KESSELRING does not succeed in the attempt to knock out the Nettuno bridgehead and allows the main body of the Fifth Army to sweep everything before it, it is possible that the Germans may be having in view the prospect of trying



"SHORTENING THE NAZI LINES"



"REMEMBER TUNISIA, LADDIE"!

—*Specially drawn for the* MADRAS WAR REVIEW.

and holding a line south and south-east of Rome by merging the forces which are situated along the Rome-Capua railway.

It seems as though the Germans are uncertain about the success of their plans. As though to pave the way for the ultimate fall of Rome, Lord HAW HAW has begun, in a Berlin broadcast, to minimise the military importance of Rome. There are also reports that the Germans have mined important buildings preparatory to evacuation of the city, just as they did previously in the case of Naples. But it must be recognized that the Germans will try to hold on to Rome as long as they possibly can, and they will make very heavy sacrifices to keep the Capital of Italy from falling into Allied hands.

An Irish soldier on duty in Egypt received a letter from his wife saying that because of the war she would have to dig the garden herself.

"Bridget, please don't dig the garden," wrote Pat. "That's where the guns are."

The letter was duly censored, and in a short time soldiers came and dug up the garden from end to end. Bridget, worried over the incident, wrote to Pat asking what she should do. Pat replied shortly and to the point: "Put in the spuds."

The young Negro recruit was the victim of so many practical jokes that he doubted all men and their motives. One night, while he was on guard, the figure of one of the officers loomed up in the darkness.

"Who goes there?" the recruit challenged.

"Major Moses," replied the officer.

"Glad to meet yuh, Moses," the recruit said cheerfully. "Advance and give the Ten Commandments."

During a question period following a lecture, a man arose and put a foolish query to the speaker. The latter replied:—

"The logic of your question makes me think of another. Can you tell me why fire engines are always red? You can't. Well, fire engines have four wheels and eight men. Four and eight are twelve. Twelve in hes make a foot. A foot is a ruler. Queen Elizabeth was a ruler. The "Queen Elizabeth" is the largest ship that sails the seven seas. Seas have fish. Fish have fins. The Finns fought the Russians. The Russians are Red. Fire engines are always rushin". Therefore, fire engines are always red.

"I hope this answers your question also."

During the Battle of the Solomons, a Jap shell hit an American battleship and sent a seaman sliding down the deck. He got up rubbing his nether parts, shook his fist and yelled: "You blank-blanks! Them was my clean pants!"

IN HIS OWN IMAGE

(*By* R.G.)

The dukes of Hell to Havoc
And Horror give the sign;
And Death's dragoons ride darkly
Against the ragged line.

Man forms his ranks and fronts them,
Defiant though afraid,
And sees all Hell's battalions
In his own image made.

Man's heart that spawned the spectres
Shall countercharge and quell
And hound to native darkness
Dragoons and dukes of Hell.

FETE IN AID OF THE RED CROSS

The Fete arranged by Red Cross Working Party of St. Thomas' Mount in aid of the Red Cross and St. John Ambulance, was held on Friday, 11th February at the Officers' Mess, St. Thomas' Mount, with the kind permission of Lt.-Col Foster. The Fete was declared open by His Excellency the Governor of Madras in the unavoidable absence of Lady Hope. It was largely attended by military, naval and R.A.F. Officers.

The Chief Organizer, Mrs. Condon, wife of Lt.-Col. Condon, Officer Commanding St. Thomas' Mount, welcomed His Excellency Sir Arthur Hope, Miss Barbara Hope, Capt. Harding, A.D.C., on arrival at the Fete. Sideshows were laid out in the grounds and tea and supper were served in the Mess. Later dancing to the R.A.F. dance band took place in the ball room of the Mess.

The following were the Stall-holders :—

Refreshment Staff, Mrs. Hannah Timothy; One Rupee Lucky Dip, Miss E. Lock, Mrs. D. S. Jung and Mrs. Kemp; Coconut Shies, Miss M. Bibb and Mr. E. Boulton; Francy Linen, Miss C. Taylor; Dart Board, Miss Flynn and Sgt. Hicks; Hoopla, Miss Q. Lazaro and L.-Cpl. A. Carri; Cool Drinks, Mrs. D. Adams and Miss K. Flynn; Raffles, Miss Chynthia Clark; One Anna Throw, Miss Pearl Steward and Staff Sgt. O. Hislock; Treasure Hut, L.-Cpl. Whittenbury; Darts, Miss H. Floate; Rollem, Mr. Mills; Skittles, Sgt. Lafbery and Staff Sgt. Porter; The Lucky Spinner, Miss M. Crutchney and Staff Sgt. Saunders; Knocking Down Tins, Cpl. E. Cott; Shooting Range, Cpl. Dennis, Cpl. Rogers and Cpl. Cruckley.

The grateful thanks of the organizers are due to the various units of His Majesty's Forces without whose willing co-operation, help and hard work the Fete would not have been a success. Their thanks are also due to the following firms for their donations:

Messrs. Burmah Shell, Best & Co., East Asiatic Co., Richardson & Cruddas, Standard Oil Co., Binny & Co., Asbestos Cement Co., Rally Bros., Louis Dreyfus, South Indian Export, Gordon Woodroffe, Volkart Bros., Shaw Wallace, Vernon & Co.

The Committee's grateful thanks are also due to Sir Alexander MacDougal, Sir Robert Denniston, The Yuvarani of Pithapuram, Mrs. M. N. Clubwalla, and Mrs. Krishnamurthi.

A sum of Rs. 3,800 was realized and handed over to the Red Cross and St. John on the same day. There may be a little more to come when accounts are finally closed.

A MAN OF THE EIGHTH ARMY

(*By* R.G.)

He came from a village.
He knew nothing of Europe's madness
or of the cancerous growth crawling
from those eastern volcanic islands.
He did not know
when he first put on the king's uniform
why he should fight
any more than in what strange regions.
He knew the seasons,
the overlapping clouds of the monsoon,
the empty sky of drought.
He knew his cattle's ways,
the buffalo's wallow,
the well intermittently creaking.
He knew the talk at evening
under the pipal tree
and the bidi smoke and the elders' reproof.
He knew the young wife
who died in childbirth, and his mother's
patience and scolding.

For a hundred years,
for a hundred and fifty,
from the time of his grandfather's grandfather,
they had not seen war there,
in the village of the thatched houses
and the rich man's two-storeyed
bright-painted iron-barred house.
Evening after evening the chattering
of young women at the well,
dawn after dawn the ploughman
following his bullocks and the harvester
moving down the field with sharp
traditional sickle
had been the figures of his mind's
accepted picture.

Now he knows
why he fights. He has seen
the Master-Folk prisoners but truculent,
brutal, with harshness in their step:
and has been where they destroyed
wantonly and ground their jackboots
into the midriff of victimized peoples.
He has met their might
and recoiled till his own matched it.
He has entered
cities delivered and heard
cheering of multitudes still incredulous
of freedom and enough to eat.

He is not what he was.
His shoulders have broadened, his arms
have vigour for tremendous
and once undreamt tasks.
His eyes, even formerly keen
can see across miles of desert and valleys
where men are dots
in the distance and exploding shells
like bursting cotton-pods.
Intricate tools and weapons
he handles more familiarly
than the chaff-cutter at home.
Among strange men and complexities
of civilization he moves at ease.

His leaders were hard taskmasters.
Daily in camp with drill and exercise
they broke him in to his harness
and built him compact
of body and will, a man
disciplined, determined, dauntless.
They threw him into dangerous gaps
still raw and took him out bleeding
but unbroken.
They gave him tending but also toils
without stint.
Now he stands erect,
sure on his feet,
untiring,
a master-soldier and undefeated.

He has broken the lines
the cunning enemy built to be impregnable.
He has heard the guns
throw whistling death before and behind
and the giant machines
come down the slopes in thunder
or with bombs from the summit of heaven.
He has stood his ground
and held the assault with the bayonet.
Among fighting men he is held in honour
and knowing the worth of others
knows his own.

And still he remembers his village,
the intermittent creak of the well,
the squirrel scurrying on the banyan,
the shade of the plantain leaves,
his sister's children.
He has seen gutted villages
of Africa and Sicily and helped
to relieve the necessities of the afflicted,—
thinking the while
of his father's cattle shambling on the bund
and his childhood's companions
cross-legged on the verandah.
He does not know
when he will return: but he expects
a welcome and he is sure
his village will not be burnt and battered.
He is a fighting man
but he has not forgotten peace.

BUILDING NEW BRIDGES—AN AMERICAN JOURNALIST'S AFTER-WAR RECIPE

SEPTEMBER 21, 1943.

THE news from Italy is a foretaste of the kind of situation that will test the mettle of soldiers and diplomats alike as our troops penetrate further into "Fortress Europe."

In the old days when a country surrendered, the war was over. The enemy laid down their arms. The generals and statesmen laid down the terms of peace. A few remained to see they were carried out. And the folks at home cheered and looked forward to welcoming back their boys.

That was the idea that naturally blossomed in many American hearts when they heard Italy had surrendered. And then it turned out not to be as simple as that.

The Italian boot was not neatly sliced off from the rest of Europe as

By DUBOIS MORRIS JR.

many map-makers had indicated. When we started to move into the country we had "conquered", we met some of the stiffest gunfire our doughboys have run up against. German troops blocked our way to the Brenner Pass. Mussolini "escaped" and was reported to be reforming fascist divisions of his own in Northern Italy.

* * *

The Italian people themselves were confused by events, unsure whether to support the Allied invaders openheartedly or wait to see what happened. A marked division of opinion in this country about the men with whom the armistice was negotiated, further complicated our reactions to the news. Meanwhile extremists of the left in this country, and underground workers in Bologna, Turin, Genoa and Milan came forward with their ideas for upsetting the whole apple cart.

This lifting of the lid gave us a glimpse of the forces and counterforces that have grown up on the European continent since the peacemakers at Versailles packed their briefcases and went home. Only those who have lived through those years on the spot can know the intensity of passions grown and nurtured. It needs more than guns and political technique to deal with such forces. It needs moral insight.

HIS EXCELLENCY THE VICEROY'S TEA PARTY.—Their Excellencies, Lord and Lady Wavell, gave an outdoor tea party in the grounds of the Viceroy's House recently: nearly 200 Indian and British convalescent patients from the B.M.H. and I.M.H. were invited. Photo shows *Ac. C. Skeet* (right), *Callington, Cornwall, chatting with the Viceroy. The above group does not include Lady Wavell.*

A former high official of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in one of the Balkan nations emphasized this point to me in a recent conversation. His country is at the centre of the cross-currents of conflicting European interests and ideologies. Feelings run deep and hate speaks with lead.

He got his wife and child on a train across the border a matter of hours before the Nazi blitz hit the capital. He watched the German bombers move in, lying flat on the grass between some trees in a park. (It proved to be the safest spot. Many of the 24,000 people killed in that city those first two days were trapped in non-bomb-proof shelters). A few days later he himself escaped in the last plane to leave the country.

He rejoined his wife and child in Cairo, and they eventually got to New York after an encounter with an Atlantic torpedo en route.

The Balkan diplomat is anxious to return to his homeland immediately the Nazi yoke is lifted. Many Americans, he intimated, are apt to think that a democratic answer will automatically replace Axis despotism. That is only because they don't realize the violent, bullet-spattered antagonisms in the midst of which these Central Europeans live, and have lived for years. Almost every person in his country is caught in the opposing fire of Nazism and Communism.

"Foreign ideas get hooked on to our national ideas and idealism, so that even sincere patriots don't see what it's all about," he explained. "And men who could lead, who want neither one nor the other of these 'isms,' too often go off half-cocked, because their vision is distorted by personal ambition or moral defeats. When moral issues are confused, people's thinking gets mixed up. In the general chaos only statesmen guided by moral and spiritual standards can see clearly enough to give the answer."

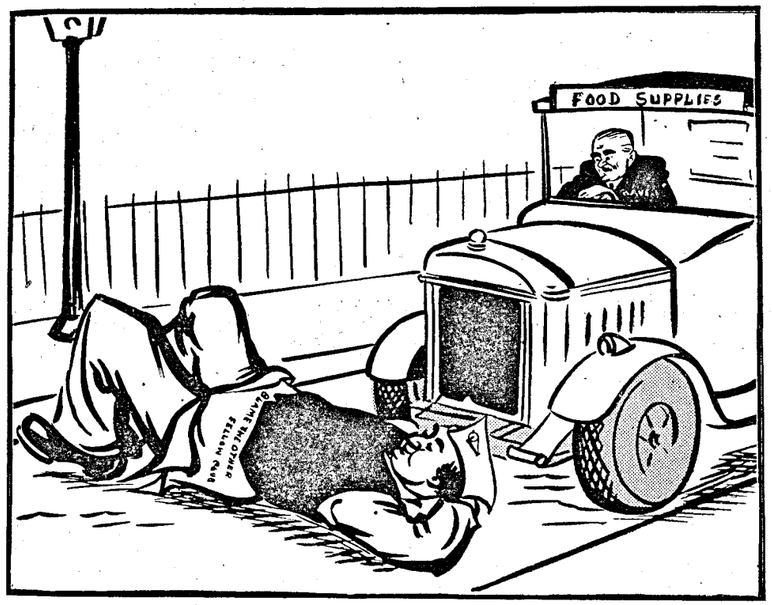
"In fact," he added, "I see only three choices for Europe after the war—Communism, Fascism or Moral Re-Armament."

* * *

Europe is not the only continent troubled with these problems of moral confusion. And the Balkan patriot is not the only statesman thinking along these lines. Last week China's Generalissimo felt it necessary to state again the need for national unity and tell the negative, divisive forces in his country where to get off.

Madame Chiang Kai-shek was talking to a friend of mine not long ago. She, too, recognizes that men of character are the first essential on which to build a sound nation. She suggested the prime qualification to look for in selecting men for the Chinese cabinet was men "without a moral problem."

Her test sets a standard of requirement for Government officials that might well apply to other nations. Only the establishment of men with clear moral standards in positions of control will mark the final conquest of materialistic regimes our arms have overthrown. Only our insistence on men "without a moral problem" in our own high places will entitle us to recommend this course to other lands.



His Excellency the Viceroy and the Food Situation.

—Specially drawn for the MADRAS WAR REVIEW.

FIRST W.A.C. (I) O.C.T.U. OPENS.

Travelling from all parts of India, officer-cadets of the Women's Auxiliary Corps (Indi a assembled at Delhi before proceeding to the Corps' first Officer-Cadet Training Unit which was held recently in the Simla Hills.

The girls could be distinguished by white flashes on their shoulders and white bands on their caps.

Commodious buildings with spacious grounds have been acquired. Here the girls will be given a training which will enable them to assume the appointments to which they will later be posted.

So rapidly has the W.A.C. (I) grown that the demand for trained officers has now become acute. Last autumn it was decided that commissions would normally be given to girls who have been through the ranks. Accordingly W.A.C. (I) Commanding Officers in all parts of India were asked to select from among their units girls who they considered would make competent officers.

Those selected were sent to Dehra Dun, where they came before a W.A.C. (I) Personnel Selection Board. Psychiatrists watched while they performed various tasks designed to test their initiative, resourcefulness and general capability.

Out of 45 candidates 30 were selected, of which English and Indian girls are about equal in numbers. Every one of these girls has served in the ranks for periods varying from 6 to 20 months.

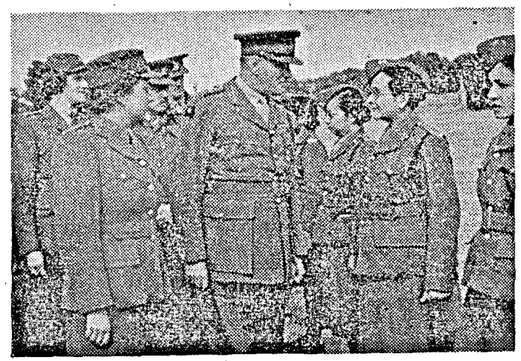
Further batches of officer-cadets will enter the O.C.T.U. at intervals of two months.

On arrival at Delhi the girls found themselves billeted in tents. The novelty of life in a tented-camp, the drill parades and the general discipline appealed to them and stimulated a sense of adventure. Here officers and auxiliaries have been living for some time, although it is intended that they will go into a new hostel, now nearing completion, before the hot weather starts.

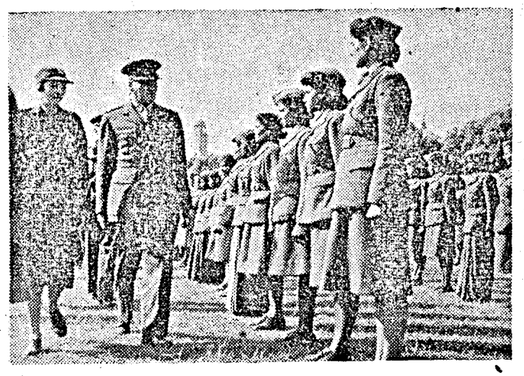
Two girls share a large tent, which has a big brick fireplace at one end, around which are grouped easy chairs, tables and a writing desk for each. At the other end are beds, dressing tables and wardrobes. The tents make easy homes, lined for warmth and having windows, while the floors are brick, covered with thick matting.

W.A.C. (I)'s AT DELHI.—Marching smartly on to the Parade Ground.

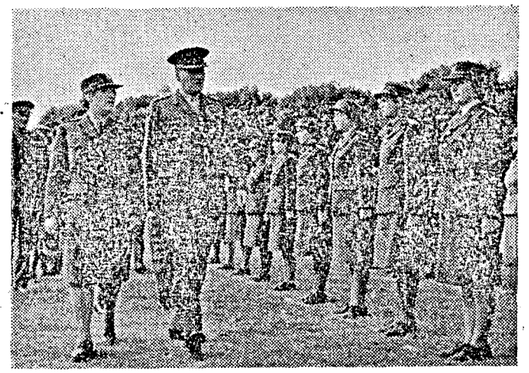
"You are Definitely Helping to Win the War"—H.E. Sir Claude Auchinleck at a recent Inspection Parade at Delhi



The C.-in-C. talking to L/Sgt. L. C. Hinault, Burma Platoon. L/Sgt. Hinault's home was Rangoon where she did heroic work as an Ambulance Driver during the blitz.

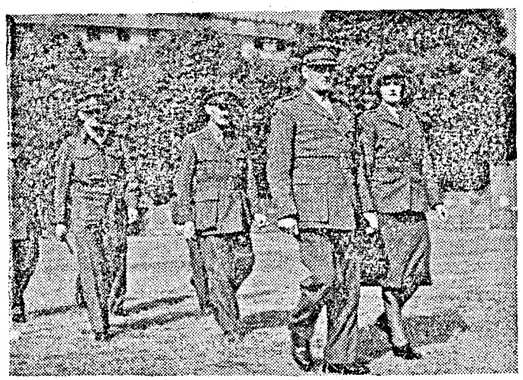


Girls of the Delhi Wireless Company being inspected by the C.-in-C. accompanied by their Commanding Officer, Senior Commander E. F. V. Warren. These girls do most valuable technical work.

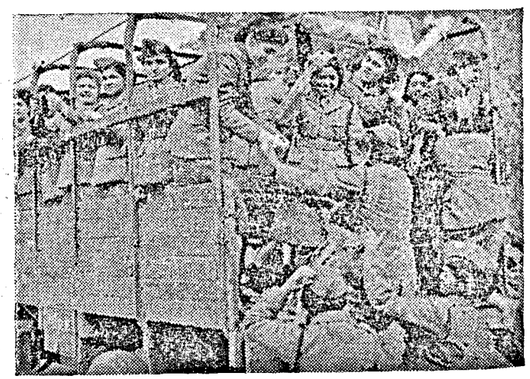


The Commander-in-Chief, accompanied by Regional Commander E. M. Dennys, who commanded the Parade, inspecting some of the officers.

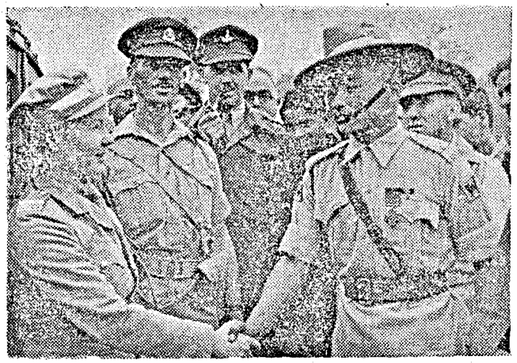
The Burma Platoon of Delhi Company being inspected by the Commander-in-Chief. The majority of this Platoon are Burma evacuees.



The Commander-in-Chief walking to the Saluting Base accompanied by Chief Commander M. E. Douglas. Behind them (left to right) *are the Deputy Adjutant-General, General Freeland, and Lt.-Col. J. S. Wilkins, Commandant, G.H.Q. (Delhi) Sub-Area.*

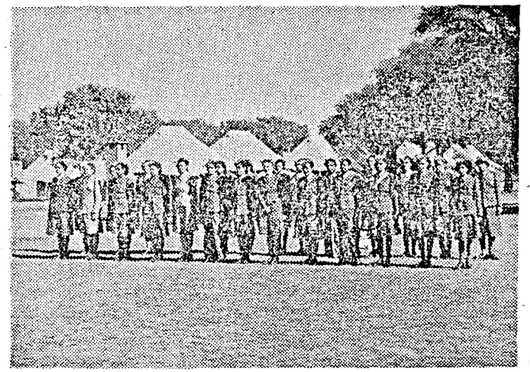


W.A.C. (I.)'s cheerfully piling into one of the transport lorries after the Inspection Parade.

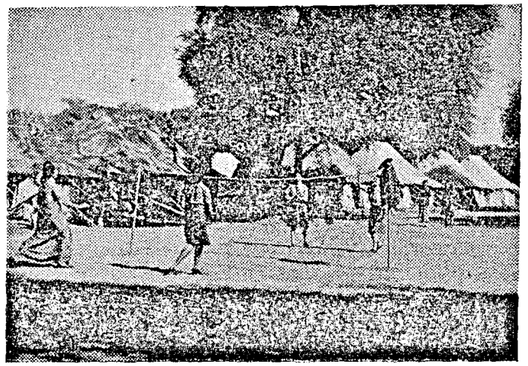


Officer-Cadet Daphne Williamson, of the Boundary, Ightam, near Sevenoaks, Kent, congratulates Jemadar Gaje Ghale, Fifth Royal Gurkha Rifles, after he had been presented with the Victoria Cross by the Viceroy Lord Wavell, at Delhi.

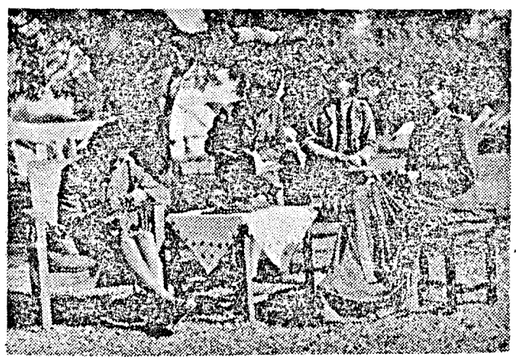
FIRST W.A.C. (I.), O.C.T.U. AT DAGSHAI.—Chosen from all parts of India, Officer-Cadets of the Women's Auxiliary Corps (India) assembled at Delhi before proceeding to the Corps' first Officer-Cadet Training Unit, at Dagshai, in the Simla Hills.



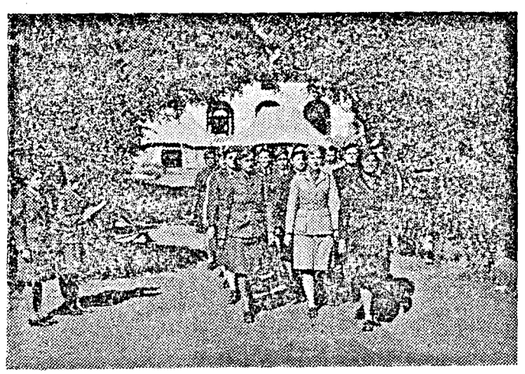
AT THE W.A.C. (I.), O.C.T.U. AT DAGSHAI.—Owing to the rapid growth of the Corps, the demand for well trained officers has become urgent. Photo shows *the Cadets on parade.*



AT DAGSHAI—Enjoying a game of deck-tennis—From left to right—on the far side of the net, *Maureen Arber, Calcutta and Tina Vaughan, Shillong, Assam and Cheselbourne, Dorset, England.* On the near side *are Damyanti Kapila, Lahore, and Mitkyina, Burma and Bimal Sashital, Proctor Road, Bombay.*



AT THE O.C.T.U. AT DAGSHAI.—Relaxing in the sunshine—From left to right: *Edna Cardies, Clyton, Lovedale, Nilgiris, Jill Lewis, Ivy Lodge, Simla, and Bourne End, Bucks, England, Jean Buckley, Saharanpur Road, Dehra Dun, and Harcharan Kaur, Aurrit Nivas (Park), Simla.*



Officer-Cadets of the Women's Auxiliary Corps (India) assembled at Delhi before proceeding to Dagshai. Further batches of Cadets will go to Daghshai at intervals of two months. The above photograph taken at Delhi shows *Officer-Cadets marching out of Camp.*

HIS LAST ASSIGNMENT

RAYMOND CLAPPER

RAYMOND CLAPPER, the world famous columnist and commentator on world events, was killed in an airplane collision while covering the Marshall Islands invasion. He was on self-assigned duty in the Pacific. Previously the 51-year old journalist had visited England, Sweden, Egypt, India and China.

Of him President Roosevelt wrote in a condolence letter to Mrs. Clapper, "It was characteristic of Ray's fidelity to the great traditions of reporting, that the day's work should find him at the scene of action for firsthand facts in the thick of the fight."

We publish below a selection of dispatches written by Raymond Clapper during his last trip, which was prompted by a desire to bring home to United States readers the importance and grimness of the Pacific war.

SAN FRANCISCO: It looks as if I'm getting away for another trip to write about the war.

Once you have been out as a war correspondent and have come home with your nose clean, it is fairly easy getting out again. The War Department gave me back my original war-correspondent's credentials, the same little green card I've carried on two previous trips into war theatres.

It is one of the early one's issued, No. 90, and is dated February 28, 1942, a short time after Pearl Harbour.

I got it when I went out across the new air supply route that Pan-American Airways was throwing across the heart of Africa to transport spare parts and light supplies and personnel to the Middle East, India and China. That airline was an amazing demonstration of what could be done quickly by air. Yet it was a pathetic, weak, little Allied lifeline. When you think back on it, we must not have realised then how near we were to losing the war.

CAIRO AND CALCUTTA IN DANGER

We had to cross Africa by going in below Dakar, down around Liberia and Accra and Lagos. That route skirted the edge of Axis forces. Ft. Lamy, one of our stops in the heart of Africa, had been bombed a short time before we went through. At that very time we were developing a parallel line still further south in case the first route was cut by the Axis. Cairo and Calcutta were in danger and evacuation was going on.

Now all Africa is ours, and the Mediterranean is ours.

I think about all that when I look at this little green war-correspondent's identification card that bears my photograph, finger-prints and description. I carried it to Sweden and to England last spring, and now it has been given back to me for another trip out to the war.

That card and my passport are the two most important things I carry, far more important than money or traveller's cheques. You can travel as a war correspondent without using money, but you can't travel without credentials.

The State Department always gives me back my old passport. It was first issued when I went to England in the summer of 1941. This passport has been with me as far east as Chungking, as far north as Lapland, Sweden and Iceland. It has crossed the equator several times, has flown in all more than 100,000 miles. It has been over the Amazon and through the African desert. It has visited the Pyramids, flown over Jerusalem, travelled in crowded trains through India, and followed General Patton's Seventh Army across Sicily. It has more visas than General MacArthur has decorations.

PASSPORT DIDN'T GO TO ROME

As I recall it, the passport didn't get to go on the bombing of Rome. You are supposed on such occasions to check all your papers on the ground, except a letter which certifies the bearer as a non-combatant and entitled to be treated as a lawful belligerent in event of capture by the enemy. Nobody told me to get one of those papers until I was ready to climb aboard, and then it was too late. But this time I am going out with the navy, and they checked me in with one of those certificates all fingerprinted and entitling me to be kicked around by the Japs as a lawful belligerent.

This time I didn't have to take any shots. I showed the doctor at the Naval dispensary my Army immunisation register from previous trips. It certifies that I am adequately loaded against smallpox, typhoid, tetanus, yellow fever and typhus. They don't have any shots to keep your feet from cracking between the toes. But a friend has slipped me a couple of boxes of the new deadly-secret louse powder. It's lucky for some people I'm leaving immediately.

Martin Codel, who was in Africa for the Red Cross, has just sent me his khaki dispatch case, the same one I borrowed to take to Sicily. A dispatch case is the army field substitute for a brief case. Next to a typewriter it is a war correspondent's most useful piece of equipment.

I have forgotten one or two things, but at this writing I don't know what they are. I hope to think of them before shoving off.

HONOLULU

Our New Year's Eve party aboard a navy freight plane bound from San Francisco to Honolulu was a simple one.

Frank Mason, special assistant to Secretary of the Navy Knox, and I were the only hitchhikers aboard. We were tucked among mailbags and a cargo of war supplies.

It was just midnight in the East. Frank and I climbed to the top turret of our big seaplane and stood there looking out on the lights of San Francisco as they faded in the distance. Then we went below where the crew had a New Year's Eve dinner prepared by the Chinese boy who came from Hongkong three years ago to join the navy and learn English.

As we sat down, Navigator Hank Phillips proudly passed around bright paper caps and New Year's Eve noisemakers that he had bought during the afternoon at Alameda.

MOST FLYERS FAMILY MEN

Hank is the comedian of the crew, and he made our mouths water by his pantomime of drinking New Year's toasts in champagne. Hank didn't say much about it, but he was thinking about the baby of which he expects to become the father shortly, back in Janesville, Wis. In fliers' lingo, Hank said the baby's "ETA"—estimated time of arrival—is January 12. After that we left safe, because he is determined to be back in San Francisco on the date of the baby's arrival.

It surprised me to learn that most of the officers and men of this squadron are married. Of some 200 officers, all except a dozen either are fathers or expect to be soon. So these men of Captain Don Smith's naval air transport organization are known as the Stork Squadron.

Out of thousands of flights, running at least one a day over the longest regular water jump in the world, they have never had a plane even forced down. At this point I knock on wood.

You ought to know this crew because they are carrying a lot of your mail to your sons and brothers and husbands

in the Pacific—thousands of pounds of it every day. In fact, on this huge seaplane Frank Mason and I look like just a couple of mere mailbags, wrapped in the fur-lined leather flight coats the crew provided for us.

"TOKYO ROSE" POPULAR ENTERTAINER

The men argue, the way everybody else does, about when the war will end. Each school of thought has its own slogan: "Back alive in '45," "Out of this fix in '46," "Oh heaven in '47," and "The Golden Gate in '48." That's as far as they've worked out the schedule.

The men talk a great deal about their families, and about incidents of previous flights, but relatively little about the war as a whole. No wonder. They are busy running back and forth between San Francisco and points in the Pacific, and they have their own work to do. For amusement they play poker or listen to "Tokyo Rose," Japan's Lady Haw-Haw, who is their chief laugh.

When Tokyo Rose coos in soft English, "Listen, honey, how do you like those draft rejectees back home taking out your girl?", fellows like Hank who are waiting for the stork think it's a good joke.

We have no hangovers from our simple New Year's celebration, but as Captain Bishop said, "What a hell of a way to make a living!"

NEW GEORGIA

I had read much about the Munda campaign, but not until I went over the ground where we suffered over 25 per cent casualties did the story come to life in all its grimness.

Admiral Nimitz was understating it when he said this was the worst terrain he had ever seen. It is surely the worst he will ever see. One Marine Colonel said the jungle was so dense he never saw the sun for days at a time.

Our forces landed here early last August. Three days later, the Seabees moved up with bulldozers and dynamite, to remove the coconut groves and saw off the hilltop, and in 56 hours we were using the air strip. The Japanese air strip here, as everywhere else, was too small. It was 3,700 feet long. We built one 8,000 feet long and thrice as wide as the Japanese.

Now after five months, Munda has a huge coral-surfaced air field, hard-surfaced roads and a hill covered with installations and supplies, making this place a strong forward base.

The Japanese had hastily occupied Munda for the meagre fighter strip at the climax of the nearby battle of Guadalcanal, when they were about to lose Henderson Field to us. The Japanese were primitive but effective. I visited one of their dugouts, encountering tunnels 30 feet back into the coral rock. It was blasted and chopped out by hand and had coconut logs as supporting timbers. In fact, it was so large and strong we used it temporarily for an air control plotting room.

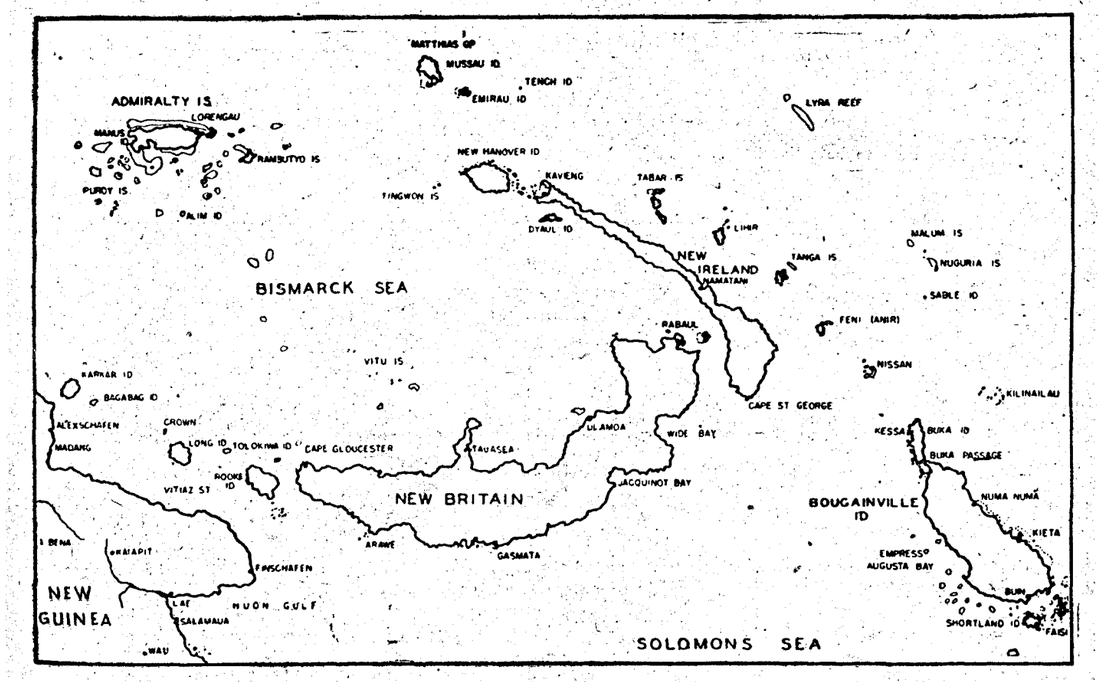
We had to dynamite the Japanese out of dugouts like this because some of them stood up under direct bomb hits.

The Japanese had only narrow roads or trails. All their work was done by hand. They had no heavy road building machinery such as we bring in everywhere out here. We entered the jungle this way—patrols first, bulldozers next, followed by jeeps and artillery.

No United States troops ever went through anything more severe. Many of them have been invalided home, but many are still here. The 43rd Division endured living hell.

We are using some captured Japanese landing barges. Also, for a while we used some American trucks the Japanese left, and we found a three-wheeled type of American motor cycle which the Japanese had converted into a light ammunition carrier. We found oxygen bottles marked "Made in U.S.A." and two coastal batteries of 4.7 Armstrong-Vickers guns which are believed captured at Hong-kong.

But it is all quiet now around here, except for air raids and the fight against



SOUTH-WEST PACIFIC.—Raymond Clapper's first-hand impressions of the Pacific wayfare "somewhere in New Guinea" will be found on the next page.

the jungle scourges. Lieut. John R. Dexheimer of Louisville, Ky., said the greatest danger was from coconut trees with shrapnel-weakened trunks falling down on tents.

SOMEWHERE IN AUSTRALIA

The Pacific war is partly a war against the Japanese and partly a war against the mosquitoes which carry malaria and dengue fever. When I went ashore at one South Pacific Island base, the first sign greeting me as I left the dock was a poster nailed to a tall coconut tree. One picture on the poster showed a Japanese soldier and underneath was the phrase: "He caused one casualty." The next was a picture of a mosquito with the line: "He caused many casualties."

The fight is never-ending. They spray all the ditches with diesel oil three times a week. The men take all the precautions possible. An enormous effort is being put forth against disease by the United States military.

* * *

AT CAPE GLOUCESTER

We drove by jeep through deep mud like axle grease over a so-called road until we reached the end of the track leading up hill 660. The morning I arrived the Marines drove the Japanese over the hilltop. I met some Marines coming down—regimental scouts who had been out ahead of the front line.

A dozen of these men were resting in their dirty water-soaked uniforms. They had not been out of them since they landed here on December 26. Their faces were drawn and weary, and yellow from taking atabrine tablets. They were soon to be relieved for rest.

A few days ago, these boys had foxholes within twelve feet of Japanese foxholes on the small hill which the Japanese had been ordered to hold at all costs. The Japanese had 50 pillboxes pointing out all around the small hilltop. The Marines took it about 4 p.m. Then at dark the Japanese charged in a mass counter attack, chanting in English, "Marines, prepare, prepare to die." But it was the Japanese who died. We lost 15 killed and 50 wounded and the Japanese lost 280.

These men are slogging on in the wet hell now and my last sight of the men who fought the battle of Hill 660 was Lieut.-Col. E. J. Buckley of Pennsylvania calling out, "Good luck."

* * *

SOMEWHERE IN NEWGUINEA

We were called at about 2-30 a.m. to board our PT-boat for a run under cover of darkness to the Cape Gloucester front. The weather finally forced us back but I got some idea of what these men go through. The crew was bleary-eyed when we returned.

PT crews have remarkably low casualties considering the almost point-blank range at which they fight. Out of this unit only seven have been killed in 13 months and 20 Purple Hearts have been awarded for wounds. But between September 27 and December 25 they sank 104 Japanese barges and damaged 28.

Almost every individual has some little religious charm or other good-luck token. Many wear a little image of St. Christopher, the patron saint of travellers.

The PT crews are living a very rugged life. They sleep on their boats when those are tied up. Their mess hall has an old piano—probably the only one in New Guinea. When I arrived it was played by a man in the unit, Ensign Roger Bordman, a concert pianist from New York. It gives a bright touch of music in the damp dark jungle on the shores of New Guinea. It is the only soft touch of civilization in this rugged base.

BURMA INTELLIGENCE CORPS

Working with British and Indian troops on patrols into Japanese occupied Burma to-day are members of the Burma Intelligence Corps, a body of Burma Army men—Burmese, Anglo-Burmese, Karens and Kachins. With their intimate knowledge of Burma and the Burmese language, they are guides, philosophers and friends to their brothers-in-arms. They act as interpreters, establish friendly relations with the local inhabitants, and smooth over any difficulty that may occur.

Coaching in essential phrases in Burmese is also given by B.I.C. men to the troops. Many a British Tommy and Indian Jawan, cut off in enemy territory during patrols and working back to our lines, has escaped starvation, when, coming on a Burmese village, he has asked "hin thee hin ywet", a phrase peculiar to the lingua franca of country folk in Burma, meaning—food.

The majority of the B.I.C. personnel are veterans of the Burma campaign who gave a good account of themselves against the Japanese as auxiliaries in ack-ack and field artillery, infantry, and armoured cars. They marched out with General Alexander on the fall of their homeland in May 1942, to be trained and reformed in India for this corps.

Most of them can speak good English, and this has to a large extent helped to foster the spirit of "comraderie" prevailing between them and British troops on the Burma border. The officers, both Burmese and British, are drawn from all walks of life. Many of them former "teak-wallahs" from Government forest departments and timber firms, they are now applying to useful purpose their many years' experience of work in the jungles of Burma. The Commanding Officer is a veteran police chief with deep and intimate knowledge of the Burmese gained through years' of service in the country.

TRAINING IN JUNGLE WARFARE

COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF'S INSPECTION

WHEN General Sir Claude Auchinleck, Commander-in-Chief, India, visited Bhopal recently, he saw British troops training in jungle warfare in the forest-clad hills of the State. He saw these troops charging with fixed bayonets, smashing through the undergrowth, leaping over rocks, he saw them stalking, and "killing" and he congratulated them.

Through forest country set in an amphitheatre of green hills the Commander-in-Chief made a six-hour tour talking to officers and men and noting for attention on his return a number of welfare matters about which he had inquired.

Opening a new three-mile road cut through the forest by men of the 20 (Madras) I.E. Battalion, he drove between the ranks of the battalion lined up on either side of the road and spoke with officers, V.C.Os. and other men who have already seen active services.

In the training of the British troops realism was the keynote. General Auchinleck picked his way through winding gulleys, shut out from the sun by the dense forest, and exclaimed his satisfaction at the demonstration of patrol work by the troops. A "cemetery" of careless soldiers met the eye at the end of the patrol, a cross and a grave for the men who "shouted instead of signalling by hand", another for the "jungle smart guy who thought he knew everything", another for the patrol leader "who was unable to read a map." But these flesh and blood soldiers showed in a final skirmish that they had learned all the tricks. Silent and invisible during approach, explosive and complete in the attack and mopping up, organized in their dispersal and reassembly, they found and killed their "Japs" as men born to the jungle and its "survival of the fittest" law.

To officers and N.C.Os. assembled later in an open-air theatre, he said; "This is a most important job you are doing, training to become efficient jungle fighters, both yourselves and the men who will come to you. Efficient fighting means the minimum of casualties. Men have been sent into battle and been killed because they were not ready and fully efficient, both in the last war and in this. That is the chief reason why this Brigade has been formed. After what I have seen to-day I know I can rely on you to train the men who will come to you. Efficient enough both to kill Japs and look after themselves. Seeing your work has cheered me up a lot."

A visit to a Field Ambulance, where he talked with British and Indian patients, concluded a day's round tour of approximately 150 miles.

MAP OF THE PACIFIC WAR ZONE

CARPENTERS IN THE I.A.F.

CARPENTERS in the Indian Air Force are being trained to use their skill behind the operational war front in keeping our fighter planes in the air.

The wood propellers—or airscrews—of fighter aircraft often meet trouble and need first aid or a major operation to put them back in the fighting line.

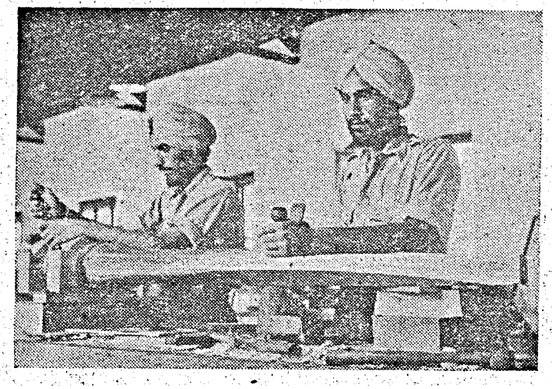
It is to the Indian wood craftsmen, whose skill with plane and spokeshave, is unrivalled, that they go for treatment. In their hands damaged blades or broken tips are carefully remoulded to emerge within a few days or weeks as good as new.

Wooden propeller blades are made from Canadian soft or hard timber. A softwood blade is built up of layers of either Douglas fir or Sitka spruce, finger-spliced into a laminated birchwood root which is jointed to the barrel of the propeller. A hard wood propeller is constructed in identical fashion, but is of Canadian birchwood.

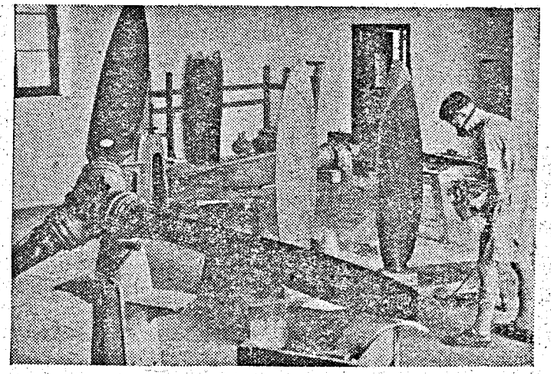
Damaged sections of blades are cut away and new portions are 'grafted' on in layers by splicing. A slow-drying glue is inserted between the layers which are clamped together for days under tremendous pressure.

Next the carpenter rough-shapes a new blade from the block formed by the layers of wood and then with infinite patience planes the blade into shape, checking and re-checking it, section by section, against a metal pattern to ensure accuracy of curve and balance.

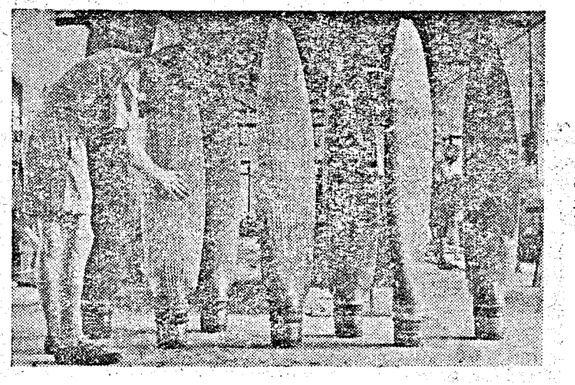
He finishes off the surface with glass paper and then passes it on to be tipped with brass, covered with a thin fabric, 'doped' or painted, and finally balanced. The balancing process is of vital importance. If the three blades of a propeller were out of balance their motion would cause the engine to vibrate and render it unserviceable within a few moments.



Shaping the new wooden blade is a tricky business, but these I.A.F. carpenters are experts at the job.



Spraying with "dope" as a protection against the weather.



Final examination before the blades are despatched to storage units.

Hitler died, and went "below". Satan answered his knock, told him to wait a minute, went away and returned with a box of matches and a bundle of firewood.

He gave both to Hitler, with the remark: "Listen Adolf, there's a limit to what even we can stand. Take these and start a Hades of your own."

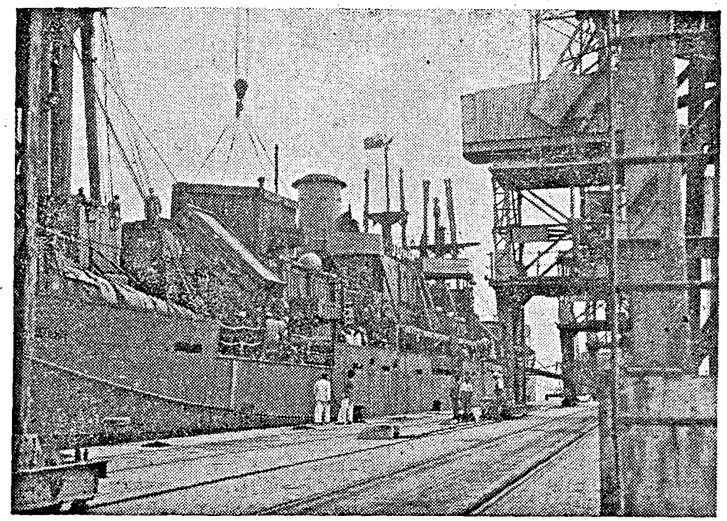
After his "medical" was over, the Army doctor eyed the tall and very thin recruit in silence.

"Well, doctor," said the recruit, nervously at last, "how do I stand?"

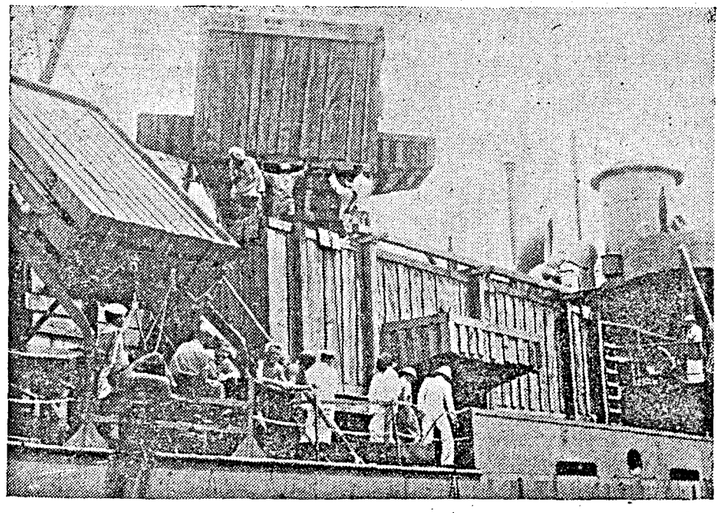
"Don't ask me," replied the M.O. "It's a miracle!"

AT AN INDIAN SEAPORT

AIRCRAFT FROM BRITAIN AND UNITED STATES



American Liberty ships arrive at Indian Ports with their decks stacked as high as the funnels with crated aircraft and equipment.



Another view of arrival of a Liberty ship at an Indian Port.

A GLIMPSE of the steady flow of aircraft into India from Britain and the United States was afforded me recently when the authorities allowed me to visit the docks of an important Indian seaport.

I was taken to the quay where a Liberty ship had just berthed ready to discharge a cargo of dive-bombers. Huge crates of aircraft towered high above the decks, reaching in some places to almost funnel height. Every available inch of deck space had been utilized. Temporary gangways had been built over and around the crates to enable the crew to pass from end to end of the ship.

Gangs of coolies were already busy preparing the discharge of the crated aircraft. Stout wooden structures to which the crates were clamped to prevent their shifting in rough seas were speedily knocked clear. Giant mobile cranes swung into action. Their tough steel hawsers were carefully secured round the huge gray-painted crates and the process of unloading had begun.

I was told that each crate weighed at least ten tons, yet the crane drivers and stevedores manœuvred them as though they were handling cases of tinned fruit. And the reason was not far to seek—the unloading of crated aircraft is not an event but almost a daily occurrence. so the men are now fully experienced in discharging, speedily and efficiently, this type of cargo.

A ship's officer confided to me that the ship had just made its maiden voyage. But this, again, I learned was not an event. Liberty ships leaving American ports on maiden voyages to India, carrying war supplies, are numerous, to put it mildly.

I inquired whether there had been any trouble with submarines during the voyage. "No", the officer replied. "They didn't worry us at all. Our main worry was the cargo and the weather. We were so heavily laden with war supplies that a patch of rough weather we struck gave us all the trouble we could handle for the time."

Within a few hours all crated aircraft had been unloaded on to the quayside, which was pretty good going because they are not shipped in twos and threes. A few hours later, I was told, most of them would be on their way to an assembly depot. The remaining crates would be picked up early next day to make room for the discharge of another shipment.

And as I left the quayside I noticed some of the aircraft were already being loaded on to great elongated motor transports, known as Queen Marys' in the Royal Air Force of their exceptional length (sixty feet) and carrying capacity. In a few weeks' time these same aircraft will have been assembled, tested, and ready for the Burma front.

AIR OFFICER'S INTEREST IN VILLAGE CHILDREN

Keen interest in Indian Air Force activities is shown by a set of young Monipuri school-children forming part of a technical training school close to a forward airfield.

Appreciative of their interest is Pilot Officer R. F. Zaman of the Indian Air Force who comes from Hameedgunge, Lahore, and is acting as assistant adjutant at a forward headquarters. He likes to get the youngsters around him and explain some of the elementary things connected with aircraft.

The school opens at seven o'clock every morning and black-smithing, dyeing, carpentering and basket-making are taught in addition to English reading, writing, geography and kindred subjects. Two hundred boys of all ages attend the school.

ARMY ASSISTANCE TO CIVILIAN POPULATION : IN SOUTH INDIA

LT.-GENERAL SIR NOEL BERESFORD PEIRSE G.O.C.-in-C, Southern Army, in a speech recently in Madras explained the various forms of assistance given by the army to civilian population particularly in the matter of food supplies. He said: *In any* army fresh food for the troops must come to a great extent from the country where the Army is stationed.

In Southern Army requirements from civil sources are reduced to a minimum by the initiation of Army schemes for growing food.

VEGETABLES

As a result of the development of Army schemes for growing vegetables 75 per cent of the Army (British, Indian and American) vegetable consumption comes from Army sponsored schemes operated for the most part by Provincial and State Governments on the Army's behalf. The Army guarantees to take the crops.

Surpluses will be disposed of in the civil markets, the Army bearing the loss, if any, should the price realized by the sale be less than the price, the Army has paid the cultivator for his produce.

FINANCE

The schemes operate normally as follows :—

The Civil Government and the Army bear an equal share in the overhead charges, which include the pay of extra staff, travelling expenses of agricultural demonstrators, etc. Through the special staff engaged, the Army makes immediate advances to the cultivators for the purchase of seed, manure, etc.

The Army also provides the agricultural staff with a permanent imprest —amounting in one very big scheme to as much as six and a half lakhs to enable cash payments to be made to the producer who has the satisfaction of exchanging his produce for cash. It also, of course, encourages him to bring to the collecting centres the maximum amount of produce.

PRODUCE

One of the most fruitful schemes is that operated by the Agricultural department of the Madras Government for vegetable production in the Nilgiris. The Army is already receiving some 3,000 tons of English vegetables annually from this rapidly expanding scheme.

An increase of the Nilgiris potato production, by the assignment of approximately 4,000 acres of additional land by the Madras Government, has made it possible for the Army to be supplied with potatoes without curtailing civilian requirements in the Presidency.

Other big vegetable-growing schemes are in the development or planning stage in the Madras Province.

Probably the biggest and most valuable scheme in the whole of India is that operated by the Bombay Government in Poona, Nasik and Ahmednagar districts, from which the Army receives as much as 19,000 tons of potatoes and 13,000 tons of vegetables every year. Lesser but extremely useful schemes are in operation in the Eastern Ghats and Vizagapatam and in Hyderabad.

PRICES

The Army guarantees to take produce at rates varying from (per average 100 lb.) potatoes, Rs. 11-8-0 in the Nilgiris to Rs. 15-10-0 in the Poona area. Vegetables Rs. 7-15-6 in Hosur area to Rs. 6-4-0 in the Bombay Presidency.

The rates are fixed between the Army and Civil Governments.

ACREAGE

Now in the production or development stage—

	ACS.
Bombay Presidency ..	12,000
Madras Presidency.. ..	6,000
Hyderabad State	460
Mysore State	300

Also :

Under Planning—

Madras Presidency ..	2,000

The above figures include the large acreage in the Nilgiris assigned to cultivators to cope with the increased demands of the Army for potatoes, and exclude the activities of the Growers' Association, now being established in Mysore, to meet the Army's requirements of vegetables.

TRANSPORT

Whenever possible Military vehicles are made available for the carriage of Civil supplies.

During the past six months the Army has been able to do a considerable amount in this respect.

The following are examples :—

(*a*) Approximately 400 tons carried over distances of 40 to 100 miles by Harihar transport units during November.

(*b*) An emergent carry of 75 tons from Mysore to Bangalore. In this case the convoy was ready within 12 hours of the call.

(*c*) A complete section of 30 vehicles has been in the Nilgiris since last November and has been entirely employed in clearing the potato crop which the hill railway could not cope with. Upwards of 2,000 tons have been moved by this means.

(*d*) In response to a call for assistance in regard to Bengal Relief approximately 400 vehicles were despatched from Secunderabad to Bobbili to carry grain from Jeypore to railhead, a distance of about 80 miles. These vehicles have been carrying in the region of 200 tons of grain a day since the middle of November. Most of the grain was for Bengal but there was also a certain amount which was carried on behalf of the Madras Government.

(*e*) During the recent floods in the Madras area general help was given by both general transport vehicles and unit vehicles in generally assisting the civil population.

(*f*) In response to a call by the authorities, a considerable body of troops with all its vehicles was moved from Southern Army to the Bengal Famine area to assist in the distribution of food grains.

In addition to these major lifts there have been a great number of minor cases where supplies have been carried on behalf of the Civil authorities. Close liaison is for ever kept in order to utilize empty convoys not required for Military purposes.

MEDICAL

Military Medical Officers have instructions to assist civilian doctors wherever their help is needed.

Recall the assistance sent by air to the Indo-Ceylon train smash.

Seven military medical officers including the Assistant Director, Medical Services are doing famine relief work in Bengal.

CHICKEN AND EGG DRIVE

The Army has started an intensive chicken and egg "drive" among static units to lessen demands on the civil markets.

SMOKED FISH

A Madras Government scheme to be operated by the department of Commerce and Industries, will shortly produce 1,000 tons of smoked mackerel, pomfret, sole, etc., for the Army annually.

Depots are to be established at fishing villages on the East and West Coasts, where the fish will be smoked and packed, and despatched to Military Supply Depots.

This industry will, besides making a valuable contribution to the war effort, give employment to hundreds of poor fishermen in Presidency coastal villages.

WAR DIARY

BRITAIN AND GERMANY

9TH FEB.—Mr. Anthony Eden, Foreign Secretary, announced in the House of Commons that the British Government has made representations to the German and Swiss Governments concerning five British prisoners of war who were reported to have been sentenced to death by the Italian police.

A joint U-boat statement issued by Mr. Churchill and President Roosevelt says, "The year 1944 has opened with a satisfactory first month for the Allies in their continued campaign against the U-boat. The amount of merchantship tonnage sunk by U-boats during January, 1944, is among the lowest monthly figures for the whole war."

Last night Allied aircraft attacked objectives in Germany.

10TH FEB.—Allied heavy bombers attacked Brunswick in Central Germany and destroyed 89 Nazi planes.

It is announced that H.M.S. *Bitea* has sunk two German submarines and attacked five other U-boats.

"Mr. Churchill will make a statement on the war and the international situation, shortly," said Mr. Eden in the Commons.

11TH FEB.—Allied planes bombed Berlin and places in West Germany last night. American Flying Fortresses bombed Frankfurt in daylight.

There was slight enemy activity in South-east England and London area.

12TH FEB.—Mosquitos of the Bomber Command attacked objectives in Central and Western Germany.

Enemy planes bombed places in South-east England and London area.

The King saw battlefit troops, who may be the spearhead when the attack on Hitler's European fortress opens in the west performing their allotted assault tasks. He was accompanied by General Sir B. Montgomery and high staff officers.

13TH FEB.—Aircraft of Bomber Command attacked objectives in Western Germany.

Four German planes were destroyed during slight activity over South-east England including London area.

14TH FEB.—There was enemy air activity over parts of East Anglia and South-east England including London area.

15TH FEB.—Sir James Grigg, War Secretary, answered questions in the House of Commons on Jap atrocities against British prisoners.

* * *

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND ATLANTIC

9TH FEB.—The United States Vice-President Mr. Henry Wallace urged the pooling of the world's raw materials as a safeguard against future global wars.

The United States ship *Cooper*, a new type of destroyer, was launched to-day.

10TH FEB.—Chairman of the United States Maritime Commission, Admiral Emory S. Land pleaded for the National Service Act before the Senate Military Affairs Committee.

Mr. Huge R. Jackson has been appointed as Deputy Director-General in charge of liaison between U.N.R.R.A. headquarters in Washington and regional offices for Europe and the Far East.

President Roosevelt will broadcast on Saturday afternoon at the presentation of a destroyer escort to the French people.

11TH FEB.—The Senate voted in favour of the scrapping of the Administration's food subsidy programme.

President Roosevelt backed up the United States Government's plan to build up an oil pipeline from the Saudi Arabian fields to the Mediterranean.

President Roosevelt speaking on the occasion of the transfer of the American destroyer escort ship *Senegalais* to the French Navy said that France will soon be liberated.

President Roosevelt informed Mr. Harry L. Hopkins, Adviser to the President, that his son Stephen was killed in action in the Marshall Islands.

13TH FEB.—United States Aircraft production in 1944 will exceed the 1943 record by 40 per cent said Mr. Joseph D. Keenan, Vice-Chairman of the War Production Board.

* * *

INDIA, BURMA AND CEYLON

10TH FEB.—Sir Reginald Dorman Smith, Governor of Burma, addressed the Burma Indian Conference at Simla.

11TH FEB.—Allied forces in Tiddim area occupied a hill feature south-east of Maulbem and the Jap position east of Fort White. Prome and Akyab were bombed.

In the Tidden area, parties of Jap troops in the Fort White area were dispersed by Allied troops. In the Arakan fighting continued.

13TH FEB.—Allied bombers attacked Heho and other places in Burma.

General Stilwell, Commander-in-Chief of United States Forces in India, Burma and China issued a statement on the Allied strategy in the Far East.

Lord Louis Mountbatten has sent a heartening message to troops fighting in the Yagu range.

15TH FEB.—To-day's communiqué from South-East Asia command says that on the night of February 13–14 Japanese troops made an unsuccessful attack on one of the Allied positions north-west of *Pantha*.

Major-General George E. Stratemenjer, Commander of all U.S.A.A.F. in India and of the Allied Eastern Air Command said: "We will have some armoured freight cars of the air in this theatre very soon."

* *

RUSSIA AND FINLAND

9TH FEB.—Soviet advance continued on all sectors. They captured Oredezh, Radoly, Ozerevo, Novsie Guzistsi, Moike, Gorsdische, etc.

10TH FEB.—The Red Army has almost surrounded Krivoirog. The Russian troops captured Valyava, Zavadovka, Zemostye, Tolmochevo and other places.

President Kalinin stated at an investiture: "I believe that this year we shall inflict a final blow on the Facist invaders

British infantrymen passing through Anzio, Italy, after Allied forces had established and maintained beachheads on the West Coast of Italy.

and will clear the enemy from all territories of the Soviet Union."

11TH FEB.—Soviet forces captured Sheptovka, Tagancha, etc.

It is revealed that there has been an exchange of letters between Mr. Churchill and Marshal Stalin on the Russo-Polish question.

Russian aircraft bombed the Finnish port of Kotka for two hours.

It is rumoured that the signing of a trade agreement between Russia and Bulgaria is expected hourly.

12TH FEB.—The Russians have captured Batetskaya. Red Army troops are fighting on the outskrits of Luga, the important German bastion.

13TH FEB.—Russians captured Luga, the last important German base on Leningrad front and the district centres of Gdov, Polna and Lyady and occupied more than 800 inhabited localities.

Russian air attack on Finnish towns continued.

14TH FEB.—The Soviet drive to Pskov, the gateway to Latvia is in full swing. The Germans are in full flight. Russian forces captured Korsun.

The Finnish statesman M. Paasikivi is believed to have transmitted peace proposals to Moscow.

15TH FEB.—The German advance in the slight wedge they forced north-west of Zvenigorodka has been halted. In the Dnieper Bend the destruction of the remnants of the ten trapped German divisions continues.

* * *

ITALY, AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

9TH FEB.—Fierce fighting is reported in and near Cassino. Americans have driven a wedge between Cassino and the German position en route Cassino.

10TH FEB.—Heavy fighting is going on on the flanks of our troops at the Anzio beachheads.

All anti-semitic laws have been deleted from the Italian statute book by a Royal Decree.

11TH FEB.—Allied troops are now hitting back in the Anzio beachhead. Hand-to-hand fighting is raging in Aprilla. Fighting at Cassino continues at high pitch.

Hard fighting continued on both the Fifth Army fronts. On all fronts operations were impeded by rain, snow and sleet.

13TH FEB.—Allies have resumed their attacks against German positions before Cisterna. Very bitter fighting continues inside Cassino. The Allied position is generally satisfactory.

14TH FEB.—British troops of the Eighth Army on the Anzio front have made successful local attacks. American troops on the main Fifth Army front continued to exert pressure in the Cassino area. Patrols were active on both the Fifth and Eighth Army fronts.

15TH FEB.—It is officially announced that one-third of Cassino is in Allied hands.

* * *

VICHY, FREE FRANCE AND OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

9TH FEB.—Military objectives in North France were hit hard by Allied bombers.

10TH FEB.—Allied bombers bombed targets in North France. An air-battle took place near Paris.

Nazi-held fighter-bases of Gilze and Riyen in Holland were also bombed.

11TH FEB.—Air attack on military objectives in North France continued.

12TH FEB.—Allied aircraft bombed German military installations in the Pas de Calais area in occupied France.

A National Council of all parties has been formed in Poland.

13TH FEB.—Allied aircraft continued to pound military objectives in North France.

14TH FEB.—The formation of a Yugoslav democratic and popular union was announced by the Yugoslav Government in Cairo.

15TH FEB.—A communiqué issued by the Polish Government states that the visit to Washington of the Polish Premier, M. Mikolaczyk has been postponed on account of State affairs which requires his presence in London.

* * *

THE NEUTRAL COUNTRIES

11TH FEB.—It is learned that Anglo-Turkish staff talks have been proceeding in Turkey recently. It is understood that the talks have lasted for over five weeks.

Mr. Eden paid tributes to Sir Samuel Hoare who has helped to keep Spain neutral.

12TH FEB.—Bombs were dropped in North Sweden.

* * *

THE FAR EAST

9TH FEB.—Mr. Eden said in the Commons that the approximate number of prisoners of war of the British Commonwealth in Japanese hands was estimated at 140,000.

The aim of American forces in the Pacific was to set up bases in China, said Admiral Chester W. Nimitz, Commander-in-Chief of U.S. Pacific fleet.

10TH FEB.—Rabaul in New Britain was heavily bombed by American bombers. Thirty-four Jap planes were destroyed. Madang and Alexishafen were attacked by Allied aircraft. Enemy bases in Bougainville were also bombed. American troops advancing in the Huon Peninsula are now only 7 miles from the American troops in Saidor area.

Mr. Curtin, the Australian Prime Minister, made a statement on the war situation.

11TH FEB.—Australian forces have joined up with the American forces near Saidor in New Guinea. This completes the occupation of the Huon Peninsula. 14,000 Japs were killed. Allies bombed Alexishafen.

American submarines have sunk 12 more Japanese supply ships in the Far East, it is announced in Washington.

12TH FEB.—Enemy airfields at Rabaul were heavily bombed. Wewak was also attacked.

13TH FEB.—Kawieng in New Guinea was bombed by American bombers. Thirty-two Jap aircraft were destroyed in a raid on Rabaul.

14TH FEB.—It is revealed that Rabaul was bombed for the twelfth time in the past 14 days.

15TH FEB.—Four Japanese ships were sunk and three damaged in an Allied air attack on a convoy off Fuchow. Railway yards and repair shops in Indo-China were also attacked.

Allied forces have occupied Rooke Island in Vitiaz strait between New Britain and New Guenea and Gorissa near Cape Mensing on New Britain. Siai Island off Madang was heavily bombed by the Allied air-craft.

FOR YOUR RADIO DIARY

FEB. 19.—MADRAS—9-45 p.m. "What Next: One World Currency." By Dr. D. W. Dodwell.

" 21.—BOMBAY—8-45 p.m. "Five Months in Japanese Prison." By Graham Martyr.

" " DACCA—8-00 p.m. "Japan Unmasked: Exploitation and Despoliation" By Rev. H. D. Northfield.

" 22.—PESHAWAR—9-45 p.m. "Facts and Fabrications: Analysis of Axis Broadcasts." By R. B. Dewanchand Bhrai.

" " CULCUTTA—9-00 p.m. "War and the Man-in-the-street: Industrial Worker."

" " LUCKNOW—9-45 p.m. "This Global War: Review of Current Event of the Month." By S. N. Gosh.

" 23 MADRAS 8-30 p.m "The Voice of America" Relayed from Delhi.

" 24 LUCKNOW—9-45 p.m. "Great Little Nations: Yugoslavia." By S. N. Gosh.

" 25 MADRAS—9-45 p.m. "World Affairs." Talk relayed from the B.B.C.

" 26 DELHI—8-30 p.m. "Books in War Time: Propagandist Literature." By A. Mac Farquhar

" " LAHORE—9-5 p.m. "Yesterday in Chunking." By Victor Kiernan.

" " LUCKNOW—9-45 p.m. "Interviewing Japan." By Dr. A. L. Becker.

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MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. V FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 1944 No. 25

NO TIME FOR SORROW OR REJOICING

MR. CHURCHILL

THIS is no time for sorrow or rejoicing. It is time for preparation, effort and resolve. The war is still going on. I have never taken the view that the end of the war in Europe is at hand, or that Hitler is about to collapse, and I have certainly given no guarantee or even held out any expectation that the year 1944 will see the end of the European war. Nor have I given any guarantee the other way

THE splendid victories of our Soviet ally on the Eastern front are inflicting immense losses upon the enemy. The fact that so many of enemy divisions have been drawn into Italy and into Yugoslavia while other large bodies of his troops are held in France and the Low Countries by the fear of invasion has been a help to these victories

MOREOVER, the Anglo-American bombing of Germany absorbing as it does about three million Germans has, together with other British and American activities, drawn four-fifths of the German fighter forces to the British and American fronts and I believe even a larger number of bombers against us and our American allies. This also has been of assistance to the Soviet Union, and I think these statements should be made in justice to the Western Allies

THEY, in no way, detract from the glory of the Russian arms

MR. CHURCHILL in his war review in the House of Commons on Tuesday, February 22

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[NOTE.—*The summary of news and comments contained in the* MADRAS WAR REVIEW *generally relate to events and statements published till Wednesday, every week.*]

HOUR OF RETRIBUTION DRAWING NEAR

"German-Fascist brigands are tossing about in search of ways of salvation from disaster. They are again resorting to total mobilization of everything although the reserves of Germany's man-power have been exhausted. The Fascist rulers are making desperate attempts to sow discord in the camp of the Anti-Hitler coalition and thus to protract the war. All the manœuvres are bound to fail, for at the basis of the Anti-Hitler coalition lie vital interests of the Allies who have the task of defeating Hitlerite Germany and her accomplices. The hour of final retribution for all crimes committed by the Hitlerites on Soviet land and in the occupied countries of Europe is drawing near."

MARSHAL STALIN *in a message on the eve of the 26th Anniversary of the Red Army on Tuesday, February 22.*

◆

DRIVING THE ENEMY INTO HIS SHATTERED LAIR

"Soldiers of the Russian Army took upon themselves the full might of the blows of the Nazi war machine and put a final stop to it. At present we are witnessing a still greater war epic—the gigantic offensive in which the same officers and men of the Russian Army are striking still fiercer blows, driving the enemy from the land plundered by him into his shattered lair."

GENERAL EISENHOWER, *Allied Invasion Commander, congratulating the Red Army on its 26th Birthday on Wednesday, February 23.*

◆

WILL CARRY WAR TO JAPAN

"We are going back to Tokyo—and we shall go in full array, with mighty allies. British civil and military leaders have told me how fully they share our determination to carry the war to the very heart of Japan in the shortest possible time."

MAJOR-GENERAL JAMES DOOLITTLE, *Commander of the United States Army Eighth Air Force at London, on Sunday, February 20.*

MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. V FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 1944 No. 25

THE ANGLO-AMERICAN AIR OFFENSIVE

IN his review of the war situation in the House of Commons on Tuesday (February 22), Mr. Churchill said, "The whole of the air offensive constitutes the foundation on which our plans for an overseas invasion stand . . . The idea that we should fetter or further restrict the use of this prime instrument of war will not be accepted by the Governments of the Allied nations." Mr. Churchill was referring to the steady and relentless Anglo-American air attacks on Germany. He pointed out that the proper course for German cilivilians and non-combatants to take was to quit the centres of munitions production and take refuge in the countryside. "We intend," declared the Prime Minister, "to make war production in its widest sense in all German cities and towns and factory centres impossible." The ever-increasing tempo of the Allied air offensive has already affected German production and upset Hitler. It may be recalled that more than three months ago (November 8, 1943), Hitler, speaking at Munich, said, "When this war began the American President hypocritically addressed me with a request that we should undertake not to wage a bombing war. We have done this and kept our word." This was the first time after September 3, 1939, that Hitler or any German leader referred to the President's appeal made four years ago. The object of Hitler in referring to that appeal was to attempt to shift the responsibility of starting the air war on to the Allies and pretend injured innocence.

A Contrast

BUT this pose stands in ridiculous contrast to Berlin's boasts of the effects of the terror raids of the *Luftwaffe*. On January 20, 1941, a Berlin broadcast said, "Our reconnaissance map shows in red ink the latest effects of Germain air raids day by day. It looks like a huge pool of blood and we turn away in horror, so clearly can one see the districts, the streets and even individual buildings, which have been destroyed." On the one side Hitler and his henchmen had been making public declarations against terror raids, but on the other their air forces had been working havoc on civilian population and non-military objectives. Hitler said in 1939, "That it is a precept of humanity in all circumstances to avoid non-military objectives corresponds entirely to my own attitude and has always been advocated by me." When he was making this declaration, the *Luftwaffe* was bombing Polish towns and villages most indiscriminately. After the worst havoc had been done in Poland, Goering said on September 9, 1939, "I even have given the order not to bomb military objectives of great importance, because they were situated in the neighbourhood of a town." A year later (December 11, 1940), Hitler claimed, "I did not want the air battle, but we had to undertake it, and we shall finish it. During the whole Polish campaign we did not wage such a battle. I intended to attack military objectives only, to fight only against soldiers and not against women and children." But hard facts belied the statement. Warsaw and Rotterdam were bombed most savagely by the Germans.

"We shall rub out their cities" said Hitler

IT was after the attack on Britain that the Nazis began to indulge in boasts of their power and prowess. On August 11, 1940, the bombers of the *Luftwaffe* attempted to terrorize British civilians by bombing towns and villages as a prelude to invasion. Then Germany was stronger in the air than Britain. That was why Hitler indulged in the arrogant boast (September 4, 1940): "We shall rub out their cities." There are any number of statements in Berlin broadcasts showing that the Germans were gloating over their terror raids. Referring to the effects of such raids, Berlin said on August 6, 1940, "Women will look in vain for their children, wives will see the charred bodies of their husbands, the mothers will weep over the homesteads lost and people will cry for food." After two weeks Berlin said, "The noise produced by the propellers of the German dive bombers is so hideous that it upsets the mental and moral equilibrium of Britons." A month afterwards a Berlin broadcast said (September 13, 1940), "Thousands of people are streaming from the city, the horror of the past few days revealed in their faces. A fight of this kind is always the beginning of the end." But the British people stood the ground and the R.A.F. fought it out with the *Luftwaffe*. The Germans lost the Battle of Britain.

LATER Britain struck back. But Berlin had been regaling the German people with the idea that British planes could never come and bomb Germany. Goering had claimed (August 9, 1939), "We will not expose the Ruhr to a single bomb dropped by enemy

aircraft." A year later Hitler declared (September 4, 1940), "No British aircraft can cross the North Sea in daylight." The same month Berlin radio said, "Every German child knows that not a single plane can reach Germany." All these statements were made ludicrous by the growing might of the R.A.F. The German leaders and propagandists later changed their tone and tune. They began to talk of retaliation in connection with the R.A.F. attacks on Germany. Hitler said on May 4, 1941, "We are determined that in the future we shall, if necessary, retaliate for each bomb with a hundred bombs." On January 15, 1942, the German-controlled Prague radio said, "If the British dare to drop one bomb on territory occupied by 80-million Germans, the Germans in return will drop ten times more bombs on the territory occupied by 40-million Englishmen." Some months later (September 17, 1942) Herr von Ribbentrop assured Mr. Churchill "that the bombs are being cheerfully counted and that there will come a time when we will deal finally with the aircraft-carrier in Europe." But a year later Hitler had to wail, "Do you think that I do not eat my heart out when I think of the British air attacks on Germany."

BUT the difference between the attacks of the *Luftwaffe* on Britain and the Anglo-American air battles over Germany and occupied Europe is that the latter concern themselves only with military and industrial objectives and do not attempt to terrorize civilians, as the Germans have been doing right from the beginning of this war. This has been clearly explained by Sir Archibald Sinclair, the Air Minister, last month, "Civilians are not our targets," he said (January 22, 1944), "Our aim is to paralyse the war industry and transport, and the objectives are not cathedral towns but cities which are centres of German war industry and transport and nothing will divert us from our aim." This has been the policy of the Anglo-American air forces, and the terrible concentration on the aim of paralysing German war industries has had such an effect that the German leaders are now squealing in a greater degree than ever before at the havoc wrought to German war production by the precision and persistence of Allied bombing. They are squealing because they are afraid of the shape of things to come when the "overseas invasion," to which Mr. Churchill has referred, starts. For the greater the disorganization of German industrial production as a result of the Anglo-American air offensive, the lesser chance the Germans have of resisting the great march from the West towards Berlin.

RUNNING COMMENTARY

New Drive Across Central Pacific—Attack on Truk and Ponape

It was announced last week (Feb. 17) that Truk, the great Japanese naval base in the heart of the Carolines, was attacked by U.S. Naval Task Airforces, and several hundred aircraft took part in the operations, which began on February 16. Some days earlier (February 4) American Marine airmen in Liberator bombers carried out a photographic flight over Truk—the first white men, it is stated, to have a glimpse of the vast Japanese base.

Ponape, the important base in the Japanese-mandated Caroline Islands, was attacked by American bombers on February 14. It is about 400 miles east of Truk, which belongs to the same group. The Japanese had divided the Caroline Islands into the Eastern and the Western for purposes of administrative convenience, and Truk and Ponape are both centres of administration in the East Carolines. The raid on Ponape, which carries the Central Pacific Front another 600 miles nearer Japan from the Marshalls, was executed within a fortnight of the Allied attack on those islands. The attack on Ponape and Truk seems to suggest that Admiral NIMITZ is making a new drive westward across the Central Pacific, which is taking the war nearer to the homeland of the Japanese.

Japanese leaders have been well aware of the trend the war has been taking in the Pacific. More than a year ago (December 25, 1942), Premier TOJO appraised the Japanese Diet of the real situation. He said:

"The United Nations were increasing their air forces stationed in China . . . they are carrying out counter-attacks in the Solomons and New Guinea and Aleutian areas . . . the real war is to begin from now."

RUSSIANS ROLL FORWARD IN U.S. BUILT "JEEPS"—The commander of a Russian tank destroyer unit stands and watches from his "jeeps" as his troops roll forward along a Russian road. The Unit uses "Jeeps", small but sturdy reconnaissance cars developed by the United States Army and supplied in large quantities to the Russians under lend-lease agreements, to pull its mobile anti-tank guns. Great quantities of American equipment have been supplied to the Russians for use in their fight against the Germans.

The real war began then, but its sting is being felt in an increasing measure by the Japanese leaders perhaps only in recent weeks. Attempts have been made to prepare them for terrific air-raids from Allied bombers. In an A.R.P. talk last month (January 26), a Japanese speaker said:

"Raids may come four or five times daily, possibly continuous and lasting for hours . . . The war is mostly in the air and many aeroplanes are needed. We do not have sufficient planes and aerodromes here."

* * *

Tokyo Becomes Air-raid-Conscious—Gloomy Situation in 1942 gets Gloomier

The talk was about Japan. What the A.R.P. speaker said happened in the case of Paramushiro, and the recent raids on Panope and Truk are only a foretaste of the much larger dose of medicine which Tokyo is likely to get in course of time. How intensely air-raid-conscious. Japan has become will be further clear from a speech made by TOJO at a recent session of the Diet to pep up the morale of his listeners. He said that Government were developing all their available energies to the production of aircraft, and promised "planes, more planes and yet more planes". He added:

"Units stationed in various quarters were engaged day and night without relaxation in providing against air-raids and preparing for the future development of the war."

On the strength of this assurance, a resolution was passed by the Diet that "the Imperial Forces have already established a strong and solid defence line to the home country against enemy attack from sea and air". Some other Japanese leaders did not seem to be so sure about the defence line. Commander HIRASHI SUZUKI admitted (December 28, 1942) that "both the British and U.S. people are tenacious nations. . . They always believe in final victory." He then referred to Germany as the country that may win battles but certainly loses the war.

It is obvious that if such were the feelings in 1942 they will be even more gloomy now. And there is abundant evidence to prove it. In the second week of last month, a rare uncensored letter was sent from Japan to Washington. The following observations in that letter are of interest:—

"Life here is becoming more and more difficult. There is talk of evacuation of foreigners from Tokyo, partly because of the impending bombardments. . . The economic situation is bad. . . The hospitals are full of broken limbs, as during the nights zealous people dig holes into which other zealous people fall at dawn . . . Rolling stock is in a bad way . . . People barely manage to keep body and soul together."

The obvious fact that emerges from these revelations is that the exploitation of the occupied countries in South-East Asia have not benefited the mass of the Japanese people, but only the military and business clique in Japan. This is confirmed by the observations of a German woman correspondent in Tokyo. Writing to the *Berliner Borsenzeitung* LILLY ABEGG says:—

"Traces of war are noticeable everywhere . . . Many Japanese women are compelled to work ten or more hours in factories . . . Thousands of small Tokyo shops have been closed."

There are other evidences to show the declining morale of the Japanese. They are to be found in some of the reputable Japanese magazines. The following are some revealing extracts:—

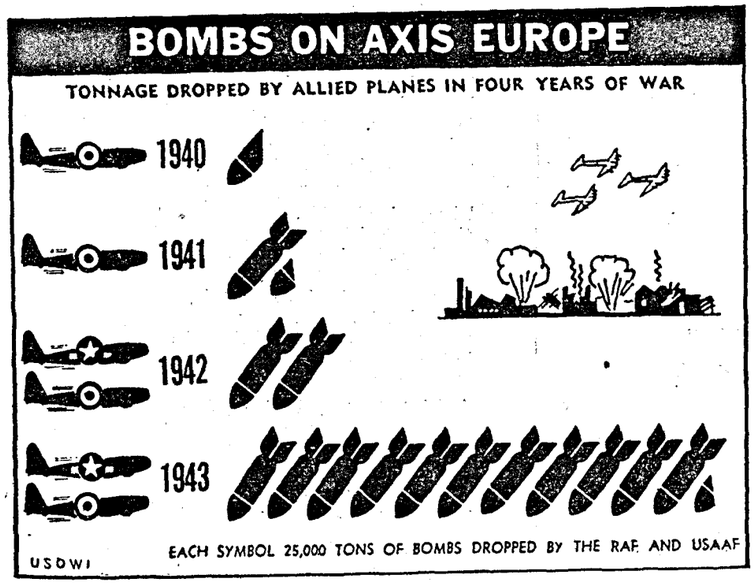
"Japan can in a sense be said to be in a state of acute nerve war at present."

"We unconsciously have in Japan in the intellectuals who occupy a leading position in our cities and villages, as it were a teaming British Fifth Column. But Japan has no Fifth Column in Britain and America. It is only by first crushing the Britain and America in our hearts that we shall be able to crush the Britain and America overseas, outside Japan."

"If even a single individual shows dissatisfaction regarding shortage of materials or difficulties in every-day living, the enemy will at once take advantage of the resulting opportunity to create war-weariness and anti-Army feeling and to disrupt our economic machinery."

That Tokyo is worried about Allied nerve war is clear from this, but it must not be presumed as yet that the deliberately conditioned morale of the Japanese civilian has been seriously shaken, as yet. It is not possible to say with any certainty when the final crack, which may be a very long way off, would come. Another point that is worth noting is that the "intellectual" is, as in other Fascist countries, considered to be a danger to the regime.

(*Continued on page 8.*)



A recent TIMES report said: "Royal Air Force bombers dropped six out of every seven tons of bombs that fell on Germany during 1943. In 1944, the United States effort will be immensely bigger."

GAMUT—A scale in seven notes separated by intervals of time and feeling—*By* R.G.

A. Apathy (1936)

It is not
our business. The times
may be out of joint but
it is not our business. Workers
may be without work but
it is not our business. Dictators
meditate and engender war but
it is not our business.

Hear our old thoughts rustling
from the limbo of the 'thirties'
like dead leaves of an autumn
we would rather forget——
an autumn of dripping discomfort
when no huddling around a fire
gave ease to rasping throat
nor was it serviceable to go afoot
through the woods—an autumn
of standing in halls and tapping barometers.

And the mind grew
apathetic and the heart grew
apathetic and the mouth
settled sullen, no smile, no talk
for hours together. The bright moments
were the better relished but the main course
was without salt.

The Middle Ages
knew the sin of Accedia.
We built it a cathedral
and installed ourselves canons and bishops.
There we sang no hymns
and prayed no prayers
but sat in the choirstalls
images carved in wood and in apathy.

B. Dejection (1937).

What is happening
cannot happen and if it happens
cannot be endured.
Yet indeed in Spain
and in China the human world is shaken
with jungle howlings.
The wolves in circle bay the moon
and the tiger cleans his paws daintily
after a good hunting.

And we cannot help.
Our hands stay in empty pockets
and if one or two
young ardent and imprudent
go, changing pacifism for
an impotent violence,
we look on their tracks with dejection
and shake our heads
in an impotent sorrow or
an impotent anger.

The world is too big
for an individual passion ; so
we gnaw the unsavoury crust
of dejection, deriving no sustenance.

Ethiopia, your miseries
and injustices leave us righteously
dejected.
Austria, your rape
in most distressing, but what
can we do to remedy
the wrong ? At a distance we are righteously
dejected.

There is a peculiar hell
for the helpless onlooker
who has the right instincts
but has nothing to do except to be
dejected.

C. Fear (1938)

Daily new outrages
are reported and daily
the ugly face of the future
war grows clearer through the misty verbiage,
wearing a snarl under
a polite grin.
The great Chancellor
will speak to his assembled Party
the day after to-morrow.

We sit by the receiver
wonderingly. Is this the voice
that charmed a people
into surrender of selfhood and endless marching ?
Is there behind it
a mind and heart or only
a vast inane inhabited
by snatches of catchwords
and fragments of prejudice ?

It rises and grows
harsher and more impetuous
and Fear
comes out of clammy corners
with a sneer on his curled lip
and hairy claws.

Where are our guns
and our air forces ? Many or any ?
Or must we play canny
while our head and front
man flies to make a business
bluff ?
Remember the little children
for of such is made
bomb-fodder.
There is a cold that is not
in the air but
in the belly. The vital
spirits have been adulterated
and in the vial is a thin liquor.

D. Rage (1939)

The eye implacable,
the mouth tight to the corners,
the heart beating heavily—
long resentment :
the pulse beating in the temple,
the voice stuttering,
the hands trembling and the nails
in the palm—
sudden rage.

And if to the smouldering ember
they add blazing cloals and a wind
to fan the flame, there shall be
conflagration.

Was our acquiescence
in the jettison of our pride
and the ringing of joybells
for justice denied, for this
that a blackguard should smile in our faces
and teach us new lessons
in the stocking and stoking of hells ?
An end of disgraces
and end of appeasement defied.

So the slow phlegmatic
island people, putting down
their beer as usual, hold their rage
but take off siprit's coat
and roll up sleeve.

Snarling bully, though you rant
and slaver, simulating
indignation for your people's wrongs,
here is anger, slow and sure
and solid like a North Sea wave :
here is cold resentment
deep and bitter as the sea.

Is it peace, is it war ? You have your warning
and we have had ours
and will be awake to-morrow
the hackles up and the blood
still pumping a little fast.

E. Resolution (1940-1)

Out of the wilderness
gaining himself livelihood the resolute man
forswears comfort and company of his like ;
in all despondency still remembering
the pride of his heart and the might
of his hands and the faith
of his fathers.

The circumnavigator
of the undefined globe
ever new passages sounding and over
new expanses of ocean floor
plodding ever
like a great-hearted
fly on an interminable ceiling
keeps his hold filled with ballast of resolution
until he sails up his own sound
and clanks anchor at the barbican
of his childhood.

Gulfs of despair have opened
in the earthquake of war, but 'Courage !'
says the leader and points
where a giant tree stands firm-footed :
fell it and lay it
across this fissure : and the next
we will bridge as bravely,
provided for all emergencies
with resolution and against disasters
with resolution fortified.

Barely pausing in their work
to wipe the sweat from hand
and handle, the lonely group cheer his words
to the echo
and the echo answers
resolution.

F. Action (1942-3)

See the branch pulled by the shoulder
of the man in passing leap
back, and the waterfall
pouring relentlessly, power without ending——
types of action, of recoil
and of flow out of accumulation.

Nature has bred the living
to win their life by act
out of stored energy again
and again repeated, whether
in the daily necessity to fill
the belly and renew the blood
or in sudden danger springing
the right way, the penalty
death : the body the engine and the wind's spark
together in action perpetuating life.

Man single and in fellowship
rembers his inheritance, acts
as the need drives. Threatened
by elemental force or crazed
brutality, he draws on his bank
of energy and rises above routine repetition
to magnificence.
And the seas
bear witness and the skies
testify and the snow
show the imprint and rivers
are abashed and mountains
that were exalted are humbled
by the acts of his hands
and the feet
bestriding the narrow world
like a messenger of the gods.

So is the victor vanquished
by the recoil of the few he thought to scatter
with the wind of his passing
and by the flood plunging upon him
over and over—
humanity's accumulated action.

G. Hope (1943-4)

Except you become
as one of these and expect more
than was ever promised you, you shall not
enter the kingdom of heaven. Except
you see visions in cloud-cuckoo-land
and think thoughts falsified
by all past experience, you shall not
escape from your gutter
to the delectable hills.

We have heard with our ears and seen
the report of foulness more bestial
than any beast without
proud intellect could think to do
or do without thinking. Yet
hope emerges from the chrysalis
and her wings are gay
with a startling embroidery,
if a little
limp and bedraggled.

Under the snow in the prairie
the seed sleeps through winter, and in the house
beaten by blizzard winds
the farmer nurses his hope
to see in the spring the green shoots and the long
stalks and at last the whole land
bright with the wind-stroked wheat.
His expectation is founded
on experience of seasons and centuries.
But the spiritual harvest never yet
rejoiced any cultivator ; always
the weeds won.

A fine crop have we seen
in this generation ; tares and brambles
and tumbleweed and unfriendly thistles. Still
unconquerably hopeful
we watch
over the waste land the tractor
turning multiple furrows and man
riding the monster.

(*Continued from page* 5)

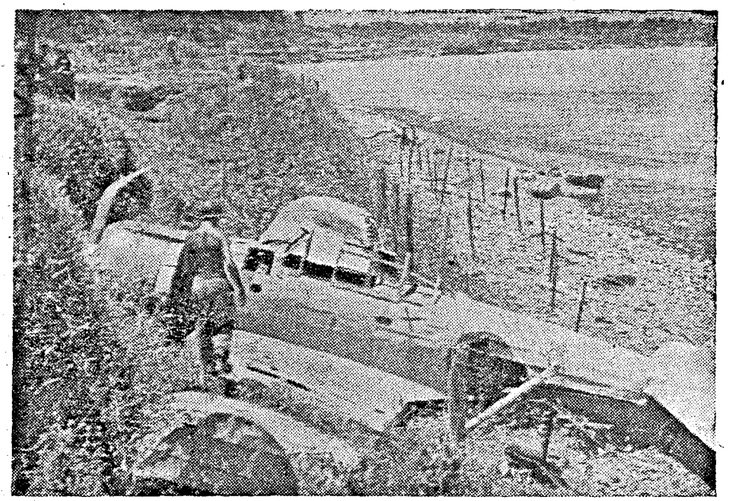
Riding Two Horses at the same Time—Jap Propaganda and people's Psychology

It may not be difficult for the Japanese propagandists to ride two horses at the same time—to feed the people on fabricated victories and give them grave warning of difficulties in regard to food, shipping and production and of growing Allied strength. For, the whole life of the Japanese people is based on superstition, blind worship of the Emperor as a God, and a system of rules and regulations which are not loosened even by death. In spite of the fact that the Japanese have learned so much from the West on the material plane, they still continue to be held together by the primitive myth of caste superiority. It may be incredible that a nation of 70 millions which has imbibed all that Western science and invention had to offer should nurse the foolish superstition that the Japanese are, as a class, superior to all others, because of the divinity of their birth. Their deification of the Emperor, the sanctification of the dead at the Yasukuni shrine, and the exaltation of "Bushido" or the art of seeking the quickest possible method of death, show the mental primitiveness of a people who have materially advanced very far.

* * *

Sequel to Truk—Tojo Becomes C.-in-C.—Tokyo's Top-men Break Tradition

The news of the Allied attacks on Truk and Panope and the recent raid on Paramushiro Island, news of which was announced on Monday (February 21) by Admiral NIMITZ, Commander-in-Chief, of the Pacific, and the significance of such attacks may not be realized by the Japanese people on account of their inherent mental attitude and the nature of Japanese propaganda, but the fact that Premier TOJO has taken over the post of Commander-in-Chief, of the Army General Staff and Navy Minister SHIMADA of that of Chief of the Naval General Staff, shows that Allied moves are creating serious repercussions in the minds of the top-men of Tokyo. This revolutionary break with Japanese political tr dition seems to be a sequel to the attack on Truk. Truk has affected the outlook of the ruling clique in Japan, but the fanatic faith which the Japanese have in the divine infallibility and wisdom of their leaders will be shaken only when the Allies rain down bombs on Tokyo as they have been doing on Berlin.



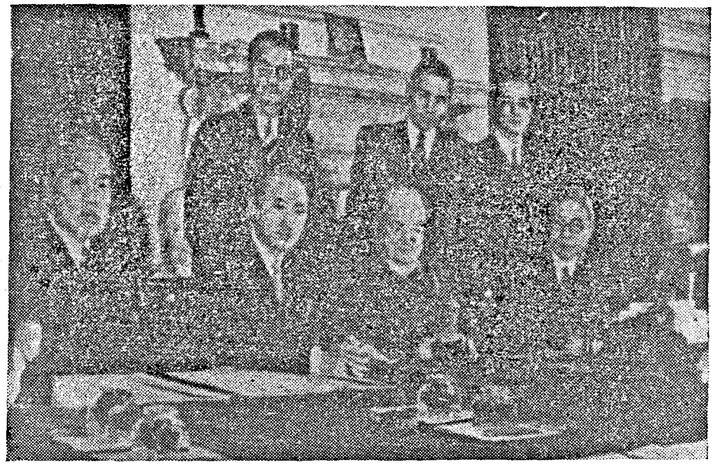
JAPANESE PLANE WRECKED IN NEW GUINEA.—United States fighting men examine the shattered hulk of a Japanese fighter plane which was shot down at Lae, New Guinea, during the fighting in which Allied forces captured the strategic base from the Japanese. The scene was photographed after American and Australian forces had taken Lae, and moved on to seize Salamaua and Finschhafen.

DISCOVERY IN THE SOUTH PACIFIC

ONE WORLD CURRENCY

By DR. D. W. DODWELL

VARIETY is the salt of life, but there *are* some things in which we need as much sameness as possible, and currency, that is money, is one of them. It would be a dull world if we were all as alike as bees in a hive, wore the same clothes, held the same opinions and all felt an equally burning desire to be—shall we say—bank clerks and nothing else! We don't want sameness in human beings, but we do want it in our money. Think how inconvenient and indeed chaotic it would be if there were a dozen or more different kinds of rupees and gold coins circulating in Madras and you had to consider every time you made or received a payment exactly what the coins used were worth. But this is just what people had to do in India in the 18th century and up to the time when the Currency Act of 1835 was passed. That Act established the standard Company's rupee and the corresponding coins of lower value as the only "legal tender" coins throughout British India. No one could refuse to accept the Sarkar rupees in payment of a debt but he could refuse any others, and so the others soon ceased to circulate.



MR. CHURCHILL WITH THE CHINESE MISSION.—The Chinese Mission, when it visited Britain, called on Mr. Churchill at 10, *Downing Street.* Our radio picture shows (left to right): (Sitting) *Wang Yun-Wu, Dr. Wellington Koo, Mr. Churchill, Dr. Wang Shih-chieh, Mr. Hu Lin*; (Standing) *Mr. Wen Yuan-ning, Mr. Han Lih-wu, Dr. Lee Wei-koo.*

SYMBOL OF UNITY

The rupee coin or note that you can spend anywhere in India to-day from Quetta to Chittagong and from Cape Comorin to the Himalayas is a symbol of the essential unity of India, and long may it be so! But though we have the same rupee throughout India, and you can spend it with equal facility in any part of the country, it does not buy the same amount of goods in different parts of India nor in the same part at different times. The ideal rupee should have a stable purchasing power varying only within narrow limits from place to place and from year to year. That kind of sameness in our rupee like many other good things should be possible when the turmoil of war is over; meanwhile, we can all help to keep the rupee stable by spending as little as possible and lending all we can to the Government. Let us also devote all our energies to whatever work each can do to hasten the victorious end of the War and the arrival of the better times that lie ahead.

The world to-day is very much smaller than India was in the 18th century if you measure by the time it takes to travel across it by the quickest kind o conveyance known at each time. "Round the world by plane" is a much shorter journey to-day than "across India on horseback" in the 18th century. I wonder how long it will be before the world has one uniform kind of money circulating everywhere instead of the present variety of national moneys. When will the world as a whole be able to adopt the reform that was introduced for India by the Currency Act of 1835? Is this one of the good things that we may see in those post-war days to which we look forward so eagerly?

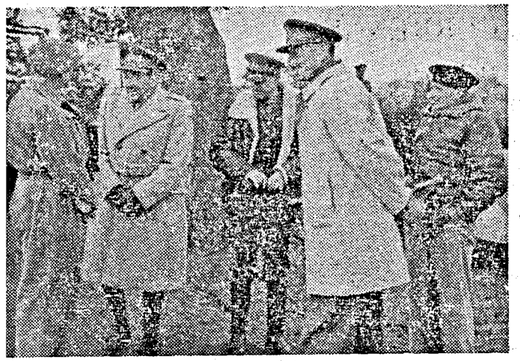
THE AMERICAN EXPERIMENT

The advantages of sameness of money over as large an area as possible are so great that whenever any countries combine to form a Federation or Union, the currency must naturally be one of the subjects allotted to the Central Government, since it is so obviously in the general interest that it should be. In the first great Federal experiment, the United States of America, it was not made clear originally that the currency including the issue of bank notes was to be under the sole control of the Federal Government. The State Legislatures asserted a right to legislate regarding the issue of bank notes within their jurisdiction; money conditions became chaotic when the legislation was unsuitable and floods of notes were printed and issued without regard for the maintenance of their value. In the end, the Federal Government obtained complete control by imposing such a heavy tax on notes issued under State laws that it was no longer worth while for anyone to issue them.

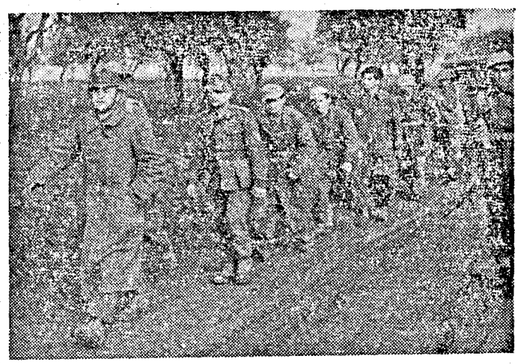
Since then it has been axiomatic that a Federal or Union Government should have full control of currency and issue money, that is coin and notes, which shall be legal tender and the only legal tender throughout the whole of its jurisdiction. I'm sure there can be no doubt at all that when we achieve a Federal World Government we shall have a uniform world currency. Though I fervently wish that it might be so, I have to admit that it seems very unlikely that we shall see a Federal World Government in the near future. But there certainly is a strong trend towards federation. Small countries, and big ones too, have learned from bitter experience that no real security can be obtained by trying to keep themselves to themselves. We shall see, I hope and believe, after the war a growing movement for the union of States now

(*Continued on page* 13)

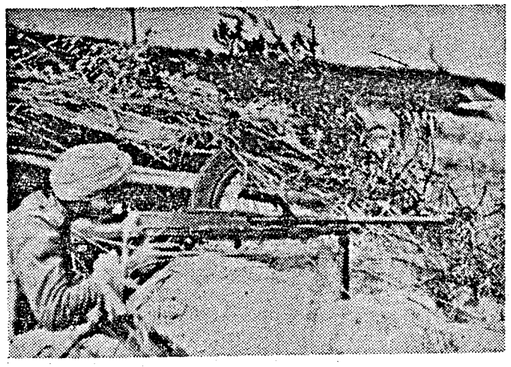
INDIAN TROOPS IN ITALY



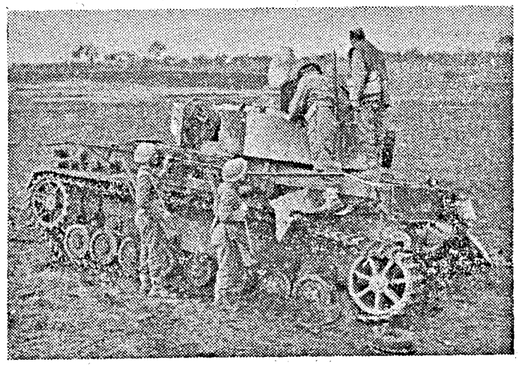
DISTINGUISHED GENERALS VISIT INDIAN DIVISION IN ITALY.—From left to right. *A divisional commander, Field Marshal Sir Alan Brooke, General Alexander, Lieutenant-General C. Allfrey and General Montgomery.*



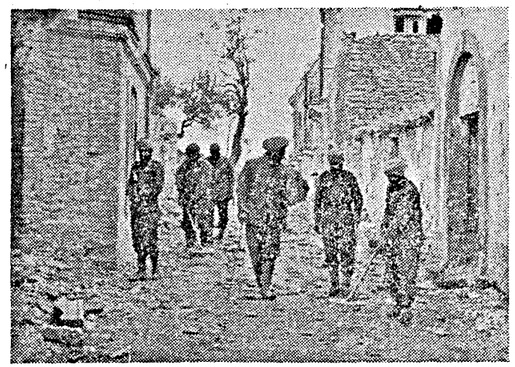
Indian soldiers have played a prominent part in the successful fighting in Italy. Photo shows *German prisoners, captured by the Indians, being marched back to a prison camp.*



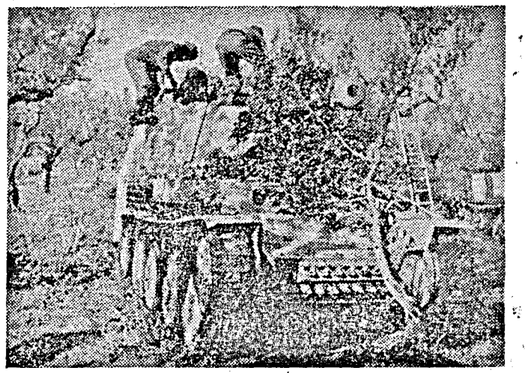
An Indian Bren gunner on the alert for signs of the enemy.



Indian troops captured the village of Mozzagrogna in the Sangro valley. Photo shows *one of the many Mark IV German tanks knocked out near Mozzagrogna.*

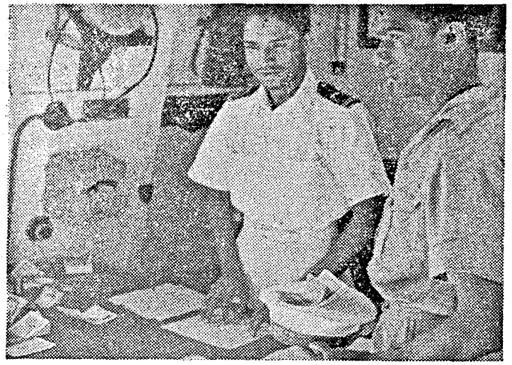


The men of the Bengal Sappers and Miners clear the streets of mines in Villagrande.

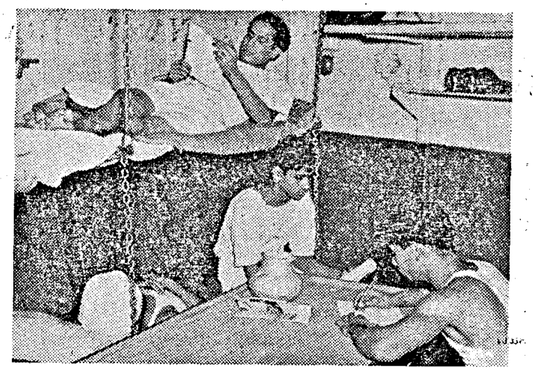


In the course of heavy fighting, Indian troops captured Mozzagrogna and drove the enemy from the surrounding country. Photo shows *one of the German 88-mm self-propelled guns captured in the Mozzagrogna area.*

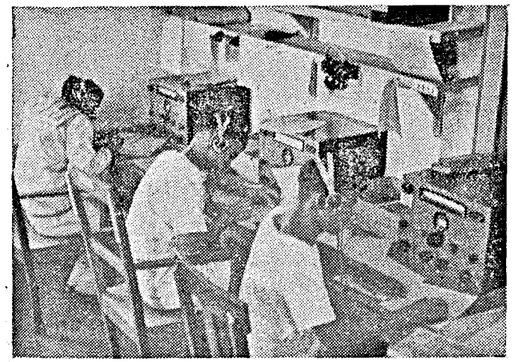
JOIN THE NAVY AND HAVE A GRAND CAREER!



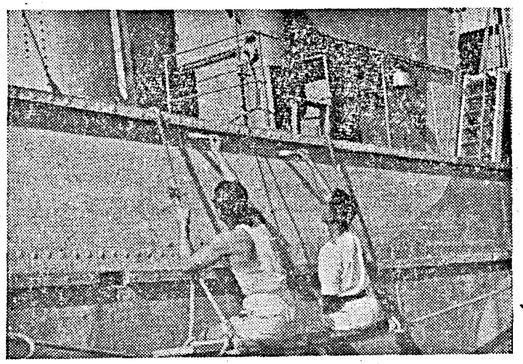
Pay Day is welcomed everywhere and the Royal Indian Navy is no exception. Photo shows *Able-Seaman* ANSALMOSE APPACHAN, *of Travancore, receiving his pay from the captain of his ship, Sub-Lieut.* K. P. NAIR, *also of Travancore.*



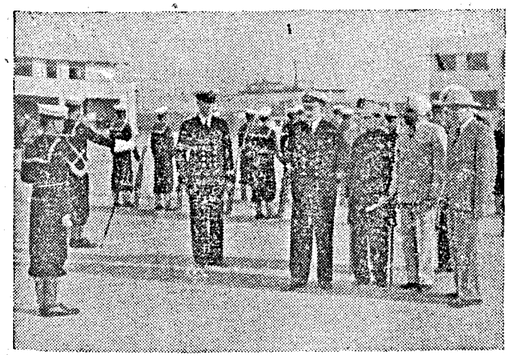
Correspondence with the folks at home is the main preoccupation of India's sailors during off-duty periods afloat. Precious letters from home are re-read many times. A mess deck scene in a Royal Indian Navy patrol ship.



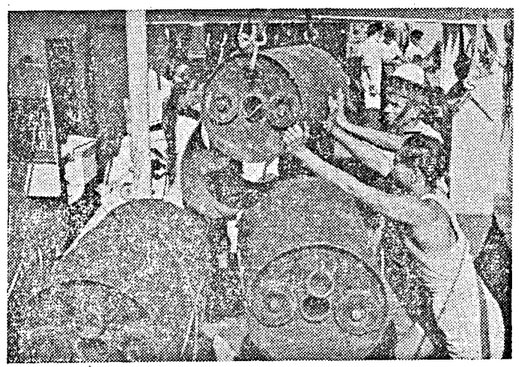
Telegraphists at an Indian port receiving wireless messages from Royal Indian Navy ships at sea.



India's sailors take pride in the appearance of their ships. During a brief call at an Indian port ratings serving in a Royal Indian Navy patrol ship give their vessel a fresh coat of paint.



In a recent three-day tour of Karachi, Sir Frederick James, Sir Buta Singh, Mr. G. Deshmukh and Mr. V. Kalikar, Members of the Defence Consultative Committee, visited the Royal Indian Navy's Training Establishments.



Depth charges for use against enemy submarines are loaded on the projector by ratings serving abroad a Royal Indian Navy patrol ship.

THE NAVAL TRADITION IN INDIA

WHEREVER you travel in India and however far you penetrate into the mofussil, you will be constantly reminded of the extensive influence of the Indian Army either by the sight of soldiers, Army transport and buildings or by conversation with average Indians of all castes and creeds. This is a natural fact, consistent with the geographical size of India and in keeping with the great traditions of India's past. In the minds of the Indian public, the Indian Army is the spearhead of India's military strength, using the term 'military' in its broadest sense.

The presence of a Naval officer or rating anywhere inland in India has always been cause for comment and surprise, even to this day, though to a gradually lessening extent. The rapid expansion of the Royal Indian Navy since the beginning of the war has, however, of necessity brought this previously almost unknown service into the limelight. Publicity for recruitment to India's Navy has spread the gospel of Naval Service to districts and areas where ignorance of the Navy used to be so great that a Naval officer on tour in tropical uniform has been mistaken at times for a railway official, some form of clergyman in uniform or even the chief of the local fire brigade.

It is almost ten years since the Royal Indian Navy was formed from the long-established Royal Indian Marine. In the days of the marine the men who manned the ships came almost exclusively from the Konkan coast. They were born seamen, inheriting a seafaring tradition harking back to the good old days of sail and even further back, through the centuries, to the age of Shivaji when India's coastline echoed to many a naval battle and adventure.

A SCIENTIFIC WONDER

But to-day, a modern warship, such as a sloop like H.M.I.S. *Jumna*, is a scientific wonder compared with the frigate of yesterday or even the coal-burning sloop of quite recent years. A knowledge of seamanship and navigation in a modern warship, essential and vital as it is, will therefore only take a man so far and no further in modern naval warfare. The ultimate decision in a Naval battle rests upon the weapons employed and the precise knowledge of their use. Such subjects as modern naval gunnery, torpedoes, anti-submarine detection visual signaling and wireless telegraphy call not only for men with good physique and a fighting spirit but also for men who, in addition to these qualities, possess a sound intelligence which is readily adaptable to naval conditions of Service.

There is now, therefore, a growing need to build up and develop further inland from the coast a modern naval tradition in India, to be grafted upon the ancient and honourable traditions of the past. Certain areas from the Punjab, for instance, have for many years contributed small numbers of men who have afforded ample evidence that though their homes are hundreds of miles from the sea, they are quite capable of example, to naval gunnery or the engine room of a warship. The realization that the Navy provides not only a fine training but also a healthy career and a life full of interest is rapidly spreading far and wide over the length and breadth of India.

EXPLOITS OF ROYAL INDIAN NAVY

A modern naval tradition, without any doubt, must depend upon the deeds of the times. The exploits of the Royal Indian Navy are well known, but not well-known enough in the mofussil and the heart of India. More than a year ago, on 11th November 1942, the action was fought out between H.M.I.S. *Bengal* a small R.I.N. warship, mounting one twelve pounder gun, and two much more heavily-armed Japanese raiders in the Indian Ocean, many hundreds of miles out of sight of land. The determination with which *Bengal* attacked the raiders and the accuracy of her gunfire resulted in the sinking of the large raider and the putting to flight of the other. The Dutch tanker which *Bengal* was escorting was saved from destruction and *Bengal* came through her baptism of fire without serious damage and no casualties. This action received world acclamation and for the first time in Indian Naval history the Indian public warmly displayed their appreciation when a public welcome was given to the gallant ship's company which marched through the streets of Bombay a few weeks later to attend a civic lunch given in their honour.

An exploit of this kind is not an everyday occurence but typifies the spirit of the Service in its variety of work. In the operations off Massawa in the Red Sea and in the Persian Gulf in 1943 in the Java Sea during the dark days of the Japanese invasions of 1942, and this year in operations off the Burma coast and in the Mediterranean Sea and the battle of Sicily, the Royal Indian Navy has been active and invaluable, in some cases sharing the honours and in others taking the lead and gaining fresh laurels.

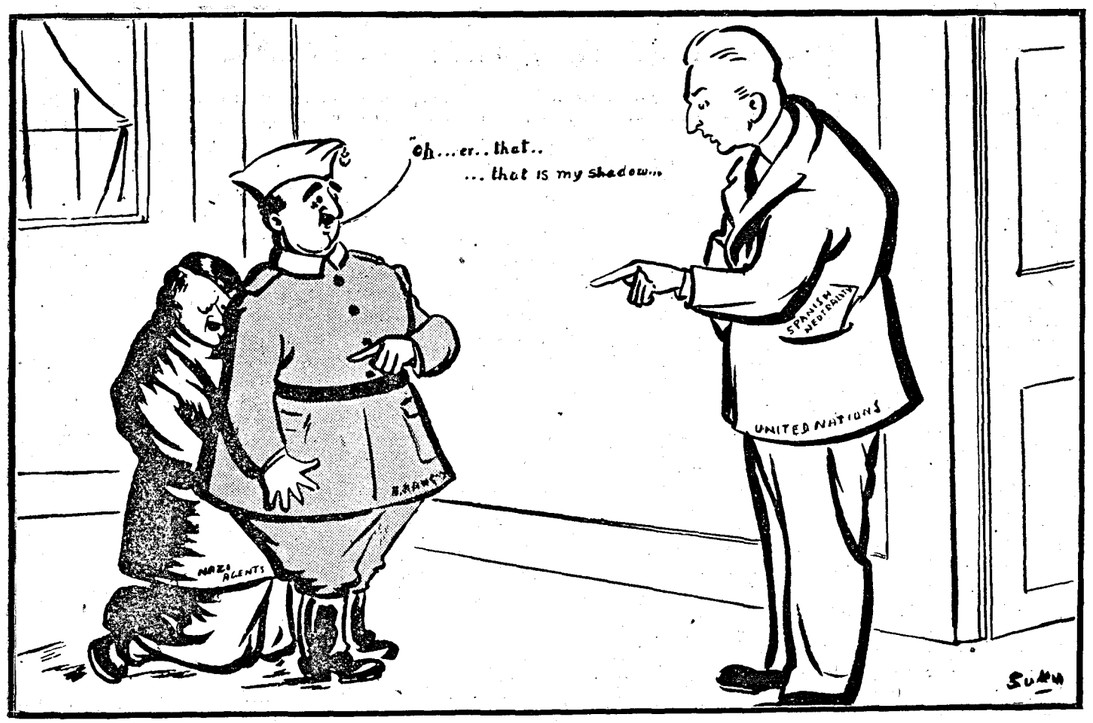
To-morrow will bring further battles and more victories but today the need in the Service is for men of good intelligence and a spirit of confident adventure, who will volunteer from any part of India however far from sea their homes may be. Publicity can develop knowledge of the Navy only up to a certain extent. Personal interest and enthusiasm will do more. If every school in India, for instance, devoted only fifteen minutes a month to a lecture and discussion on the Navy, ignorance of the Service would soon disappear and pride in the past and present traditions would soon be established. It therefore behoves those who hold the reins of education and who are responsible for moulding the careers of India's and the Naval traditions created by her Navy in the present and encourage respect and enthusiasm for a Naval career and profession.

The centre of gravity in naval warfare is rapidly shifting to the Far East. The defeat of Japan at sea is a major problem of the war. The formation of the South East Asia Command is a portent of things to come on land, at sea and in the air but especially at sea. The path is therefore now clear for the strengthening of India's Naval traditions, the realization among her people of the 'izzat' of her seamen and the greater effort required today to man her navy with the type of men she needs both in quantity and quality.

MADRAS INFANTRY IN BURMA FRONT.

It may not be generally known to people in the South that Madras Infantry Battalions are gradually regaining for Madras Infantry the name gained by infantry of the line in the days of Sir Arthur Wellesley—later Duke of Wellington who said after the great campaigns in South India "I cannot write in too strong terms of the conduct of the troops. Our troops behaved admirably and the sepoys astonished me."

The men of Madras Battalion have already contacted the Jap in Burma, inflicting casualties with no loss to themselves. There is no doubt that given the opportunities, the Madras Infantry will emulate the deeds already performed by their brothers in the "Sappers and Miners" and "Gunners" and once more prove Madras Infantry the equal of any troops in all spheres.



"SPANISH NEUTRALITY IS A FIG-LEAF"—WAR AND WORKING CLASS (*Moscow, February* 19).

—*Specially drawn for the* MADRAS WAR REVIEW.

ONE WORLD CURRENCY

(*Continued from page* 9.)

sovereign and independent into Federations on a regional or other basis: this will be real progress towards the ideal of a World Government and in course of time will bring us to that goal. As the States of the world group themselves into a smaller number of big and growing Federations, we may expect that the number of different national currencies will diminish to the same extent as the number of independent States. The final result of this development will be some day the United States of the World with a single world currency.

I dare say you are thinking that this is to look very far ahead, and you may be wondering whether it is not possible to arrive at a world currency by a shorter route. Is there any reason why States should not agree to adopt and maintain a common currency whilst still remaining sovereign and independent? In theory it is possible and in fact it has been done in the past, but it seems to be becoming more and more difficult for independent States to combine to maintain any such currency union as long as they remain independent.

LATIN CURRENCY UNION

Probably the most notable of the formal currency unions of the past was the Latin Union which existed in Europe in the last century up to about 1870; it comprised France, Italy and some smaller countries. France minted her franc, Italy her lira and so on, but they all had exactly the same silver content and circulated interchangeably throughout the Union. The most widespread and effective currency Union of the past, however, was a purely informal one without any written agreement, namely, that of the gold standard countries from about 1870 up to 1914. It included most of the countries of importance in world trade, and during that period gold was practically a world currency. It is true that each gold standard country had its own particular brands of gold coin and notes convertible into gold coin, but the money of each country could be readily exchanged into that of any other at a known rate of exchange that never varied more than a very small fraction on either side of the par value calculated according to the amounts of gold in the respective coins. A British sovereign or an Indian rupee in the early years of this century would buy a practically fixed amount of the money of any other country at any time, and this was almost as good as being able to take your rupee or sovereign to the other countries and spend it there straight away.

The international gold standard worked well in those peaceful years from 1870 to 1914 and international trade flourished. No wonder some

people still think that we ought to try to restore it! But the conditions that were necessary to make it work well disappeared during the First World War and its aftermath and it seems very unlikely that they will reappear. The necessary conditions were that gold reserves should be well distributed between the gold standard countries, that each country should be prepared to take all necessary action to maintain the fixed gold value of its money, that no such serious maladjustments in international trade and economic relations should arise as would make it too difficult for any country to do this, and that people generally should have full confidence in the intention and the ability of their Governments and Central Banks to do it. In order to maintain the gold value of its currency a country that was losing gold unduly as a net result of its transactions with other countries had to raise its Bank rate so as to cause a contraction of credit and fall in prices within its own borders. This would encourage exports and discourage imports and so tend to restore the balance of payments and stop the loss of gold. Similarly the country receiving gold would lower its Bank rate and expand credit and so cause a rise in its prices that would encourage imports and handicap exports, thus helping to restore equilibrium.

A TEN-YEAR CYCLE

You see then that in the palmy days of the international gold standard, a gold standard country had to be prepared to regulate its internal economy in whatever way was necessary in order to maintain the fixed gold value of its currency, or in other words to keep the rates of exchange with foreign currencies stable. The whole gold standard world went through a ten-year cycle from depression to boom and back to depression again together. It was not possible for any one gold standard country to maintain prices and employment when they were falling in the others and still remain on the gold standard. Up to 1914, however, the periodical depressions were not so severe as to lead to a breakdown of the gold standard.

The gold standard or any other arrangement by which a number of independent countries use a common currency means that the Government of each individual country using that currency surrenders a large part of its freedom of action in economic matters. Movements of prices have to keep in step throughout such an area as long as the arrangement continues successfully. It is anomalous for a sovereign independent country to submit voluntarily to have its internal economic policy dictated largely by outside conditions and the policies of other countries in that way, and after 1914 all countries became rapidly less and less willing to do so. The economic dislocation and stresses were so much greater than anything that had occurred in the 1870–1914 period that they made a permanently successful restoration of the gold standard impossible. The general feeling came to be that, as each Government had the final responsibility for the economic welfare of its own people, it should retain the fullest freedom of action in economic affairs and use its powers chiefly with reference to the state of its own economy, giving international considerations a very secondary place. "Stable domestic prices rather than stable foreign exchanges" if you must choose between the two, gradually became an accepted principle. In order to prevent gold movements in or out from affecting the internal level of credit and prices monetary authorities adopted the technique of offsetting gold exports by creating more Central Bank credit and sterilizing gold imports by withdrawing a corresponding amount of Central Bank credit. This was hailed as a great improvement in the working of the gold standard, without realizing that since it stopped the automatic tendency to restore equilibrium, and no other means of restoring equilibrium was adopted, it meant that any serious maladjustment would remain uncorrected till its cumulative effects forced the country concerned off the gold standard. This was what happened in Great Britain. A gallant effort was made from 1925 to 1931 to maintain the gold standard with the old gold parity for the pound, but it was a losing battle and the British people have since become very firmly convinced that the game was not worth the candle. The severe unemployment of that period was far too high a price to pay for stable foreign exchanges.

As a result of the experience of the inter-war period, Great Britain will never again, I think, agree to enter a common currency system such as the gold standard system which has no central directing body responsible for the general working of the system in the common interest. The one thing on which everyone there agrees in regard to post-war policy is that the primary aim must be full employment. Currency policy will be subordinated to this, and the general feeling is that the Government must retain a certain freedom of action and the final word in regard to its currency, as it is charged with the final responsibility for the economic welfare of the people.

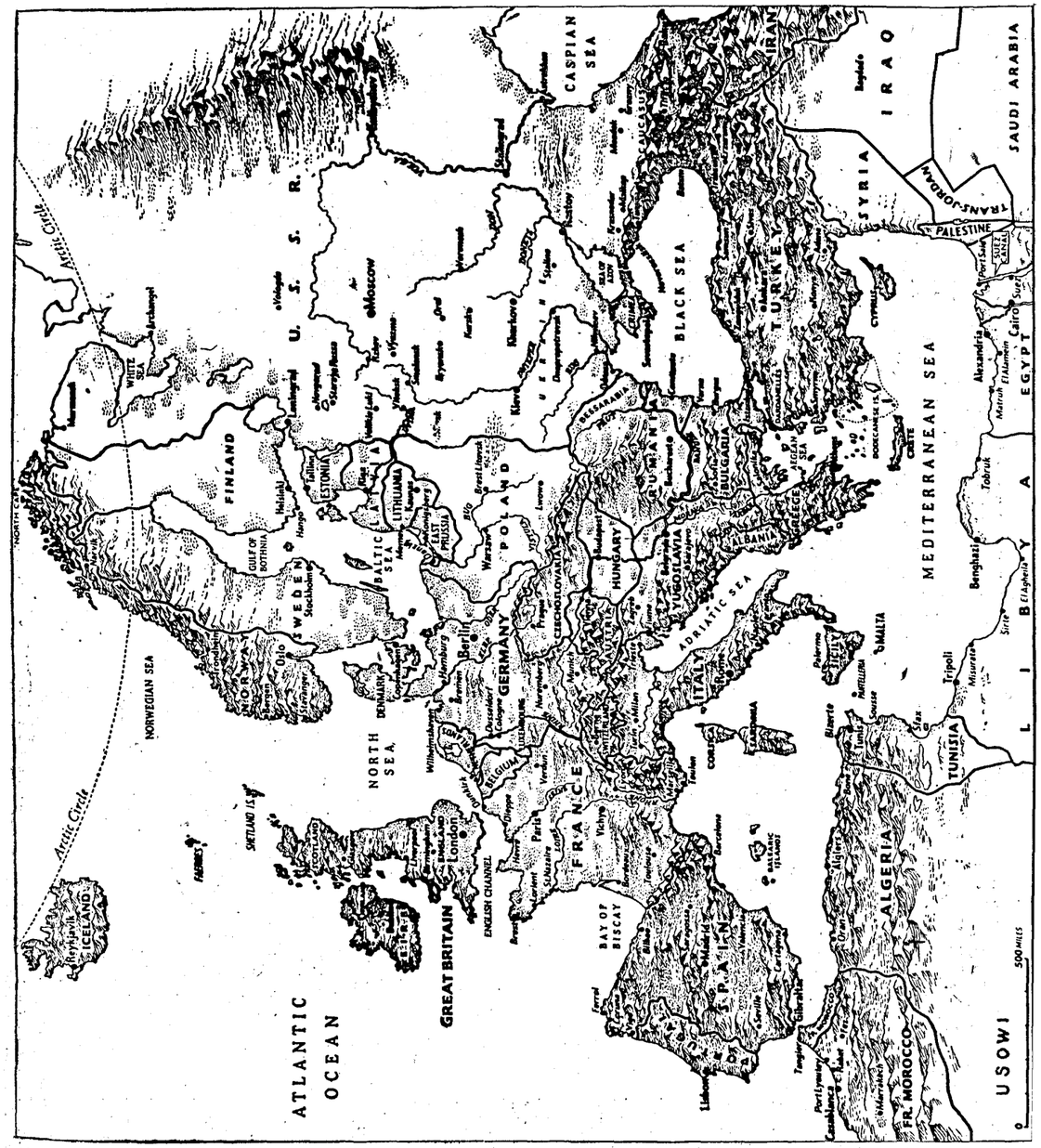
CO-OPERATIVE CURRENCY LEAGUE SUGGESTED

At the same time people realise that the maximum stability in foreign exchanges is also essential if international trade is again to flourish and make the world really prosperous. If every country tried to manipulate its currency so as to snatch a temporary advantage at the expense of its competitors in world trade, it would mean a reversion to the competitive depreciation of currencies that prevailed at the time of the big slump of 1929–32, and the resulting chaos would be bad for everyone. It is exceedingly desirable that all States should be brought together in a co-operative currency league in which all will agree to maintain orderly currency relations by observing certain rules including restrictions on the depreciation of currencies. The governing body of such a league should be able to influence the members greatly, even in matters not covered by the rules by giving them authoritative advice as to whether particular actions and policies are consistent with the common interest or not. As you know, various plans have been framed and published for an international organisation of this kind to supervise currency relations and keep the exchanges reasonably stable. The most promising of these plans is that of Lord Keynes for a Clearing Union which would establish a new international currency in the form of bank deposits in terms of a unit called a bancor on the books of the Union in which the residual balance due by or to any country as a result of all its international transactions would be paid. As the nations are not yet ready for a world currency, this proposed international currency for the settlement of accounts between them seems to be the next best thing.

IN THE POST-WAR PERIOD

Progress towards a world currency in the post-war period will, we may hope, be along two lines. So far as States merge their sovereignty by the method of federation, they will in all probability adopt a common currency for each Federation, so that the number of different national currencies will diminish progressively. At the same

MAP OF EUROPE



time States which are not prepared to merge their sovereignty with others will work together in a Currency League or Clearing Union to maintain orderly currency relations and keep the exchanges between their currencies working as smoothly as possible so as to facilitate international trade to fullest extent that is practicable. These two ways of moving towards world unity in currency matters are really a reflection of the two lines of progress towards world Government. States that are sufficiently bound together by common traditions, outlook and interests will unite organically by the method of federation. Those States and Federations that are not yet ready to give up their sovereignty will work together in a new and better League of Nations, which should ultimately develop into a World Federation. The United Nations are fighting for a free world united by consent through goodwill and co-operation, a world of peace and justice in which war shall be only a memory. When we have curbed the forces of evil by victory in the present struggle, we must turn our energies to building this new world. Let us be always on the side of the angels, striving for concord, unity and understanding between races, countries and communities, building up and binding together and restraining any who would destroy, divide and cast down. Some day we shall have a world currency as a symbol of the unity of the whole family of mankind. No one can say how long it will take to achieve it. This only can be said—that each one who is thinking, praying and working always for the great ideal of world unity is contributing his mite to the great and continuous effort that is needed to keep us moving forward on the right road.

—A talk broadcast by All India Radio, Madras, on 19th February 1944.

LADY AUCHINLECK OPENS ARAM GAH—COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF LAYS FOUNDATION STONE OF NEW WAVELL CANTEEN.—Lady Auchinleck recently opened the Auchinleck Aram Gah just outside Delhi Main Station. Here it will be possible for Indian other ranks passing through Delhi to have a few hours' sleep, a shower and a meal. Lady Auchinleck also unveiled a drinking fountain and chabutra presented by the Bombay Grenadiers. Later, the Commander-in-Chief, India, General Sir Auchinleck, laid the foundation stone for the New Wavell Canteen. The photographer cleverly caught the ribbon actually parting as Lady Auchinleck served it with a pair of inscribed scissors.

HIS LAST ASSIGNMENT

[*The following is a selection from the last dispatches of Raymond Clapper written before his death in a plane crash while reporting the invasion of the Marshalls.*]

WITH THE PACIFIC FLEET IN THE MARSHALLS.

WE hit the Marshalls with so much that I hope the Navy at Washington breaks down and lets us tell all about it.

I hope the Navy tells how many battleships are in this fleet, because it is more than you probably thought we had out here. I hope they tell how many carriers . . . how many cruisers and destroyers . . . more than Japan has in her whole navy.

I hope the Navy breaks down and gives out the news because I think that when the people of Japan and Germany know what we are hitting with out here—just with one hand while we prepare for knock-out blows at Europe—they will begin to sober up and think about where they are coming out in this war.

This is the biggest amount of force ever assembled to strike on the earth's seas. It makes the Battle of Jutland seem like a small exercise.

Japan may have been master of the Pacific for a time after our opening disaster, but she knows now the domination of the Pacific is being taken into our hands. It was no idle boast when Secretary of the Navy Knox said recently that he hoped the Japanese fleet would come out for a showdown. All our Navy men out here have hoped for that, although none of them expected Japan to take the risk.

The sea and air power we have sent into the Marshalls is the weapon by which we will spearhead across the Pacific. It is the weapon by which we will drive back the aggressors into complete defeat. And this fleet should be the means of making known that we are ready and able to take the responsibility for keeping peace and security in the Pacific.

DARK DAYS FOR GOEBBELS

By A. BORISSOVA

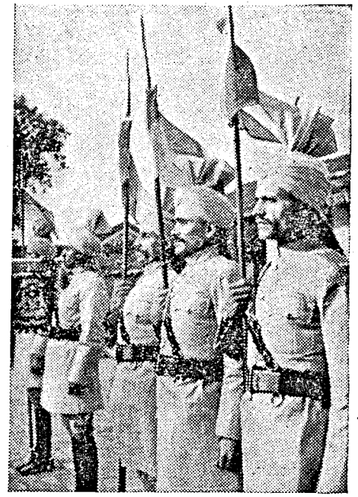
THE Hitlerite war machine is breaking down before the Red Army's powerful onslaught. The Eastern Front defeats have left their depressing imprint on all the aspects of life in the German rear. The army of Goebbels' staff and those whose business it is to talk nonsense and throw dust in people's eyes is retreating in the German army's wake. Of all the Fascist oracles he alone repeats parrot-like the lesson he learnt from Hitler, and talks about Germany's "victories". Only recently he has published a new book in which he makes a zealous attempt to convince the Germans that they will win. An assurance like this, as the foreign press justly remarks, can only mean that the leader of the notorious "Labour Front" is in a permanently intoxicated state.

The depression and the perplexity prevailing in the Hitlerite propaganda is apparent in the articles by the robber expert in pulling wool over Germans eyes. Dark days have set in for Goebbels. His articles in the fascist weekly, Das Reich, bear an evermore striking resemblance to the obstacle race in which the cripple is about to break his neck.

The Hitlerite bandits and accomplices are clearly alarmed and fear for the safety of their own skin. They realize that the defeats on the Eastern Front are hastening the hour of retribution for their crimes.

C.-IN-C. SEES RAMPUR STATE TROOPS IN TRAINING

COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF VISITS RAMPUR STATE.—His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief General Sir Claude Auchinleck, recently paid a short visit to Rampur, where he was met by His Highness Sir Raza Ali Khan Bahadur, the Nawab of Rampur, who accompanied him during a tour of inspection of units of the State Forces, an Ordnance Depot, a Motor Mechanics School and several factories. The Nawab and the Commander-in-Chief listening to music by the Massed Bands.



The Quarter Guard of the Rampur (Rohilla) Lancers.

OFFICERS and men of the Rampur State Forces had their introduction to General Sir Claude Auchinleck as Commander-in-Chief, India, when he visited their headquarters during his recent tour of the state.

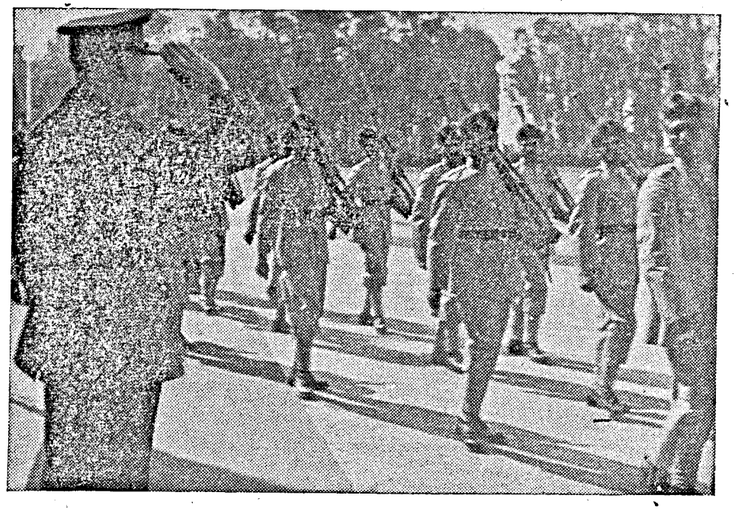
The Rampur (Raza) Infantry, which was a unit earmarked for active service, proceeded overseas in November 1940, and has been since then employed in various localities on prisoner of war duties, guarding lines of communication and garrison duties in Cyprus and Syria. They were visited by His Highness the Nawab, Sir Raza Ali Khan Bahadur, during his tour of the Middle East in December 1941. The Unit has not taken part in any major campaign but one State officer, one Indian Officer and two I.O.Rs. have been mentioned in despatches.

During his visit to Rampur the Commander-in-Chief was able to see the training battalion of the 2nd Rampur (Murtaza) Infantry, which acts as a feeder to the unit on active service. Here the men are taught by their own instructors, whose knowledge of modern battle technique and training methods earned for their officers a warm word of approval for the Commander-in-Chief.

General Auchinleck saw the men training in squads for P.T., arms drill marching and M.T. maintenance. Others were learning how to use a rifle, a party was practising grenade throwing and still more were making bayonet charges.

The Commander-in-Chief also saw the men's barracks and the military offices and he walked through the military hospital, where he was shown the operating theatre. The Officers of the Units were presented to him by the Military Secretary and before leaving he inspected a quarter guard of the Rampur Gurkhas.

Afterwards the Commander-in-Chief visited the stables of the Rampur (Rohilla) Lancers, the original irregular troops of the State, who were founded in 1910. These were the first imperial troops in Rampur and served in France in the last war.



The Commander-in-Chief taking the salute as the Guard of Honour march past after the inspection.

Apart from the training which they receive in their own unit, officers and men of the Rampur States Forces attend the various schools of instruction of the Indian Army, where many of them have gained distinction. The States Forces have also co-operated with formations of the Indian Army on training.

"MOSQUITOES" NOW FLYING OVER BURMA

THE de Havilland 'Mosquito', wooden fighter and reconnaissance bomber which furniture makers and wood turners in Britain and Canada are helping to produce, is now operating with the R.A.F. against tthe Japs in Burma. Its coming has already added considerably to the range of our daylight offensives, and Jap transport of all kinds, not only in the fighting zones but as far afield as the Thailand border east of Rangoon and along the Tenasserim coast, has felt its sting.

Striking far beyond the normal area covered by Beaufighters, where road and rail traffic by day is almost at a standstill and where travel by water is fraught with danger to the enemy, the Mosquitoes have been presented with tempting targets. Locomotives in hitherto "safe" areas have been subjected to unexpected attack and many engines have been damaged, trucks put out of action and enemy personnel dispersed.

Against the sampans which the Japanese are using on the Burmese rivers the Mosquito has been particularly deadly. The sampans' mortality rate, already high, has been stepped up still further by this swift twin-engined monoplane.

But the Mosquito's greatest value has been on long range photographic flights. Flying beyond the areas previously covered by our high speed photo reconnaissance aircraft, Mosquitoes have brought back invaluable information. The recent raid on Bangkok was largely the result of photos they secured.

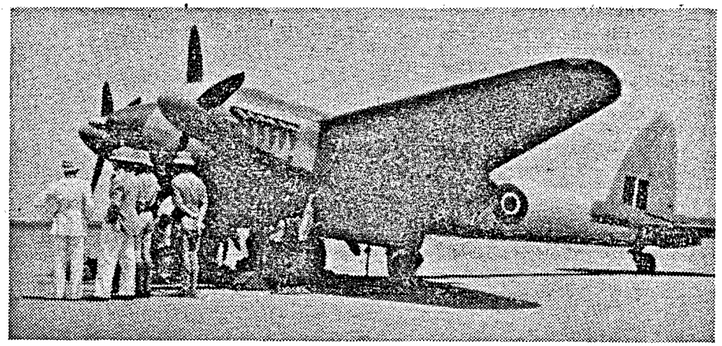
The development of the Mosquito is a story in itself. Unlike almost every other type of aircraft introduced by both sides, it was not on the drawing boards before the war—it was designed and produced in a matter of months. Full scale manufacture was more speedy because of its unorthodox design; a unique system of hardwood construction facilitated Mosquito production over widely dispersed areas in Britain and Canada where large supplies of wood are to be found.

Small firms having no connection with the aircraft industry handle the bulk of the production. America makes the powerful Packard-Rolls Royce engines which give the Mosquito its remarkable speed.

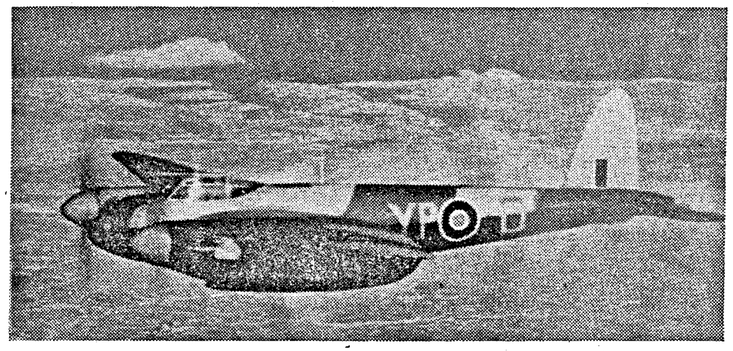
Roaring over its target at well over 400 miles per hour, often flying at less than 25 feet above the ground, the Mosquito is yet another menacing weapon in the Allied armoury on the Burma border. It has a fire power as heavy as any fighter in the air today—four 20 mm. cannon and fo machine guns. It is also invalu urgent transport journeys, for, s of its armament, the Mosquito fast that no existing fighter in Sq Service can overtake it.

Two pilot-navigators who are changeable man the Mosquito. The highly trained specialists because i Mosquito things happen so fast split-second decisions have to be m calling for the maximum skill, judgm and stamna, and in low-flying w there is no time for mistakes.

But few Mosquitoes are shot dow hedge-happing for miles over enem territory they follow dog-leg course which completely "fox" enemy observer and radio-location—by the time they have been reported in one position the planes are 50 miles away on another course.



de Havilland "Mosquito" R.A.F. fighter and reconnaissance bomber.



de HAVILLAND "MOSQUITO" R.A.F. FIGHTER AND RECONNAISSANCE BOMBER.—The Mosquito is now operating with the R.A.F. against the Japs in Burma. Of simple wooden construction, it has two Rolls Royce engines and its offensive armament consists of four 20 mm. cannon and four ·303 machine guns. It has a span of 54 feet 2 inches length (overall)—40 feet 9½ inches, height, 15 feet 3 inches. Its coming to the South East Asia Front has added considerably to the range of our daylight fighter-bomber offensives, and Jap transport as far afield as the Thailand border east of Rangoon and along the Tenasserim coast has been severely damaged. It makes its long-range flights without fighter escort. Picture shows *the graceful but strong lines of these aircraft.*

FIRST WEDDING ON THE BURMA FRONT.—Sister Marion Vivienne Airdrie of Queen Alexanders' Imperial Nursing Service Reserve with S/L C. G. Jeffries, DFC of 52, Lightridge Road, Flixton, Manchester, whose wedding was the first to be solemnized in a forward area on the Burma Front. The bride who comes from Sandringham Road, Roath Park, Cardiff, was given a way by G/C H. Seaton Broughall, MC, DFC. S/L Jeffries is the son of Mr. and Mrs. B. Jeffries of Cardiff and Southampton.

WAR DIARY

BRITAIN AND GERMANY

16TH FEB.—Berlin experienced the heaviest raid since the war began, when last night, well over 1,000 Allied aircraft dropped over 2,500 tons of bombs on the Reich Capital. This is the 15th major assault since the battle of Berlin began. Frankfurt-on-Order and objectives in Western Germany were also bombed.

Mr. Eden, Foreign Secretary, told the House of Commons that Iraq and Abyssinia were independent States and that he had no responsibility for the conduct of their internal affairs.

17TH FEB.—Mr. Eden said in the Commons that the Atlantic Charter does not apply to Axis nations.

The British Government announced to-day its plans for a comprehensive health service for the whole nation, thus releasing the first plank in Mr. Churchill's four-year plan for Britain's postwar policy.

18TH FEB.—His Majesty King George received in audience at Buckingham Palace, General Eisenhower,, Supreme Allied Invasion Commander, who presented his Chief of Staff Lieut.-General B. Smith to His Majesty.

It is revealed that General Eisenhower and his Deputy, Air Chief Marshal Sir Arthur Tedder have inspected all types of units in the field throughout the country.

19TH FEB.—The Germans early to-day made their most determined bid, since the big raids of 1940–41 to set London ablaze. They failed. Schools, churches and houses were hit.

Allied submarines have sunk over 25 enemy ships recently, it is announced by the Admiralty.

20TH FEB.—Allied aircraft dropped 2,300 tons of bombs on Leipzig last night. Mosquitos attacked Berlin and objectives in Western Germany.

There was enemy air activity over London area, East Anglia and South-East England.

21ST FEB.—Enemy planes raided London, Anglia, East Anglia and other places.

Stuttgart, Munich, Brunswick and other places in Germany were heavily attacked by Allied bombers.

22ND FEB.—There was slight enemy air activity over parts of South and South-east England including London area.

Mr. Churchill made a statement on war in the Commons.

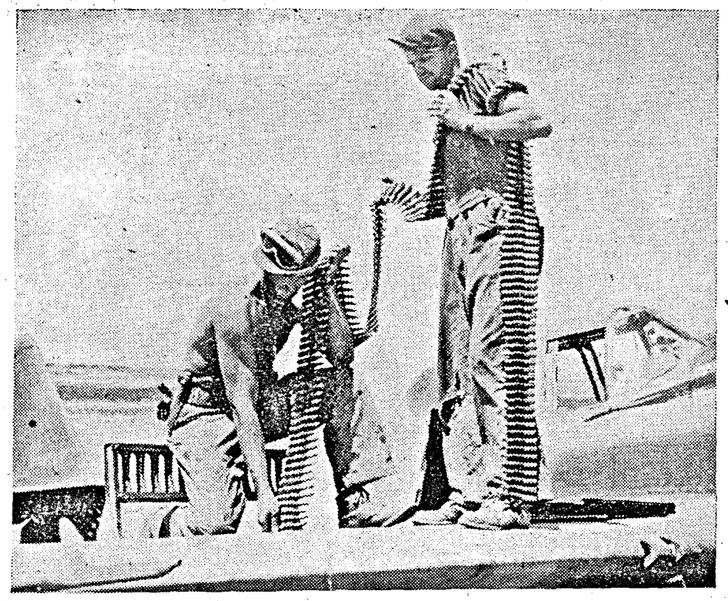
Allied planes attacked Bavaria.

* * *

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND ATLANTIC

16TH FEB.—The Truman Senate Committee in its report to the Congress asserts that the war is depleting domestic oil reserves.

The Secretary of State, Mr. Cordell Hull, giving testimony before the House Representatives Appropriations Committee, published to-day, said that the ming of a military victory was but phase in the programme of "bringabout peace, and future world lity".



NEW UNITED STATES PLANE LOADED IN NORTH AFRICA—United States soldiers load ammunition belts into the wing of the new United States A-36 attack bomber, nicknamed the "Invader," at a base in North Africa. The "Invader" was converted from the United States P-51 Mustang fighter by the addition of a rack from 500-pound bombs, greater firepower and other refinements.

18TH FEB.—Mr. Henry Wallace, United States Vice-President, stated he found a strong demand for a fourth term for President Roosevelt.

The United States Army Department announces that an Allied transport ship with American soldiers on board has been sunk, in European waters. One thousand men were rescued and 1,000 are reported missing.

President Roosevelt vetoed the Anti-subsidy bill passed by Congress yesterday.

The Senate passed a resolution enabling the United States to participate in the work of United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration.

19TH FEB.—Russia has honoured with military distinctions General Eisenhower, Lieut.-General Carl Spaaz, Major General Fredrick and Lieut.-General Ira Eaker.

20TH FEB.—The Director of the Office of War Information, Mr. Elmer Davis said that there may be round-by-round broadcasts of the forthcoming invasion of Europe.

21ST FEB.—The Soviet Ambassador in Washington M. Andrei Gomyko conferred with President Roosevelt.

* * *

RUSSIA AND FINLAND

16TH FEB.—Soviet aircraft are ready to shower the final "rain of death" on the remnants of the German divisions in the Kanev trap.

Helsinki was raided by Soviet planes.

17TH FEB.—German forces in the Kanev pocket have been liquidated. 52,000 Germans were killed and 11,000 taken prisoner. The Red Army is today at the gates of Narva (Estonia) and Pskov, gateway to Latvia.

18TH FEB.—Russians captured Staraya, Russa the German bastion in North Russia and Shimsk, an important town.

19TH FEB.—Russian troops captured Plyusa and 30 localities in Leningrad front. South of Lake Ilmen Soviet forces occupied more than 100 places including Magovskaya and Tulablya about 12 miles from Staraya Russa.

The Polish Government to-day sent instructions to leaders of the Polish Underground Movement to co-operate with the Russian army.

20TH FEB.—Russian troops are massing along the vast front from Streptovka to the Dnieper bank opposite Kherson to hit Manstein. The drive on Pskov is gaining ground. The Soviet forces have captured Zapolye, Utorgosh, Medved and hundreds of other localities.

21ST FEB.—Russian troops are fighting in the suburbs of Krivoirog, the industrial centre, and German bastion in the Dnieper Bend. Soviet forces occupied Soltsy, Kholm, Dolginsevo and a number of other places.

Russian forces made a surprise raid on Finmark, the most northerly Norwegian Province yesterday it is said.

22ND FEB.—Soviet forces have captured Krivoirog, German stronghold in Ukraine, after four months of pressure.

Russian bombers raided Uleaborg in Finland.

It is said Russian conditions for peace with Finland, have been handed over to Dr. Paasikivi.

• • •

INDIA, BURMA AND CEYLON

16TH FEB.—A statement on the war situation and the part played by Indian troops in different theatres of war was made to-day in the Council of State by Commander-in-Chief, Sir Claude Auchinleck.

The South-East Asia Command communiqué issued to-day gives an account of Allied activity in the Burma front on 13th, 14th and 15th February.

17TH FEB.—Operations to clear our lines of communication in Arakan are continuing, says an Allied War Communiqué issued to-day. Bombing of Prome, Moulmein, Rangoon, Akyab, Bangkok, Kyunton, etc., are also reported.

18TH FEB.—His Excellency Lord Wavell arrived in Madras.

During the 16th February steady progress was made by Allied forces in all sectors in Arakan and a definite improvement has been reported, says to-day's Allied War Communiqué.

19TH FEB.—Operations to clear the Ngakyedauk Pass area continue in Arakan, says to-day's Allied War Communiqué.

20TH FEB.—During the last 48 hours the main Japanese force on the Arakan front has been showing some signs of becoming unco-ordinated in the face of Allied attacks, says to-day's communiqué issued by South-East Asia Command.

21ST FEB.—His Excellency the Viceroy visited the rationing office and firewood and rice depots in Madras city.

To-day's South-East Asia Command communiqué gives details of Allied operations in Burma front on 19th and 20th February.

22ND FEB.—During February 21, Allied troops continued to disperse the Japanese force on the Arakan front, says to-day's Allied Communiqué.

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ITALY, AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

16TH FEB.—On the Eighth Army front a small enemy attack was broken up. Allied patrols were active along the whole front. There was little activity on either the main Fifth Army front or in the Anzio sector.

17TH FEB.—The Fifth Army troops were heavily engaged with the enemy in the northern part of the Anzio beachhead. The battle in the streets of Cassino continues.

Marshal Badoglio has reorganized his Ministry.

18TH FEB.—Heavy German attacks on the Anzio beachhead position have been beaten off by British and American troops of the Fifth Army. On the main Fifth Army front there was hard fighting round a height north-west of Cassino Abbey. Severe weather on the Eighth Army front prevented large-scale activity.

19TH FEB.—The Fifth Army has captured two strongly held crests west of Mount Cassino. Allied troops were forced to withdraw a short distance in the Carroceto area of the Anzio beachhead.

20TH FEB.—On the Fifth Army front at Anzio Allied positions have improved. Strong pressure has been maintained against the enemy in Cassino. Eighth Army patrols were active.

21ST FEB.—Allied tanks launching a counter-attack in the Anzio beachhead battle have broken into German positions.

22ND FEB.—Local fighting occurred at three points on the Fifth Army's Anzio front. On the main Fifth Army front and the Eighth Army front patrol activity continued.

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VICHY, FREE FRANCE AND OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

16TH FEB.—Allied bombers attacked military targets in Holland.

20TH FEB.—Allied bombers attacked objectives in Holland and Northern France.

21ST FEB.—Allied planes attacked military objectives in Northern France.

22ND FEB.—Military targets in Northern France and Holland were attacked by Allied aircraft.

• • •

THE NEUTRAL COUNTRIES

22ND FEB.—A strong earthquake lasting 6 seconds occurred in Western Anotolia in Turkey at midnight last night. A light shock occurred at Samsan, a port in the Turkish Black Sea coast.

• • •

THE FAR EAST

16TH FEB.—Allied forces have consolidated their positions in Green Islands.

Mr. Eden stated in the House of Commons to-day that the question of the treatment of Japan after the war was clearly a matter of consultation between the Allied Governments concerned. He deprecated discussion in public of the negotiations with Japan for an exchange of 1,600 civilian internees from the Far East and the British Commonwealth respectively.

General MacArthur in a statement said that Japan cannot be defeated through blockade and bombing alone.

17TH FEB.—Truk, the great Japanese naval base in the heart of the Carolines, was attacked by United States bombers. Kavieng in New Ireland was also heavily bombed.

The United States Secretary of War, Mr. Henry Stinson, stated that the American Army and Navy Forces were now in control of the Solomon Islands with American air sea bases surrounding and "containing" Rabaul, the Jap base on New Britain.

18TH FEB.—Fierce fighting is going on between Allied and Japanese troops on the Island of Truk. Allied Aircraft mauled Japanese convoy off Nassaw Island and sank the majority of the ships.

19TH FEB.—American forces have captured the Japanese air base at Engebi and also several other islands in the northern Eniwetok a toll in the Marshalls.

Two United States submarines in recent patrols in Japanese Empire waters have sunk 13 enemy merchantmen.

Changes in the Japanese Cabinet have been announced.

20TH FEB.—To-day's Allied Communiqué says that 19 Japanese ships have been sunk and 201 Japanese aircraft destroyed at Truk in the Caroline Islands in the Pacific. Seven more Jap ships were probably sunk and over 50 aircraft were damaged.

21ST FEB.—Paramushiro Island was raided by Allied planes.

Several important changes in the Japanese military command are announced. The Jap Premier becomes Commander-in-Chief of the Army General staff.

22ND FEB.—Allied forces captured Eniwetok island in the Marshalls.

The second Japanese convoy within a week has been practically annihilated in the Bismarck Sea, says to-day's Allied Communiqué. Rabaul was bombed.

FOR YOUR RADIO DIARY

FEB. 27.—BOMBAY—8-20 p.m. "What the Enemy Thinks." By S. Natarajan.

" " BOMBAY—8-30 p.m. "Japan—a Fallen Idol." By Rama Rao Deshmukh.

" 28.—LAHORE—9-45 p.m. "Bastion's of Britain: National Production." By Sir Colin Garbett.

" " DACCA—8-00 p.m. "Japan Unmasked: Japanisation or Extinction." By K. D. Ghose.

" 29.—DELHI—8-30 p.m. "I was in Japan." By Lieut.-Col. S. R. Hunt.

" " PESHAWAR—9-45 p.m. "Made in Japan: Liberation of India." By Mian Ziauddin.

" " CULCUTTA—9-00 p.m. "War and the Man-in-the-Street: Clerk." By Abani Ranjan Sengupta.

" " LUCKNOW—9-45 p.m. "The Doctor's Dilemma: Analysis of Dr. Goebbel's Radio-propaganda." By Rev. A. G. Davies-Leigh.

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MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. V FRIDAY, MARCH 3, 1944 No. 26

Lord LOUIS MOUNTBATTEN

I Salute You!

YOU have come victoriously through your first battle since the formation of the 14th Army and the Eastern Air Command. You have given the Japanese a crack they will remember They are learning that just as wars cannot be won by sudden treacherous assaults, so too battles are not decided by surprise attacks

THREE weeks ago, the enemy sent a large and formidable force through the jungles to cut your lines of communications, and attack you in the rear. They launched a major offensive in the Arakan in the hope of defeating you and sweeping on into India. You have met the onslaught with courage, confidence and resolution. Many of you were cut off and encircled, dependent for supplies dropped from aircraft, but every one stood firm, inspired and strengthened by the knowledge that powerful support was at hand from land, sea and air

NOW, after bitter fighting in the jungles and in the skies, the Japanese attacks have been smashed. The enemy forces which infiltrated into your rear have been destroyed or scattered The threatened passes are clear, the roads are open. You have gained a complete victory

YOUR splendid spirit was clear to me when I visited you recently. Now that spirit, that tenacity, that courage have been demonstrated to the enemy and to the world. I salute you

Lord LOUIS MOUNTBATTEN, Supreme Commander of the South-East Asia Forces, in an Order of the Day to the 14th Army, on Monday, Feb. 28

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[NOTE.—*The summary of news and comments contained in the* MADRAS WAR REVIEW *generally relate to events and statements published till Wednesday, every week.*]

GREATER EFFORT REQUIRED

"At present Japan is far from being vanquished. Only her outer defence line has been pierced and a far greater effort will be required to dislodge her from the far-flung territories which are now under her occupation. The need for exterminating Japanese militarism is as pressing as that of destroying German Nazism."

SIR STAFFORD CRIPPS, *Minister of Aircraft Production at London, on Tuesday, February 29.*

◆

WAY IS LONG AND HARD

"The way before us is long and hard, but with God's help, which has so richly blessed and guided us in the past, we will finally come to the glory of the end."

GENERAL DOUGLAS MACARTHUR, *in New Guinea on Saturday, February 26.*

◆

LAST PHASE OF WAR

"It will not be long before the second front is established on the continent. The task of liberating Europe will take a heavy toll of British and American lives and will multiply the sufferings of the European peoples. 1944 will mark the last phase of the war in Europe, but it will be the most terrible in human suffering and sorrow."

DR. E. BENES, *President of Czechoslovakia, at London, on Tuesday, February 29.*

◆

TIME NEAR FOR GERMANY'S DEFEAT

"I am strongly convinced that the time is near when the successful struggle of the armed forces of the Soviet Union, together with the armies of the United States and Great Britain, will lead to the final defeat of our common enemy, Hitlerite Germany."

MARSHAL STALIN, *in a message to PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT.*

MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. V FRIDAY, MARCH 3, 1944 No. 26

ARAKAN—"A CRACK THE JAPS WILL REMEMBER"

INDIA has great reason to be proud of the magnificent victory in the Arakan. A major Japanese offensive against India has been smashed completely. And this has been done by the 14th Army, the bulk of which is drawn from the Indian Army. In a recent speech in the Council of State, His Excellency Sir Claude Auchinleck, the Commander-in-Chief, referring to the 14th Army, said that he had no doubt that it "will become as famous in its turn as the Commonwealth's Eighth Army." In the very first battle after its formation and the constitution of the Eastern Air Command, the 14th Army has scored a victory which will resound to the credit of India in the annals of this war in the same way as the achievements of the Fourth Indian Division at El Alamein, Wadi Akarit and Tunis have done. It has, in the words of Lord Louis Mountbatten, Supreme Commander of the South-East Asia Forces, "given the Japanese a crack they will remember." They will remember their defeat and the Army that inflicted it, even as the Nazis do their defeats in North Africa and the Eighth Army which drove them out from there and is following them up in the drive from out of Italy. The Arakan victory may be stated to be perhaps the beginning of a similar drive in Burma.

Significance of the victory

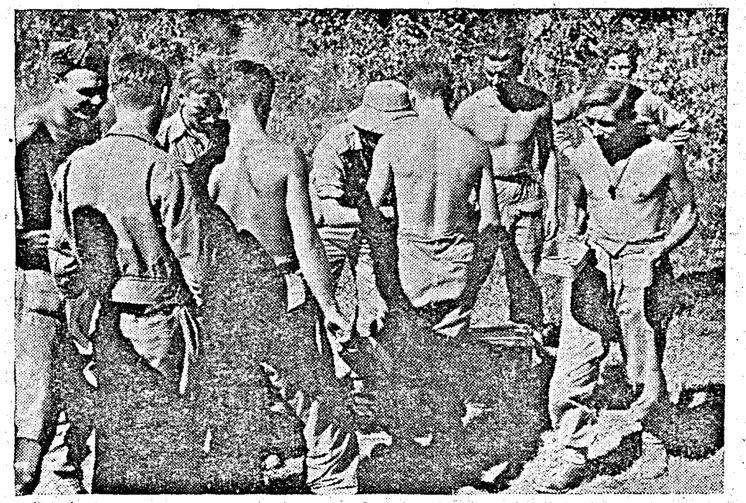
THE significance of the Arakan victory to the safety and security of India must be understood in its proper perspective. As has been pointed out by Lord Louis Mountbatten, the Japanese launched a major offensive with the object of defeating the 14th Army and sweeping on into India. Their plan was threefold; first, to seize the Ngakyedauk Pass, the only road connecting our troops east and west of the main Mayu Range, and thereby cut the 14th Army into two, deprive the 7th Indian Division of all supplies and attack it in the rear; secondly, to cut the main north and south road and isolate the 5th Indian Division; and lastly, to launch a general assault on the Arakan front east of the Mayu Range, destroy both the 7th and 5th Divisions of the 14th Army and follow it up by a sweeping advance into India. They succeeded in their "surprise attacks": they seized the Ngakyedauk Pass, cut the main Bawli Bazaar-Maungdaw Road, and delivered what is described to be the fiercest and most reckless assaults in both the rear and front of the 7th Indian Division. They succeeded only in part of their plan, but they felt so confident and certain of the outcome that they announced their operations as a great success! They found that they had counted their chickens before they were hatched. For their major offensive was halted by the British, Indian and Gurkha troops led by Gen. Christison, commanding in the Arakan.

From the defensive to the offensive

THE 14th Army which was on the defensive then turned the tables on the Japanese. Though the 5th Division was harassed on its own front, it came to the help of the more hard-pressed 7th Division, and the offensive that was then launched has resulted in the most serious reverse the Japanese have received at the hands of a British-Indian force.

HOW is it that what at one time seemed to be a serious situation in the Arakan has resulted in a resounding victory for the Allied cause? The answer is that wise placing of reserves, complete air superiority and the tenacity, high morale and heroism of our troops have dashed Tokyo's plans and hopes to the ground. From what the Japanese were able to see of the difficult positions in which both the 5th and 7th Divisions of the 14th Army were placed, they must have felt that victory was actually in their grasp. Otherwise they would not have blown their trumpets and broadcast news of their successes. Tokyo went on saying that the forces of the 14th Army were thrown into confusion, dismayed, starving, in flight, surrendering, annihilated. But all the time they stood firm. Then the reserves from the north moved down rapidly into battle. And the encirclers became the encircled and the annihilaters became the annihilated!

THIS was made possible by the great work done by the Eastern Air Command under the leadership of Air Chief Marshal Sir Richard Peirse and the fighting qualities of what Lord Wavell characterised as the "largest forces ever raised in history by voluntary enlistment." India feels mightly proud of her patriotic sons who have defended her freedom and added yet another laurel to Indian military tradition. She is also deeply grateful to the gallant and courageous British and American comrades-in-arms who have driven the Yellow Peril as far away as possible from Indian shores.



B.O.Rs. of an English Regiment, nonchalantly queing-up for their midday meal only 700 yards from Japanese positions in the Arakan.

RUNNING COMMENTARY

Captain Randolph Churchill in Yugoslavia —Marshal Tito's Partisan Movement

The announcement of the news of the arrival of Captain RANDOLPH CHURCHILL, the son of the British Prime Minister, in Yugoslavia draws attention to a scene of fighting in Europe which does not figure in the news very often. In his last review in the House of Commons, Mr. CHURCHILL has made a somewhat lengthy reference to the situation in the Balkans in general and in Yugoslavia in particular. He paid a handsome tribute to Marshal TITO, Leader of the Yugoslav Partisans, as "an outstanding leader, glorious in his fight for freedom," and said,

"For a long time past I have taken a particular interest in Marshal TITO's movement, and have tried to assist in every way . . . I can assure the House that every effort in our power will be made to aid and sustain Marshal TITO and his gallant bands. . . We intend to back him with all the strength we can draw on, having regard to our other main obligations . . . Our feelings here, and elsewhere, follow the principle of keeping good faith with, and of striving without prejudice or regard for political affection to aid those who strike for freedom against the Nazi rule and inflict the greatest injury upon the enemy."

It may be recalled that, nearly a year ago, Britain sent an army mission under the Oxford Don, Captain (now Lieutenant-Colonel) DEAKIN. He entered Yugoslavia in the same way as Captain RANDOLPH CHURCHILL has recently done—by parachute—and was at Marshal TITO's Headquarters for eight months. A larger mission was sent last autumn under the leadership of Brigadier FITZROY H. MACLEAN, M.P. for Lancaster. When Mr. CHURCHILL was in Cairo, the Brigadier came to report about the Yugoslavian situation, and he has now returned to that country by parachute. The growing strength and the striking power of Marshal TITO's Partisan forces might have been discussed by him with Mr. CHURCHILL at the Cairo Conference.

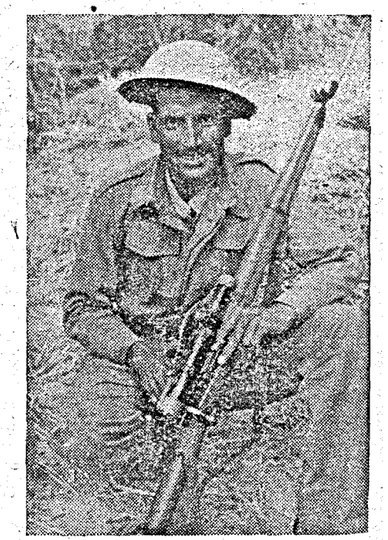
* * *

Racial Differences —Croats Want Separate State

It is of some considerable interest to look back at the complex political and racial differences in Yugoslavia which had brought about her undoing and see how the lessons of disunity learnt at the cost of great national suffering had forged strong forces of resistance against the Nazi oppressors. It was out of the furnace of the last Great War that the new Yugoslav State emerged. It was dominated by the Radical Party ("Radical" only in name, but strongly conservative in outlook) which had very great influence. This Party played an important role in all the wars for national liberation. It believed that discipline and centralised authority were imperative requirements of a strong Yugoslav State. And this strong belief dominated the Yugoslav administration and was responsible for the creation of certain difficulties. The Croats seemed to believe that centralised administration was the cause of their being oppressed by the Serbs, and they began to demand a separate State for themselves—an independent Croatia. In 1921 when the First Yugoslav Constitutional Assembly met in Belgrade, the Croatian Peasant Party refused to attend it. The Germans took advantage of the differences of opinion between the Serbs and the Croats to further their interests.

They used ANTE PAVELITCH, a Croatian Leader, against the Serbs. He carried out a large scale massacre of the Serbs living in Croatia under order from HIMMLER. This infuriated the Serbs. They joined the ranks of MIHAILOVITCH Chetniks and wanted to wreak revenge on the Croats.

It has been stated by some of the extremists in Marshal TITO's Partisans that MIHAILOVITCH is only another



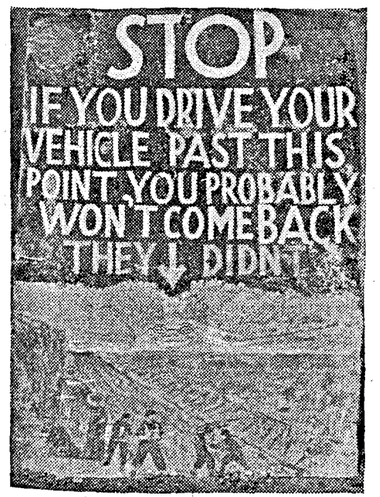
A Public Relations photographer recently visited the fighting area where he secured pictures of hardy Indian troops of the Rajput Regiment operating there against the Japanese. Photo shows, *Hakim Beg. He appears gratified. No wonder, for he had just been successfully sniping.*

collaborationist like the Serbian quisling Novitch. This is not quite true, for it was MIHAILOVITCH who organized the surviving elements of the Yugoslavian army after the German invasion and made it into a fighting force. As Serbia is under the strong grip of the Nazis, General MIHAILOVITCH has been forced gradually into a position of something like collaboration with the Germans. The famous Guerilla bands which represented to some extent the forces of old Serbia were according to what seems to be an understanding between MIHAILOVITCH and the Germans left alone in certain mountain areas on condition that they did nothing or very little against the Germans.

* * *

A National Unifying Movement

Now the Partisan movement is great in numbers than the forces of MIHAILOVITCH. Large numbers of Croats and Slovenes and even Serbians have joined Marshal TITO. He now has under his banner more than a quarter of a million men. "Around and within these heroic forces" says Mr. CHURCHILL, "a national unifying movement has developed. Communist elements had the honour of being the beginners, but as the movement has increased in strength and numbers, the modifying and unifying process has taken the place and national conceptions have supervened." Just like the



A Public Relations photographer recently visited the fighting area where he secured these interesting pictures of hardy Indian troops of the Rajput Regiment operating there against the Japanese.

This dramatic road-sign is most effective.

ON THE ARAKAN FRONT.—Covering the enemy positions in the near foothills with a Bren gun. Silhouetted against the skyline are the Mayu Ranges. Our troops formerly called this Japanese stronghold the "Snout," but it is now known as the "Fort."

☆

LOOKING BACKWARD AND FORWARD

(*By* R.G.)

I see the errors of two decades expiated
In agony of blood and sweat
And very soon the Bloody Chancellor checkmated
If not (O sea and mountain bars) quite yet.——
The board for the last few moves is set.

I see the habit fetters of long ages crumbling
As slum and palace together fall
And many dusty haughty privileges tumbling
If not (O happy prejudices) all.——
The infant freedoms may grow tall.

I see the beardless boy equipped and trucked to battle
To prove himself a solid man
And thinking out his future peace amid the rattle
And clanking (O machines) of weapon and plan.——
Perhaps he'll end what we began.

I see the sunken ships, and land a sorry shambles,
Resurgent ships and cities too.
To raft and shore torpedoed oily mariner scrambles
And looks (O human hope) for jobs to do.——
There will be work for him and you.

I see vain hands and horrible imaginations
And hungry multitudes in pawn.
But some have heard the whistle and take their stations
To launch dream cockle-shells (O faith) at dawn.——
By these explorers the map's redrawn.

"HEY! THERE! ARE YOU LOOKING OUT FOR ME?"

—*Specially drawn for the* MADRAS WAR REVIEW

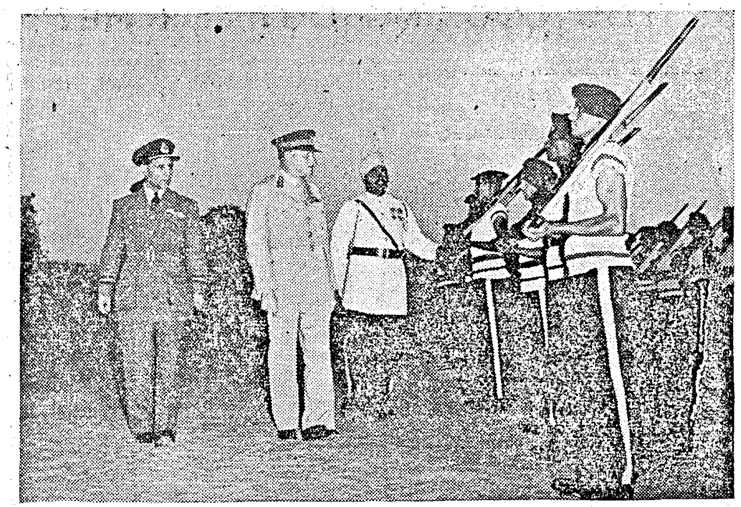
Spanish loyalists the ranks of Marshal TITO's band of Communists have been strengthened by the inclusion of men of Democratic, Republican and extreme left parties. The war aims of the Partisans can be broadly stated to be liberation of the country from the Germans, federal national rights for Serbs, Croats, Slovenes and Macedonians, democratic liberties for all Yugoslav peoples and inviolability of private property and private initiative in economic life.

The main aim of the Allies in regard to Yugoslavia is to do all in their power to strengthen the resistance of the Yugoslavians to the Nazis. It may be stated that the activities of Marshal TITO's Partisan movement are only an extension across the Adriatic of the Italian front.

Will the unity of the different races in Yugoslavia state, now brought about under Marshal TITO's great leadership as a result of the storm and stress of war endure in the days of peace? There are indications in past Yugoslavian history to show that such a unity may become stable. In 1924 the Serbian Democratic Party and the Croatian Peasant Party which had refused to co-operate formed a coalition Government. This Government however did not last long. In 1925 what was considered impossible happened. A new coalition ministry was formed consisting of what were previously irreconcilable elements—the Croatian Peasant Party and the Radicals. Let us hope that the memories of such unity will inspire the leaders of Yugoslavia of the future and bring about national solidarity.

YET ANOTHER RECORD FOR MADRAS?

Madras is breaking record after record—and doesn't seem to be tired of it! Now here is the latest. There is a village in Vizagapatam district, which has a total male population of 508, of which 256 are now in military service! And there's something more 95 per cent. of the males in the village are either serving, or have served, in the fighting services! Isn't this a record, or should we say, a record-breaking record?



SIR RICHARD PEIRSE PRESENTS ROYAL WARRANT OF COMMISSION TO NAWAB OF BHOPAL.—Sir Richard Peirse, Air Commander-in-Chief, South-East Asia Air Command, presented to His Highness the Nawab of Bhopal, his Warrant of Commission as Air Commodore of the Royal Air Force. The presentation was part of a military and police display held in honour of the Nawab's birthday, and took place on the Jehangirabad Parade Ground, Bhopal.

The Commander-in-Chief General Sir Claude Auchinleck, who attended the ceremony, was so impressed by the display given by some of the Nawab's State Forces that he asked for the men to be paraded later so that he could inspect and congratulate them.

MADRASSI SAPPER'S TREK IN ARAKAN

Cut off from his comrades in the jungles of Arakan, Sapper Doraiswami, whose home is at Chingleput, Madras, walked for two days across the Mayu Range and reported to the first unit he came to. It was unfortunate, that his brother had shortly before taken ill and been sent back to a hospital. Having located him, however, Doraiswami hopes to meet him soon.

WORLD'S HIGHEST GUN POSITION

Somewhere in the Chin Hills is the highest gun position in the world, a 9,000-feet jungle-covered mountain peak, where an artillery unit is stationed.

Without seeing the obstacles, it would be difficult to imagine what the men did to get their guns, unseen, into their lofty position, writes an Indian Army Observer.

The guns were moved along a tortuous mountain road, winding for nearly 200 miles through the wild Chin Hills, which had to be surveyed, cut through and surfaced before equipment and stores could be moved into position. It took six vehicles, a platoon of Gurkhas and all the gunners in the unit to haul them up the steep slope.

Animal transport was not always available. The party did a total march of well over 200 miles and the journey took them nearly three months.

The gun-site is cunningly concealed in a position overlooking a deep valley.

RATS TO YOU

(*By* R.G.)

Said one old rat unto his band
"What shall we do for our motherland?

How shall we show our love immense
But offer neither blood nor pence?

Our soldiers to the wars have gone
And desperate deeds of valour done:

But do not, brothers, join the ranks
Nor serve with guns and planes and tanks:

There's nothing to be had but blows
In Burmese rains or western snows.

Remain then each one at your post
Where out of war you make the most.

See yonder contracts ready made
For those whose talents lie in trade.

To soldiers everything supply
And keep morale and prices high.

Controllers of Supplies revere
And let all uniforms be dear.

Be your materials not too good
For what wears out must be renewed

And double profits will accrue
If twice you can the buyer do.

Do not of praise and pice despair
If you these profits do not share.

The Press has columns wide and long
For those in criticism strong.

In some a special knack is found
To make a mountain from a mound.

And these can bid the public bleat
That drink's more horrid than defeat

And spend on Prohibition zeal
They can't for war and victory feel.

It is far easier to cry
That every district should be dry

Than with an effort real and long
To make the weak defences strong.

If yours is neither business gift
Nor pure political uplift

Do not despair. For rats like you
There are a thousand things to do.

Attack policemen. Pull up rails.
Burn office records. Fill the jails.

Hoard, if you cannot profiteer,
And make a Bengal famine here.

Spread rumours. Say the Japanese
Are friendly folk and keen to please.

And crooked hand in itching hand
Thus shall we do for our motherland.

ROMANCE OF BRITISH AIRCRAFT CONSTRUCTION

By S. E. VEALE

THIRTY-FIVE years ago a brief flight by a Frenchman changed the life and ambitions of a young Englishman and gave Britain one of her most successful aircraft companies. The Frenchman was Delagrange; the Englishman, Frederick Handley Page, then barely in his twenties. The aircraft company is that which bears his name.

Handley Page was an electrical engineer of great promise. In 1907, at the age of 22, he read a paper before the Institute of Electrical Engineers in London which brought him an attractive offer from the Westinghouse company of Pittsburgh. But Delagrange's twenty-minute flight had fired his imagination, and he exchanged the security and prospects of a great and growing profession for the uncertainties and hazards of aircraft engineering, then in its infancy.

AIRFIELD ON OUTSKIRTS OF LONDON

He began with gliders, using a rough shed at Barking on the outskirts of London as his workshop. His airfield was an uneven and dyke-ridden expanse of rubble excavated during the building of London's underground railway.

In 1909 he interested "big money" in his hopes and plans and raised £10,000 to start Handley Page, Limited, the first limited liability company in the world to be formed expressly to design and build heavier-than-air flying machines. With his new resources he erected workshops with a total floor space of 5,000 square feet where before had stood the shed.

"First off" was the Blue Bird, a monoplane with swept back wings. This was followed by a bi-plane and two more mono-planes. None of them really flew, but they hopped well enough to keep hopes buoyant. In 1911 the works produced an aircraft which flew, "The Yellow Peril"—so named because of its chrome colour scheme and not as a pithy comment on its flying qualities, which for those days, were good. This monoplane made the Handley Page name and was the first of a long line of successful aeroplanes.

By 1914 Handley Page had acquired a profound belief in large aircraft, a belief which was not widely shared in Britain, least of all by the military and naval authorities responsible for the supply of aircraft to their respective air services. When war broke out, he offered to build a two-engined night bomber (the 0/100) for Britain's Royal Air Service—a type not then seriously contemplated—and so impressed Mr. Winston Churchill, then first Lord of the Admiralty, and his associates, that they gave him an order while still doubting the validity of his faith.

Throughout 1915, day and night, work on the bomber never paused, and in December the first 0/100 made its test flight. It was an immediate success. Refinements were made, and after forty had been built, an improved version, the 0/400, took its place.

DESIGNED TO BOMB BERLIN

But the 0/400 did not give full expression to Handley Page's conception of big aircraft and towards the close of the war he produced the famous four-engined V/1500 for the bombing of Berlin and other cities deep in the heart of Germany. In sheer size, it was bigger than any other bomber in squadron service to-day. It had a wing span of 126 feet, a length of 62 feet, and stood 23 feet high.

Luckily for Berlin, the Armistice was signed before plans and training were complete.

Since 1919, Handley Page designers have divided their energies between military and commercial flying. After World War I the Royal Air Force dropped the four-engined bomber in favour of the twin. In this class Handley Page built three main bi-plane types—Hyderabad, Hinaidi and Heyford—which were followed by two mono-planes—Harrow and Hampden. With the Harrow, the company set a new fashion in aeronautical engineering by introducing the unit system of construction, in which the design is broken down into a number of separate parts, each complete in itself and only needing to be joined to its neighbour.

When events in Europe showed that war between Britain and Germany was imminent the Air Ministry realized that the Royal Air Force would again need four-motor bombers. Handley Page submitted drawings for the Halifax and at once received a large order. Tests with the prototypes proved that the bomber was soundly designed and constructed, and when it began to flow from the assembly lines, the Royal Air Force began to hit the enemy with ever-increasing strength. The Halifax, twenty-five years later, resumed the work of the 0/100s and 0/400s of the last war.

OPERATED NINE YEARS WITHOUT FATAL ACCIDENT

In the sphere of commercial Air Transport since World War I the Handley Page company have had experience both in building air-liners and in operating them. When the ban on civil flying was lifted in 1919, they formed a subsidiary company, Handley Page Transport, Limited, and opened air-services between London and Paris and later between London and Brussels.

When in 1924, this associated company was amalgamated with others to form Imperial Airways, it had carried more passengers than the others put together. All the air liners used were of Handley Page design and manufacture. During this period, incidentally, thousands of visitors were given joy-rides at the Cricklewood Airfield.

Later, Handley Page received an order from Imperial Airways for a commercial transport which would earn the full Government subsidy, then being paid on a ton-mile basis. They produced in 1930 the Hannibal class, the world's first large four-engined air liners and Imperial Airways drew every penny of the subsidy to which they were entitled under the agreement. The Hannibals were not fast, but they set a standard of spaciousness, luxury and safety unapproached by any other contemporary air-liner. For nine years they flew without a single fatal accident.

One reason for their remarkable safety was the use of slots at the wing tips. In 1920, Handley Page had turned his attention to the problem of using slots on wings to increase control at low speeds and reduce spinning tendencies. Subsequently his patents were sold all over the world, and many airplanes which might otherwise have been tricky to handle were made safe and controllable. When the monoplane largely replaced the bi-plane his slots were used in conjunction with flaps to give greater efficiency.

In 1910 he built another triplane, fitting it with a thirty-five horse-power, green water-cooled engine. The same year, he built the world's first tractor biplane, and set a style which prevails to this day. He had early discarded the front elevators favoured by other designers. Later, he built the first aircraft to have an enclosed cabin.

He began to take part in flying meetings up and down Britain. He went to the United States to race and demonstrate. He sold aircraft to the British Government in the face of opposition from the Government-owned plant at Farnborough, and supplied a large number of sporting pilots. By 1913, money was needed for expansion, and in February, A. V. Roe & Co., Ltd., was formed. When World War I broke out, the business was set upon secure foundations.

DESIGNED 1913—STILL PRODUCED 1938

A year earlier, the Avro 504 had been built. This tractor biplane was destined to make a reputation for longevity which may never be surpassed. It had been sold to Britain's Military Air Services before hostilities began, and was one of the first to go into action against the enemy.

It became and remained the Royal Air Force's basis trainer until 1929, when it was replaced by another Avro design, the Tutor. It was sold to and made in scores of countries overseas and was still in production in some of them in 1938. Many are still in use and thousands of pilots were trained on it during World War I.

Although the Avro name was mainly made on the 504, the company designed and built a number of other types during World War I, all of them with good performances, though none was put into large-scale production.

CIVIL AND COMMERCIAL CONSTRUCTION

The company received its share of the meagre orders placed for military types by Britain's Air Ministry, and between 1919 and 1935, it designed and built, among others, the Aldershot day bomber, the Bison fleet spotter, the Ava two-motor bomber, the Andover Ambulance, the Avenger single-seat fighter, the Buffalo torpedo-carrier, the Avocet single-seat fighter, the Antelope day bomber, and the Tutor basic trainer.

Seeking business in the small but highly competitive fields of civil and commercial flying, it produced the 547 triplane, some "ultra light" types for an Air Ministry competition, the Avis light biplane, the Avro 10 and Avro 5 monoplanes, the Cadet two-seat biplane, the Commodore four-seat limousine, the Avro 652 four-six passenger monoplane, and the Avro 642.

During this period, the company developed the welded steel tube and plywood system of construction, and used it with success in several designs.

With the expansion of the Royal Air Force their first big order was for the Anson, a twin-engined coastal reconnaissance bomber, based on an earlier commercial type. The order eventually ran into hundreds, and the Anson now has a splendid record of achievement behind it, both in its original role and, later, as a trainer.

The second, and more significant, was for the Manchester, a heavy two-motor bomber. From the Manchester grew the still heavier and more powerful Lancaster, one of the principal weapons wielded by the Royal Air Force in the Battle of Germany, and a fitting triumph for the company which, by its own endeavours, survived the acute economic depression in the aeronautical world.

BIRD MODEL TAUGHT FLYING SECRETS

To thousands of seafarers the majestic flight of the albatross was a phenomenon which no human knowledge could fathom, but to one it was an inspiration. He was a marine engineer, a man of creative vision and unusual attainments.

As he watched the silent, effortless flight of the sailor's legendary harbinger of good luck, he dreamed that men, too, would fly on outspread wings. The marine engineer was Alliott Verdon Roe, founder of Britain's aircraft company of that name, which designed and made the Lancaster heavy bomber.

PRIZE-WINNING PROTOTYPE

Even gliders were in their infancy when he turned his technical genius to the problem of human flight. While still at sea, he made wooden models of the albatross in an attempt to discover its secret. Later he made model aircraft, and in 1907 won the highest prize in a London competition. A year later, he had built a full-scale aircraft after the fashion of the prize-winning model, and at Brooklands, on June 8, 1908, after many futile attempts, he flew for a distance of 150 feet, landing again without mishap.

At Lea Marshes he built the world's first triplane and on the 13th July, 1909, made a hop of more than 100 feet. This was the first flight by a British aircraft with a British engine; his earlier biplane had had a French motor. The British engine, a J.A.F., gave only nine horse-power, and for 14 years no other aircraft in Britain flew on so small an output.

HOME OF BRITAIN'S BEAUFIGHTER

Many of Britain's early aircraft companies were launched by struggling young aviators with unbounded ambitions but little money. By way of contrast, the original "Bristol" company was the venture of a wealthy businessman. He became an aircraft operator and constructor because, unlike most of his countrymen, he believed in the future of flying.

Events justified his faith. To-day, the Bristol Aeroplane Company, Limited, which grew out of his British and Colonial Aeroplane Company of 1910, is one of the largest concerns in Britain's aircraft industry, producing both aircraft and aero-engines and jointly interested with Rolls-Royce, Limited, in one of the more important of Britain's airscrew companies.

TWO-FAMILY CONCERN

The founder was Sir George White, then the head of the Bristol Tramways and Carriage Company, and other transport undertakings. His co-directors were Samuel White (his brother) and G. Stanley White (his son). The first secretary was Henry White-Smith and the first manager was Sidney E. Smith.

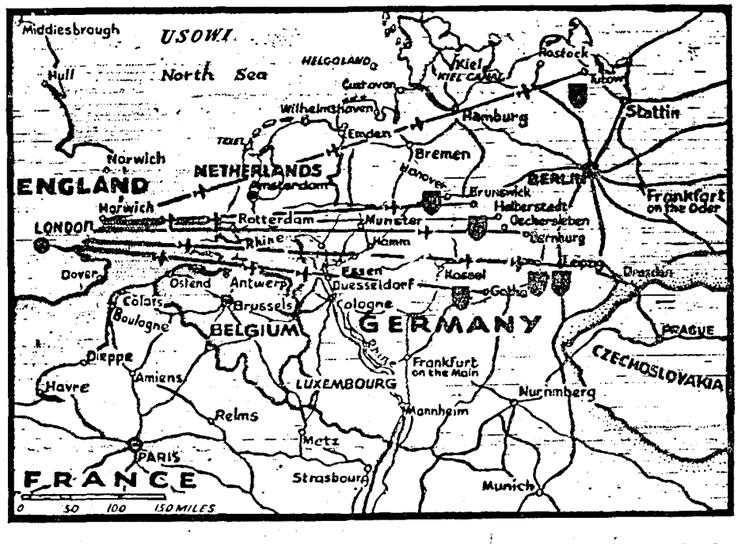
In all the changes and vicissitudes of the ensuing thirty-three years, the Whites and the Smiths have retained the entire direction of the company, and the business efficiency and courage which characterised its early life, still pervade it to-day.

The Bristol business started with a flying school at Brooklands, two aircraft of French design, and a plant at Filton, near Bristol. Shortly afterwards, another school was started—at Larkhill, on Salisbury Plain. The first aircraft to be produced at Filton were "Box-Kites." Although not the most elegant aircraft of their day, they flew to such good purpose that the name "Bristol"—the company's trade mark—soon became widely known both in Britain and overseas.

AIR MISSIONS SENT OVERSEAS

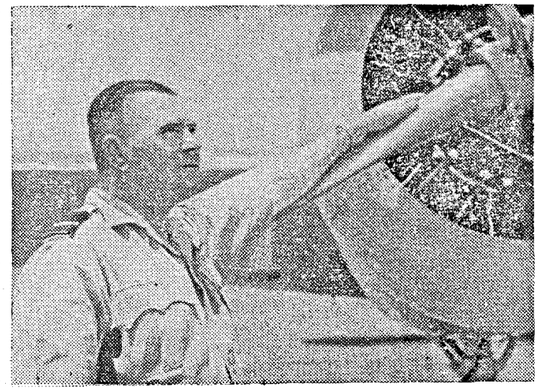
At that time the home market for aircraft was small. There were sporting pilots who flew for the love of the game, and a smaller band of professional pilots who flew for money and prizes. The Government, at that time, looked to a single War Office plant to supply its needs in military aircraft.

(*Continued on page* 12.)

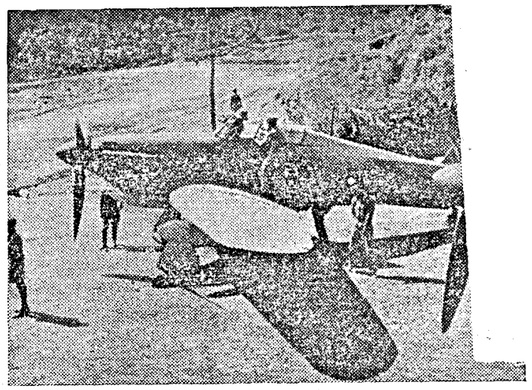


ROUTES TAKEN BY U.S.A.A.F.—Lines on the above map show the routes taken by American airmen who roared over the European continent in record daytime rength on February 20, following the R.A.F.'s 2,500-ton night attack on February 19 on Leipzig. U.S.A.A.F. planes hit aircraft assembly and frame factories in Leipzig and areas west and south-west of Berlin.

INDIAN AIR FORCE ON THE BURMA FRONT

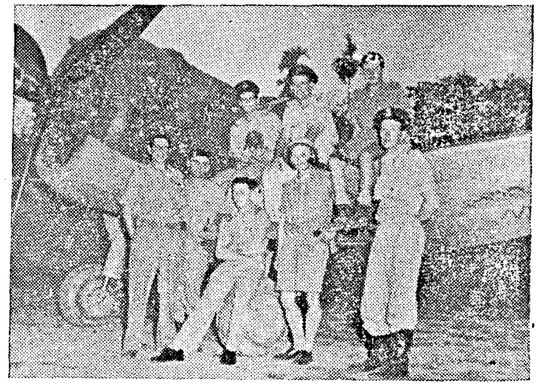


Air Vice-Marshal T. M. Williams, O.B.E., M.C., D.F.C., photographed recently on a Royal Air Force forward air field in Eastern India.

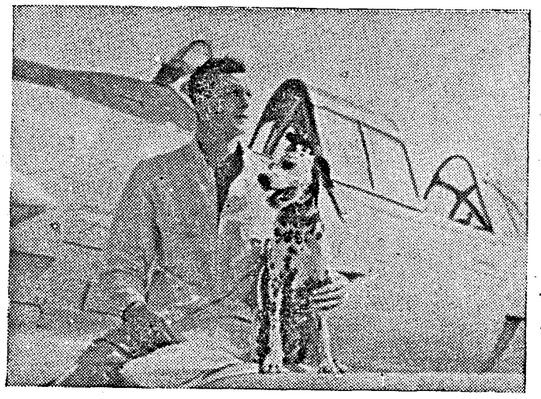


Squadrons of the Indian Air Force are now successfully operating on the Burma Front. They are flying Vultee Vengeances and Hurricanes. Photo shows: *Servicing a Hurricane at its jungle base.*

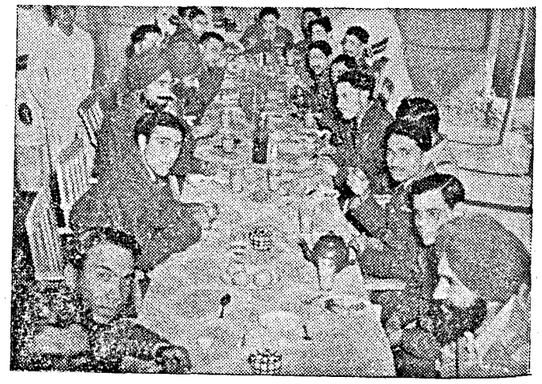
A Royal Air Force fighter pilot, typical of the many operating against the Japanese from Eastern India, photographed grasping one of his guns which have put an end to a number of Jap planes.



Operating on the Burma front, this group of fighter pilots, typical of the many in action against the Japs, have taken a heavy toll of the enemy's fighters.



A Royal Air Force Hurricane pilot, now in Eastern India, with his Dalmatian pet.



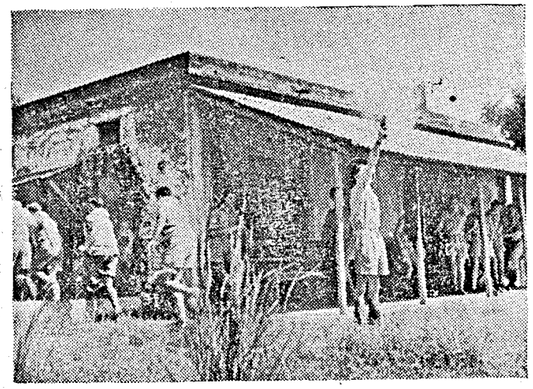
Tiffin time for members of an Indian Air Force Squadron

HURRICANE FIGHTER SQUADRON DEMONSTRATION

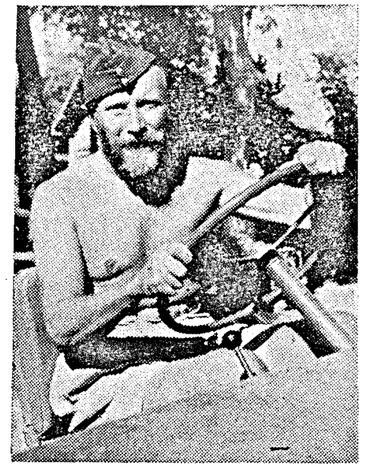
At a Royal Air Force Fighter Station, a fighter demonstration was recently staged for leading personalities of the Press in India. The display was carried out by a Hurricane squadron that has distinguishe itself in many campaigns.

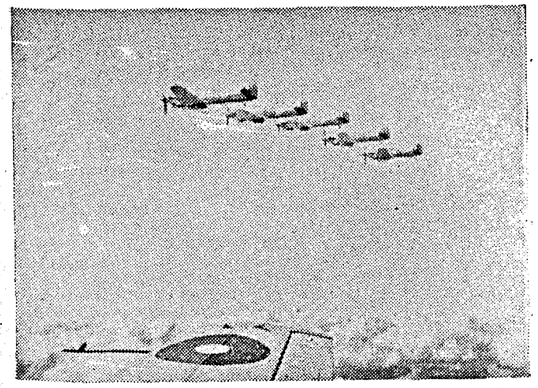
Pilots of the Squadron being briefed by their Commanding Officer.

From the Argentine comes this Spitfire pilot of 6 feet 7½ inches, now with the Royal Air Force on the Burma Front. He claims to be the world's tallest fighter pilot. He is a fine horseman, plus-2 at golf, and has a splendid air record.



A "scramble" is ordered. As the pilots dash for their planes the "stand-by" pilot fires a Verey pistol, thus notifying the ground-crew instantly to start up the aircraft.





Quickly off the ground, the Hurricanes fly in line abreast, high above the clouds.

BEARDED AIRMAN ON BURMA FRONT.—It is contrary to Royal Air Force custom to grow a beard but this airman, Sq/Ldr. F.E. (Nobby) North of Rusper Court, London, S.W. 9, serving on a forward airfield on the Burma Front was compelled to grow one because to quote his own words, "he couldn't stand the sight of his own face in the mirror each morning." His other ambition is to acquire a cuckoo clock. His A.O.C. granted him permission to grow whiskers—but he is still searching for the clock.

Nobby in his Jeep about to set off on a tour of the airfield.

(*Continued from page 9.*)

Bristols, therefore, began a vigorous pursuit of overseas orders which it has maintained ever since. It placed more confidence in practical demonstration than in advertising, and in November 1910, sent air missions equipped with "Box-Kites" to India, Australia and South Africa and later, to Germany, Italy, Portugal and Spain.

Many memorable events were crowded into the company's first five years. During 1910, thirty aircraft were built, six pilots trained and the size of the plant doubled. A "Box-Kite" was the only aircraft to fly at Britain's Army manoeuvres in September of that year. A few days later, the first radio signals to be sent from an aircraft were transmitted from a "Box-Kite" during a flight over Salisbury Plain.

In the following year, ninety-eight pilots were trained, more than two hundred aircraft built, and further additions made to the factory. The Russian Government placed a contract with the company—the first to be placed in Britain by a foreign power—and a few months later, the British Government followed its example, giving Bristols the first order for aircraft to be placed outside the War Office plant.

FIRST ACTIVE SERVICE AIRCRAFT

In 1912, the Bulgarian Army used a Bristol monoplane during the Balkan War—the first recorded use of an aircraft on active service. Throughout 1913, the company continued to progress and enhance its reputation for good workmanship. It was the only exhibitor from Britain at the Paris Aero Show. By then it had discontinued the "Box-Kites" and was making biplanes and monoplanes of advanced design.

During the first seven months of 1914, the company trained more than three hundred pilots, built two hundred and sixty aircraft and still further enlarged its factory. More than eighty per cent of the total number of pilots available for military service were Bristol-trained, and the "Bullet," a single-seat scout, was in production.

For the first few months of World War I, the Filton factory built B.E. biplanes for the Government, but as the demand for better aircraft became more and more insistent, Bristol's own designs took priority. Of these, the more notable are the Bristol Fighter and the Bristol Monoplane.

The "Brisfit"—as it was affectionately called—was a two-seat fighter of such worth that in 1918 no fewer than seventeen squadrons were flying it on the Western Front. It remained in service with the Royal Air Force until 1928.

DIFFERENT TYPE EVERY YEAR

Retrenchment after the war caused the company's business to shrink to a fraction of its former size, but from 1919 until 1935 a new Bristol type appeared every year. Many were experimental. Most were military types. Of those which went into squadron service the best-remembered is the Bulldog, a single-seat fighter of no mean performance for 1929. It was used by the Royal Air Force and by a number of European countries.

In 1935, "Britain's First" appeared, the fastest civil air transport in the world at that time. It so impressed Britain's Air Ministry that it was used as the basis for a light bomber. This, the Blenheim, created another sensation; it proved to be faster than the fastest pursuit 'plane then in service with the Royal Air Force. To-day, it has four years' war service behind it, and is still in the front line squadrons in some theatres.

Other Bristol designs which have won distinction are the Beaufort reconnaissance and torpedo bomber, and the Beaufighter, which for versatility, rivals the Blenheim. It has been, in turn, long-range fighter, escort fighter, night fighter, ground strafer, torpedo aircraft and bomber. In other spheres, splendid work has been done by the Bristol Bombay, both as a troop transport and an ambulance.

SUCCESS WITH NEW ENGINES

It was a typically bold step which took the Bristol Aeroplane Company into the business of aero-engine manufacture. There were few enough orders on its books in 1920 but that year it bought up the Cosmos Engineering Company, a small concern which had made experimental air-cooled aero-engines of larger capacity than those then in common use.

With ample resources at their disposal, the former Cosmos engineers concentrated on a nine-cylinder engine (the Jupiter), and in 1921 submitted it for type testing by Britain's Air Ministry. It passed the tests with flying colours—the first static radial air-cooled aero-engine to do so.

Others of various power followed—the Lucifer, Cherub, Titan, Neptune, Mercury, Double Octogan, Pegasus, and Phoenix. All those had poppet valves, but in 1926, attention was turned to the sleeve-valve system. Seven years later, the sleeve-valved Perseus passed its Air Ministry Type Test, again the first in its class to do so.

Other sleeve-valved types which followed were the Aquila—a smaller version of the Perseus—the Hercules and the Taurus. The Hercules was the most powerful radial in the world when it passed its Type Test in 1936. The Taurus had an unusually small frontal area for its power.

Sleeve-valves have operational advantages over poppet valves, but of the many bids made in many countries to solve the technical problems involved, only that of the Bristol company has been crowned with success.

The Phoenix was a compression-ignition or 'diesel' engine, and in 1934 set up an unofficial height record for a heavy oil-power plaint.

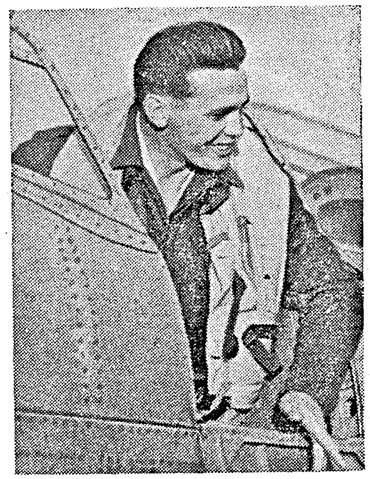
RETIRING DESIGNER

From the day it was formed, the company has successfully diverted the limelight of publicity from itself and its officials to its products. Its principal aircraft designer for many years, Frank Barnwell—a man of outstanding abilities—was seldom mentioned in print outside the aeronautical technical magazines, and when he was killed in a flying accident, a short time before the war, few knew that his brain and hand had created the Bristol Fighter, the Bristol Monoplane, the Britain First, the Bombay, the Beaufort and others of uniform excellence.

The only figure with whom the public are at all familiar is Sir Roy Fedden, who was one of the "assets" taken over by Bristols when they acquired the Cosmos Engineering Company. He was largely responsible for the design of all Bristol aero-engines, and was knighted in 1942 for his contribution to Britain's aeronautical engineering.

Cyril Uwins, the company's Chief Test Pilot for many years past, and a man of remarkable talents, has also lived a life of self-effacement when he might often have basked in the glare of publicity. His flight to 43,967 feet in a Bristol monoplane in 1932, which gained the World's Height Record for Britain, brought him brief notice, but he speedily retired again behind the Bristol edifice.

If the test of greatness lies in history, then Bristols have indeed acquired greatness. Their fame springs primarily from the reputations of their military designs and their aero-engines but they are now planning the largest of the five types of air transports which the aircraft industry, with Government sanction and encouragement, is preparing for the Empire Air Services after the war.



SPITFIRE PILOT DESTROYS ME. 410.—Flight Sergeant Colin Striling, of Rothsay, 22-year old Scot, who chased a Messerschmitt 410 for 80 miles over the Eighth Army Front in Italy before seeing his cannon shells shoot away part of the German's tail unit and both his engines catch fire. Four Spitfire pilots took part in the chase, which sometimes led them to above 30,000 feet before F/Sgt. Striling finally destroyed it.

THE AZORES—ANCHORED AIRCRAFT CARRIER

By DOUGLAS WILLIS

MIDWAY between the eastern and western hemisphere is a collection of islands of vital strategic importance. Their military and naval value is obvious. They form stepping stones between America and Europe—in the right hands—they provide a chain of anchored aircraft carriers slap-bang across the U-boat and enemy raider routes to the South Atlantic.

For five centuries the Azores have been in Portuguese possession. Now the United Nations have been granted facilities there. Our fighting men will be welcome visitors. As a merchant seaman, who after all is only a fighting man by accident, I know from experience.

The most important island in the Azores group is St. Miguel. Before the war, it answered to the title of 'The Isle of Flowers.' And the flowers are about all that does remain of St. Miguel's former prosperity. The war—with its constant strain on shipping space—had knocked the bottom out of St. Miguel's export trade and made it—as a tourist resort—as accessible as the North Pole.

ST. MIGUEL

But, not long ago, St. Miguel was experiencing a shadow of its former glory. It had some visitors from overseas. I was one of them. We were the crew of an oil tanker, fresh from the oilfields across the ocean with a cargo of oil, and welcome as the flowers in May, our pockets bulging—so it felt—with half the island's stock of Portuguese escudos.

Before we went alongside—as we lay anchored in the bay that, assisted by a solitary breakwater, forms the harbour of this colourful island—I looked through binoculars at the town a mile or so away. Red and green roofs, pink stuccoed walls of houses, rearing facades of a dozen churches, narrow streets chasing up and down steep hills—made as pretty a picture of a doll's town as ever graced a Christmas bazaar. Then something peculiar in the lay-out made me pick up the glasses and look again. There were many more houses than met the eye.

There were houses on churches. There were houses on the Town Hall and on the commercial buildings. And there was a complete housing estate on what was either the gaol or the barracks. They had all been painted on with an attention to detail that had to be seen to be believed.

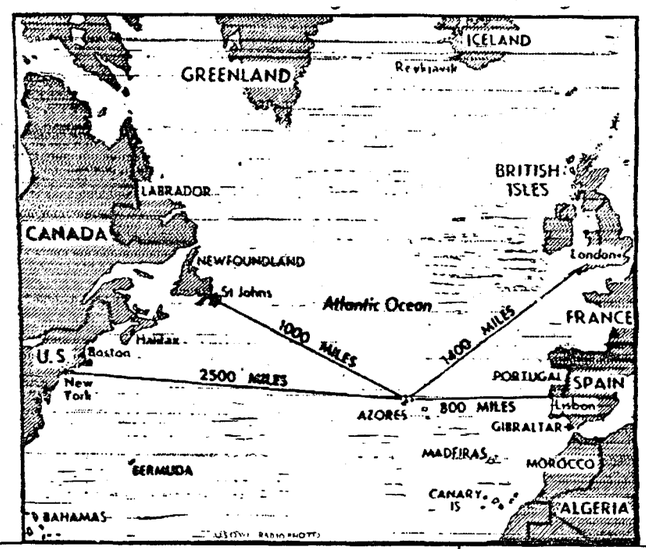
I examined this camouflage more closely when I got ashore and as one who had been reared in the stripes, daubs, green netting and grey paint of the British style, I could not but admire the work of the anonymous artist who had gone to work with such gusto. I was constantly being astonished. Flower beds grew on cement walls, trees spouted n church steeples. The artist had even ainted curtains on his painted windows. ll he had forgotten was to put a fow irds in his roof-top skies.

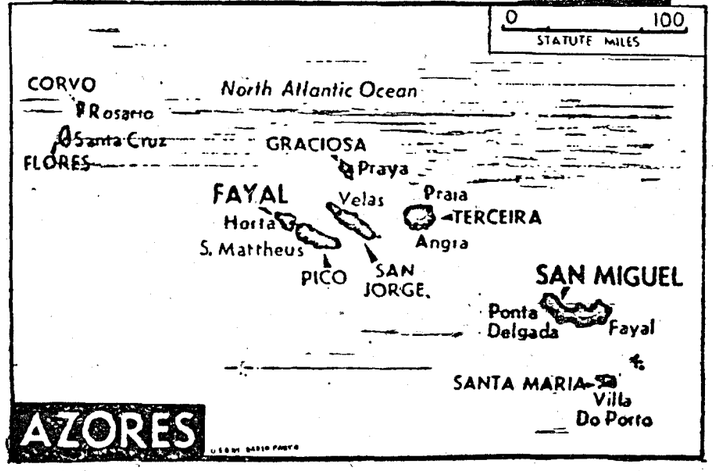
The town, unfortunately, was all we ere allowed to see of St. Miguel, most beautiful of the islands of the Azores. Portugal was defending her neutrality with a heavy hand, and rumour had it that the coastline was thickly studded with naval and anti-aircraft guns. Some of the Portuguese troops in residence posed for their picture with members of our crew. There was no doubt on which side their sympathies lay. They were all for us.

This spiritual alliance with the Allied cause was equally shared by all the other islanders with whom I came in contact. They were delighted when news came of our massed air raids on Germany, and had no bets to place on the Axis winning the war. Partly in explanation of this may be the fact that many of the islanders have relatives in America. And also that, for so many years, Portugal has stood firmly shoulder to shoulder with Britain—never our enemy, and often, as in the last war, our active ally.

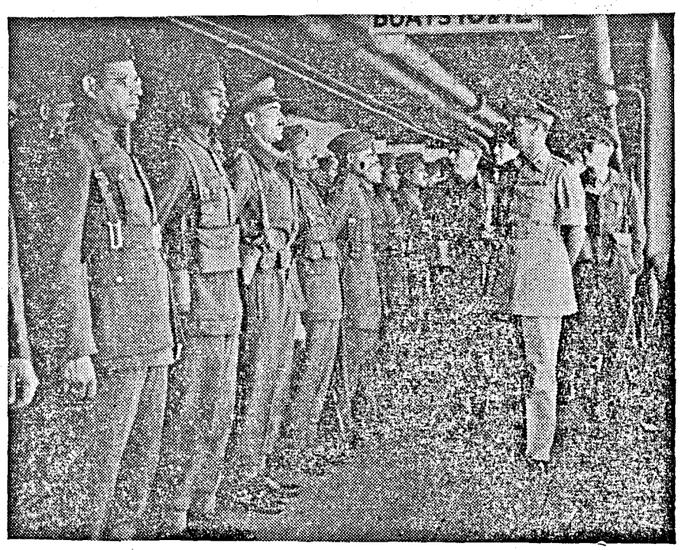
Yet neutrality was paying no dividends to the honest, hard-working people of the Azores. A vanished export and tourist trade had brought impoverishment and hardship to many. As the bemedalled guard on the ship, a veteran of the last war, pointed out: 'Last war, everybody get rich. This war, everybody get poor.'

—*A recent B.B.C. Broadcost.*





INDIAN CONTINGENT RETURNS FROM THE UNITED KINGDOM

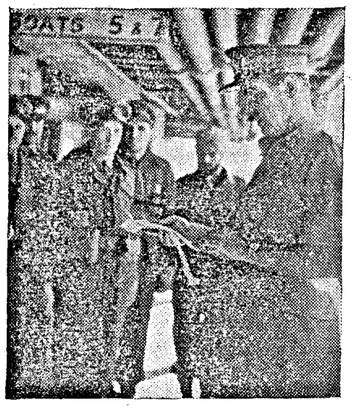


Major-General C. E. R. G. Alban inspecting the Contingent.

THE Indian Contingent which took part in the Battle of France in 1940 has returned to India.

For four years they have been overseas, where they have, in the words of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, worthily upheld the traditions and enhanced the reputation not only of their respective Corps but also of the Indian Army. The personnel who have now arrived at an Indian port belong mainly to the Royal Indian Army Service Corps, principally the Animal Transport Branch, but they also include medical and Indian Army Veterinary Corps details.

It will be recalled that early in the war India was asked to send animal transport units to assist the British Expeditionary Force in France. Certain units were selected for this service and sailed in 1939 with their mules. They soon reached the fighting zone and subsequently took part in the operations that preceded the fall of France. As a result of the turn of events they were evacuated to the United Kingdom, some from Dunkirk, others from other ports. One company commanded by Major Hitchcock, R.I.A.S.C., had the misfortune to be taken prisoner and is still in German hands, but communications received from these Indian soldiers show that their spirit is high. On reaching English ports the evacuated men of these Indian



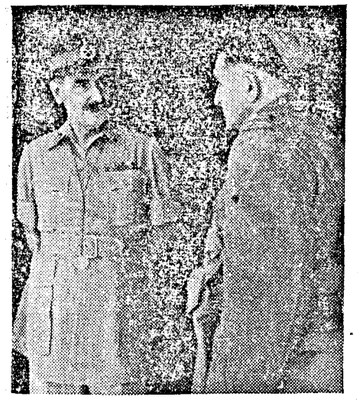
Major-General C. E. R. G. Alban reading the Commander-in-Chief's message.

units marched off smartly as a body, leaving with the spectators a deep impression of their fine discipline, which had been maintained in full in the gruelling time through which they had passed. Re-formed and re-equipped, they became the Indian Contingent in the United Kingdom, helping to guard the island fortress in the stirring months that lay ahead and preparing themselves to provide animal transport for possible operations in Europe again. They also assisted in teaching animal transport duties to the re-forming British Army.

When the Contingent arrived at an Indian port recently, the band of a British regiment played military music as the vessel berthed. Major-General C. E. R. G. Alban, C.B.E., D.S.O., A.D.C., representing His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, then went aboard, accompanied by Brigadier R. I. Jones, representing Major-General G. W. Hodgen, Director of Supplies and Transport, General Headquarters, India. In the presence of the assembled officers and men of the Contingent, Major-General Alban read the following message from His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief:—

"I am glad to welcome you back to India. Many of you left its shores in 1939 and took part in the campaign in France and the evacuation from Dunkirk. By the fortune of war your comrades of No. 22 Mule Coy., R.I.A.S.C., fell into the hands of the enemy at that time and are still prisoners of war but all messages received from them show that they are in good heart and eagerly awaiting the day when they will be free men again

"Others of you have been in the United Kingdom for three years and more. All of you have worthily upheld the traditions and enhanced the reputation not only of your respective Corps but of the Indian Army, and your stay in England,

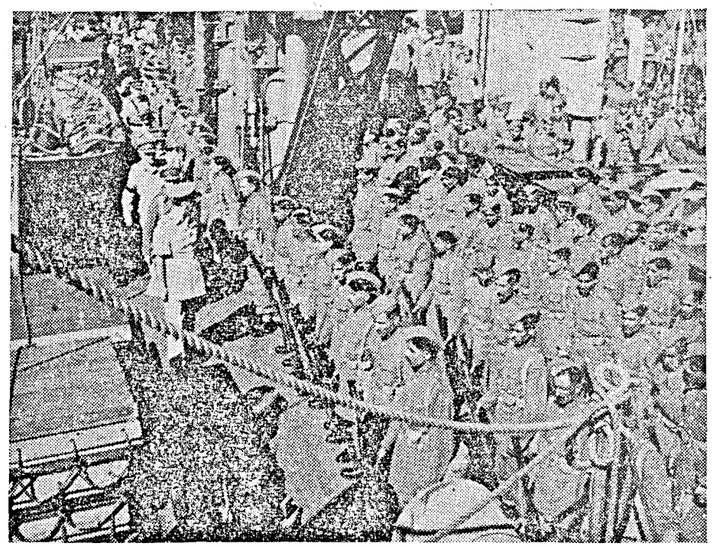


Major-General C. E. R. G. Alban talking to Risaldar-Major Ghulam Mohammed Bahadur, who has served in the Indian Army for 31 years.

Wales and Scotland will, I hope, long be remembered by the many friends you have made there.

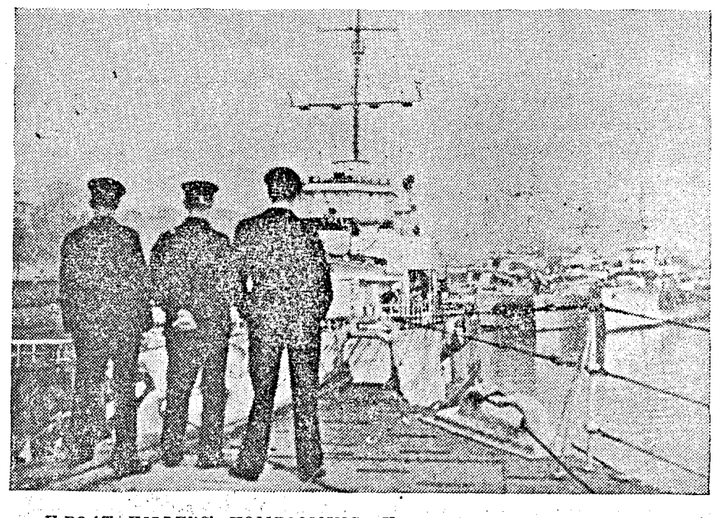
"The war will not be ended until Japan is utterly defeated. After leave, which you have well earned, you will be called upon to play your part in her defeat side by side with those of your comrades already in the battle zone."

In a message conveyed by Brigadier R. I. Jones, Major-General Hodgen welcomed the Contingent back to India on behalf of the officers and all ranks of the Royal Indian Army Service Corps. "We are all very proud to have you back with us," added the message, "As a Corps we are particularly fortunate that it should have fallen to our lot to represent the Indian Army, in the main, both in France in the early stages of the war, and later in England as the Indian Contingent."

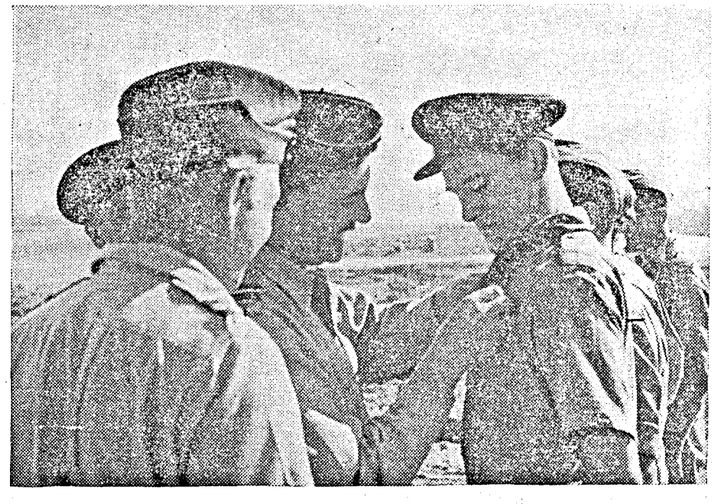


Major-General C. E. R. G. Alban inspecting the Contingent.

After the ceremony, gifts, including sweets, fruit and cigarettes, were distributed to the troops. These gifts were supplied by the Indian Troops' Canteen under the direction of Lady Cowasji Jehangir. Arrangements were made by Lady Jehangir to entertain the troops at the Canteen.



U-BOAT KILLERS' HOMECOMING.—Home-coming of the escort group of anti-submarine vessels (including an R.I.N. sloop) after they had sunk two U-boats and probably two others in the North Atlantic recently. Ships of U-boat Killer groups. They are nearest camera. H.M.S. Versatile; (background left to right—*H.M.I.S.* Godavari; *H.M.S.* Vanessa; *H.M.S.* Vidette *and H.M.S.* Rochester).



MAJOR-GENERAL STRATEMEYER ON BURMA FRONT.—Major-General George E. Stratemeyer, Commanding Eastern Air Command, and Air Marshal Sir John Baldwin, Air Officer Commanding Tactical Air Force, recently inspected the Allied Air Forces on the Burma Front.

Air Marshal Baldwin decorating Squadron Leader D. Winton of "Torwood," Mayfield Terrace, Edinburgh, Scotland with the D.F.C.

GRADUATION CEREMONY AT CHINESE AIR FORCE CADET SCHOOL.—Some hundred Chinese cadets recently graduated from the Flying Course held by the Indian Detachment of the Chinese Air Force School of Aviation. About the same number pass out every three months. Thereafter they are sent to the U.S.A. for advanced training. Air-minded to a high degree, the Chinese cadets are extremely keen about their flying, and all look forward to the day when they will be fully trained and able to take a crack at the Japanese. Photo shows *a view of the guests and cadets at the Graduation ceremony.*

MICRONESIA: VITAL PACIFIC AREAS

THE Pacific islands mandated to Japan after the last war include three groups: the Marianas, sometimes called the Mariannes; the Caroline Islands and the Marshall Islands. The entire area is known as Micronesia, meaning "small islands."

Within recent weeks, United States sea, air and ground forces have occupied the Marshall Islands, struck a powerful surprise blow at Truk, centre of the Carolines, where they sank 19 ships and downed 201 planes for certain; and at latest reports have raided the Marianas.

A Washington communique reports that a strong United States naval task force, accompanied by several hundred planes, on February 22 delivered a lighting blow at Saipan and Tinian islands, in the Marianas, which are only 1,300 miles south of Tokyo. The raid followed only a few days after the Truk attack.

Indicating alarm over the new turn in the Pacific, the Japanese news agency Domei announced this week that both Field Marshal General Sugiyama, army chief-of-staff, and Fleet Admiral Osami Nagano, naval chief-of-staff, had been ousted and their respective duties assumed by Premier Tojo himself and the Navy Minister, Admiral Shimada.

Bases are held by the Japanese at many strategic locations, notably at Guam in the Marianas, and Truk, Palau and Arakabesan in the Carolines. The bases at Jaluit, Wotje, Taroa, Kwajalein and Roi in the Marshalls are now held by the United States or have been rendered ineffective.

THE MARIANAS: NAMED FOR A QUEEN

Guam.—Formerly a United States possession, but occupied by the Japanese since December 13, 1941, Guam is the largest of the Marianas, with an area of about 225 square miles. Its breadth is from four to eight miles, its length 30 miles. The distance from Guam to the Philippines by way of San Bernardino Strait is 1,499 miles, and it is 1,353 miles from Tokyo.

Guam is of volcanic origin, has steep cliffs on its western side, hills in the south-west, a series of sandy bays on the eastern side, divided by rocky points, and lower land on the northern coast. The best port is Apra, on the western side of the island. Pago and Tarafolo are the eastern harbours; Piti, on the north-eastern side, is the port of entry. Aguna Bay, on which is located Aguna, the capital and largest town of the island, with a population of 10,000, is dangerous except in very calm weather.

There is a large spring near the centre of the island which passes through a swamp and enters the sea as a river. About half the soil is arable but only about 30,000 acres are cultivated. Chief products are maize, copra, rice, sweet potatoes, coffee, bananas, pineapples, citrus fruits, mangoes, papaya, breadfruit, cacao, tobacco cassava, kapok, alligator pears and sugarcane.

Guam was ceded to the United States by Spain in 1898. At the time of the Jap invasion, the United States had a naval station and Marine garrison there, as well as a shore force. The governor was a naval officer, Capt. George J. McMillin, appointed by the President. McMillin was taken prisoner by the Japanese.

(*Continued on page* 18.)

According to the 1940 census, Guam had a population of 22,290, principally Malayan in origin but with Spanish, Mexican, English and other strains. Elementary education was compulsory and handicrafts and agriculture were taught at the American schools. Between 1920 and 1930, illiteracy dropped from 21 to 14 per cent.

Other Marianas.—Rota, a little over 10 miles in length, 32 miles north-east of Guam; Aguijan, Tinian, Saipan, Farallon de Medinilla, Anataham, Sarigan, Guguan, Alamagan, Pagan, Agrihan, Asuncion, Farallon de Pajoros, Uracas and the Maug group are the other Japanese-mandated Mariana Islands.

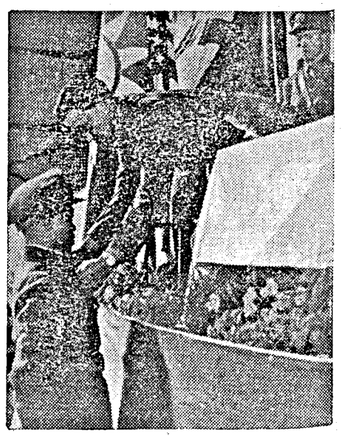
The ten northern islands are mainly volcanic. Only four are inhabited. Saipan, the seat of government, is nearest to Japan, and has schools, meteorological observatory, post office, court and government office, cable service and radio station. The total population of these other Marianas is 49.204.

The Portuguese, under Magellan, discovered the Marianas in 1521 and named them the Ladrones. Later they became Spanish possessions and were renamed the Marianas, in honour of Maria Anna of Austria, wife of Philip IV of Spain. In 1899 Spain sold them to Germany, who held them until after the last war.

THE CAROLINES: NAMED FOR A KING

Most of the Caroline Islands are coral atolls, like the Marshalls. There are four large sub-groups, Ponape, Yap, Truk and Palau. For administrative purposes they are divided into two groups—the Eastern Carolfnes, with Truk and Ponape as government centres, and the Western Carolines, with Palau and Yap as centres. The islands cover 380 square miles.

The Carolines, also, were discovered by the Portuguese, in 1527, and were named the Sequeira Islands. Admiral Francesco Lazeano, who annexed them for Spain in 1687, renamed them the Carolines, in



Colonel Hwoo pinning a medal to the breast of one of the three cadets who especially distinguished themselves during the course.

A CLOSE-UP OF STALIN

By WENDELL WILLKIE

MARSHAL JOSEPH STALIN—Premier of the U.S.S.R.

I have said to a good many of my friends that if Josef Stalin had either been born in the United States or had come to America as a boy, to-day he would be chief executive of one of America's principal industrial corporations or leader of one of our larger trade unions.

His manner and his talk, his directness of approach, is almost a replica of the manner of those men who drive American industry.

There is nothing of the poser about Stalin—nothing of the romantic. There is no artificial or simulated smile. No over-emphatic hand-shake. No desire to impress you with his gift of repartee.

He simply talks to you about the matter in hand with amazing detailed knowledge of the subject he discusses. He is a clear-headed, clear-eyed realist.

His approach to problems or discussion is logical and factual. He does not practise arts of showmanship or tricks of speech or mannerisms of so-called "personality" so evident among many leaders of democracies. He smokes his cigarettes just as you and I do.

Nor does he try to please. He has no repertoire of stories or historical allusions at his tongue's end, no rotund sentences long practised to impress the visitor; nor does he bore you as so many internationally known leaders do with constantly picturing themselves in historical perspective.

As a matter of fact I found talking with him quite refreshing, for one at times becomes somewhat bored with the poses of some of the so-called great personalities.

In physical appearance Stalin is short, with an appearance of stockiness. His hair and moustache are touched with grey. In repose his face is that of an overworked and tired man, but in conversation it brightens and he looks one straight in the eye, says what he has to say, and stops.

He dresses carefully in a pastel-shaded Russian tunic and knee breeches stuffed in highly polished boots.

Russia, world's largest land mass under one flag, will propably be the determining factor of whether we will live in a world of peace or of war. Every Britisher and every American, for his own understanding, had best study it, and also its simply realistic, unpretentious leader, who can be out-talked and out-dramatised most of the world's other leaders, but who in practical accomplishment at least equals any of them.

VATUTIN, THE AVENGER

By RALPH HEWINS

TO General Nicolai Vatutin the merciless pursuit is more than a mere military operation.

It is also a highly personal matter. He has an inexpiable grievance to settle with the hated Huns. For he is Ukrainian born and bred.

He is only 38 and is still full of the fire of youth. He hardly remembers the Czarist days and is a complete child of the Revolution.

His has been the most meteoric career in the Red Army during the present war, with the possible exception of 37-year-old General, Rokossovsky, the immortal saviour of Stalingrad.

At the outbreak of the Second World War, Vatutin was only a Colonel, and as such accompanied Marshal Semion Timoshenko as Staff Officer when the Red Army marched in to occupy Eastern Poland and Bessarabia before the Germans got there.

The German invasion of U.S.S.R. found Vatutin serving as a junior general under General, now Marshal, Gregory Zhukov on the central front.

Zhukov has an eye for talent, and it was young Vatutin that he selected for the counter-attack at Vyasma in December 1941.

On success or failure of that action depended the fate of Moscow, the hub of the Soviet Union. Vatutin recaptured Vyasma. This was the Red Army's first outstanding success after the original reconquest of Rostov, the first time Vatutin made headlines and the first of his long, unequalled series of successes.

In December 1942 he was entrusted by Zhukov, who planned the Stalingrad counter-offensive, with sewing up the side of the Stalingrad sack, which embraced the middle Don. On the 19th Vatutin forced the Don after a four day battle, and on the 27th cut the Voronezh-Rostov railway.

In January last year his genius was recognized by Stalin awarding him the Suvorov Order, the highest Soviet military decoration.

On August 5, Stalin personally congratulated him on his part in the offensive leading up to the conquest of the key cities of Orel and Byelgorod.

GENERAL VATUTIN.

On August 23 he re-took the mighty German base of Kharkov.

The important railway centre of Sumy fell to him on September 2, and then on the 6th of that month came Kiev, the holy Russian city and his spiritual and racial capital.

What is the secret of his success?

First, he is one of the most brilliant products of the superb Russian Artillery School; secondly, he is considered the best improviser in the Red Army.

The combination of these twin qualities produced one outstanding tactical innovation of this war, namely, the using of whole artillery brigades in the front line alongside tanks, and even in isolation when tanks were unavailable and infantry had not arrived.

Such an unconventional use of artillery begun as an emergency measure during the 1941 siege of Moscow, when tanks were scarce, has become an integral part of Red Army tactics.

—*Sunday Dispatch.*

FINLAND'S PERSONALITIES

By W. N. EWAR

GUSTAVE MANNERHEIM, Finland's "Old Marshal," is 77 this year, but still an upright six-feet-two cavalryman. Sprung from a Swedish noble family, he was as Lieutenant 50 years ago, one of the finest horsemen in Chevalier Guards—the Tsar's Household Cavalry. He won distinction in fighting the Japanese in the war of 1904 and then went exploring and shooting (he is a crack shot) in Central Asia for a couple of years before rejoining his regiment.

At the begining of the 1914 war, he commanded a cavalry brigade and when the Russian armies collapsed, he commanded a cavalry corps. Finland was given her independence by the Russian revolution. Then civil war broke out; Mannerheim by instinct and training was a "White." He hurried home and raised a legion of 12,000 volunteers in the north to fight the Finnish "Reds." But when the Finnish Government in its alarm invited German troops' help and then offered the throne of Finland to the Kaiser's brother-in-law, Mannerheim protested angrily and went off to Sweden to organize Allied relief for the day, which he foresaw, when Germany would collapse. Germany fell. German troops went home.

HAILED AS SAVIOUR

Mannerheim came back to Helsinki with his food ships, was hailed as saviour and chosen as Regent. But he refused the Presidency and as soon as elections could be held handed over his office, remaining Commander-in-Chief and President of the Council of National Defence. Since then he has declined all political offices but has always retained immense personal influence and prestige. He commanded the Finnish army during the Soviet-Finnish war of 1939-40.

Vaino Tanner is Finance Minister and strong man of the anti-peace party. Born 63 years ago, this clever son of a Finnish railwayman became a lawyer. At 26 he was a Social Democrat Member of the Finish Diet. He had worked closely with the Russian Social Democrats—both Mensheviks and Bolsheviks—during the 1905 Revolution. He claims to have saved Stalin's life in those days by hiding him from the Tsar's police. Then he threw himself in the work of organizing the Elanto Finnish Co-operative Society.

The lawyer-politician proved a first-class businessman. He helped to build Elanto into a great organization. His enemies say that he also built himself a considerable fortune in the process.

In 1918 when Finland became free, he was for a short time Minister of Finance. Ten years of reaction followed. Then in 1927 Tanner became for a while a Social Democrat Premier and then in 1937 Finance Minister again.

A man of immense energy and capacity and immense ambition, he developed dictatorial tendencies and aimed at being not only the leader but master of the party. He was in the delegation to Moscow which tried to avert the war in 1939. But obstinate and authoritarian by nature he is not built for a peace-maker.

Juho Paasikivi, now on a mysterious mission to Stockholm, is 73 years old and with the exception of Mannerheim he is Finland's oldest statesman. His has been a quiet life. His reputation is that of a peace-maker.

Despite his Finnish names he is of an old Swedish family which changed its name from Hellsten to Paasikivi nearly a century ago. Banker in all his early life, he turned a diplomat when he was sent to Moscow in 1920 to negotiate peace with the Soviet Government after the turmoil of the Revolutionary wars.

For a short while, he was Prime Minister. But active politics did not suit his temperament and he went back to quiet work as a diplomatist. In 1940 when the Russo-Finnish war ended, he was Minister in Stockholm. He and Vaino Tanner were sent on the delicate mission of making peace. It was Paasikivi who persuaded the Russians to moderate their terms.

Why, he was asked afterwards, had he been more successful than Tanner. "Well, you see," said the old man with a quiet smile, "Tanner is such a serious fellow, I—well Stalin and I joked with each other." The fact was, of course, that Stalin and Molotov trusted him and they did not trust Tanner. Paasikivi who had made peace would have nothing to do with restarting war a year after.

At the age of 73, he is trying to see whether he cannot, perhaps at a third try, help to make a really lasting peace between Finland and the Soviet Union.

Risto Ryti, President of Finland and banker by profession, is a lawyer and economist by training. He is essentially a man of New Finland for he was only 28 when the Russian revolution gave his country independence.

At the age of 30, be entered the House of Deputies. Two years later, he was the youngest Minister of Finance in the world. Two years after that he became—again setting—up a world youth record—Governor of the Central Bank. He held that post until 1939—almost another record but beaten by that of his great friend Montagu Norman.

In 1939 this quiet, honest, cautious, able and colourless banker was chosen head of an All-Party Government to steer Finland through the world crisis. A year later, President Kallio died suddenly. Ryti was unanimously chosen to succeed him. He accepted the German alliance. But he has refused to visit Berlin. Throughout the crisis he has run true to type—and to the tradition of his office. He has spoken occasionally the views of his Government. But he has given no sign of any desire to lead in one direction or another. He is in one sense waiting on events, trying to judge on the balance what is Finland's interest, but never decisively making up his mind.

MICRONESIA: VITAL PACIFIC AREAS

(*Continued from page* 16.)

honour of Carlos II of Spain. Germany bought them in 1899 and held them until after the last war.

One of the most important features of the islands, aside from strategic location, is the bauxite deposits on Palau, estimated to total 10,000,000 tons. Bauxite is the raw material of aluminium.

Truk Atoll.—This is the chief Pacific naval base of the Japanese, lying north-east of New Guinea and east of the Philippines. There are 245 islands in the Atoll, spread over 51 square miles of sea. The islands are centred around a lagoon 40 miles in diameter, protected by a reef and containing enough deep water to anchor the entire Japanese fleet.

There are several good airfields. Willard Price, representing *Saturday Evening Post*, one of the few American observers to visit the islands, witnessed the slicing down of an island 300 feet high and half a mile long to make a perfectly level landing field 10 feet above high tide.

Ponape.—Largest of the Truk islands, has a mountain-ringed fleet base, the entrance dominated by mighty Chokach Rock, 937 feet high. Ponape is entirely surrounded by a reef, enclosing several small islands. Ronkiti Harbour is on the south-east side of the island, Mutok Harbour on the south, Metalanim Harbour on the east and Ponape Harbour on the north. The principal town is Ponape, which in 1938 had 13,630 inhabitants, about a fourth Japanese and the rest islanders.

Yap.—A cluster of reef-ringed islands around a long central basin. Located in the western area of the Carolines, these are the only ones of the group that are not of volcanic origin. Their total area is about 84 square miles; population, in 1938, was 6,939, of which 1,119 were Japanese and the rest islanders.

Palau.—The westernmost group of the Caroline Islands is a collection of 26 islands, 1,044 miles from Manila, 2,014 miles from Wake Island and 1,731 miles from Yokohama. Palau has an immense fleet basin, concealed by mountains, and for years has been developed as a supply depot for the Japanese fleet.

Arakabesan.—Also a part of the Carolines, known to be equipped as a Japanese air base.

THE MARSHALLS: THE ALLIES' CARRIERS NOW

The Marshalls include 30 or more islands of varying size, once described by a Japanese admiral as "naturally built aircraft carriers." Since the United States Navy descended upon them a few weeks back with a task force of greater strength, according to the late Correspondent Raymond Clapper, than Japan's entire navy, they have been carriers for the Allies and are playing a part in the further conquest of the Pacific.

WAR DIARY

BRITAIN AND GERMANY

23RD FEB.—London and other parts in Britain were raided by German planes.

24TH FEB.—Enemy aircraft bombed London and other places.

U.S. bombers attacked in daylight Gotha and Schweinfurt.

25TH FEB.—A committee of experts of the Allied Governments established in London is working on plans for the military and economic control of Germany which might be included in the armistice terms.

Allied bombers attacked Schweinfurt, Stuttgart and Regensburg.

German planes attacked London, South and South-East England.

26TH FEB.—Allied bombers attacked Augsburg last night and dropped 1,700 tons of bombs.

27TH FEB.—It is stated that in last week's massive air battles in their own skies and in raids on Britain, the Luftwaffe lost over 700 aircraft.

British light coastal forces early this morning, off the south-west Coast of Jersey, in the Channel Islands, intercepted a German convoy of six ships.

28TH FEB.—It is disclosed that many thousands of Americans have recently landed in Britain to reinforce the Invasion Army.

29TH FEB.—U.S. bombers attacked targets at Brunswick.

It is officially announced that the British cruiser "*Spartan*" has been lost.

* * *

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND ATLANTIC

24TH FEB.—The powerful aircraft-carrier *Shangri-la* was launched at Portsmouth (Virginia).

26TH FEB.—President Roosevelt has ordered a review of all occupational deferments because the man-power pool has been dangerously depleted by liberal deferments from military service.

27TH FEB.—The Foreign Economic Administrator, Mr. Las T. Crowley and that shipments of munitions and other supplies under Lend-lease from the U.S. to the Soviet Union in 1943 were almost double those of the previous year.

The U.S. Secretary of Commerce, Mr. Jesse Jones said that Government loans would be available for returning members of the armed forces to help to re-establish business operations which they were forced to liquidate or to turn over to others, on joining up.

New York City and the surrounding areas were blacked out to-night in a test air-raid practice.

28TH FEB.—The U.S. War Department to-day ordered the termination of its contracts for training aircraft. The need for such aircraft having been met the workers are to be used on the building of combat aircraft.

Rear-Admiral Edward L. Cochrane of the U.S. Bureau of Ships said "The strength of the U.S. Fighting Fleet will equal that of all other nations combined by the end of 1944."

ITALY.—German prisoners being taken back from the front line on a Bren carrier.

INDIA, BURMA AND CEYLON

23RD FEB.—In the Arakan Allied troops are wresting the initiative from the Japanese says the communiqué issued from the South-East Asia Command.

24TH FEB.—During February 24 mopping up operations continued in the Ngakyedauk Pass says to-day's Allied communiqué.

25TH FEB.—During 25th February the remnants of the enemy party which had raided the Bawli Road were finally driven from the main crest of the Mayu ridge says to-day's South-East Asia Command communiqué. Allied troops occupied Kyaktaw.

26TH FEB.—On February 26th Allied troops occupied Point 315 an important hill feature near the eastern exit of the Ngakyedauk Pass.

28TH FEB.—A major Japanese offensive whose object was to destroy the Allied forces in the Arakan and ultimately to sweep into India, has been smashed, it is announced.

29TH FEB.—Chinese have captured few more villages in Burma namely Taring Ga. Hkawn Gahtawng and Chenam Ga. Mopping up operations continued successfully east of Mayu range.

* * *

RUSSIA AND FINLAND

23RD FEB.—Russian troops captured Strugi-Krasnye, one of the two outposts of Pskov and the Soviet forces have entered the suburbs of Dno, the other outpost.

24TH FEB.—Russians have captured Dno and Rogachev.

25TH FEB.—Germans have evacuated Vitebsk. Russians have captured Myelnitsi.

26TH FEB.—The Russian forces captured Porkhov. The Soviet drive towards Minsk, the White Russian capital has began.

Russian bombers raided Helsinki.

Russo-Finnish armistice terms are unofficially published.

27TH FEB.—Soviet army groups, massed along a front of 100 miles, are making a three-way drive towards the Baltic States of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania. Russian troops captured Bezhanitsy, Zabyle, Pustoshka and Novo Vorontsovka.

28TH FEB.—In the Pskov direction Soviet forces captured Karamyshevo, Slavkovichi and Pozherivichi and over 450 localities. North-West and West of Novo Sokoliniki Russian troops captured Sloboda and about 200 more places. The Red Army is nearing Pskov.

29TH FEB.—The Red Army has captured Pogorelka and Novo-Rzhev. Advanced units of the Red Army are to-day within sight of Pskov.

Marshal Stalin has sent a message to President Roosevelt predicting that the final defeat of Germany is near.

The Finnish Parliament met in secret session to discuss peace terms with Russia.

* * *

ITALY, AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

23RD FEB.—Fifth Army troops in the Anzio beachhead threw back two local enemy attacks. On the main Fifth Army front and the Eighth Army front patrols and artillery were active.

24TH FEB.—On the Fifth Army Anzio front there were sharp encounters. The main Fifth Army front was quiet. Eighth Army patrols were active.

25TH FEB.—Fifth Army troops on both fronts have improved their positions. Eighth Army forces engaged the enemy at several points.

26TH FEB.—Tension is mounting to-day in the Anzio beachhead as both sides prepare for the third big battle.

27TH FEB.—German troops tried to infiltrate into Allied positions in the Anzio beachhead, south-west of Carroceto.

Marshal Badoglio said that he could put ten Italian divisions into the field if the Allies would arm and equip them.

28TH FEB.—Allied positions in the Anzio beachhead were improved. A small German attack was thrown back.

29TH FEB.—British troops in Anzio beachhead were engaged in skirmishes with Germans. On the main Fifth Army front Germans attempted infiltration through the Allied positions north-west of Cassino.

* * *

VICHY, FREE FRANCE AND OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

24TH FEB.—Allied planes attacked military objectives in North France.

The Polish Foreign Minister M. Taduesz Romer told Mr. Eden, the attitude of the Polish Government in reply to Mr. Churchill's statement on Polish-Russian border question.

25TH FEB.—Military targets in the Low Countries were attacked by Allied bombers.

28TH FEB.—The Germans have launched a new offensive against the Yugoslav Partisan Forces in North Yugoslavia.

Allied aircraft attacked military objectives in North France.

29TH FEB.—Liberators of the Eighth Army Air Force attacked German military objectives in the Pas de Calais area of Northern France.

* * *

THE NEUTRAL COUNTRIES

24TH FEB.—Sweden alleges that Russian planes dropped bombs on Stockholm. Russia has refuted the charge.

Pope has appealed to the belligerents to spare Rome.

27TH FEB.—It is announced in Stockholm that the Swedish Government yesterday protested against the flight by Russian aircraft over Swedish Territory and the dropping of bombs on Stockholm.

28TH FEB.—Eires Prime Minister, Mr. Eamon de Valera said "Any moment war may come upon us, and we may be called upon to defend our rights and our freedom with our lives. Eires' policy of neutrality is not the policy of any one party. It is the policy of the people and it is the policy of every party and every organization".

* * *

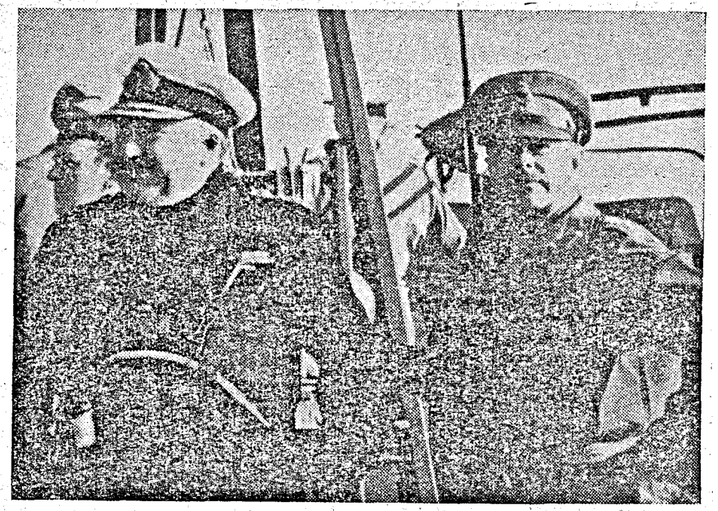
THE FAR EAST

23RD FEB.—United States Aircraft attacked Saipan and Tinian islands in the Mariana group yesterday. The conquest of Eniwetok atoll was complete by 22nd with the capture of Parry island. Allied bombers attacked Rabaul, Hansa Bay, etc.:

24TH FEB.—Allied aircraft attacked Kavieng, Duke of York Islands and Rabaul. A Japanese warship and two cargo ships were sunk fleeing, from the Bismarck Islands.

25TH FEB.—It is revealed that the Japanese attacked American task force approaching Tainan and Saipan in the Marianas last Monday, Kavieng was attacked by the Allied bombers.

Colonel Knox, United States Navy Secretary, made a statement on the Japanese fleet movements.



General Sir Harold Alexander and Admiral Troubridge watching the landing operations at Nettuno.

26TH FEB.—General MacArthur paid tributes to American forces in the Pacific.

General Stilwell's communiqué says that Allied planes attacked Kiukiang and Hankow in Jap held China. Japanese installations at Tourane in Annam (French Indo-China) were bombed by American Mitchells.

28TH FEB.—Enemy bases in Rabaul, Wewak, Madang and Alexishafen were attacked by Allied bombers.

29TH FEB.—The United States Navy Secretary, Colonel F. Knox, told a press conference that American submarines sank 14 Japanese supply ships in the Pacific and Far Eastern waters. He also reported that from 21st to 28th February Japanese shipping losses totalled 189 vessels.

LAST MONTH. . .—

1ST FEB.—Russians capture Kingisepp.

5TH FEB.—Forces of the First Ukrainian front capture Rovno.

8TH FEB.—Troops of the 4th Ukrainian front take Nikopol.

13TH FEB.—Soviet forces capture Luga.

14TH FEB.—The Red Army capture Korsun.

15TH FEB.—Berlin Battered.

18TH FEB.—Russian troops capture Straya Russa.

19TH FEB.—Leipzig Blitzed.

" " —Russians capture Zapolye.

22ND FEB.—Krivoinog falls in Russian hands.

28TH FEB.—Japanese Army Routed in Arakan.

NEW AIR WING FOR W.A.C. (I)

Very shortly all three branches of the Armed Forces in India—Navy, Army and Air Force—will have their own wing of the Women's Auxiliary Corps (India).

It is learned that an Air Wing of the W.A.C. (I) will soon be formed, probably on the same lines as the recently created Naval Wing. Already many girls are attached to the Air Forces and have rendered great assistance to them.

When the new Air Wing is formed its members will probably wear the attractive light blue of the Royal Air Force for their cold weather uniform, together with R.A.F. badges and stripes of rank. They will thus be on a par with their sisters who are working with the other two Services.

Henceforth the Corps will consist of Army, Navy and Air Force Wings, all under the same terms of service. Women may volunteer for whichever Wing of the W.A.C. (I), they prefer, but where the interests of the Service necessitate, changes may be made between the three Wings.

American aeroplane plants are turning out bomber and fighter planes at dizzying speed. Last week, it is reported, they built a plane in eight minutes flat. Five minutes later a pilot took off in it. Six hours later the plant received a cable from him. It read: "I am in Australia. Please send engine."

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MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. V FRIDAY, MARCH 10, 1944 No. 27

Among the BEST in the WORLD

The fighting men of India as I know from an experience of 40 years, living among them and fighting beside them, are among the best in the world

But without good leaders no fighting men, however good they may be in themselves, can hope to achieve victory in battle. The need for good leaders is one of our most pressing problems in India to-day. There are very few born leaders of men; the majority of such leaders have to be made

We in the fighting services need young men who are anxious to serve as officers, Viceroy's Commissioned Officers or in the ranks. There can be no more honourable profession than to serve one's country and protect her from her enemies. We want men with knowledge and brains, trained to think and act quickly in an emergency, and men with bodies able to stand up to great physical strain and hardship

In war the lives of the men in the ranks are in the hands of the officers. The responsibility of those lives rests with the leaders. We do need very badly to-day men who have the essential qualities of leadership—personality, initiative, resolution and the power to stay calm in danger

I look to you to give us these men. I am sure you can, and I am sure you will

H.E. GENERAL SIR CLAUDE AUCHINLECK, *Commander-in-Chief, India, at the Aligarh University, on Monday (March 6)*

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[NOTE.—*The summary of news and comments contained in the* MADRAS WAR REVIEW *generally relate to events and statements published till Wednesday, every week.*]

JAPS PESSIMISTIC!

"We are ready to meet the Japanese at any time. Our submarines have taken such a heavy toll of Japanese shipping that it will soon be a controlling factor of what they are able to do. All we need is time to carry on our operations. The principal obstacle is geography—the size of the Pacific. I believe the Japs are definitely pessimistic. Our position in the Pacific is favourable and improves with the passage of time. We shall miss no opportunity to fight the Japs wherever and whenever we can. We have got sufficient strength in the Pacific now and we are ready to take on the Japanese fleet in a show-down fight."

ADMIRAL CHESTER NIMITZ, *Commander-in-Chief of the United States Pacific Fleet, at Washington, on Tuesday, March* 7.

◆

BIGGEST DEFEAT FOR JAPS

"Arakan was the biggest defeat the Japs have had since they have been in Burma. One regiment and one battalion of each of two other regiments were badly knocked about. Up to now 2,400 dead have been picked up and one must allow for at least one wounded man for each one killed."

GENERAL SIR GEORGE J. GIFFARD, *Commander-in-Chief, the Second Army Group, on Wednesday, March* 8.

◆

TO GET AT GERMANY!

"We mean to get into Europe, to get at Germany, to take the German army by the throat and shake life out of it. We mean to be done for good and all with the German General Staff and German military tradition and German lust for power and German habit of aggression."

MR. HERBERT MORRISON, *the Home Secretary, at Sheffield, on Friday, March* 3.

MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. V FRIDAY, MARCH 10, 1944 No. 27

THE JOINT BLITZ

THE Anglo-American air offensive against Germany in the last few weeks is a prelude to the great all-out attempt to storm Hitler's *Festung Europa*. The joint blitz that is being carried out by the R.A.F. and the U.S.A.A.F., "between the February and March moons" may, in the words of Sir Archibald Sinclair, well be considered by future historians "as one of the decisive stages of the whole war." Britain's Air Minister pointed out in his speech in the House of Commons at the end of last month that in January Berlin received as great a weight of bombs as had fallen on London from the beginning of the war till now, and declared, "There lies before us now clearly attainable the glittering prize of air supremacy—the talisman that can paralyse the German war industry and war transport." "That," he added, "will clear the road for the progress of the Allied armies to Berlin."

THE first American daylight attack on Berlin on Saturday last (March 4) and the second on Wednesday (March 8) have demonstrated possibilities of non-stop 24-hour raids by alternating R.A.F. Bomber Command and U.S. heavy bomber formations. In a congratulatory message to General James Doolittle, Commanding-General of the Eighth American Air Force, on the first U.S. bombing of Berlin, Air Chief Marshal Sir Arthur Harris, C.-in-C. of the R.A.F. Bomber Command, says, "It is more than a year since they, Berliners, were last attacked in daylight, but now they know that they have no safety there by day or night. All Germany learns the same lesson." On the same night (March 4) Mosquitos of the R.A.F. Bomber Command attacked objectives in Berlin and West Germany. These attacks are, as pointed out by a *Reuter's* special correspondent, "a portent of the time when Berlin will be bombed by the R.A.F. by night and the U.S. Army Air Force in daytime."

Interlocking of Offensives

THIS interlocking of British and American air offensives has a twofold objective in view. Firstly, it is intended to smash the network of factories in Germany which are producing fighter aircraft. Secondly, it is designed to keep German pilots in the air both in daytime and at night so that the German fighter force can be worn down and its servicing organization can be weakened by steady pounding of operational air-fields and repair depots. "If we could make the Germans constantly divide their attention between danger from west and south," observes Patrick Lacey in a recent B.B.C. broadcast, "we shall be getting along very nicely with the exhaustion of the *Luftwaffe* in the air, as well as its factories and repair shops on the ground." Referring to the effect produced by U.S. raids in shattering the key centres of German war production, Mr. Churchill said on February 22: "The precision of the American daylight attacks is giving exceptional results upon particular points, not only in clear daylight, but now, with the development of navigational aids, through clouds."

Severe and Continued Hammering

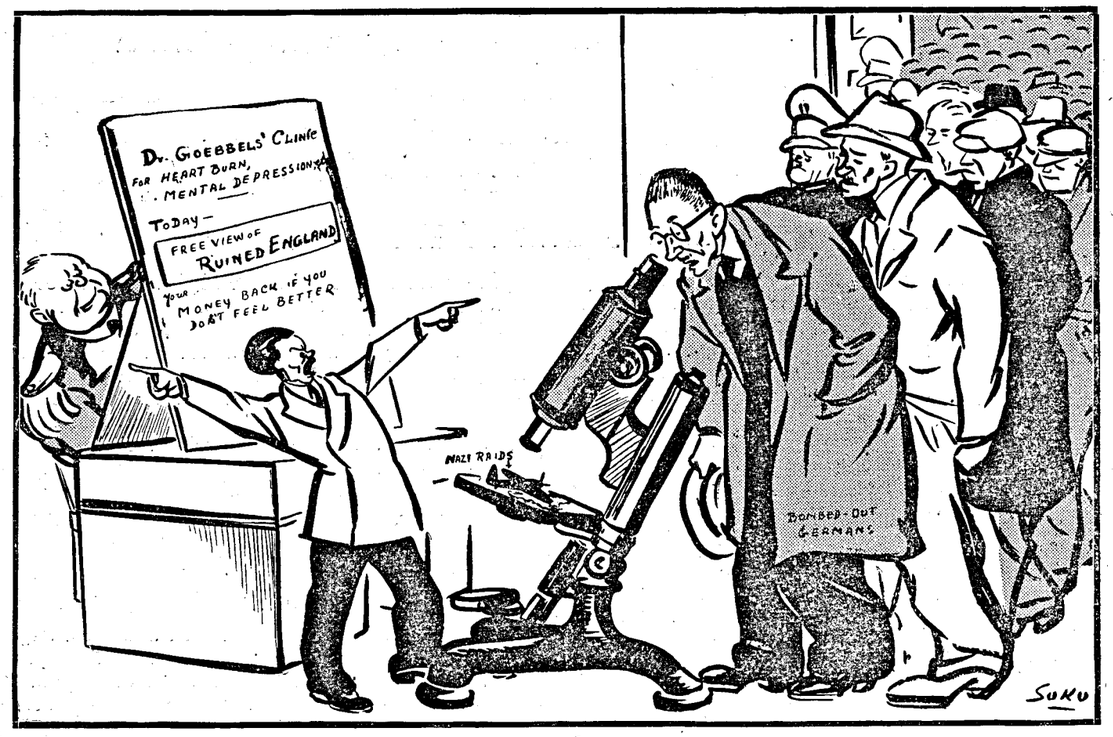
ON account of the precision of such attacks, a large number of German industrial centres engaged in producing aircraft have received severe and continued hammering from the skies. The result has been considerable reduction in the production capacity of German fighter aircraft. Sir Archibald Sinclair revealed in the House of Commons on February 29 that the American raid on Leipzig nine days earlier had wrecked the huge Eria group of factories producing Messerschmitt 109s. As the Allied air offensive grows in weight and begins to come in from different points of the compass, Germany would find it many times more difficult to afford adequate fighter production to her war industries. It is estimated that she would require a frontline fighter strength of at least 2,000 fighter planes, and she has been able to come up to this level by switching a good deal of aircraft production from bombers to fighters. And four-fifths of this fighter strength of the enemy have been drawn to the west, as the Germans feel strongly that the real decision of the war will be made only in the west. The object of the joint air operations of the Allies against German factories is to make a drastic reduction, at the source, in the flow of fighter planes, and this is being achieved in a perceptible degree.

The Bark and the Bite

BY this we should not imagine that the *Luftwaffe* is within sight of being rubbed out as an offensive force. The reprisal raids on London have shown not only the capacity of Goebbels to bark, but the *Luftwaffe's* ability to bite. There have been a number of sharp

[*See Seventh page bottom.*

"SOOTHING SYRUP"



—Specially drawn for the MADRAS WAR REVIEW

RUNNING COMMENTARY

Arakan—H.E. Lord Wavell's Tribute to Lord Louis Mountbatten

In a message to Lord LOUIS MOUNTBATTEN, Supreme Allied Commander, South-East Asia, His Excellency Lord WAVELL has paid a warm tribute to his "striking success in Arakan." The Viceroy had watched with great interest and admiration "the steadfastness and skill with which commanders and troops have met a testing situation." Coming as this tribute does from one who has had experience of the difficulties of fighting in Arakan, it is all the more valuable. It may be recalled that Lord WAVELL led the Arakan campaign in 1943, but it did not meet with success because troops with little or no training in jungle warfare were compelled by the force of circumstances to attack the enemy in a difficult country. They wanted to catch the enemy unawares and gain a strategical success on land, which they would have done had shipping resources been available. But as it was, the Arakan campaign was a failure. In an article written to the American magazine *Atlantic* before he became Viceroy, Lord WAVELL refers to this. He says:

"That these inexperienced troops were eventually outmanœuvred by a seasoned Japanese division with the advantage of better communications, and that they became somewhat disheartened in the process cannot be held to discredit the Indian Army. I set a small party of it a task beyond their training and capacity. The main responsibility for the failure is mine." Lord WAVELL adds, "I am certain that when the time comes for a real sustained counter-offensive against Japan the Indian soldier will not be found wanting."

That time came last month, and the Indian soldier proved in Arakan that he is more than a match to the Jap.

* * *

The War Effort—India's Great Contribution

Ever since India entered the War four and a half years ago, Indian soldiers have proved that they are as good as, if not sometimes even better than soldiers of other countries. During the four and a half years, India's armed forces had increased almost tenfold, and her soldiers had seen service in three Continents. Their gallantry and courage in the battle-fronts of Africa, Europe and Asia have elicited tributes from the highest quarters. Last year, Lord WAVELL declared:

"I know from personal experience how very great the contribution of India to the war effort has been. We should not have held the Middle East but for India."

Referring to the achievements of Indian soldiers, Mr. CHURCHILL, Great Britain's great Prime Minister, said:—

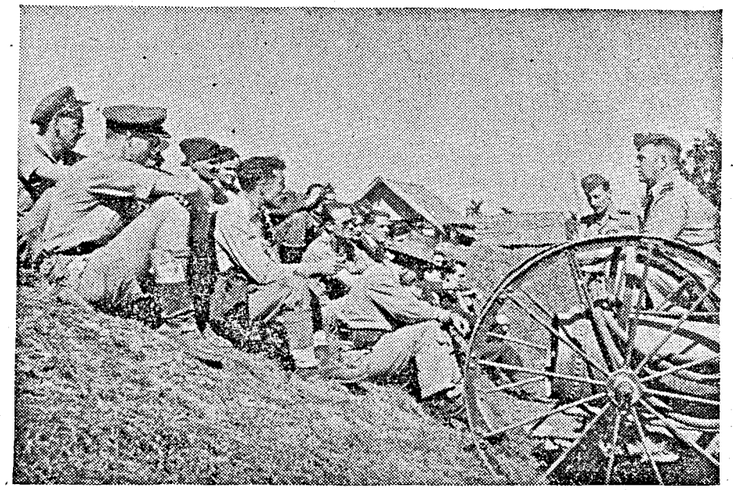
"The high renown of India's soldiers and of the redoubtable Gurkha troops has been enhanced by the outstanding performance of the Indian Army. I take this occasion to express to the Princes and people of India and to our firm friend, His Highness the Maharaja of Nepal, our admiration and gratitude for all that the Indian Army has done in Africa, in the Far East and in India itself."

Addressing the students of the Aligarh University on Monday (March 6) His Excellency Sir CLAUDE AUCHINLECK, Commander-in-Chief of India, has paid another great tribute. He said that he knew from an experience of 40 years that the fighting men of India "are among the best in the world." This great fighting quality was demonstrated once again last month in the Arakan front. "For the first time," said Lieutenant-General A.F.P. CHRISTISON, Commanding the 14th Army forces in the Arakan, "British and Indian troops have scored a major victory over the Japanese." Referring to the men who have brought about this victory he said, "I cannot be too proud of their magnificent courage and devotion to duty during a long and difficult battle. They have set an example to all those who will one day find themselves fighting the Japanese."

* * *

Part played by Eastern Air Command

We have referred in our previous issue to the way in which this example was set and the manner in which victory was achieved in Arakan against the Japanese. We shall now refer in some detail to the factors which have contributed to this very significant victory. A great share of the credit should go to the Eastern Air Command. It may be recalled that sometime ago all the combat units of the R.A.F. and the U.S.A.A.F. in the South-East Asia theatre were unified into a single Allied Air Force under the Command of Air Chief Marshal Sir RICHARD PIERSE as Air Commander-in-Chief, South-East Asia Command. This was the logical outcome of the Cairo Conference which resolved "to bring unrelenting pressure" against Japan "by sea and air." Referring to its importance, Sir



LIBERATORS ATTACK BANGKOK.—The Strategic (Air) Force of the South-East Asia Command carried out the longest distance raid of the war on the Burma front when the R.A.F. and 10th U.S.A.A.F. struck at the important sea base of Bangkok—capital of the Thailand. On the Burma front R.A.F. aircrews are seldom briefed indoors. Here is a typical everyday scene at a forward airfield.

RICHARD PEIRSE said in a message soon after the constitution of the new Command:

"The creation of the Eastern Air Command is an event which I most warmly welcome, not only because it draws closer the happy relationship already existing between the United States Air Forces and the Royal Air Force, but because it is a clear indication to all concerned, that America and Britain are determined to find the most efficient machine for the destruction of the enemy in and from the air."

Under Sir RICHARD, all the combat units of the 10th U.S. Army Air Force and Royal Air Force, Bengal Command, have been integrated into one air striking force called the Eastern Air Command, and it is this air force under the Command of Major-General E. STRATEMEYER, that has played such a remarkable part in the Arakan victory. It has been set up on the same lines as the North Africa Air Forces which have played an important part in the Mediterranean area. Similarly it is composed of a Tactical Air Force and a Strategical Air Force, under the operational control respectively of Air Marshal Sir JOHN BALDWIN, of the Bengal Air Command, and Brigadier-General HOWARD C. DAVIDSON, of the 10th U.S. Air Force.

It is of interest to note the respective functions of the Tactical and Strategical Air Forces. The task of the Tactical Air Force is to provide direct support to the land forces in the field-jobs which include long-range reconnaissance, maintenance of the local air superiority, isolation of the battlefield from the enemy's reinforcements and air force, and close protection of the distant support bomber units. The task of the Strategical Air Force is to carry the attack on the enemy's war machine

The Tokyo dream and the Arakan fact.

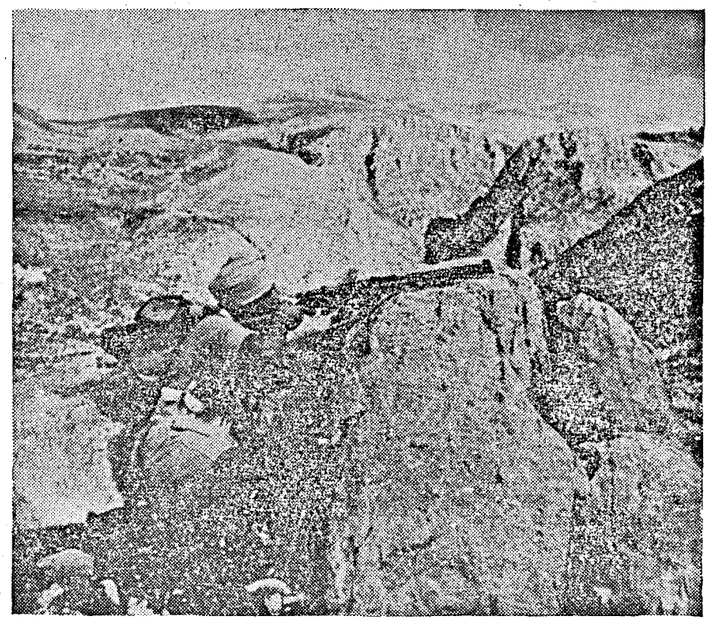
at its heart. Inevitably priority has to be given to the requirements of the Tactical Air Force.

Experience of air war in the Mediterranean area has shown that it is useless to concentrate on strategical bombing, unless superiority has been achieved in the battle area by the work of the Tactical Air Force. Those who believe enthusiastically in the efficacy of bombing may not agree with the above view, but the fact remains that where the air force is integrated with land and sea forces, as in the Mediterranean area, battles have been won, the enemy has been defeated and his territory occupied.

* * *

What happened in Arakan—Unique air umbrella lends support to land forces.

The same thing happened in Arakan. The Japanese brought unusually strong air support in the opening rounds of the battle. But the Tactical Air Force dealt with it by putting up an air umbrella of proportions hitherto unknown on the Burma Front. There is no doubt that air superiority contributed in a decisive way to the defeat of the Japanese. Our aircraft—Spitfire and Hurricane fighters, Vultee Vengeance dive-bombers and tactical reconnaissance planes—flew 3,000 sorties between February 4 and February 19. One hundred sorties were flown in 7 days by a dive-bomber squadron of the Indian Air Force. About 200 tactical reconnaissance flights were carried out by Indian pilots over difficult country. This is an outstanding air performance of which we can well feel proud.



THE MIDDLE EAST MOUNTAIN WARFARE TRAINING CENTRE.—In the foothills of the Lebanon Mountains is the main camp of the Middle East Mountain Warfare Training Centre. Other camps are scattered about in the mountains at suitable places for training in rock climbing, skiing, etc. Desert warfare is now a thing of the past, and for some time Allied Troops have been undergoing training in mountain warfare. Broadly speaking, the training shows the men what must be done when motor transport can no longer be used, how supplies can be carried on mule pack, and how progress is made and fighting carried out in rugged country. Nearly everything is different. New ways of using weapans, camouflage, wireless sets, smoke, etc., must be learnt. It was camparatively easy rescuing wounded men in the open desert country: it is a very different story bringing them in from precipitous mountain slopes. Men must rely on their own feet far more than in the days of the Western Desert. When they reach rocky faces some of them at least must know how to scale them; many must be taught to run and fight on skis and snow shoes. All these things are taught at the Mountain Warfare School.

Photo shows *a Sikh sniper during a demonstration in the mountains.*

"WE THANK OUR FUEHRER"

(*By* R.G.)

Says Goering with a feeble roar,
Fuehrer, we can do no more:
The R.A.F.'s a better strafer
Than your invincible Luftwaffe.

Goebbels with a manly squeak
For his Fuehrer starts to speak
And there comes a hollow groan
Trembling through the microphone.

Ribbentrop can find no fizz
In all the champagne that there is
And wishes as his feet grow cold
He'd only wine, not honour, sold.

Himmler with his gentle grin
Oils the whip and calls them in,
All the Nazi Party chiefs
Wavering in their beliefs.

Only Hitler does not choose
To think that Germany will loose.
He swallows his own lies and then
Brings them up to use again,

Trying to conceal his troubles
Even from his many doubles
While the Eastern front caves in
And the bombs remove Berlin

And the chiefs who have to stay
Envy Hess who got away
And the Master Folk look round
For safer places underground.

Thank your Fuehrer there below:
Let his good Gestapo know
How you all rejoice to see
Hell, not Berlin, on the Spree.

Perfect team work and silence so that the leader's voice can be heard are necessary when hauling guns up a steep slope. It is done by a series of sudden tugs, two men applying the brakes between each tug.

The most striking feature of the achievement of the Tactical Air Force in the Arakan Front was the demonstration of its ability to make and maintain air supply routes after all land routes had been cut. The Japanese encirclement was reduced to a mere technicality by the Troop Carrier Command (which included a majority of R.A.F. units) under the American Brigadier-General OLD. The Troop Carrier Command dropped petrol, oil, ammunition, food, clothing, medical supplies and even comfort as and when they were required and dead on the target, and an idea of the enormous supplies the troop carrier planes would have carried can be had from the fact that a full division with tanks and artillery in the field was kept supplied for three weeks. Another notable fact is that the wounded were successfully evacuated by air from inside the hard-pressed defensive 'boxes' and from the attacking groups when they resumed the offensive!

The formation of this unified Eastern Command in general and the Tactical Air Force in particular should be seen against the background of the increasing pressure that will be brought to bear against Japan. When Lord LOUIS MOUNTBATTEN visited the Arakan Front recently, he declared that after the defeat of Germany "vast resources—resources so vast that the problem will be their deployment—will be concentrated against the Japanese." Now only a small fraction of Allied resources has been used against Japan, but even this has caused grave anxiety to Tokyo!

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(THE JOINT BLITZ—*Continued from page* 3).

attacks, but unlike Allied raids on industrial targets in Germany, they have only been indiscriminate bombing raids. The effect of these has been, as usual, considerably exaggerated. Goebbels gives lurid accounts of panic and chaos, mass flights from London, and so on, with a view to satisfying the German public that the Allied air offensive is being retaliated on an effective scale and reviving the waning confidence of neutral satellites, such as Spain, in the striking power of the German air force.

THAT there is some anxiety in Germany regarding the morale of the people and the confidence of satellites and neutrals is admitted in an article that appeared recently in the *Voelkischer Beobachter*. "For many years," says the writer, "Churchill has lulled his own people and the world into believing that air warfare had become a completely one-sided affair and that the *Luftwaffe* would never be in a position to hit back. This assertion is one of the many instances of British attempts to depict the war as in the main already won, so as to induce neutral countries and peoples to abandon their neutrality, to encourage their own allies and to wear down the morale of Germany and her allies." Neither Mr. Churchill nor any other British or Allied leader has stated, or given the impression, that the war is almost won; on the other hand, they have been warning the people that it will be a long war and there is no use of indulging in over-optimism.

IF there is considerable shaking in the faith and confidence of neutrals like Spain and satellites like Finland and Bulgaria, the cause is to be found, not in the assertions of Allied leaders, but in the accomplishments of the joint blitz on Germany carried out by the Allied air forces. Great Britain is ready for worse reprisal raids from the *Luftwaffe*, but will Germany be able to stand for long the colossal air offensive of the Allies and be in an effective position to resist the great land-assault of the Allies from the west?

Another factor which contributed to the Arakan success was the unspectacular part played by postal petrols of the Royal Indian Navy. They took effective measures to prevent any Japanese attempt to cross to the Indian side of the Naaf River and to break up any concentration near Maungdaw by bombardment.

* * *

Madrassis add a fresh chapter of glory.

The splendid tenacity and courage shown by the men of the 14th Army in defeating the attempt of the Japanese Commander, Colonel TANABASHI, has already been referred to. We are further proud to note that Madrassi Pioneers have written a fresh chapter of glory to their great military tradition. They left their normal jobs of road-making and airfield construction, scaled precipices, forded rivers and carried supplies to the hard-pressed army, each men with 40 lb. on his back and each knowing what the enemy would do to either combatants or non-combatants if they fall into his hands.

The Arakan victory which was accomplished on account of these various factors, does not in itself represent an offensive into Japanese-held territory; it means that a very determined Japanese offensive has been effectively frustrated. If Jap designs had materialised, it would have seriously endangered the defence of India and also upset our own preparations for a large-scale attack of the Japanese. Therein lies the significance and importance of the victory which is a most important and heartening one in the annals of this war.

MADRAS HAVILDAR IN ARAKAN

Havildar Jayaraman of the Madras Sappers and Miners whose home is at Sudduppery village, Vellore, has been in a tight corner thrice with his bull-dozer in the Western Desert Battles. On every occasion he had been cut off by the Germans but had succeeded each time by his valiant efforts to break through and save his bull-dozer. These had won him a mention in despatches.

But in the Arakan recently his luck was out. In the fighting in the Ngadyeauk pass towards the end of February, Havildar Jayaraman found himself again in tight corner. The bull-dozer working party of which he was a member, engaged on road repair was ambushed by the Japs. Further progress was impossible as the party was covered by fire from Jap tanks.

Jayaraman was hit in the leg before he could be pulled to safety. But his bull-dozer was not left—he shouted instructions to Lance-Naik Ramu of Vizagapatam, who under a screen of fire from British manned tanks, went in and drove the machine back to safety.

EUROPE'S CHILDREN.—The United Nations begin the job of returning them to normal living. That their more able countrymen might live to fight these elderly men, women and children escaped via the underground from Yugoslavia where, due to Hitler's plunderings, there's not enough food to go around. Now in a camp in the Middle East, they are in the care of the United Nations. The picture shows two young refugee girls keep warm with extra blankets provided by the camp.

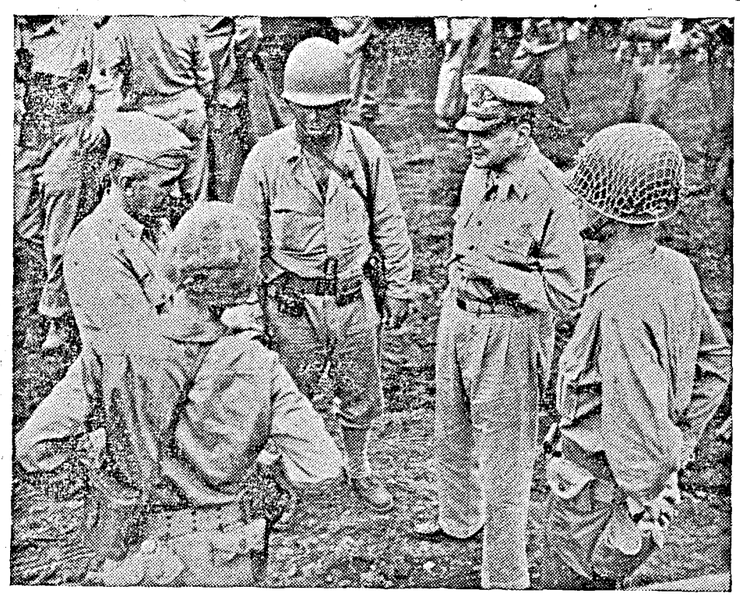
HUMANITY UPROOTED

By M. RATNASWAMI, C.I.E., *Vice-Chancellor, Annamalai University*

IN no matter has Hitler proved his revolution of destruction as one German critic has called the Nazi delirium than in his movement of populations at his own cruel will and pleasure. In no point has he shown an atavistic reversion to the practice of the Barbarian German tribes whose invasions of Europe began European History, than in his nomadic policy of moving people about. In no particular has he proved more conclusively his bear-like policy in pulling out the roots of humanity. Till he came on the scene it had been the policy of States and Governments to let people live in the territory in which they had struck roots. In fact a people begins to live the life of the State only when it settles down on some particular piece of territory. Often as a result of conquest or migration or some other historical event, peoples of different ethnic origins or of different religions were found living together in the same State and under a single government and found no difficulty in doing so. Misgovernment of one people by a government belonging to a different people led to movements of revolt. But these revolts led to a reform in the attitude of the offending government or to a change of government.

ONE NATION, ONE STATE

But in the ninetheenth century these movements of discontent among misgoverned peoples led to the formulation of the theory of Nationality which got srystallized in the famous formula: One Nation, One State. That is to say that a State could not be composed of people of different ethnic origins or speaking different languages, or professing different religions. Of this beautifully simple theory, Hitler's superficial mind took advantage. The German State must be composed of a single people. Therefore the Jews must be persecuted out of existence. The Sudeten Germans must be got out of Czecho-Slovakia and they and the portion of territory they occupied in that State must be incorporated into Germany. This policy inaugurated in peace time found extreme expression in the racking time of war. At the dictation of his ally in the early years of the war, Soviet Russia, he ordered the Baltic Barons of Esthonia, Latvia and Lithunania to come back to Germany. These Baltic Barons although German had settled down in these Slav countries ever since the end of the Middle Ages. They had developed the lands, established feudal relationship with the natives, ran them under the yoke of political discipline that feudalism has everywhere given, and done much for the peace, prosperity of their lands. They were, no doubt, guilty of sins of omissions and of commission like feudal barons everywhere. But on the whole, the verdict



General Douglas MacArthur (second from right) *and Lieut.-General Walter Krueger, Commanding General of the Sixth American Army* (left of group) *give final instructions to Brigadier-General Cunningham* (with back to camera) *and his aides prior to the departure of the United States task force that landed at Arawe, New Britain. General Cunningham personally conducted the invasion.*

of history is that these Baltic Barons deserved to stay in their ancestral possessions. They were willing to take the chances and changes of social and political movements among the Slav peoples. But all their services and intentions were of no avail against the dictates of Hitler. At the call of their Master they had to abandon the country of their birth, their ancestral lands, their means of livelihood and seek a new way of life in the Fatherland which they had not known for centuries and which had forgotten them for centuries. Similarly to gain another diplomatic advantage he has emptied Italian Trentino of Germans and the Tyrolese have had to abandon the lands of their fathers.

CRUELTY IN POLAND

This policy of uprooting peoples from their native soil, Hitler has been able to pursue with relentless thoroughness in that tide of the victories that came to him in the East. The conquest of Poland in 1939 gave him an opportunity to wreak his vengeance on the people that has always resisted his and his nation's policy of Germanization. In the first two years of the occupation of Poland nearly 1½ million Poles were driven from their homes into that part of Poland which he created and called the Governor-Generalship of Poland. The way he dealt with Gydnia, the port of Poland is illustrative. Gydnia which the Polish people had within a generation converted from a tiny village into a port of 100,000 inhabitants with its docks and flourishing import and export trade. Street by street, we are told, at an hour's notice, its people were turned out of their homes, they might carry a suitcase but all household goods had to be left behind. They were marched along a road, old men, old women, children—the young men were already dead or imprisoned. As sick and feeble fell by the way, they were pushed into the ditches by the Guards. Then they were herded into cattle trucks, sixty to a truck and locked in and carried through the long nights of the Polish winter. Hundreds perished on this awful journey. Even the German soldiers were taken aback when from one train they recovered the bodies of 30 children frozen stiff. Western Poland especially, Hitler wants to be free of Poles. A German state organization has been set up for the colonization of western Poland. In addition to the 1½ million Poles who have been expelled over 800,000 have been deported to Germany for forced labour against all the rules and conventions of International law. In their place 600,000 German colonists have been brought in to fill western Poland. But as there are not enough to fill western Poland, the Nuremberg racial laws have been thrown overboard. The Kashubians and Maneurians although Poles, are now to be classed as Germans. The depopulation and resettlement of western Poland is a planned movement of future importance. The idea is to present the Peace Conference with an accomplished fact, so that western Poland could not be restored to its rightful owner. In upper Siberia where about two-thirds of the Poles in Germany live, Germanization has been going on for years. Of the 300,000 Polich children in Germany only 2,000 were allowed to attend Polish schools. The Polish press was held down firmly even before Hitler's time. The policy of Germanization was aimed especially against the religion of the Poles. Of the Catholic priests serving the Poles, only six were Polish priests. The Jews also have received special treatment from the Germans in occupied Poland. A reservation was enclosed south of Lublin, in the frontier fixed between Germany and Russia and part of the Governor-Generalship. It was to be the dumping ground not merely for the Jews of western Poland but also for the Jews of Austria and Germany.

YUGOSLAVIA

The Germans pursued the same policy of moving peoples about in other occupied countries. In Yugoslavia, in the first six months of the occupation over 150,000 Slovenes have been hounded out of their native province into the rump Yugoslavia already devastated and half-starving—formed after the conquest. Deliberate attempts have been made to set the Catholic branch (the Slovenes) of the Yugo-Slav family against the orthodox branch. A policy of denationalization has been followed. The use of the Slovene language has been proclaimed a crime. The argument used is Hitlerian—northern Slovenia is German land and always must be. Hence its inhabitants must be expelled and the country peopled with Germans.

In Czecho-Slovakia another Slav challenge to Hitler's Germanism over one million Czechs have been transported to Germany for forced labour. Czech culture also was to be suppressed. All secondary schools and Universities were closed immediately after the conquest. One of the best educated peoples of Europe were to become a nation of labourers. Frank, the German Governor-General of occupied Czecho-Slovakia is reported to have said, "If you win, you will have all the Universities you need. If we win the war you will no longer need Czech schools at all."

What are we to think of all this business of twisting and turning people out of the lands in which they and their fathers had been born and in which they had stuck root? It is, I think, to be traced to the theory of revolution adumbrated for the first time in political thought by Jean Jacques Rousseau, the theory that the State is a thing made by man's hands and therefore can be unmade and remade by man. Tradition, custom, prescription cannot stand in the way of man's monkeying of the State. It is this theory adopted with enthusiasm by 19th Century National Liberalism that Hitler like the simple and superficial thinker that he is, is running to the death of peoples.

Of the two factors that go to the making of a State, land and people—the latter, the people is considered to be the more important and to be the dominating factor in the making or remaking of the State. The land, its geography, its history, its military or economic needs are of no account. People can be uprooted from it to serve a theory of nationality or of race and of diplomacy. Their likes or dislikes are to

(*Continued on page* 13)

ATTACK ON BERLIN—HIGHEST POINT IN BOMBER OFFENSIVE

(*By* Squadron-Leader JOHN STRACHEY)

THE attack upon Berlin marks the highest point yet reached in the bomber offensive. As such, it will have a profound effect upon the coming invasion of Europe. It is not too much to say that if we can press the bomber offensive to the limit this winter, the lives of hundreds of thousands of our men may be saved when the last great battle comes. Don't misunderstand me. I'm not saying that the bombing of Germany is a sort of artillery preparation for the invasion. It isn't. And it won't necessarily cease when the land attack in the west begins. If the Germans are hopefully looking forward to that, they may be very seriously deceiving themselves.

Our land attack must be prepared in any case to break through the hard crust of the German defence. But what will lie beneath that hard crust? Shall we find that the German nation as a whole is still tough and resolute, a nation which has to be conquered province by province, and even mile by mile? Or shall we find that the crust of German military power covers a nation which has already been deeply wounded, both materially and morally? The answer will be given in the main by the degree of success achieved by the Anglo-American bomber offensive.

The attack which has now been opened upon Berlin is a deliberate attempt to deprive the enemy of the use of his capital city. R.A.F. Bomber Command has set out to make it impossible for the Nazis to use Berlin. For remember, Berlin is to-day the capital, not simply of Germany, but of Hitler's whole slave empire. Berlin is a city in a totally different class to Essen, Dusseldorf, or even Hamburg—or any other of the cities which Bomber Command has so far attacked. Berlin is the fourth largest city in the world. It is one of the half-dozen or so world capitals round which the life not only of one nation but of a whole area of the world revolves. Berlin contains factories of the highest importance; but its unique significance is that the economic life of Central Europe as a whole has been carried on by means of the financial, marketing, administrative and transportation facilities of Berlin.

We don't know what the effect of the paralysis of such a centre will be. For such a thing has never yet happened. If, however, Bomber Command can effect its purpose, we shall know. . . and within the next few months. It may be that the Nazi empire can be carried on without Berlin, I daresay it can be. But the ruin of Berlin—if it can be effected—will take us a long step towards the weakening of Germany to a point where she will not be able to resist the final attack. "If it can be effected"—for don't let us deceive ourselves for a moment into supposing that Berlin has already been destroyed.

Certain cities—Kassel, for instance—can sometimes be crippled by the tonnage which Bomber Command can now drop in a single attack. Incidentally, I hear that after one of those decisive attacks a grim little anecdote is on everybody's lips in Germany. People in the Reich are saying to each other: "Last night twenty-three British bombers were shot down and one of our cities is missing!" But Berlin is a different matter. Berlin can't be dealt with in a single attack like that. You can get some idea of the size of the task which Bomber Command has set itself by comparing Berlin with Hamburg. Hamburg was itself a vast city—getting on for twice the size of any city in Britain outside of London. Hamburg had 1,800,000 inhabitants and a fully built-up area of 8,382 acres. But Berlin had 4,400,000 and a fully built-up area of 23,000 acres. It would take a whole series of attacks before such a city as this can be rendered useless to the Nazis. Moreover, it will, of course, be impossible for Bomber Command to peg away at Berlin without interruption. The enemy must be kept guessing as to where we are going to next—as he was by that brilliantly executed operation on December 3. Bomber Command, you will remember, feinted at Berlin and then suddenly dived off south to Leipzig. There will, no doubt, be plently more surprises in store for the enemy.

PRODUCT OF BRITAIN'S GRINDING HARD WORK

It isn't too much to say that the bomber offensive is to-day the joint product of the brains, the courage, and the grinding hard work of this entire nation. The very success which has been achieved may tend to make some people think that the bomber offensive has just been a matter of building a sufficient number of bombers, flying them over Germany, dropping the bombs, and coming home again. The fact is that the bomber offensive has only been carried forward by keeping one step ahead of the enemy's continually improving defences. It would have been fatal even to pause. The counter-measure—the new method of fighter attack against the new form of bomber defence—has never been long in coming. We have had to be ready with the counter counter-measure; and we have been.

If, for example, we were to attack Berlin to-day with the same aircraft and using the same methods which we employed only two years ago our bomber force would be massacred in one or two operations. But, equally, if to-day our Lancasters, Halifaxes, Stirlings had to meet no more than the defences which existed in 1942 they could destroy every industrial centre in Germany with negligible losses to themselves.

Recently, we have been given an account of the work of our Pathfinder Force. The need for someone to find the path to the target is obvious—for naturally that same darkness which hides the bomber from the defending fighter also tends to hide the target from the bomber.

The Pathfinders are marking the target so that intensely concentrated bombing is being achieved. For Germany that's perhaps the most ominous development of all. For it is the concentration in both time and space that counts—the tons per minute per acre!

WAR CORRESPONDENT OVER THE TARGET

By ED. MURROW

Last night some of the young gentlemen of the R.A.F. took me to Berlin. The pilot was called Jock. One day, while we were waiting for the weather, he drove me across a bit of England, through small villages with grey stone houses marching straight on each side of a small common. We passed innumerable airfields, and at about the fourth he remarked: "It's a pity; not one but would make two good farms." He explained that night bombing was really rather simple—there wasn't much danger. And then we passed a field, and Jock remarked: "Last winter one of our crews bailed out just over there in a snowstorm. When their parachutes opened it jerked off their boots and they had to walk home in the snow." And he added, by way of reassurance: "Now each time I fly I tie on my boots; for a man would have no chance of walking home from Germany without his boots."

* * *

Late in the afternoon we went to the locker-room to draw parachutes, Mac Wests, and all the rest. As we dressed, a couple of the Australians were whistling. Walking out to the bus that was to take us to the aircraft I heard the station loudspeakers announcing that that evening all personnel would be able to see a film—*Star Spangled Rhythm*—free!

* * *

For half-an-hour before take-off the skies are dead silent and expectant. A lone hawk hovered over the airfield, absolutely still as he faced into the wind. Jack, the tail-gunner, said: "It would be nice if we could fly like that." Jock looked at his watch, and moved toward the aircraft. Nothing was said; we all followed. D for Dog eased around the perimeter track to the end of the runway. We sat there for a moment; the green light flashed; and we were rolling ten seconds ahead of schedule. The take-off was as smooth as silk. The wheels came up, and D for Dog started the long climb.

* * *

We were approaching the enemy coast. The flak looked like a cigarette lighter in a dark room—one that won't light . . . sparks but no flame; the sparks crackling just about level with the cloud tops. We flew steady and straight, and soon the flak was directly below us. D for Dog rocked a little from right to left, but that wasn't caused by the flak. We were in the slipstream of other Lancasters ahead; and we were over the enemy coast. And then a strange thing happened. The aircraft seemed to grow smaller. Jack in the rear turret, Wally, the mid-upper gunner, Titch, the wireless operator—all seemed somehow to draw closer to Jock in the cockpit. It was as though each man's shoulder was against the other's. The understanding was complete.

* * *

CENTRE OF THE FIREWORKS

We were about thirty miles from our target area in Berlin. That thirty miles was the longest flight I have ever made. Dead on time Boss, the bomb-aimer, reported: 'Target indicators going down.' At the same moment the sky ahead was lit up by bright yellow flares. Off to starboard a kite went down in flames. The flares were sprouting all over the sky—reds and greens and yellows; and we were flying straight for the centre of the fireworks. D for Dog seemed to be standing still, the four propellers thrashing the air—but we didn't seem to be closing in. The cloud had cleared, and off to starboard a Lanc was caught by at least fourteen searchlight beams. We could see him twist and turn, and finally break out. But still the whole thing had a quality of unreality about it. No one seemed to be shooting at us, but it was getting lighter all the time. Suddenly a tremendous big blob of yellow light appeared dead ahead, another to the right, and another to the left. We were flying straight for them. Jock pointed out to me the dummy fires and flares to right and left, but we kept going in. Dead ahead there was a whole chain of red flares looking like stop lights. Another Lanc was coned on our starboard beam; the lights seemed to be supporting it. We could see little bubbles of coloured lead driving at it from two sides. The German fighters were at him.

And then with no warning at all D for Dog was filled with an unhealthy white light. I was standing just behind Jock and could see the seams of the wings. His quiet Scots voice beat into my ears: 'Steady, lads—We've been coned.' His slender body lifted half out of the seat as he jammed the control column forward and to the left. We were going down. Jock was wearing woollen gloves with the fingers cut off. I could see his fingernails turn white as he gripped the wheel. And then I was on my knees, flat on the deck, for he had whipped the Dog back into a climbing turn. The knees should have been strong enough to support me, but they weren't; and the stomach seemed in some danger of letting me down too. I picked myself up and looked out again. It seemed that one big searchlight instead of being twenty thousand feet below was mounted right on the wing-tip. Dog was corkscrewing. As we rolled down on the other side I began to see what was happening to Berlin.

The clouds were gone, and the sticks of incendiaries from the preceding waves made the place look like a badly laid-out city with the street lights on. The small incendiaries were going down like a fistfull of white rice thrown on a piece of black velvet. As Jock hauled the Dog up again I was thrown to the other side of the cockpit, and there below were more incendiaries glowing white and then turning red. The cookies—the four-thousand-pound high explosives—were bursting below, like great sunflowers gone mad. And then as we started down, still held in the lights, I remembered that the Dog still had one of those cookies and a whole basket of incendiaries in his belly and that the lights still held us—and I was very frightened. While Jock was flinging Dog about in the air, he suddenly flung over the intercom: 'Two aircraft on the port beam.' I looked astern and saw Wally, the mid-upper gunner, whip his turret around to port, and then looked up to see a single-engined fighter slide below us. The other aircraft was one of ours. Finally we were out of the cone, flying level. I looked down, and the white fires had turned red; they were beginning to merge and spread just like butter does on a hot plate.

Jock and Boss, the bomb-aimer, began to discuss the target. The smoke was getting thick down below. Boss said he liked the two green flares on the ground almost dead ahead. He began calling his directions, and just then a new bunch of big flares went down on the far side of the sea of flame and flare that seemed to be directly below us. He thought that would be a better aiming point. Jock agreed; and we flew on. The bomb doors were opened and Boss said: 'Cookie gone.' A few seconds later the incendiaries went, and Dog seemed lighter and easier to handle. I thought I could make out the outline of streets below, but the bomb-aimer didn't agree and he ought to know. By this time all those patches of white on black had turned yellow and started to flow together. Another searchlight caught us but didn't hold us. Then through the intercom came the words: 'One can of incendiaries didn't clear—we're still carrying it.' And Jock replied: 'Is it a big one or a little one?' The word came back: 'Little one I think, but I'm not sure—I'll check.' More of those yellow flares came down and hung about us. I haven't seen so much light since the war began. Finally the intercom announced that it was only a small container of incendiaries left, and Jock remarked: 'Well, it's hardly worth going back and doing another run-up for that.' If there had been a good fat bundle left he would have gone back through that stuff and done it all over again.

I began to breathe, and to reflect again that all men would be brave if only they could leave their stomachs at home, when there was a tremendous *whoomp*, an intelligible shout from the tail-gunner. . . . Dog shivered and lost altitude. I looked out the port side, and there was a Lancaster that seemed close enough to touch; he had whipped straight over us—missed us by twenty-five to fifty feet: no one knew how much. The navigator sang out the new course and we were heading for home.

* * *

We began to lose height over the North Sea. We were over England's shores. The land was dark beneath us. Somewhere down there below American boys were probably bombing up Fortresses and Liberators, getting ready for the day's work.

We were over the home field: we called the control tower; and the calm, clear voice of an English girl replied: 'Greetings D for Dog, you are diverted to Mulebag, came in on the flarepath, Mulebag, came in ons the flarepath, touched down very gently, ran along to the end of the runway and turned left—and Jock, the finest pilot in Bomber Command, said to the control tower: 'D for Dog clear of runway.'

SEVEN MEN WHO WENT TO BERLIN FIVE TIMES IN FOURTEEN DAYS

By SQUADRON-LEADER L. A. NOCKOLLS

The pilot and the wireless operator are Australians. The bombardier and the navigator come from New Zealand. The other three in the crew are Englishmen—the engineer comes from Derby, the mid-upper gunner from Sheffield, and the rear gunner from London. All of them are either sergeants or flight-sergeants.

It was back in August that the seven were crewed up as a bomber team. Four of them had been together before—at their operational training unit. The others joined a little later—and that was when they were posted to their Lancaster bomber.

First of all, the pilot did a trip as 'second dickey' with one of the old hands to get a bit of experience.

Dusseldorf was their first trip as a complete crew, so that they had only done one raid together before the assault on Berlin began in earnest. The night of Thursday, November 18, saw them

over the Big City for the first time. They took off in the gathering dusk soon after tea-time, and they landed back at base three-quarters of an hour after midnight. Seven hours' flying.

They parked the aircraft out at the dispersal point; a lorry picked them up; and a Waaf corporal drove them round the dark perimeter track to the Intelligence Office. Inside the office, while they waited their turn to be interrogated at one of the long tables, they stood around with the other crews, sipping their hot drinks and talking about the raid.

LITTLE EASIER

I listened to them, and I was struck by the way in which they under-stated everything. No, they said, there was no particular incident. Coming back, the rear turret had been put out of action and the guns wouldn't work. But they didn't see any fighters, so that was all right. Oh yes, and the R.T. (that's the radio telephone) wouldn't receive, reported the pilot, so they couldn't get any messages from the control tower. But they managed to get down all right. There was a good deal of cloud, but the searchlights couldn't penetrate the cloud. Yes, there was a pretty heavy flak barrage, but they had been lucky; nothing had come near them. Yes, it was a little easier than they had thought it was going to be, seeing that it was Berlin.

It was only if you watched them closely that you noticed how still the bomb-aimer sat—thinking, perhaps, of the flak and the searchlights over Berlin; or that the gunners' eyes were strained and bloodshot through seven hours of staring out into the darkness; or that the pilot, when he got up from the interrogation table, moved heavily and slowly, like a very tired man moves.

It was F for Freddie they were flying that night. D for Donald was their own machine, but that had gone unserviceable, and they had had to change over only a few hours before the start. They didn't like changing, they said, but F for Freddie had behaved all right.

It was about three o'clock on the Friday morning that they crawled into their beds in the cold Nissen hut.

On the following Monday night they were over Berlin again. They got through the defences again—the flak and the searchlights—and they bombed the markers, where the Pathfinders had laid them, over the Big City. It was pretty cloudy again, they said, but they could see a great red glow through the clouds.

Everything seemed to be going well until they had got about half-way home, and the worst of the trip seemed to be over. Then they were blown south of track; and that took them over a flak area.

THE HOLES MADE IT VERY DRAUGHTY

'Jerry lay low for a bit,' said the pilot, 'and then he opened up with everything he'd got. You should see the kite . . . looks like a colander when you get up close to it. The stuff came in from all angles . . . . a bit just missed the wireless operator. Some of the holes you can put your fist through . . . there are lots of smaller ones, too.'

But the Lancaster kept on flying all right. The holes made it very draughty, they said, and they couldn't use the heaters because every time they opened them up the cabin filled with smoke. They filled up one of the worst holes with a blanket; that helped a bit, but it was still pretty cold. The main hydraulic line to the mid-upper turret was fractured, but the gunner stayed in and rotated it by hand. He said it was a 'terrible bind' doing that for a couple of hours. But there was nothing else he could do. The rear gunner was bleeding a bit; a small splinter nicked his nose and another bit lodged in his thumb. He called up the pilot to tell him the turret had been holed, but he didn't say he'd been hit.

A can of incendiary bombs had hung up. They didn't know that until they were over the North Sea on the way back, when the incendiaries shook loose and fell into the bomb bay. The pilot opened the bomb doors and they fell out. And so, that got over that spot of bother all right, they said. (You see what it's like on these raids—incidents piling up one after another.)

SIX HOURS' FLIGHT

They were flying more than six hours fifteen minutes that night, and they got back about midnight. It was a different Intelligence Officer who interrogated them this time, but the questions were more or less the same. And, before they left, they were warned that they'd probably be wanted again for the next night. They weren't told it was going to be Berlin again, but they had a pretty good idea it would be. 'We were getting used to it by now,' they said. 'We'd got through twice before, so we reckon we can get through again.'

They slept in till about ten in the morning—that gave them about eight hours in bed. Then they went up to the hangars to start getting ready for the night's work. This time, on the Tuesday, they had got another aircraft—B for Bertie. The one they had been flying the night before was too badly knocked about to be repaired in time. The squadron was moving from one airfield to another. But that wouldn't stop them operating. The plan was that they would take off from their old airfield and land at the new one. That was the plan, but on the way back they received a diversion signal. Fog had closed in over the airfield at which they were supposed to land, and they were diverted elsewhere.

Apart from that there was no trouble at all, they said, when they got back. They had left fires in Berlin. It was easily the best raid of the three so far, they told the Intelligence Officer.

They got a bit of sleep and they flew back to their new base. They had been put down for another trip to Berlin that night. But when he saw them, the Squadron Commander crossed their names off the list. They looked too tired, he thought.

On the next night—the Thursday—they didn't fly either, but on the Friday they went out again. This was the longest trip of all so far: seven-and-a-half hours. They looked tired when they came into the Intelligence Room, and the mid-upper gunner's eyes were red-rimmed and bloodshot again. I listened to them as they sat around the long wooden table telling their story. They kept looking up as each new batch of men came into the room, checking up to see who'd got back all right and picking out their pals. The rear gunner wasn't there this time. He had been taken to the sick quarters with a frost-bitten foot. (He was the one, you remember, who was hit by flak on the second trip.) 'He called me up to say he was cold and could he have some more oxygen, which, of course, we gave him—but that was all he told us,' said the pilot.

SAME QUESTIONS

Once again the same questions: 'What time did you bomb?' 'What height were you at then?' 'Could you see the Pathfinders' markers all right?' 'What about flak and the weather along the route?' 'How about opposition over the target?' 'See any night fighters?'

The pilot and navigator, between them, answered most of the questions. Occasionally, one of the others added some little bit of information.

'The Bosche really pulled his fingers out tonight,' said the pilot. 'There was one great big belt of searchlights round the city. There seemed to be crowds of them. They coned one of the kites, and the next lot coned somebody else . . . and the guns were firing up into the cones. There was a terrific number of fighter flares to the east of the city. We had to go through this ring of searchlights and flak because the Path finders' markers were in the middle of it all. We got a terrific jolt from a shell bursting underneath. It felt just as though the aircraft had been kicked upwards; and everything shuddered. We saw a couple of night fighters but we weren't attacked!'

He paused a minute. Then he said: 'I'd have hated to have been down there on the ground.'

The Intelligence Officer took down all the details. The six of them hung about for a bit, talking to their friends; and then they moved off to their quarters to get something to eat before going to bed. I had a chat with the pilot before he left. 'I don't mind saying I felt a bit scared when I saw that belt of searchlights and all the stuff coming up and I knew we'd got to go in there,' he said. 'I'm no hero or anything like that . . . Honestly, it shook me a bit. But that was the job . . . so I called up the chaps and told 'em to hang on; and I told the engineer to give us some more revs—and in we went.'

That made four trips to Berlin. After that they got a bit of a rest. The weather came up dirty and the squadron was grounded. They hung about for several days, getting in a little flying during the daytime and watching the weather . . . and waiting . . . and waiting . . .

THE FIFTH TRIP

Then came the next Berlin show, and the crew was on it again. That made

five to the Big City in a fortnight. There was something about this new crew, and the way they'd stuck to it, that appealed to everyone in the squadron. They were a grand crew—absolutely full of guts. The regular gunner was still in hospital with frostbite. So this time, they got a gunner from another crew in his place (he happened to be spare because his skipper had gone down with 'flu). They were still flying B for Bertie, though; and, once again, they got through.

But we knew immediately they came into the room that something had gone wrong. Their faces were grim and set, and they didn't seem to want to talk much; and there were only six of them. The rear gunner (the man who'd been put in to make up the crew) was missing. Once again they sat around the long table; and in short jerky sentences, the captain told the story.

'It wasn't too good,' he said. 'They killed the rear gunner. It was over the target . . . just after we'd bombed . . . he couldn't even have seen the fighter that got him . . . First thing we knew was the tracer coming in. We couldn't get a reply from the rear gunner, so I sent two or three of the crew back. . . they couldn't get the door open and we had to leave him there. Came back from Berlin on two-and-a-half engines. The mid-upper gunner passed out because he couldn't get oxygen—he was unconscious pretty well the whole way from Berlin to the Dutch coast . . . The R.T. had gone, too . . . we were losing height dangerously fast. When I saw the flarepath I didn't even know which aerodrome it was. I said: "Hang on, we're going in." One of the tyres had burst and we swung right off the flarepath, but we made it all right.'—*From recent B.B.C. talks.*

HUMANITY UPROOTED

(*Continued from page* 9.)

be of no account. The bankruptcy of modern States and governments in regard to reform that might make themselves acceptable to the people governed is to be visited on those unfortunate people. The Germans cannot govern the Poles. So they must be expelled from lands occupied by the Germans. Germans in Czecho-Slovakia do not like the idea of being governed by the Czechs and will not wait for reform and concession; so they must be incorporated in Germany.

This is introducing permanent and perpetual revolution in the political lives of peoples. The poison has entered so deep into the political thought of Europe that even representatives of the countries liberating Europe from the Nazi nightmare are also thinking of the same expedient of bandying people about. If this idea is allowed to go on unchecked, there will be nothing settled about the frontiers of countries or the shapes of States. India also has not been free from the influence of this idea. The bankruptcy of Indian Statesmanship to find a solution for the Hindu-Muslim problem is to be visited on the peoples of India. Movements of peoples are contemplated in order to ensure homogeneous Muslim and Hindu populations. One can only hope and pray that the teaching of history and the needs of the country will restore leaders and peoples to reason and common sense and the tradition of living together for the sake of India.

A talk broadcast from A.I.R., Trichinopoly.

R.A.F. COOKS OVERCOME FUEL SHORTAGE

The use of waste oil and water as fuel for cooking is one of the measures being adopted by the R.A.F. in India to compensate the present shortage of wood and coal. A simply constructed apparatus in which this "austerity" mixture —vaporised water and oil which fuse and become combustible can be used with hundred per cent result was demonstrated recently by the R.A.F. Command Catering Officer to Lady Auchinleck in Delhi.

The system is not now. It has been used for years in the Services in open kettle trenches and with particular success in the Western Desert, but it has now been adapted for the first time, for use on ranges in enclosed kitchens.

This method of generating heat has proved so successful and economical during experiments in its use indoors that it has been decided to introduce it to all R.A.F. kitchens in India. Two warrant officers cook-demonstrators will be leaving on tour soon to explain to R.A.F. and I.A.F. cooks how to make the best use of this fuel and to demonstrate the latest methods in cookery. It is hoped that 95 per cent saving on fuel for cooking will be effected without any deterioration in the results.

THE PLAN

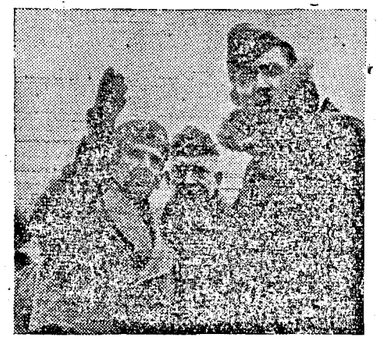
(*By* A.E.)

DEMOCRACY—What means the name
But people's rule
And if all rule then who'll be ruled ?
From out this babel shall a leader step
And take command ?
Shall he then say "I am thy man,
I do thy will" and then
List only to his friends
Or the dissentient clamour of the mob ?
And trembling for the safety of his new-found power
Embrace the noisiest of them all
So, with expedience for his secret guide
Go forth in pomp or mock humility
To please himself
And work his will according to his whims ?
Or haply shall some brave good voice arise
From out the throng and say

"I pledge myself to do the right"
"I dedicate myself to serve and fight"
"Give me two comrades tried and true"
"To share alike with me this task"
"Give us a Council of thy wisest men and good"
"Let half be men from all the walks of life"
"And half most learned in their sphere"
"Then tie us to a plan on which to work"
"But frame it on the simplest lines"
"And let there be no detail to dispute"
"Has't no such plan ?"
"Seek Christ, Mohammed, Buddha and the Saints"
"And note wherein they all agree"
"And write it down—There is the plan
"To bind thy rulers and, well ruled,
"To leave thee free !"

BRITAIN'S INVASION CRAFT

By LIEUT. D. WILSON MACARTHUR



INVASION CHIEFS WATCH TROOPS.—General Montgomery, General Eisenhower and Air Chief Marshal Tedder watching an American armoured unit on pre-invasion manœuvres. (A radio photograph.)

THERE are well over 50 types of landing craft, large and small, in Britain's Royal Navy to-day. All are designed primarily for putting troops and their equipment, tanks, lorries and guns ashore on hostile beaches, in face of enemy opposition.

The chief of Britain's minor landing craft are the L.C.M., the L.C.A. and the L.C.S.

The L.C.M., or Mechanised Landing Craft, is a vessel of rectangular shape, with a fairly high freeboard. The square bow is closed by the ramp, which in the sea-going position juts up above the hull. It is operated by a hand winch, and can be quickly lowered when the craft reaches the beach.

In order to avoid interference with the compasses, all the steel of which these minor craft are built is demagnetised. The engine room is below decks, housing two powerful internal combustion engines driving twin screws.

The craft can be manœuvred remarkably well considering its shallow draught high freeboard, and broad beam, which give a very poor grip on the water. By means of the twin screws, it can be turned almost in its own length.

Steel doors open over the stern, where a kedge anchor is kept ready for instant use. During landing operations, this is dropped on the approach to a beach, and the cable paid out until the bow has run aground and the ramp is lowered.

ASSAULT LANDING CRAFT

The L.C.A., or Assault Landing Craft, differs from this type not only by having a greater turn of speed but by having a lower ramp, which does not project above the freeboard. It is driven by similar engines, but the steering position is forward, in a small protected box. Although small, it is capable of carrying a surprising number of men accommodated in the fore and aft bays under the armoured deck.

The L.C.S., or Support Landing Craft, is not technically speaking a landing craft at all, since it is not designed to put itself ashore. Its purpose is to provide cover for the actual landing craft, and it is more traditional in line, with the appearance almost of a small motor torpedo boat. It is equipped with smoke apparatus and a smoke-float mortar, with which a dense smoke screen can be laid at speed.

Its armament is, for its size, formidable, and it can not only engage shore targets and give gun support to the landing troops but can deal with enemy dive-bombers.

After the fall of France, production of these craft went ahead rapidly, not only in boat-building yards and yacht yards all round the coast of Britain, but in all manner of inland engineering shops and small plants and even garages throughout the country.

TANK LANDING CRAFT

The first L.C.T., or Tank Landing Craft, ran its trials in the Mersey at Liverpool just six months after Dunkirk, in November 1940. This, unlike the minor landing craft, was an ocean-going vessel capable of making long sea passages and of carrying a large number of tanks, lorries or mobile guns.

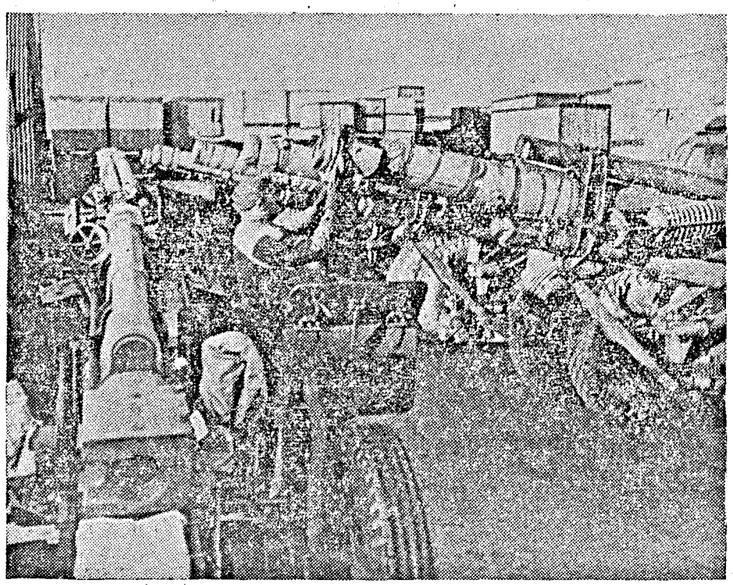
The typical L.C.T. is a vessel of about 200 feet in length, with a beam of 31 feet, and a displacement of 350 gross registered tons. It draws 3 feet forward and 7 feet aft, the keel sloping from bow to stern to meet the slope of a beach.

In the bows there is a ramp hinged at the base, lowered or raised by wires worked from a hand winch. When closed, the ramp shuts the bows of the vessel and takes the force of the seas; lowered and resting on the beach, it provides a runway for disembarkation.

She carries a crew of two officers and ten men. At sea, officers and men are continually exposed to the weather, and they live in cramped quarters which allow of no privacy or distinctions. All mess together, eating, washing, sleeping within a few feet of each other. The soldiers carried must make shift to sleep inside their vehicles, crowding into the cramped quarters for washing, cooking and the like.

The officers are exclusively young R.N.V.R. officers, the men are "hostilities only" ratings, and they are specialists in their jobs as much as submarine men, gunners, naval airmen, motor torpedo boatmen.

They are the youngest branch of the naval service, but the work they and their craft do is a prime essential for the victory to come.



UNITED STATES SUPPLY DEPOT IN ENGLAND PREPARES FOR INVASION.—Howitzers, newly arrived from the United States are given an inspection before being "set in line" with hundreds of others for the invasion of Europe.

FIRST TO SERVE IN INDIA

COMMEMORATION TABLET FOR DORSETS

ON the walls of the Guard Room at Fort St. George, Madras, are a number of tablets commemorating the tours of duty of the various battalions who have been quartered there from time to time.

A notable omission has now been made good. Until recently there was no tablet to the *Dorsetshire Regiment.* When this was discovered the officers of a battalion of the regiment now serving in India subscribed to a tablet commemorating the five visits of the Dorsets to Madras and especially that city's connection with their unique motto of "Primus in Indis."

Thanks to the courtesy and kindness of Colonel *D. M. Reid,* O.B.E., M.C., E.D., *A.D.C.,* commanding *Madras Guards AFI.,* a tablet was made by a well-known local firm and erected on the Guard Room wall. This tablet has now been officially unveiled by the second-in-Command of a battalion of the Dorset Regiment. The ceremony was quite simple; a Guard of Honour was found by the Madras Guards and a short address was read by the battalion second-in-Command.

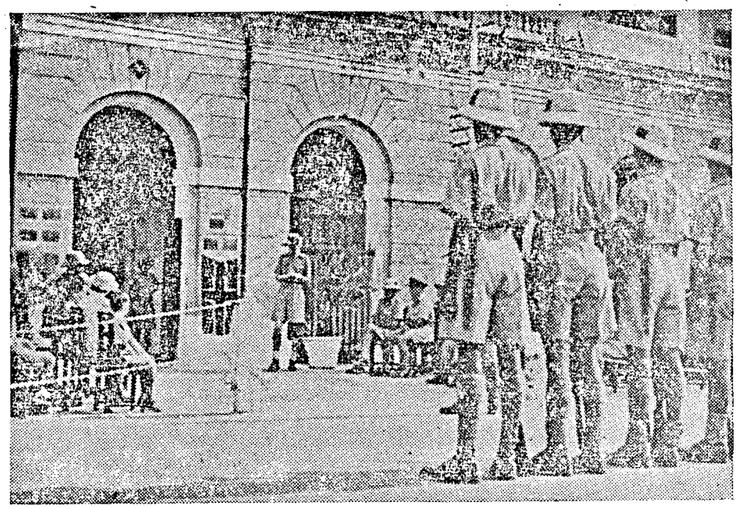
A few words about the Dorsetshire Regiment's connection with Madras. It is the proud boast of the *Dorsets* that they wear the motto "*Primus in Indis*" on their badges and appointments. This was awarded them in honour of their being the first *King's* —i.e., regular army as opposed to Hon. East India Company troops—to serve in *India.*

SERIOUS SITUATION IN SOUTH INDIA

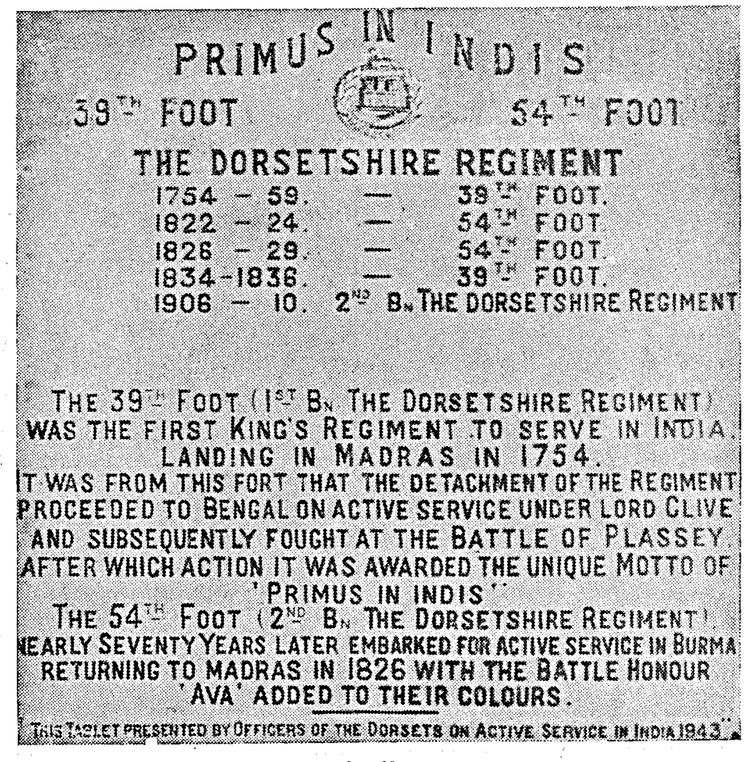
In 1754 the situation in *South India* was serious and although under the gallant and inspiring leadership of *Clive,* the British had recently wrested back the city of *Madras* from the French, their hold on Southern India was most precarious. At this juncture the Home Government decided to take the hitherto unprecedented steps of sending out regular troops to support the East India Company's interests.

Early in 1754 the 39th Foot, as First Dorset Regiment was then designated, arrived in Madras under commander Colonel Adlercron, who automatically became second in line of the many distinguished officers to hold the appointment of Commander-in-Chief of the Army of India.

The 39th must have been very busy in those days. They had to undertake the local defence of the area, which involved occasional forays into French Territory. But their biggest task must have been the wearying fatigues in connection with the building of the redoubtable Fort St. George. Research work by Colonel Reid shows the extent of these building operations, plans and sketches, in possession of the Madras Guards, show only too clearly the labour involved (which in places altered the whole topography of that area) in implementing the excellent plans for the Fort drawn up by the French and adopted by us on the recapture of Madras.



An officer of the regiment reads the inscription before unveiling the tablet.



The successors of these old warriors can be justly proud of the part their ancestors took in the fashioning of these fortifications, which for nigh on 200 years have withstood the battle, breeze and climate.

Owing to differences of opinion between the misguided and bigoted Colonel Adlercron and Colonel Clive, it was the Second-in-Command, Major Eyre Coote, who led a large detachment of the 39th from Madras to operate under Clive in Bengal in 1757. Major Eyre Coote, who was subsequently to earn undying fame in those early wars, fought throughout this campaign against Surajah Dowlah with the greatest success. During the advance up the *Hooghly* and the subsequent move to Plassey the 39th, as the only regular unit, were used in what it is now fashionable to call a "commando" role. Clive held them until he was ready to make his strongest punch at the enemy's vital point and subsequently loosed them in pursuit.

CLIVE AND THE BATTLE OF PLASSEY

On 23 June 1757, standing in the pouring monsoon rain on the Grove of One Thousand Mangrove Trees on Plassey Field, Clive's small force of 800 Europeans, 2,100 Sepoys, 100 Topasses and 100 Malabar Portugese, in all 3,100 men and a few light "infantry" guns, faced the Nabob's Army of 50,000 cavalry and infantry and 40 pieces of cannon.

How well and bravely Clive's force fought against these seemingly overwhelming odds, how magnificently the 39th went into the final attack which won the day and how relentlessly they continued the pursuit of the defeated enemy is well known.

So much for Plassey. The next regimental connexion with Madras was 60 years later. There we find the 54th Foot now Second Dorset Regiment, recently arrived from Europe and Africa, where they had spent 25 years fighting Napolean's armies in three continents. In 1824, while quartered at the Fort, they were suddenly mobilized for active service in Burma. They survived the rigours of a really tough campaign in that country but when they returned to Madras in 1826 they had left behind many a brave man who had fallen to disease.

They returned with the battle honour of "*Ava*" emblazoned on their colours. Particularly noteworthy was the brilliant rearguard action of Captain James Walch's company when bringing out the guns at *Arakan*.

In 1906, the 54th, now designated 2 Dorset R, arrived in Madras to start a "foreign" tour of service, which was to take them with the famous Sixth Indian Division to Mesopotamia, through the horrors of Kutel Amara and back to the Malabar Coast. During this time they gained fresh laurels at Shaiba and Ctesiphon and from that campaign arose the very true and close alliance which the regiment now holds with the Mahratta Light Infantry.

UNFORTUNATE FINLAND

By J. C. JOHNSTONE

FINLAND occupies a peculiar position in the war. She is the only belligerent who, though a genuine democracy, is ranged against the United Nations. She is the only country fighting by the side of Germany without having signed the Axis pact. She distinguishes herself from Germany's other satellites by describing her status as that of a "co-belligerent." All through the war she has been torn between her traditional friendship towards the United States and her traditional antipathy towards Russia. Her friendship with the United States is based on the extreme regard she earned in that country by her fidelity to her war debt obligations.

Hitherto, however, Finland's hostility to Russia has been a more powerful motive of policy than her tie with the United States. She remembers the bitter oppression she suffered in the last quarter century under the Tzars. She remembers the fierce battles fought to free herself from the Bolsheviks and their immediate successors. Above all she cherishes revenge for the war of 1939–40.

REVENGE MOTIVE

Finland's desire for revenge completely warped her political judgment. To satisfy it, she was prepared to aid and abet Hitler in clamping his monstrous tyranny on the rest of mankind. Heedless of his brutalities towards small countries like Norway, Czechoslovakia, Greece and the rest, she declared war on Russia within a day or two of his attack in June 1941. Hitler, it is true, had taken the precaution of ensuring that he could exert duress. In September 1940 he had obtained from Finland a "transit agreement for troops, but by June 1941 he had contrived to send four divisions into the country. There can nevertheless be no question that Finland's entry into the war was voluntary and independent of Nazi pressure. Great Britain and the United States, while appreciating her motives, naturally did not accept them as a valid excuse for her criminal folly. Though she herself took the initiative in breaking off relations with Britain at the end of July, it was not till December 6, after every remonstrance had proved futile, that Britain finally declared war on her. From the first the United States exerted her good offices to wean Filand from her suicidal policy. In August 1941 she vainly tried to persuade her to accept the Russian offer of her pre-1940 frontier if she would come out of the war. Subsequent efforts at mediation having met with equally little success, the United States last April withdrew her Minister and most of her staff from the Helsinki Legation, though still preserving diplomatic relations.

The most that can be said in extenuation of Finland's policy is that since December 1941, when her troops had reached a certain line satisfactory to her ambitions, they have practically ceased fighting and have rendered no more assistance to the Germans than the immobilization of a certain number of Russian divisions.

Finland stands at the parting of the ways. If she seizes her chance, repentance, belated though it already is, gives her a claim to indulgent treatment which extends to no other of Germany's satellites. —*The Daily Telegraph.*

MADRAS THANKED FOR GIFTS TO TROOPS

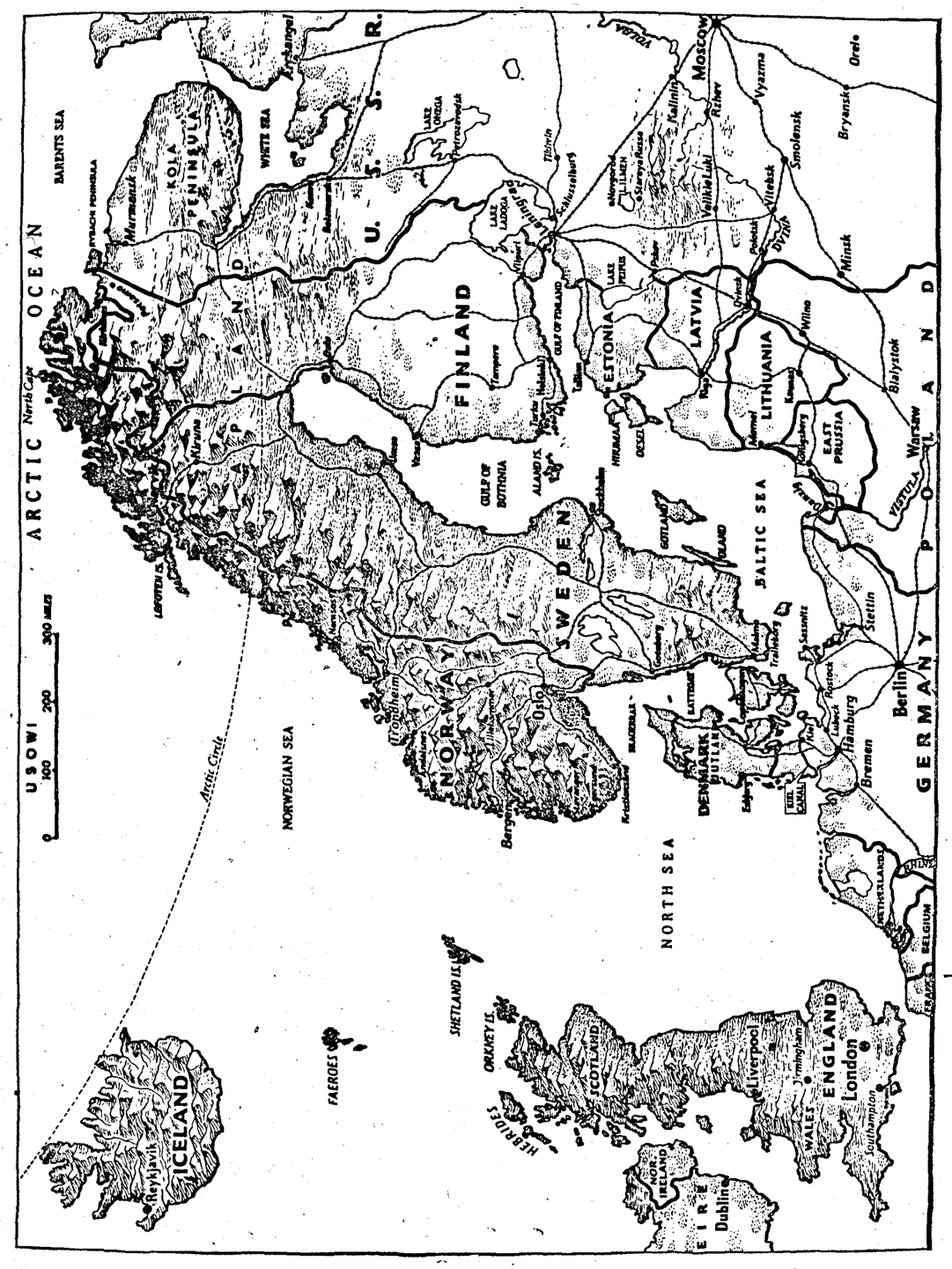
The Joint Honorary Secretary, Joint War Charities Committee, Madras, has received the following letter of thanks for the Christmas boxes for troops overseas, containing sweets, vests, writing materials and playing cards :—

It is again my privilege to write to you on behalf of the Commander-in-Chief and the Indian troops serving in Iraq and Persia to thank you for the Christmas presents you have sent to us this winter.

I hope you will convey our gratitude to those who have subscribed to provide these presents, and that you will assure all those who have worked in the collection and organization for dispatch of these parcels that their devotion in the cause of our troops is gratefully appreciated.

Let us hope that by next Christmas all Indian troops will be back in their native land. But whatever this year holds in store, you may be sure that the men will maintain their cheerful spirit of endurance because they know they have not been forgotten by their friends in India.

(Sd.) ————,
BRIGADIER,
Deputy Adjutant-General.



FINLAND AND BALTIC STATES

SOLDIERS AND CITIZENS

THE ARMY EDUCATES

NOW, more than at any other time in her history, India needs active citizens. She is a nation so old in the cycle of national growth as to be very young. Her industry is in its infancy. Her agriculture, so ancient in its primitiveness, is a child by contrast with the agricultural systems of the west. Education is confined to an infinitesimal proportion of her people. Literacy is distressingly low. India does not need more babies, more students, more men and more women. She needs a healthier baby, a more practical and versatile student, a freer woman and a more vigorous man. Above all, she needs a people imbued with the quality of active citizenship.

Citizenship of the sort the country needs springs directly out of the ability to do a job, to do it competently, to know why we are doing it and how it conduces, if it does, to the welfare of the community.

We do not require to be told to-day that the theoretical bias of our education is bad. We are tombs of information at the end of our ten or twelve years of school and university life. But we don't seem to get down to a job, to grasp its essentials, to execute it competently. There are exceptions, but as a people we are still so given to abstract analysis that opportunities pass us by. In the effort of centuries to refine our minds to cope with the fastidious we have forgotten how to use our hands. Nor do we always use our minds clearly.

PERFECT AT A SINGLE JOB

The citizenship that we seek is a practical citizenship and the germ of it lies in teaching our boys and girls a trade. Let them be perfect at a single job. Let them learn to know machines, for these have come to stay. Need they be rabbits in consequence? No. For stress on efficiency and thoroughness in one direction spreads easily. An intelligent tradesman masters his machine and learns to know its correct place in the social framework.

It is one of the ironies of war that it frequently does the work of a constructive revolution. We might have had to wait years for the opportunities that now lie ready to hand. To-day, we have an army that is largely dependent on Indians—trained Indians. It is a modern army. It looks upon the soldier not just as so much muscle that can be thrown into a melee and left to do its damnedest, but, as a thinking being.

Among the many changes in mental attitude that mark the passing of the years 1918 to 1939 none is more encouraging to the educationist than the conviction now so normally and widely held that only an intelligent and informed man can make a good soldier.

A good soldier requires initiative. He needs to know what he is fighting for. He needs to be free of mental care, and therefore authority anticipates mental cares and, so far as lies in his power, removes them. The soldier needs to be given the job for which he is especially cut out. He needs to think intelligently of the past and to estimate the chances of its repeating itself in the future with the present he is immediately and actively concerned, on this we need not enlarge. But it is significant that with him, the future plays as important a part as the present. He does not want to have to fight another war. Planning for peace is, therefore, a primary duty and responsibility.

How does the Army contribute to the making of this citizen soldier?

THE AVERAGE RECRUIT

The average recruit comes out of his village a peasant with elementary assets. A body—undernourished but not so undernourished that six weeks or so of regular and sufficient feeding and regular sensible exercise cannot transform his bare existence into a healthy life. He has glimmerings of village intelligence. He knows something of the ways of animals, cows, goats—sheep. His instincts are sharp. And there is about him a naivete, a sincerity and a directness, a gift of laughter that are promising assets in one desiring to be an educated citizen.

The immediate object of the Army is to make the recruit a fit soldier. Manual efficiency is a primary requisite. He is put through foot-drill, weapon-drill, marching, elementary instruction in the use of weapons.

Alongside his physical training runs a course of elementary general education in subjects such as Urdu, Mathematics and Map Reading. This is intended to make him alert and receptive, to increase his self-respect and self-confidence. It is a basic minimum for active citizenship.

Compare him at the end of his recruits training with what came, floundering and groping, out of the village. He is alert, can understand orders and carry them out. He absorbs simple instruction readily and with a childlike zeal. He sees the importance of doing a job exactly as he is told to do it. He is susceptible to discipline.

The Indian Army Certificates of education range from the Recruits Test and then 3rd Class, 2nd Class and 1st Class Certificates to the Special Certificates. The 1st Class and Special Certificates include Geography, General Knowledge and Citizenship. The Special Certificates examination is set in English for all subjects. In addition, there are the 3rd, 2nd and 1st Class I.A. English Certificates. An Indian soldier who obtains his I.A. 1st Class Certificate and the I.A. 2nd Class English Certificate is considered to have reached matriculation standard. When he obtains his I.A. Special Certificate he is considered to have qualified for the Pass Degree of a University. In war time his normal educational training is compulsory up to 2nd Class standard, only partly compulsory in higher standards and depends upon the instructors and facilities available.

TURNS OUT A TRADESMAN

The Army turns out a tradesman.

Branches such as the Armoured Corps, Signals, Artillery, Engineers, Ordnance, Medical, Veterinary—demand a high standard of recruit education. After recruit training men adjudged competent of serving in these technical capacities go to various centres and schools where they take the advanced course appropriate to their work. The Armoured Corps demands a competent driver mechanic, gunner and wireless operator. Men form a team or crew in their particular vehicle and though they specialize in some subject, must be able to take over all tasks of the members of the crew.

Technical skill in driving and maintenance enables the Indian soldier to handle vehicles of all descriptions—15 cwt., 3-ton lorries, station waggons, jeeps, wheeled armoured carriers, tracked carriers and armoured cars—light medium and heavy tanks of British and American design.

A gunner is trained to handle a variety of weapons including a rifle, a bren, a sten, a Vickers, M.G., etc. A wireless operator obtains a working knowledge of all sets and a high standard of operating. The Indian Electrical and Mechanical Engineers roll out hundreds of skilled blacksmiths, electricians, fitters, instrument mechanics, saddlers, upholsterers, turners, vulcanists tin and copper smiths, carpenters and joiners. Ordnance Depots provide us with bootmakers, packers, tailors, tent-makers. Here the men learn how clothing factories work, and after training may hold a job in any of the innumerable sections of such a factory. Men trained in the engineers are equipped to be draughtsmen, electricians, fitters, artificers, surveyors, brick-layers, carpenters, engine-drivers, road builders. The Royal Indian Army Service Corps is responsible for a large system of supplies and transport, field butchers, bakers and all types of motor and animal transport, i.e., mules, camels, and bullocks. Signals give us fitters, electricians, mechanics, telegraphs, wireless and line operators and draughtsmen. The Army Medical Corps trains nurses, ambulance orderlies and attendants of X-ray units and laboratory work.

WILL STAND ON HIS OWN FEET

There is thus no fear that the Indian soldier will be without a trade at the end of the war. He will be able to stand on his own feet. For the purely material point of view, he will be a citizen contributing more to the common pool than he takes out of it. But more he will be a thinking creature. For the Army takes the best view of the material at its disposal. These men who are efficient fitters, artificers, cooks, carpenters, cobblers, gunners, sappers, electricians, are also citizens of India and the world in the cultural sense. How does the Army fit them to hold positions of value in the cultural world?

WAR DIARY

BRITAIN AND GERMANY

1ST MAR.—There was slight German air activity over South-east England and Home Counties including London area last night.

Allied bombers attacked Stuttgart and Munich.

Mr. Eden stated in the House of Commons that he was unable to report any improvement regarding the food rations issued by the Japanese to Allied prisoners of war and internees generally.

2ND MAR.—American bombers were over south-west Germany and attacked military objectives.

German aircraft attacked the London area.

Sir James Grigg, British War Minister, made a survey of the war in the House of Commons.

3RD MAR.—American planes attacked Berlin and targets in north-west Germany. Two armed German coastal vessels were sunk, one severely damaged off Cherbourg Peninsula.

4TH MAR.—American heavy bombers attacked Berlin.

5TH MAR.—Mosquitoes of the Bomber Command attacked objectives in western Germany.

6TH MAR.—American bombers attacked Berlin region in daylight to-day.

* * *

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND ATLANTIC

2ND MAR.—The Selective Service Chief, Brigadier-General Lewis Hershey said that 12 lakhs additional selectees will be taken into the armed forces before July 1.

3RD MAR.—President Roosevelt announced that the United States Acting Secretary of State, Mr. Edward R. Stettinius will shortly go to London to discuss matters regarding the war.

The Secretary for War, Mr. Henry Stimson, told the House of Representatives Foreign Affairs Committee that the failure to extend the Lease-Lend Act for another year "would prolong the war".

4TH MAR.—The United States has suspended diplomatic relations with the Argentine Government.

* * *

INDIA, BURMA AND CEYLON

1ST MAR.—In the Arakan mopping up operations continued successfully on 29th February. It is estimated that between February 4th and 29th 4,500 Japs were killed or seriously wounded in Arakan.

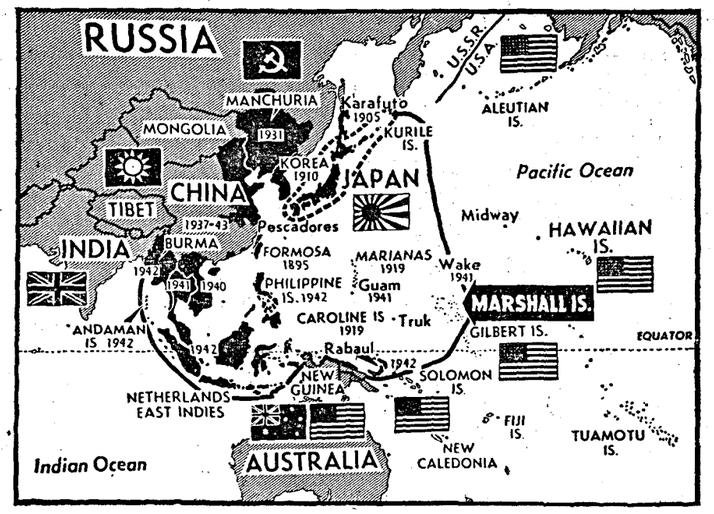
The Australian High Commissioner-Designate in India paid high tributes to the services rendered by Indian troops.

Mr. Leo T. Crowley, United States Foreign Economic Administrator, praised India's war effort and said "India is also a United Nations' arsenal."

2ND MAR.—To-day's communiqué says: "During the night of February 29 and March 1, Allied artillery was active on the western slopes of the Mayu range."

Mr. Churchill has sent a message of congratulations to Lord Louis Mountbatten on the recent victory of the Fourteenth Army in the Arakan.

Sir James Grigg, British War Minister, referred to the Burma campaign in his statement in the Commons.



TIGHTENING NOOSE ROUND JAPAN

3RD MAR.—During March 2, enemy activity in the Arakan continued to decrease, says to-day's Allied communiqué.

Lord Louis Mountbatten has sent a reply to Mr. Churchill's congratulations.

4TH MAR.—Eastward of Kalapanzin, Allied troops captured enemy positions in north and north-east of Buthiadang and despite enemy counter-attacks consolidation was well in hand by the evening of March 3, says the South-East Asia Command Communiqué. His Excellency the Viceroy has sent a message of congratulations to Lord Louis Mountbatten.

5TH MAR.—In the rear areas east of the Mayu range operations to clear the remaining enemy from the hill feature east of the Ngakyedauk Pass continued successfully on March 4, says to-day's Allied Communiqué. General Stilwell's Chinese troops occupied Wa Gantawng on March 4.

6TH MAR.—It is announced to-day that American forces fighting in Asia have captured Walawbum and Maingkwan in North Burma. Allied bombers attacked Bahmo town on the night of March 5-6.

* * *

RUSSIA AND FINLAND

1ST MAR.—Russian forces captured about 100 localities and Russaki. The Red Army has launched a new offensive south of Narva on the Estonian border.

The Finnish people were told of the Soviet armistice terms.

2ND MAR.—The battle for Baltic Republics is in full swing. Russians have encircled Narva and street fighting takes place in Pskov.

3RD MAR.—The Red Army's advance on Latvia is rapidly gaining ground as battles are being fought over the last 20 miles before the border. Soviet troops captured Krasnye-Pudy and Zhelezovki.

The Finnish Cabinet is giving 'major consideration' to peace with Russia.

President Roosevelt said that discussions for transferring roughly one-third of the Italian fleet to Russia were about half completed.

4TH MAR.—Soviet troops have reached the Gulf of Finland, west of Narva. The Russians have warned the Hungarians.

5TH MAR.—The Red Army has captured Izyzlavl. A new break through 120 miles wide and up to 30 miles deep on the first Ukrainian front is also reported to-day.

6TH MAR.—Soviet forces captured a number of district centres of the Kamanets-Pdolsk region including Ves Nevets and Zbaraz. The Proskurov-Tarnopol railway line has been cut.

* * *

ITALY, AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

1ST MAR.—Bitter fighting broke out in the Anzio beachhead.

2ND MAR.—German's third beachhead smash in Anzio has been repulsed and the battle is now going favourably for the Fifth Army.

The United States Secretary for War, Mr. Henry Stimson defined the policy of the War Department in regard to cultural and religious property in Rome.

3RD MAR.—All ground lost to the Germans in the recent attack on Anzio beachhead had been recovered. Allied positions remain intact. Lieutenant-General Mark Clark said that the situation there is well in hand. Targets in Rome were bombed.

4TH MAR.—No major activity is reported from any of the fronts. Weather limited operations.

5TH MAR.—Allied beachhead forces repulsed an enemy attack in the Cisterna area. Patrolling continued on the main Fifth Army front and Eighth Army front.

6TH MAR.—There were patrol actions on the main Fifth Army front. On the Eighth Army front Indians repulsed a German counter-attack.

VICHY, FREE FRANCE AND OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

1ST MAR.—Fighting in close vicinity to the Austrian frontier by Yugoslav Partisans is reported.

Allied aircraft bombed objectives in France and Low Counfries.

2ND MAR.—United States bombers bombed military objectives in North France including Paris and Albert.

The French Prime Minister M. Laval warned France that the German army will take ruthless measures to suppress any pro-Allied demonstrations when General Eisenhower's armies strike.

3RD MAR.—Allied fighters attacked targets in North France.

A substantial number of French merchantmen requisitioned by the United States and Britain after the fall of France will be turned over to the French Committee of National Liberation according to an announcement by United States Warshipping Administration.

Madame Granger, eldest daughter of General Giraud has died in German captivity. Her children are still detained by the Germans.

4TH MAR.—Allied aircraft attacked military targets in North France.

5TH MAR.—United States and Royal Air Force bombers bombed objectives in North France.

* * *

THE NEUTRAL COUNTRIES

1ST MAR.—It is reported that British and American war supplies to Turkey ceased to arrive from the Middle East.

Bombs were dropped on the Vatican City.

* *

THE FAR EAST

1ST MAR.—Allies have landed in Admiralty Islands. American naval planes bombed Wake Island. General MacArthur went ashore at Los Negros Island in the Admiralty Islands and inspected the captured Momote aerodrome.

2ND MAR.—Allied position in the Admiralty Islands has been consolidated.

The British Admiralty announced that British submarines operating in Far Eastern waters have torpedoed a Japanese aircraft-carrier of 7,000 tons.

Dr. Heinrich Sthamer, the German Ambassador in Tokyo exchanged views on the European war situation with the Japanese Foreign Minister, Mr. Mamoru Shigemitsu.

3RD MAR.—United States Navy bombers dropped bombs on Paramushiro and Shimushu in Kurile Islands.

4TH MAR.—Allied bombers attacked enemy positions in Gas Mata, Kahili and other places.

5TH MAR.—Japanese attempt to recapture Momote airfield in the Admiralty Islands failed. Allied planes bombed Karavia, Rapopo and Rabaul.

Ponape was attacked by United States bombers.

Japanese installations in Indo-China were bombed on 5th. On 4th Hainan was raided. On 5th Chengmai aerodrome in Northern Thailand.

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H.P.P.

If a dealer charges high prices . . .

A dealer commits an offence if he sells an article above the price fixed under the section 3 of the Hoarding and Profiteering Prevention Ordinance and in other cases at a profit exceeding 20 per cent of landed cost or the cost of production.

The Government have fixed maximum prices in respect of:—
Leather; Cigarettes of various brands; Photographic Materials and Chemicals;

Bicycles—

B.S.A., Raleigh or Rudge Whit Worth, Deyton, Norman, Hercules, Phillips, Chromix or Phoneix.

Bicycle Parts—

Lucas Bell, Lucas Lamp, Freewheel, Chain, Hubs, Spokes.

Arms and Ammunitions, Fountain Pens, Playing Cards, American Caravan; Pedal Card for Children, English; Roller Skates, American Steel Expanders, English; Meccano Sets and Hornby Trains, English, Football Bladders, English; Tennis, Golf, Pingpong and Squash Balls;

Razor Blades—

Gillet, 7 O'clock, Nacet, Valet, Nacet-Valet, Ever-Ready, Eclipse, Wardonia and Sahara.

Woollen Goods, Knitted and Woven—

The Government have directed marking of prices on the articles in respect of:—
Woollen Goods, Watches, Clocks and Time-pieces;
Imported Books, Magazines and Periodicals.

Government have ordered the exhibition of price lists conspicuously on the premises in respect of:—

Watches, Clocks and Time-pieces, Woollen Goods;
Cigarettes, Photographic Materials, Arms and Ammunitions,
Wines and Liquors, Bicycles and Bicycle Parts.

In case of complaint, inform the Commercial Tax Officer in the mufassal and the Commissioner of Civil Supplies, Madras.

Remember: The Ordinance can be made a success only if every consumer acts as an inspector.

FOR YOUR RADIO DIARY

MAR. 11.—LAHORE—9-45 p.m. "Yesterday in Chunking." By Victor Kiernan.

" 13.—DACCA—8-00 p.m. "Japan Unmasked: Indian Way and the Japanese." By W. J. Palmer.

" 14.—DELHI—8-30 p.m. "I was in Japan." By Capt. Brewester-Gow.

" " CALCUTTA—9-00 p.m. War Commentary.

" " LUCKNOW—9-45 p.m. "The Doctor's Dilemma: Analysis of Dr. Goebbel's propaganda." By Dr. P. Basu.

" " MADRAS—9-45 p.m. "All out to Win: Work Harder." By Capt. G. T. B. Harvey.

" 15 DELHI—8-30 p.m. "The Voice of America."

Delhi: 338·6 metres (886 KC/S); Calcutta: 384·6 metres (780 KC/S); Lucknow: 293·5 metres (1,022 KC/S); Dacca: 257·1 metres (1,167 KC/S); Lahore: 276 metres (1,086 KC/S); Madras: 211 metres (1,420 KC/S).

REGISTERED NO. M 4345

MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. V FRIDAY, MARCH 17, 1944 No. 28

General MONTGOMERY

HAS BEGUN ALREADY

The second front has begun already and next year we shall just topple it over You can pick your own date and put your money on it. I have not the slightest doubt that if the battle front and the home front really get down to it this year, we can get the thing almost finished—held so tightly that next year we shall just topple it over. At the end of this year, if not sooner, we shall have it just about right for toppling over

General MONTGOMERY in a speech at a workers' meeting on March 11

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[NOTE.—*The summary of news and comments contained in the* MADRAS WAR REVIEW *generally relate to events and statements published till Wednesday, every week.*]

ON THE THRESHOLD OF OFFENSIVES

"The Allies are on the threshold of critical offensives that will dwarf all previous thrusts Team work enabled the United Nations forces to carry forward to success the greatest amphibiar operations ever conducted in any war and I can promise without revealing any military secrets that these combined operations will seem small when the offensives now being planned take place.'

COLONEL FRANK KNOX, *United States Navy Secretary, in Washington, on Thursday, March* 9.

◆

BITTER FIGHTING LIES AHEAD

"The Allies have only dented the rim of Hitler's Fortress and touched the outskirts of Tojo's Empire. So far we have done well but not well enough to relax for a single moment. The decisior is ours whether the war will be short or long. Let us not be deluded by the happy thought tha the war is won. Bitter fighting lies ahead."

LIEUTENANT-GENERAL SOMERVELL, *Commanding-General of the United States Army Service Forces, in Belvoir, on Friday, March* 10.

◆

MUCH REMAINS TO BE DONE

"Our air arms are softening up the Germans, but much remains to be done. We can and wil win this war, but every one of us can and must do his full duty. It is small unit leadership tha is going to win ground battles which must be won before Germany is finally crushed."

GENERAL EISENHOWER, *Supreme Commander-in-Chief of the Allied Invasion Forces, in Sandhurst, on Saturday, March* 11.

◆

WE SHALL BE VICTORIOUS

"We have a common enemy and therefore a common aim. We know that the destruction c the German oppressors cannot be achieved without a fight on our domestic soil. We know it wi be a severe fight, but we shall be victorious."

DR. BENES, *President of Czechoslovakia, in London, on Saturday, March* 11.

MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. V FRIDAY, MARCH 17, 1944 No. 28

DISCRETION, NOT THE BETTER PART OF (DE) VALERA

IRELAND has always been a problem.

TO Great Britain she has caused many worries down the centuries. In the twelfth century there was trouble between the English and the Irish. In the seventeenth century, it again revived—this time it was between the English and the Scots on the one side and the Irish on the other. Later, Cromwell and William III tried their best to get Ireland under a common Government. In the nineteenth century, Gladstone brought the Home Rule Bill. It was before Parliament when the war broke out in 1914. Inevitably the passage of the Bill was postponed till after the war. But impatient and impetuous Irishmen would not wait. They staged a revolt and proclaimed Ireland a Republic on Easter Monday, 1916. It was a mad attempt led by Patrick Pearse, a schoolmaster. The other leaders were MacDonough, MacDermott and de Valera, and they all defended themselves in Dublin Post Office for nearly a week. The rebellion was a failure. The leaders of the rebels were captured, tried by a military tribunal, and sentenced to be shot. Fifteen leaders were executed, but one escaped. The historian says, "They almost executed a lean crow of a man who gave his name as Eamonn de Valera, but reprieved him because he had been born in America and it would not have done, in 1916, to have complications with Washington."

Problem to the United Nations

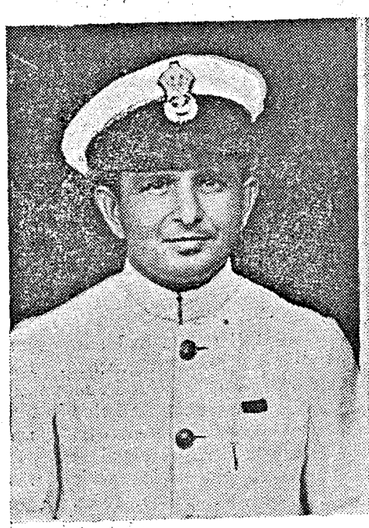
NOW Ireland under de Valera has been causing worry and anxiety to the United Nations, and it is Washington that has taken the initiative to warn her. In a statement in the House of Commons on Tuesday (March 14), on the American Note to the Irish Government, Mr. Churchill explained that the initiative was taken by the United States because of the danger to American armed forces from the presence of Axis Missions in Dublin. He announced that the British Government were consulted throughout by the United States Government and gave them their full support. For some time past, the British Government had been taking a number of measures to minimize the dangers arising from the substantial disservice to the cause of the United Nations involved in the retention of the German Minister and the Japanese Consul with their staffs in Dublin. Mr. Churchill declared that the time had now come when such measures must be strengthened. He added that restrictions on travel to Ireland announced in the Press the previous day were the first step in the policy designed to isolate Great Britain from Southern Ireland and also to isolate Southern Ireland from the outer world during the critical period which was now approaching. He was, of course, referring to the great offensive that the Allies were going to launch against German-occupied Europe from the West.

Espionage Activities

THE fact that the German Legation in Dublin was having a radio sending set and that two parachutists equipped with such sets were dropped on Irish soil by a German aircraft some time ago shows that something sinister is being done by German and Japanese agents in Dublin. Whether action has been taken against them or not, or when such action was taken, by the Irish Government is not important. For the Allies have more important work to do than watch whether Dublin is seriously taking action on enemy espionage activities, and they cannot afford to give the benefit of the doubt to Mr. de Valera's Government at a critical time when so much is at stake. That is why they asked for the closure of the Axis Legations promptly.

MR. DE VALERA'S refusal has left them no option but to take the usual precautionary measures, and what is worse for Ireland, supplies of wheat, oil, petrol and machinery carried in British ships from Canada and the United States of America may have to be stopped. This may be done not as a retaliatory measure against an unfriendly neutral, but as a measure to safeguard shipping space and the lives of sailors, which may be endangered in taking supplies to Ireland, and which may be much better utilized in the forthcoming operations.

MR. DE VALERA may not care for all this. He has never believed in the dictum that discretion is the better part of valour in the past, and he is not going to do it now. He has not paid the penalty for such lack of faith so far, but not so the country in which he was not born, but over which he holds sway.



Fali Sorabji M.B. (I) was awarded the I.D.S.M. for meritorious service with coastal forces of the Royal Indian Navy in the Arakan operations of the spring of 1943, when he kept his ship's engines running efficiently in trying circumstances during an engagement with the enemy.

Able-seaman Babu Lal was awarded the I.D.S.M. for gallantry while serving with Coastal Forces of the Royal Indian Navy in the Arakan operations of the spring of 1943. He was Quartermaster of a ship and showed great coolness and precision in carrying out orders while his ship was under intense enemy fire.

RUNNING COMMENTARY

India's Fifth War Budget—Rs. 940 crores to be debited to His Majesty's Government

In his reply to budget criticisms in the Central Assembly on March 7, the Honourable Sir JEREMY RAISMAN, Finance Member to the Government of India, has explained a number of points relating to the defence expenditure. He has pointed out the reasons for the increase in the expenditure of airfields as compared with the previous years. It is only to be expected that expenditure on airfields in the year when the enemy was at our gates and sitting on our frontiers should be very much greater than it was before the Japanese even entered the war. He laid emphasis on the fact that fighting forces and their equipment chargeable to the Indian Exchequer do not exceed the requirements of India's own local defence purposes, for instance, the setting up of the South-East Asia Command does not affect India's liability for war expenditure.

Another point in the Finance Member's budget speech relates to financial settlement arrived at between Britain and India on the question of allocation of war expenditure. Out of the total expenditure incurred by India on defence and supply services during the five years up to 1943–44 the amount that would be charged finally to the Indian revenues would be about Rs. 800 crores and the balance of about Rs. 940 crores would be debited to His Majesty's Government in Great Britain. The figure of Rs. 940 crores includes Britain's share in implementing the recommendations of the Chatfield Committee. The Finance Member in his winding up speech on March 7 made the position of India's defence very clear. He said :

"I have no hesitation in saying that the money debited to India is money incurred for the defence of India. Not only that but the charges with which India is debited are not the full cost of the defence of India, not even of the local defence of India. The position is that India bears no part of the cost of operations beyond her frontiers. She also does not bear the full cost of the defence of India herself."

Defence Expenditure of Rs. 262·64 Crores

A few figures from India's Fifth War Budget may be of interest to our readers. The total amount of defence expenditure is Rs. 262·64 crores. This is an impressive figure even if we deduct the item of Rs. 13·01 crores which represents the effect of a rise in prices. The additional item of Rs. 13·030 represents a capital portion of the defence expenditure whose benefits to India would be permanent. The following are the details of this capital defence expenditure :—

	CRORES. RS.
Airfields	14·67
Industrial expansion ..	6·00
Airfields (under the reciprocal aid).	10·85
New construction for the Royal Indian Navy.	2·58
Capital outlay on Telecommunications Scheme.	4·20

There has been an increase of Rs. 8·29 crores under civil expenditure for 1943–44, the total of which is estimated at Rs. 76·78 crores. What are the reasons for the increase of over 8 crores. The details of this expenditure are broadly as follows :—

	CRORES. RS.
Grants to evacuees and families of British subjects detained in enemy territory.	2
Grants to provinces and states in furtherance of the "Grow More Food Campaign."	2
Central Government's assistance to Bengal for famine relief.	3

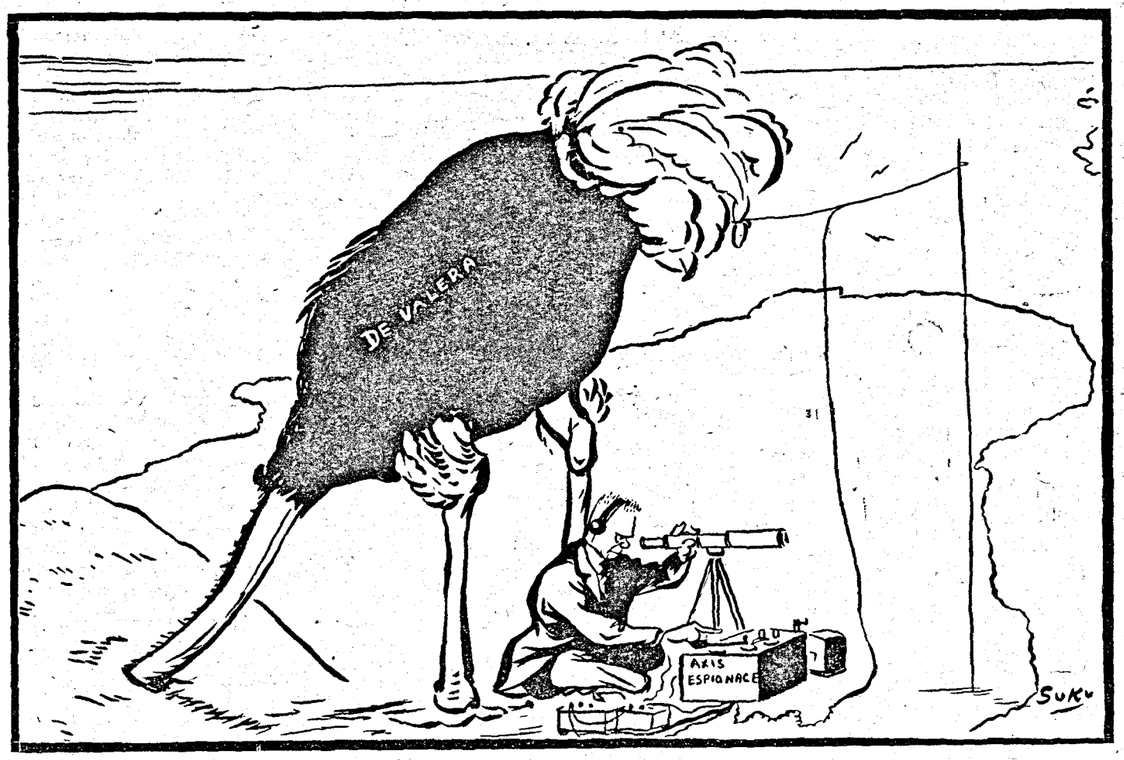
One of the items in the budget that has been widely welcomed is the grant of Rs. 10 lakhs for industrial research. After the conclusion of the war the Government of India will be giving a grant of Rs. 1 crore spread over three or four years for implementing a scheme of co-ordinated research. The Council of Scientific and Industrial Research is drawing up plans in connexion with this scheme.

* * * *

H.P.P. and Savings Campaigns

During the past year the problem of monetary inflation induced by price inflation has caused great anxiety both to the Government and the people. The question of absorbing enormous surplus purchasing power was soundly tackled by a number of anti-inflationary measures, such as introduction of the principle of Statutory Price Control and enactment of

THE IRISH OSTRICH



—Specially drawn for the MADRAS WAR REVIEW

Anti-Hoarding and Anti-Profiteering Ordinance measures which have been widely welcomed by public opinion in India. In addition to these negative measures Government have put into effect the positive policy of making more consumers goods and gold available for purchase by the public.

The "Save and Lend Campaign" of the Government has produced considerable effect in absorbing the purchasing power. In one year (from January 31, 1943 to February 1, 1944) Rs. 115 crores were subscribed by the public to the defence loans. This is about three times as much as the collections in the previous year. Now the Small Savings Campaign has been launched with a wider organization. It may be pointed out in this connexion that the Small Savings Campaign in Britain has yielded a considerable sum to the British Exchequer and has acted as a deterrant against inflation.

New taxation proposals outlined by the Finance Member in his speech are new excise duties on tea, coffee and betel nuts at the rate of two annas per pound, an increase in the tobacco excise duty for the purpose of getting an additional revenue of Rs. 10 crores, a raising of the surcharge on the customs duties on spirits and tobacco from 20 per cent to 50 per cent, increased surcharges on taxes on annual incomes above Rs. 15,000, increase by half an anna in the supertax on incomes between Rs. 35,000 and Rs. 2 lakhs, and a raising of the Corporation tax from one anna to three annas. The brightest feature of the new income-tax proposals lies in the raising of the minimum of taxable income from 1,500 to 2,000.

* * *

Bold Proposals—"Pay As You Earn" Scheme

India's Fifth War Budget has been described to be a bold one and it does in fact contain bold proposals. For instance, the "Pay As You Earn" Scheme which contemplates a measure of compulsory deposits provides for an income-tax payer to pay in advance quarterly income-tax which is to carry a interest of 2 per cent. Another innovation which has to be implemented by the provinces is the suggestion of an estate duty on non-agricultural property. The object of such a tax is not only to mitigate acute poverty itself but also to aid post-war reconstruction.

In his speech the Finance Member placed the highest emphasis on the sound financial position of the Central and Provincial Governments and said that it depended on the fullest development of the respective taxation resources. He calculated that in the first quinquennium after the war both borrowing and taxation would bring at least Rs. 1,000 crores to be used for the purpose of carrying out concrete and practicable plans of post-war reconstruction. The Dollar Fund which will be steadily built up to facilitate post-war trade between U.S.A.

(*Continued on page* 8)

WORK HARDER

By CAPT. G. T. B. HARVEY

THIS is a true story from a private letter from England. A man engaged in a munition factory was due toarrive at his work at 6-30 a.m. every morning. One day he arrived at 6-40, and was ticked off by the foreman.

"Why are you late?" asked the foreman.

"I'm sorry," said the man, "but the fact is that I had to hand my baby over to his grandmother."

"Grandmother, my eye?" said the foreman. "Haven't you got a wife?"

"Yes," said the man, "but she has to get to work at Austin's at 6 a.m., so we get her mother to take charge."

"Well," said the foreman "if your wife goes to work at 6, and you know you have to get here by 6-30, why can't you arrange to hand the baby over to granny a bit earlier?"

"Because my mother-in-law doesn't get off night-shift until 6-30!" was the reply.

I begin this talk with that story because it does seem to me to illustrate a case of 100 per cent war-effort, and what is true of that ordinary family is true of millions of people in Britain and Europe to-day. In spite of the fact that the worst onslaught of the enemy has been survived—in spite of the fact that victory for the Allies and the defeat of Nazism is now as certain as anything can possibly be—that family—those millions—are as hard at work as they were four years ago, with every physical and mental effort enlisted, and with a great proportion of the amenities and pleasures and comforts of life discarded "for the duration."

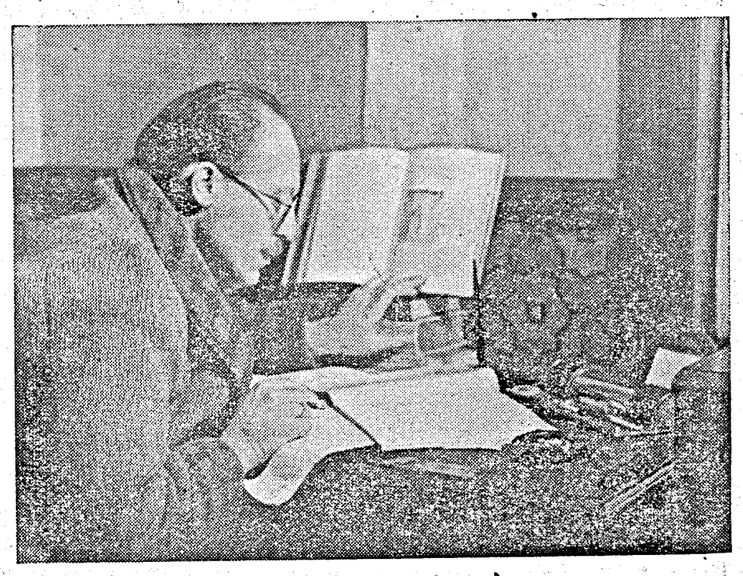
Out here, we hear the wireless, and read the papers, and see the pictures—and applaud the determination and gallantry and self-sacrifice of our friends and relatives and allies, but how many of us individually and inwardly realize that we too are at war and that—I express a private opinion only—a war which for India is just beginning.

HARSH AND GRIM WAR

Of course there are some people who are extremely hard at work, there are many who have contributed handsomely to funds or pay extra income-tax without grumbling or take on extra and honorary jobs; and again millions upon whom the incidental unpleasantnesses of a global war have fallen—shortage of food, fuel, and consumer-goods; hampered and uncomfortable transport; and anxieties about sons and brothers who *are* doing 100 per cent war-work in that they have taken the plucky plunge and are serving in the field. But, by-and-large, are the people—all the people in this country—intimately aware that there faces us a war almost as harsh and grim as that in Europe, a war that must go on for years, perhaps, and—unless every jack man of us feels and acts like that English workman's family I have told you of—, for more years than that? Nor is that the end of it, for not only has the war against Japan to be finished to our satisfaction and their perdition, but its direct reactions upon the political and economic conditions in this country and the impact of the peace itself have to be comprehended, studied and worked at, unless chaos and misery are to result where there should be security and happy progress.

I am no Cassandra of the legends, nor do I enjoy croaking like a debilitated raven, but I do feel there is *need* sometimes to remind ourselves that nothing less than cent per cent effort from each of us will do, and here are some of my reasons for saying so.

The first is that whatever war-adventure we have already experienced, be it discomfort or strain, hunger or poverty, bereavement or deprivation, there are surely bigger ones in the offing against which we have to brace ourselves. If the war in Europe draws towards a close in a climax of bloodshed and destruction, we have only just begun to come to grips with the Eastern Foe. He made his treacherous spring just about two years ago, and the impetus of that spring was as unpleasant for us as it was encouraging to him. Burma, Siam, Indo-China and the big islands to the south of them are at his mercy still; he successfully stole a large number of marine and aerial vantage-grounds from the Americans and ourselves, which—though he is losing them one by one—must long form a series of dangerous pirates' nests; he has enormous armies, a great part of an enormous navy, and a highly disciplined and war-minded home-front. He is, in short, a bad enemy, so bad a component of that body of nations forming what we know as the civilized world, that there is no chance of peaceful security in any land in the Eastern Hemisphere at least until he is thrashed into submission to the laws of humanity. Now it has taken 4½ years of bitterly concentrated effort to teach Germany, Italy, Bulgaria and Rumania a mere part of the lesson they have got to learn—and they are all, geographically, comparatively concentrated. So, personally, I don't see why it should take much less time to overcome the Japanese, with the enormous distances separating them from, and protecting them against, the avenging Allies. Certainly many and vast bases have to be prepared against them far nearer than America and Britain; and—and this is my main point—one of these, and perhaps the principal one, is to be this India. We have strong evidence of it; the South-East Asia Command is already at work. India is to be one of the principal take-off-places for a mighty and strenuous triphibious operation against one of the worst and most powerful enemies civilization has ever had to stand up to. Think what this means to us non-combatants. Millions of men and their road transport moving into, through and out of depots; thousands of trainloads of troops and supplies and ammunition constantly on the move; thousands of planes, great and small, taking off from, and homing back to, hundreds of air fields; thousands of sea-craft entering and leaving the country's harbours; hundreds of supply depots and training centres and munition factories all over the country—all together constituting a military spring-board from which the Allies are to leap at the enemy's throat. This is a picture of power, a comforting-enough picture, but confidence and complacency are two very different things, and this is a lesson that at least a part of the country has still to learn.



BRITAIN'S DOCTORS WORK HARDER IN WAR-TIME.—With all his long hours of practical work Dr. John has to combine never-ending studies of the theory of medicine as it develops. To be a good doctor he must keep abreast of all the latest medical discoveries. Dr. John finds his best time for study is in the early hours of the morning. He is least likely then to be disturbed by the telephone. Sitting quietly and alone in his surgery, clad in a comfy old smoking jacket, he works through the dawn.

S. S. S.

H. E. THE GOVERNOR'S APPEAL

GOVERNMENT HOUSE
Guindy,
10th March 1944.

I have much pleasure in commending to the people of the Madras Presidency the small savings scheme which has been devised by the Government of India and is now being launched in this and other provinces.

From the national point of view this scheme is of the greatest value and importance. It is not primarily a war measure, but is designed for the uplift of this great country, not merely in war time but for many years to come. India now has an unique opportunity of saving and acquiring wealth so as to give her voice the influence which it deserves at the council table of the world's great nations.

From the view point of the individual it would be difficult to find a better security, or a larger guaranteed return for his investment.

I appeal with confidence to the people of this Province to participate to the full in this small savings scheme for by so doing they will help immeasurably their country and themselves.

Arthur Hope
GOVERNOR OF MADRAS.

MAIN OBJECTIVE OF N.W.F.

I am no alarmist. I am convinced that ultimately we have the measure of the Japanese, on sea, land and in the air. But to the complacent I would address this question. Supposing you were a member of the Japanese High Command anxiously conscious for powerful concentric pressure against your island-country, increasing southwards through the Aleutians and Kiska, northwards through the Solomons and the Marshalls and Truk, and eastwards from the Coromandel and Carnatic coasts, what would you do? Would you sit and wait for unhampered hosts to hurl themselves at your inner defences or would you sally out and put their programme out of gear by doing as much damage as you could to their base concentrations? If you think this out, is it so certain that war, physical actual war, will not come to these shores,—to this very city perhaps? Whether or not such enemy attacks can be held away from us by diverting land action, or by the navy or the air force, is neither here nor there; the point is that Eastern India must be a tempting target for a desperate foe, and with such large masses of uninformed and unstable people to look after and prevent from panicking and interrupting war-work, every intelligent person has is work fully cut out. The National War Front's main objective is just that—to interest, inform and inspire the uninformed, the apathetic, the complacent and the defeatist. But there are dozens of other ways in which the morale of the country can be strengthened by the average man and women,—by individual self-denial and austerity, by practising and preaching the saving habit instead of the spending habit—to assist the vital cause of anti-inflation; by active regular work on behalf of troops (for example Red Cross and Amenities work in all its forms, working-parties, first-aid, nursing, etc.), or on behalf of troops' families (for instance, Forces Welfare work, service with Soldiers' Boards); or again by supplementing the work of the National War Front by personal contact with the puzzled, worried masses explaining the foundations for the Allies' confidence, as also the inevitability of hardship, the necessity for

unrelaxed effort and cheerful compliance with every requirement and restriction which Government has to impose, and confidence in our war-leadership.

These things may all seem vague. But the fact is that the money you save or the speeches you make or the number of socks you can knit are not in themselves the prime factor. It is rather the enormous influence of personal example. The more men or women who doggedly and regularly give all the spare time available, without pay, possibly at their own cost, and without any thought of reward, to war-work of whatever kind, so much the greater the national realization of the emergency. That is what is wanted—a national realization—and the force of personal example is the greatest of all the factors likely to produce a steadfast and victorious morale.

DUTY OF THE OPPOSITION

The title of this talk is "Work Harder," but may I warn listeners of a few activities, to which this exhortation definitely does *not* apply? This country, I submit, is apt to over-indulge the theory that the duty of the opposition is to oppose. I don't believe that, in war, this is necessarily so. Constructive political criticism is always welcome but *mere* irresponsible criticism, often couched in a personal vein, against a Government or a party or a person merely because their peace-time theories vary from yours, is a prejudicial and dangerous course to pursue at a time like this.

All I ask, in the interest of a cause which *must* be made victorious if we citizens of India are to survive let alone to flourish, is that whether the atmosphere we live in is that of high politics or party-counsels or religious conferences, or even committees of the various war-efforts themselves, opinions should be subjective and sober and consciously subordinated to the exigencies of the times.

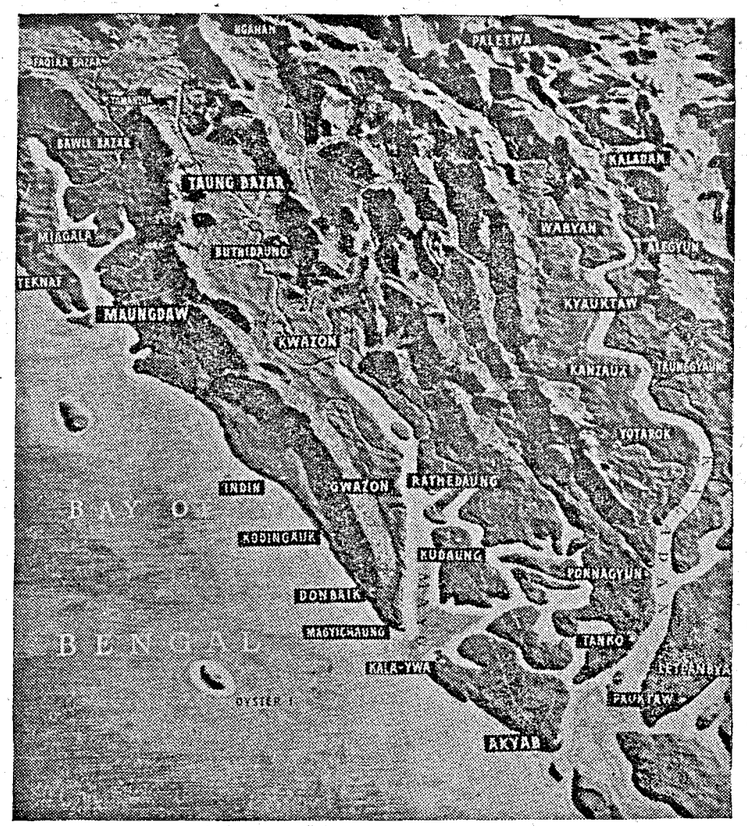
—*A talk broadcast from A.I.R., Madras, on Tuesday, March* 14.

RUNNING COMMENTARY

(*Continued from page* 5)

and India is another point in the budget speech which deserves to be noted. On the whole there is a general sigh of relief that the burden imposed by the war is not greater. It is gratifying to note that the budget recognizes the important economic principle that a country cannot spend on war and war alone. In India a position has now been reached in which "a substantial increase in the demands on India's resources of skilled man power or materials, even though the cost were not borne by Indian revenues, would impose a severe additional burden on her economy." This has been well accepted in the budget and India's war-time finance rests on the principle that her economic stability, on which not only the well being of her people but also her utility as a base of operations depends, is maintained.

THE BURMA FRONT



PATROL ACTIVITY

Behind the words, "patrol activity continues," which occur frequently in war communiqués, lie innumerable stories of fortitude and courage of small parties of British and Indian troops who probe into enemy positions day and night.

Often they inflict damage to enemy posts but all patrols are not intended to go into action. Less dramatic though no less dangerous is the task of reconnaissance when their job is to obtain information as to the whereabouts and strength of enemy positions.

A patrol has just returned. The Lance-Naik leading the patrol managed to crawl up a bare slope to the blind side of an enemy bunker without rousing the suspicions of the treesnipers behind. He flung a grenade through the slit in the bunker, and scrambled downhill again as the Japanese at the rear opened fire.

His ankle was twisted in the descent but he immediately organized a covering fire to facilitate the withdrawal of the patrol, which later dealt in similar fashion with another enemy bunker.

To establish contact with the enemy these men have often to cross mountains and ravines, along tiny footpaths and through miles of thickly weaded jungles. When they return it is not always without scratches. Most of the time these men are entirely cut off from civilisation, living in holes dug in the ground or in isolated grass-roofed shanties.

NEW BRITISH TECHNICAL INVENTIONS

By ERIC N. SIMONS

THE production of special stainless steels and alloys to meet the needs of the chemical and dairy industries of the world is of relatively recent date. Obviously, acids and other liquids injurious to steel containers compel the employment of materials with resistance to these acids and also to the effects of heat and corrosion. In the supply of dairy produce there has been a continual demand for hygiene, and special materials have had to be used for storage tanks and other vessels containing milk.

Before modern stainless alloys were introduced, the only metals that could be used were tin, copper, nickel and lead, while the only non-metallic materials were stone and glass. Mild steel vessels were lined with glass, rubber, tin and even paint. Valuable metals used in laboratories, e.g., silver and platinum, were too expensive for industrial employment.

When specially constructed plant of stainless metals was developed, entirely owing to the discoveries of those two metallurgists Mr. Harry Brearley and Sir Robert Hadfield, an increased need for electric arc welding for all kinds of plant was experienced. Chemical manufacturers in particular, wanted first-class plant, and it was wholly the result of stainless alloys that many chemical reactions were made simple and safe.

In the welding of alloys of all types, numerous difficulties have had to be overcome by experts. Only twenty years or so ago the welding of alloy steels was regarded in many quarters as impracticable, and mild steel was the only steel that was welded at all extensively. Any metal containing more than an extremely small carbon content was not welded other than experimentally.

ELECTRIC ARC PROCESS

The arrival of the electric arc process changed the entire position. The intense heat produced simplified the task, but at the same time raised new problems, since this heat built up fresh compounds that had awkward effects. These difficulties have all been steadily overcome, and to-day it is possible to weld satisfactorily all types of alloys, both ferrous and non-ferrous.

In consequence of the additional research work that has been carried out and is still being carried out, welding experts and plant manufacturers are planning a vast extension of fabrication after the war. In order that a reasonable indication may be gathered of what is possible, it may be as well to outline one or two actual welded jobs that have been executed in Great Britain.

One manufacturer just before the war built a 2,300-gallon double compartment stainless steel milk tanker, mounted on a motor chassis.

This tanker met all hygienic needs, and constituted the perfect bulk milk transport unit.

Another welded job was a 20-gallon stainless steel still for distilling essential oils. This still was steam-jacketed and built entirely of stainless steel.

In brewing beer, fermenting barrels are also being made of stainless alloys by electric arc welding, and the interior finish of these must likewise be of high quality workmanship. Over a hundred tanks with capacities from 1,000 to 50 gallons that made up a single order have been placed by a British chemical manufacturer. Each of these was built up by electric welding.

Plans are already in existence for a wide development of fabrication in the chemical industry. For example, spiral coolers are already being electrically fabricated. Storage tanks of heat-resisting steel are being welded with British electrodes giving a weld deposit of similar composition to that of the parent metal. A fine finish is essential in most work fabricated for the chemical industry.

Again, steel parts for the electrical and allied industries that were formerly made as steel castings are now being welded electrically at a much lower cost without any decline in efficiency, and there is every reason to believe that this tendency will increase after the war. Much research work is being done on the development of special welding electrodes to meet the requirements anticipated in the future. Many new metals and alloys are being and have been produced for specific functions.

Countless experiments are at present in progress in Great Britain, and as soon as the end of the war allows, an intensive drive in the direction of better and more extensive fabrication of plant, will certainly begin.

A sailor called unexpectedly on his fiancee. He found her all dressed up and ready to go to a dance.

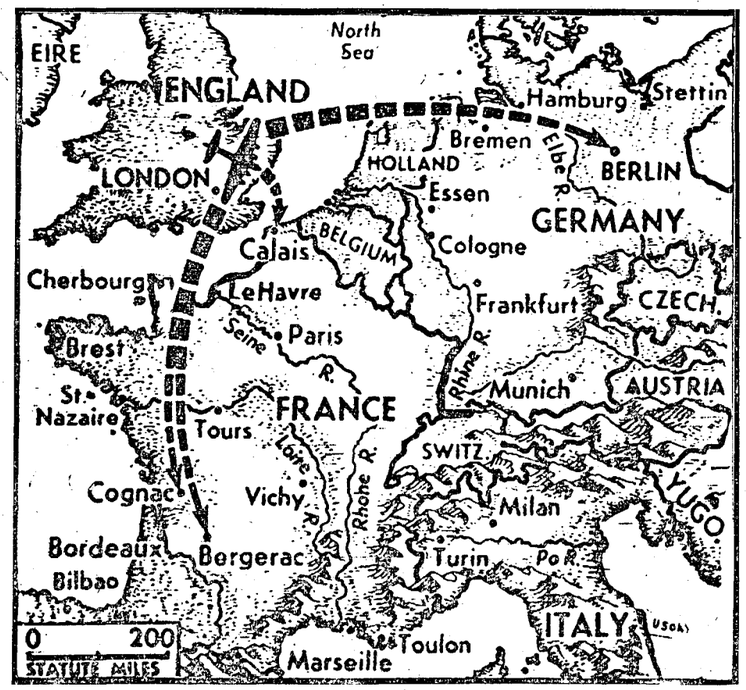
"That's the spirit," he told her. "No need to sit about and be gloomy."

Just then the telephone bell rang, and the sailor answered it.

"What?" he said. "Oh, yes—judging from the number of U-boats we've sunk, I should certainly think so." And he hung up the receiver.

"Who was that?" asked the girl, somewhat apprehensively.

"Oh," said the sailor, "just a fellow who wanted to know if the coast is clear!"



In heavy daylight attacks on western Europe, March 5–6, the U.S.A.A.F. struck at Berlin and also dipped down into southern France, to bomb Cognac and Bergerac. The Calais area, too, came in for heavy pounding. The daylight raid on Berlin marked the second time the Berliners have looked up and seen United States bombers flying in formation overhead—a sight their Herr Goering assured them on many occasions they would never, never see.

WAY STATIONS ON SEA ROAD TO TOKYO

New York Times Correspondent Robert Trumbull writes:—

THE new bases captured from the Japanese in the Marshalls are now being welded into our trans-Pacific supply line which must support any further operations westward. The violent phase of the war passed over Kwajalein and Eniwetok like a tropical squall and now we are putting these atolls for uses for which nature so well designed them.

"Army engineers and Navy construction battalions work day and night on the major islands of the two atolls, converting them into forward bases for the next push in the Central Pacific. Each atoll either has or will have bomber and fighter strips, supply dumps and such facilities as the limited land areas will support for handling ships, using the virtually unlimited anchorages provided by the lagoons.

"Possession of these bases has raised our horizon. Two targets in the Carolines are now close enough to Eniwetok to be bombed from there with land-based fighter cover: Ponape, 362 miles southwest of Eniwetok, and Kusaie, 363 miles south and slightly east of Eniwetok. Kusaie, also, is in range of Kwajalein Island.

"Thus, our conquests in the Marshalls weren't an end in themselves but merely advanced our forward perimeter westward. As the actual frontier of the war moves farther west, the importance of the Marshalls will lie in their convenience as fuel and supply centres for the fleet. These islands with their protected lagoon anchorages can be either a stop-over or supply and relay point on the long road to and from the Pacific coast of the United States, where the men and their tools for a large-scale operation must originally embark . . .

"Kwajalein may now, in fact, be ranked among the important Allied seaports in the Pacific and will continue to hold such a position as long as we must maintain the Central Pacific route to the Japanese empire."

Four men who were to be sent abroad at short notice took French leave and left the camp for a few hours to say goodbye to their families.

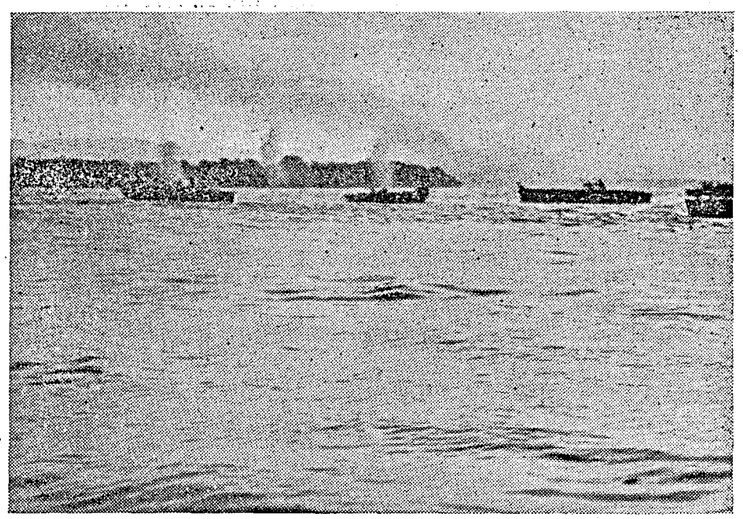
At the London terminus they were caught by a ticket collector who wanted to see the railway vouchers which they did not possess.

He was about to call the military police when a burly sergeant of another regiment asked what the trouble was, and said he would put the men under arrest.

Ordering them to fall in, he marched them through the barrier. Once out of sight of the ticket collector he dismissed them and told them to buzz off.

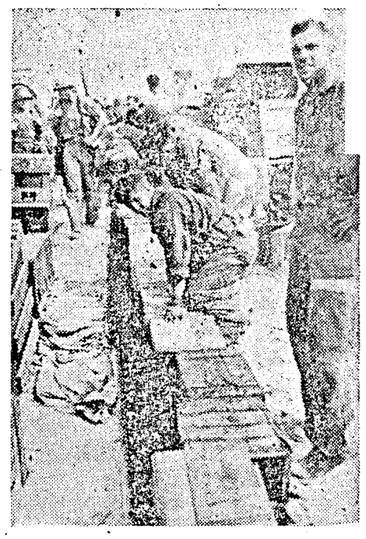
They started to thank him, but he cut them short.

"That's all right, chums. It was the only way I could get past the barrier myself. I hadn't a rail voucher either."



UNITED STATES MARINES ADVANCE THROUGH JAPANESE GUNFIRE—Landing craft carrying United States Marines forge steadily ahead for the amphibious assault on Bougainville Island in the Northern Solomons while Japanese gunfire splashes the water nearby. Once ashore, the marines overran fortified enemy positions and drove the Japanese into the jungles of their last important base in the South Pacific Island group. Later, United States Army units joined the marines for an overland push against the Japanese.

UNITED STATES FORCES CAPTURE GILBERT ISLANDS.—United States marines with fixed bayonets for close-range fighting take cover behind an embankment during the fighting on Tarawa atoll, in the Gilbert Islands, which led to the capture of the strategic Japanese air base. The South Pacific Gilberts were taken by combined United States forces.



UNITED STATES FORCES DRIVE JAPANESE FROM GILBERT ISLANDS IN PACIFIC.—United States Marines who took part in the capture of Tarawa, strategic Japanese air base in the Gilbert Islands, move supplies across the sandy beach on a roller carrier. United States forces also drove the Japanese from the adjacent Gilbert Islands of Makin and Abemama.

NEW PHASE IN OFFENSIVE AGAINST JAPAN

THE attack on Truk, the enemy's principal naval base in the Central Pacific, begins a new stage in the offensive against Japan, writes *The Times.*

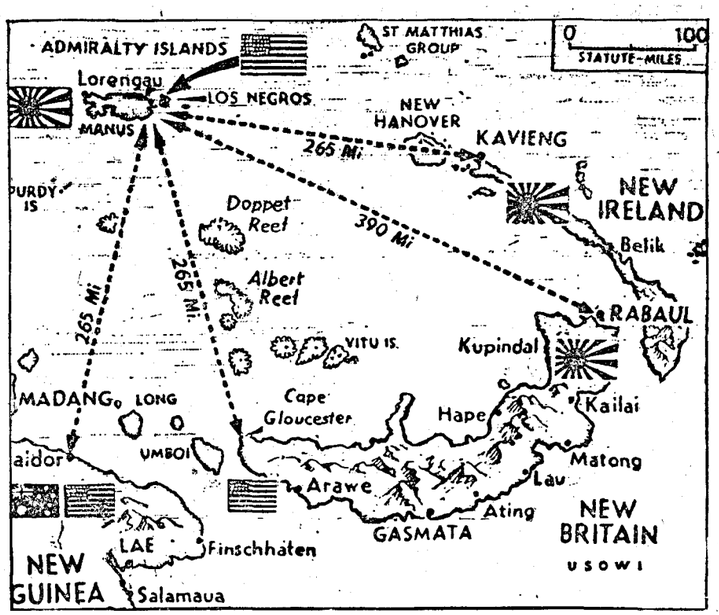
The participation of large numbers of United States warships and aircraft in this important operation impose a wireless silence during its earlier stages; some days may well pass before detailed information concerning its scope and effect is made public. The conformation of the principal islands within the Truk atolls forbids any expectation that they will yield to attack as rapidly as the strongholds captured in the Gilbert and Marshall groups. Of the islands which command the ordinary anchorage of Truk and its approaches, Doublon, Moen and Fefan are not low coral platforms but basalt mountain tops rising over 1,100 feet above the sea level; and the fourth, Uman, is a little lower. Their reduction or neutralization is, therefore, likely to require a longer and greater effort.

Nevertheless, the speed with which the American High Command have followed up their earlier successes in spite of the immense length of their lines of communication and their refusal to be beguiled into a rigid strategy of "island hopping" are encouraging features in their newest and boldest offensive.

CAMPAIGN IN SOLOMONS

Meanwhile the long campaign in the Solomon islands has passed its culminating point. This was reached recently when American and New Zealand troops seized Green Islands which lie between the Buka island and the northern extremity of the Bougainville island and New Britain. This move cut off the Japanese garrisons dispersed through Bougainville, Choiseul, Buka and the Shortland islands from any probable relief, for their nearest friendly base Rabaul in New Britain is under constant air attack and ships which use its harbour are in perpetual peril. It is doubtful whether the force in Bougainville can subsist on its small resources. Choiseul and the smaller islands are poor and their marooned garrisons ill-fed, blockaded and diseased and appear to be in a hopeless position. The dropping of occasional supplies from the air, even if this is still possible, will not meet their needs. Unescorted barge traffic is still possible, though perilous along the coast of New Guinea or across the Straits which can be crossed in the few hours of darkness. Attempted over wide stretches of the sea, without adequate air and naval protection, it invites destruction; and it is hard to see where the enemy will find escorts now that the far more important strongholds of Rabaul and Truk itself are in danger.

The latest phase of the campaign in the Solomons permits further deductions. In the first place American troops, established in their beachheads on the Bougainville island, would seem to have no further reason to advance into its mountainous interior. They can safely leave the enemy to the care of General Famine and General Fever, and these two Commanders will operate even more effectively in the smaller islands. If these conclusions are justified, the Northern Solomons can now be bypassed. Nor are they an exceptional case.



On the last day of February, General MacArthur sent his landing troops ashore to seize Los Negros Island, a key position in the Admiralty Islands. T is latest Allied surprise move tightens the sea blockade of all isolated Jap garrisons in the Bismarck Archipelago, and also gives the Allies another bomber base. Map shows *location of Los Negros and the air distances to other important Allied and Jap positions in the area.*

"WE CAN DO NO OTHER"

(*By* R.G.)

Strong youth about to die deems life more sweet
Than do the unthreatened many or the worn
And weary: but to die
Our merriest have chosen, lest unborn
And unbegotten generations cry

"You in whose will it lay to fight or treat
With evil undisguised, why laid you down
Your spear and armour while
You still could stride the windy skies or drown
In the undefeated ditch around our isle?"

We fight to win: but even were defeat
More sure than night's fall and returning dawn
We could not choose but fight,
Whose ancestors took freedom out of pawn
And poured out lives to ransom law and right.

A people in whose heart Alfred and Arthur meet
Could not the other cheek to tyrants turn.
A people brave and wise,
Whom Pitt and Lincoln taught, their peace must earn
By daring all disaster with calm eyes.

JAPAN'S SHIPPING MINISTER HAS UNENVIABLE JOB

AT this moment in history one of the least desirable jobs in the world is that of the new Japanese Minister of Transportation and Communications. Keita Goro," writes Admiral Harry E. Yarnell, former Commander of the United States Asiatic Fleet.

" The Japanese merchant marine is shrinking. Our present rate of sinkings is greater than can be replaced by the Japanese shipyards and Japan's hard-pressed industrial plant. The railroads of the area Japan dominates are sparse, often primitive and vulnerable. The extent of the territory—largely a water area—on which Japan depends is enormous and the functioning of transport where industrial plants lie so far from sources of raw material is vital. Furthermore, Japan has attempted to super-impose an artificial, Japan-centered and dominated economy on a huge area whose natural orientation has been in other directions. She had to create new channels of communications in an area where the entire former system of supply has been disrupted.

GORO'S DIFFICULTIES

" The accumulating difficulties facing Minister Goro can be seen in a great variety of recent events. The chief attempt to meet the problem of sea transport has been the wooden ship programme. These are vessels of 100, 150 and 200 tons. It is hoped they can be produced in great numbers in local shipyards without dependence on the inadequate supplies of iron at Japan's disposal. This improvisation is creating a store of new troubles. Firstly, there has been a need to train shipwrights in Borneo, Celebes and Sumatra and divert sorely needed skilled manpower to the establishment of these training schools.

" Manning these ships, once they are constructed, is another problem. Ten ships of 100 tons each require several times the navigational personnel of one ship of 1,000 tons. The inhabitants of the South Seas are good seamen, accustomed to daring voyages among their own waters. But it is no small problem to float a new merchant marine of small ships that must ply in unaccustomed channels.

" It isn't easy to get local crews to sail these small craft into strange waters, laden with products of their own country to supply the invaders' demands, when they know they are not likely to bring home any cargo in repayment and how vulnerable these wooden ships are to ·50 calibre slugs from strafing Allied planes, which can sink such frail craft without a bomb or torpedo.

" These craft increase another of Japan's transport problems. Since their range is limited, the amount of transhipment necessary is greatly increased. They can only go to a limited number of railheads—where, as they converge, they present easy, numerous targets to Allied plane and submarine patrols.

" A further complication lies in the need to create local shipyards close to timber sources. Although rafts are

Lieutenant-General A. F. P. Christison, C.B., M.C., Commander of the 14th Army, who inflicted a major defeat on the Japanese in the Arakan.

increasingly being used to transport timber, such a good source as the Philippines has been exploited only for domestic construction because transport for lumber is not available.

EVIDENCES OF STRAIN

" There are other evidences of the strain. The Japanese have seized Chinese sailing vessels. They are making plans to improve the Grand Canal, easing the burden on interior transport in China. A captured Japanese told authorities in General Stilwell's command, that 14th U.S.A.A.F. atatcks had compelled the use of devious routes on the Japan-Formosa run and cargo ships travel increasingly by night, hugging the coast, increasing the length of the haul and decreasing the effective tonnage.

" The combination of natural, inherent difficulties and the hazards of warfare make the life of the Japanese Minister of Transport and Communications not very pleasant. The Tokyo radio said recently: 'Huge enemy task forces ply between our supply bases and the front lines. The enemy has made the passage of larger transports infinitely difficult and so, a heavy responsibility for safe transport of foods and supplies has fallen on the crews of these wooden ships . . . Their worst enemies are dengue fever and Boeing planes.'

" It would be more accurate to say their worst enemies are not the immense natural obstacles or our weapons, but the military leaders whose mistakes they are paying for."

A chimney-sweep got rude in a restaurant and two Royal Air Force pilots carried him out. Headline: "R.A.F. carry out offensive sweep."

Hitler was called out to see the fires in Berlin. Headline: "Hitler goes to Blazes."

A woman sued her doctor for operating on her husband without her consent. Headline: "Women sues Doctor for Opening her Mail."

—*From a B.B.C. feature.*

"SCARLET PIMPERNEL" OF BALKANS

By MORLEY RICHARDS

THE disclosure of another British "Scarlet Pimpernel" operating with the Balkan guerillas was made in Cairo with the news that Brigadier Edmund Frank Davies, M.C., is seriously wounded and prisoner in German hands. He was head of the Allied military mission to Albanian Partisans.

Treachery brought about Davies's capture. Early last month, he and his few Allied Staff Officers and a party of guerillas were attacked by the Germans north-west of Tirana, the Albanian capital. Heavily out-numbered, the party withdrew to a new hiding place. Some days later it was approached by seemingly friendly Albanians. It was caught off its guard. The Albanians were Quislings. There was a hand-to-hand fight in which several Albanians in Brigadier Davies's party were killed. Their leader was severely wounded.

In German custody, Davies was taken to hospital in Tirana and the latest news of him is that he is still in a serious condition. So ends for the time being a story which, when it can be fully told, will rank high in the records of courage.

CHOSE HIS GUERILLA JOB HIMSELF

Davies is 43 years old and is a regular soldier of the Royal Ulster Rifles. Tough, quiet spoken, good organizer and a first-class leader of men, he chose his guerilla job himself. British Army authorities in the Middle East set to work immediately after the Germans occupied the Balkans in 1941 to contact the underground movement in Yugoslavia, Greece and Albania. A call was made for volunteers to be smuggled into the country to help organize and find ways of getting aid to the Loyalists. Davies was one of the volunteers.

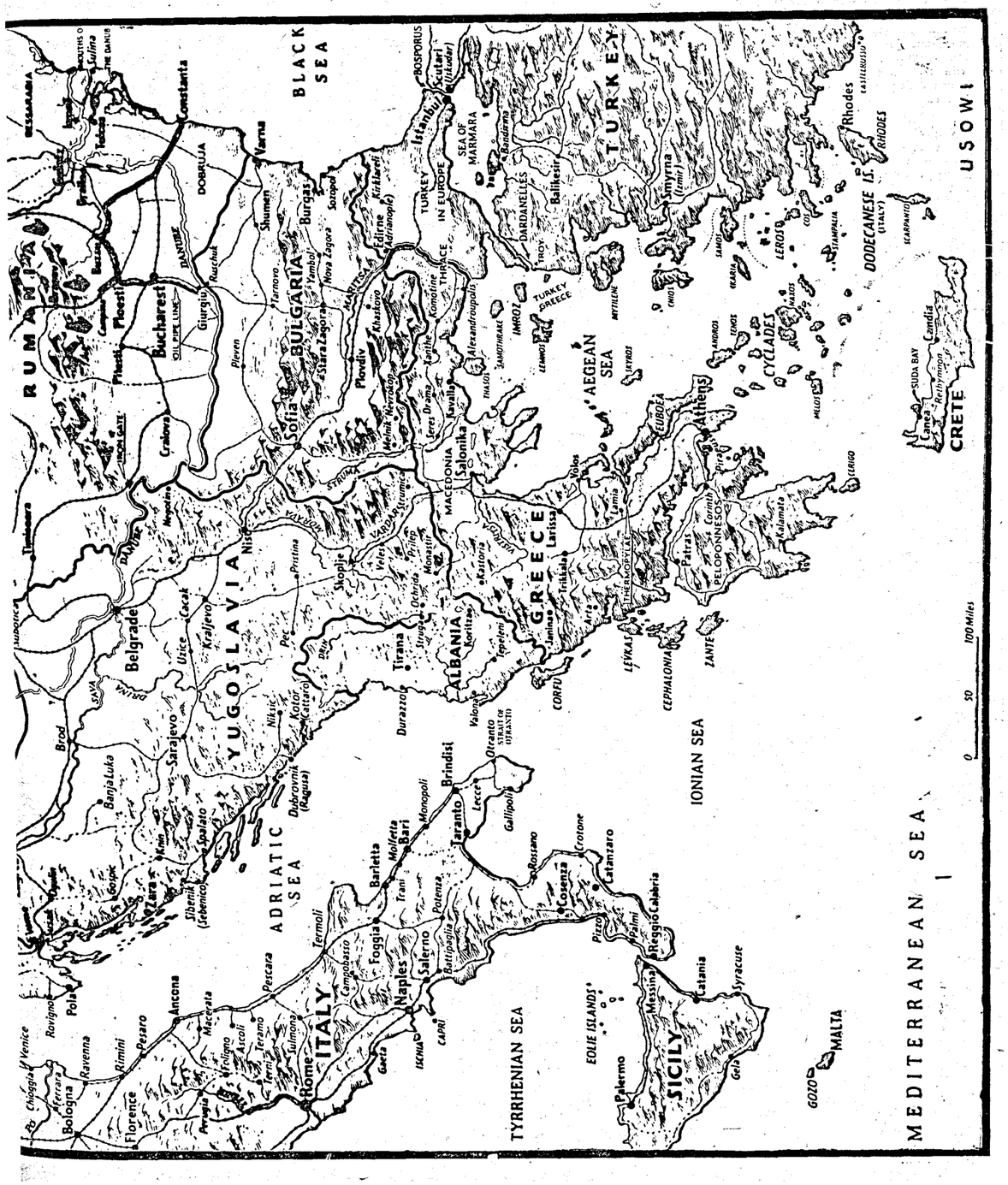
He knew the Middle East well, having served for several years there and had some knowledge of the Balkans. In a painstaking way, characteristic of him, he set to work to learn the Balkan languages and studied the special problems of Partisan resistance to the enemy. How he reached Yugoslavia into which he was first smuggled must remain a military secret.

ATTACHED TO MILITARY MISSION

He was attached to the military mission in that country and helped to train bands of local men in modern warfare. Resistance in Albania at first was spasmodic. It grew as enemy problems increased and Greeks and Yugoslavs became more and more successful.

Finally, it was decided that Davies should be transferred to Albania with a small mission to help organize the work there. He was brilliantly successful against heavy odds and in the face of innumerable risks.

MAP OF THE BALKAN PENINSULA



AIRMEN'S HOBBY FILLS UNIT LARDER

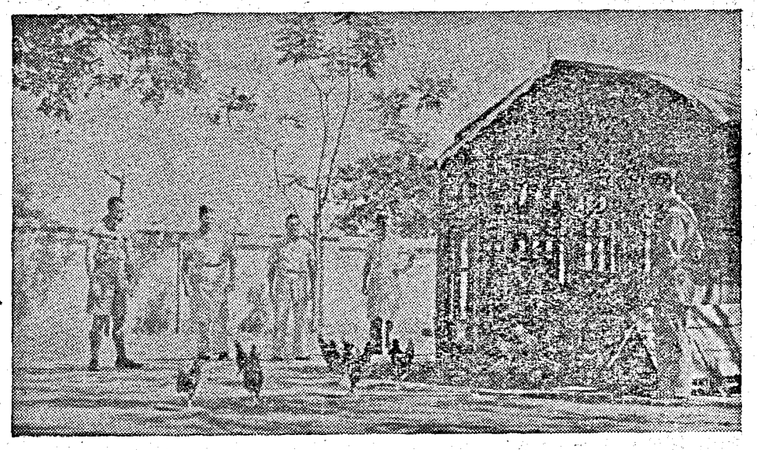
THE versatility of Royal Air Force airmen is not to be denied. This is well borne out by a farm which started as the hobby of two in Southern India, L. A. C. Thomas from Yorkshire, England, and L. A. C. Morford of Derbyshire, England.

From small beginnings with ration chickens, their hobby has developed into a part-time job for the Sergeant in charge of Unit messing.

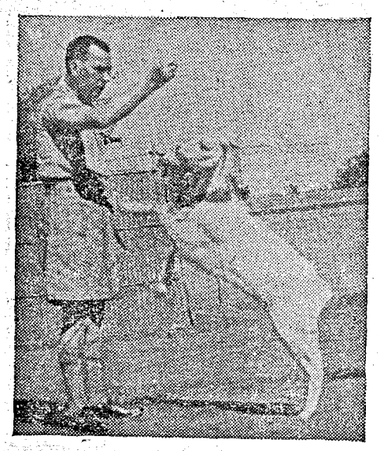
First hatchings were from new laid eggs. Now there is a family of "White Leghorns," "Rhode Island Reds," and some brand of (we think) "Plymouth Rock," all forming a happy Royal Air Force unit in their roomy coop converted from a bicycle shed.

Pigs are a useful section of the farm. The first was purchased, but stock has since been increased by exchanging "swill" from the messes for unkilled porker from a local slaughter house. On swill these pigs are fed and fattened. When they weigh 150 lb. they are ready to fulfil their culinary destiny, providing ham and bacon and pork for the various Royal Air Force messes in the unit.

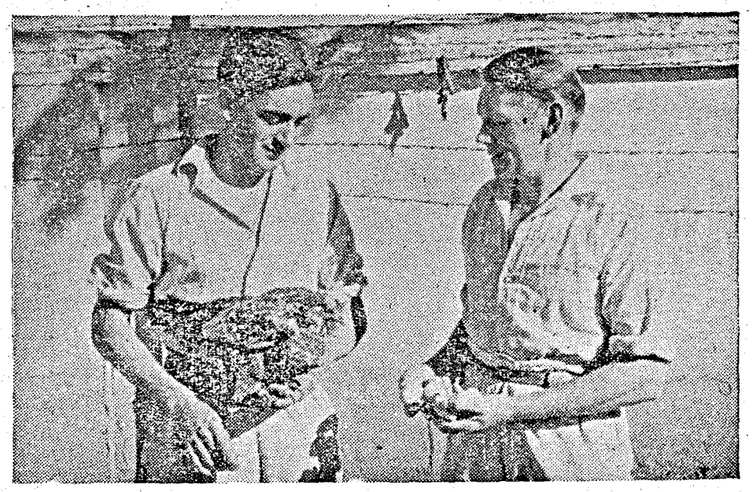
An important member of the farmyard is Lucy the goat. Lucy is fond of a "smoke" and, being the mascot is fed with Victory cigarettes quite frequently. In fact, the Sergeant says they are good for her.



"H—Flight" in full force! Left to right: Sergeant Davidson from Derbyshire, L. A. C. Mooney from Blanefield, Sterlingshire, L. A. C. Variet of Dunstable, L. A. C. Whiteley of Halifax. The Orderly Corporal watches the drill display of the hens.



Pet at the airmen's farm is Lucy the goat. Lucy's epicurean taste demands "V" for Victory cigarettes. The Sergeant, who comes from Derbyshire, gives her some of his.



She's a good hen, but don't tell me she laid all those. L. A. C. Morford, from Derby, holding the hen and L. A. C. Thomas of Hull, discuss the merits of a contributor to the breakfast menu. It was these two airmen who started the farm as a hobby.

The night the U. S. marines landed in the Solomons, a marine sergeant in a San Francisco cafe was praising his corps to the skies. An army captain finally interrupted.

"Don't forget," he said, "that when a marine goes into battle there are ten soldiers on one side of him and ten sailors on the other."

The marine raised himself to his full six feet one and came to attention.

"Sir," he retorted, "that's the proper proportion."

A young recruit stood on guard with fixed bayonet when a shadowy figure appeared.

"Who goes there?" he challenged.

"Ribbentrop," was the reply.

The sentry threw down his rifle with a cry of delighted surprise:—

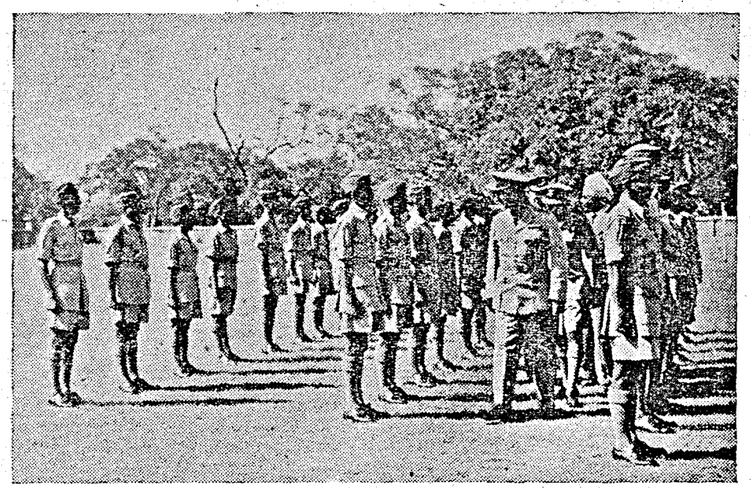
"Why, you're the fellow they're all looking for! Wait a minute and I'll tell the sergeant."

West African troops from Lagos, French Togaland and the Gold Coast are building a bridge on one of the roads into Burma.

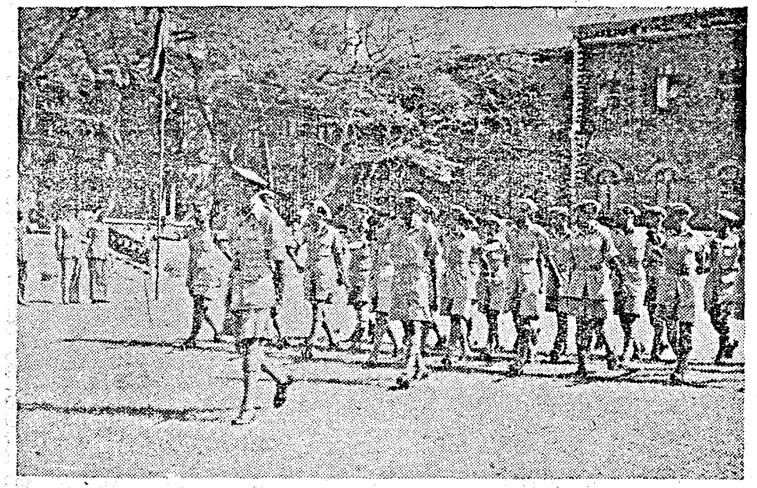
The span of the bridge measures 40 feet. The men are working on the foundations under an English corporal, who was a plumber in civilian life.

"It is big job but they are a tough and cheerful crowd," said the corporal. He had helped to raise the unit in West Africa and is now serving with them in Burma. "Their only grouse is the absence of yams and palm-oil from the Indian menu."

INDIAN AIR TRAINING CORPS



I.A.T.C. MADRAS 'VARSITY SECOND PASSING OUT PARADE.—Group Captain A. D. Foster inspecting the cadets.



Another view of the march-past.

ON Friday, the 10th March 1944, afternoon, in the Presidency College grounds was witnessed a quiet but nenetheless impressive passingout parade by a batch of 24 University students who had just completed a strenuous course of three months' training. The salute was taken by Group Captain A. D. Foster who was highly impressed by the smart turn-out of the cadets.

Among those present were Dr. A. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliyar, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Madras, Squadron Leader Whitehead and Ft./Lt. Mehta and Mr. W. M. Maclean, Registrar of the University of Madras.

Certificates of proficiency were awarded to the cadets and a silver cup for the best cadet of the course was presented to Rozario.

Addressing the cadets, Squadron Leader Whitehead congratulated them on crossing what he described as the "first milestone" in the life of an air man and wished them well in their future careers.

In addition to their normal attendance at college, these cadets had about 190 hours of instructions at the hands of skilled instructors, civilian and air force, and the success of the course has been not a little due to Ft./Lt. Sastry, the Officer-in-Charge.

The Indian Air Training Corps, which is now functioning at six Indian Universities, was inaugurated in Madras last August by the then Deputy Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief.

The Corps is primarily meant for the recruitment of officers to the General Duties (Air Crew) Branch of the Indian Air Force. It provides pre-service training in air force subjects for prospective entrants to the Indian Air Force.

The successful candidates who are recommended by the University authorities will go straight to the Officers Selection Board for the Indian Air Force.

Two American soldiers were watching a show in a small town. Attracted by a red-haired girl in the chorus, one said: "Gee, oh boy! I'd give ten good English shillings for a lock of that girl's hair!"

"Give me your money," whispered his companion. With the money in his hand he left the seat, making his way to the stage door.

Returning some minutes later, he thrust something into his friend's hand and said: "You got a bargain, Johnny, she let me have the whole wig for ten shillings!"

A commando on leave had spent a long evening with friends at the village inn. They showed him a quick way home across the fields, forgetting that the local bull was loose.

The bull attacked, not recognising the commando's beret. The unfortunate animal was gripped by the horns and lugged about the field until it managed to break free and bolt.

"Pity I had those last two drinks," said the soldier. "I ought to have got that chap off his bike."

The following is taken from the *News Chronicle*:—

Wire is one of the things needed by farmers; that is scarce in wartime. It can be obtained only by a permit. A Berkshire farmer who became a little impatient when his permit did not arrive composed the following "Field post card," and sent it to the county war committee, with the request that they should strike out what did not apply and return it to him:—

To hell with you and your wire.
There is no wire.
What is wire?
Don't you know we're at war?
You can have a permit
(next month)
(next year)
(in 1945).
Herewith permit.

ALLIED AIR POWER IN ITALY

WE have to thank the activities of the air forces for the fact that the Germans have not been able to thrust with the same vigour from Cisterna as they did at Carroceto, cables *The Times* Fifth Army correspondent.

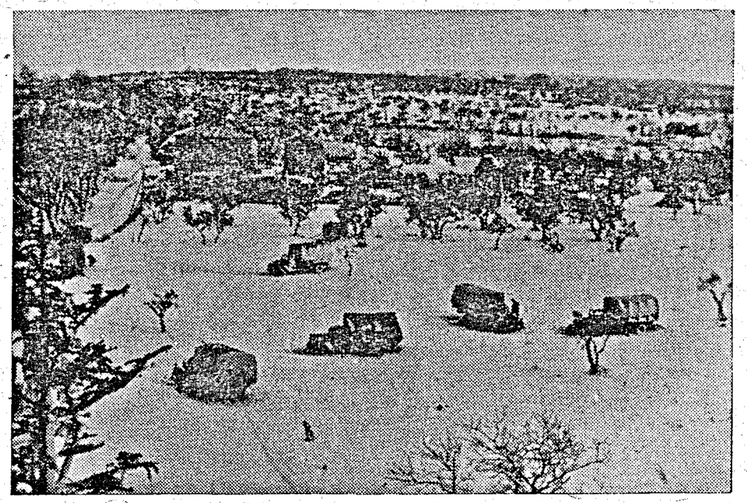
There is no doubt that the heavy bombing of railway communications north of Rome has interfered with the arrival of essential enemy supplies, probably also of a part of the intended reinforcements themselves. Thus though Kesselring has at his disposal bits of a number of divisions and a variety of different units, he has not been able to throw a force of proportionate weight into the attack. This is probably because the units are still short of equipment and guns and have not adequate reserves of ammunition.

He has indeed produced a fairly heavy artillery concentration which has enabled him to maintain harassing shell fire on the beachhead area, but it has not helped him to broaden his attack on the ground. The smashing of marshalling yards and junctions at such places as Pisa and Prato too had its effect nearer home and medium and light bombers have done invaluable work in destroying dumps, attacking columns on the march and in making assembly areas unusable for troops brought forward to attack.

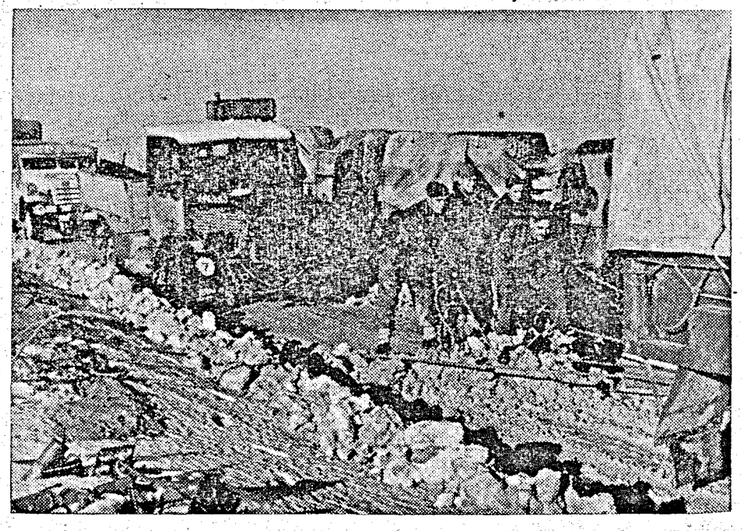
Looking back over last few weeks of the Allied offensive, we may admit that the enemy has been able to stave off the threat to his right flank. On the other hand we made a serious penetration of his defences at several points. The threat to his flank still remains. The enemy has been forced to draw heavily on his central reserves. He has now got 17 divisions south of Rome and probably cannot obtain more reinforcement without drawing them from areas like France and the Balkans which are already threatened.

There is evidence that he suffered very heavy losses in the recent fighting and that most of his units are much under strength. He is being hampered now by the difficulties of supply in a way he has not experienced before. Allied aerial superiority is incontestable and this asset should weigh more and more heavily as the weather improves.

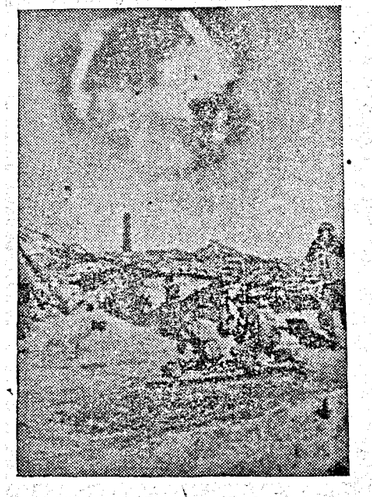
The Italian campaign has been a hard slogging match since the beginning and such it is likely to remain until the enemy cracks.



Snow on the Italian Front.



The snow plough clears the road.



A 155-m.m. "Long Tom" firing in the Nettuno area on the Italian front. Note the flatness of the terrain compared to that of the Monte Cassino area.

THE MURDER FACTORY

By MAJOR W. V. KIRSANOV

THE Dachau Concentration Camp is some eighteen kilometres from Munich. The mass murder and the frightful methods of tormenting prisoners therein practised were described to me by many German prisoners. A fuller picture of this murder factory was presented to me some days ago by the war prisoner Christian Weber, Second Company, Forty-second Infantry Regiment, Forty-sixth German Infantry Division. He reached the Eastern Front as late as July 1943, when he was drafted during the total mobilization. Because of his advanced age (the prisoner is fifty-one years old) and the dangerous ailment of stomach, Christian Weber was not troubled for a long time. Before he was drafted he worked as a cabinet maker at the "Gustav Adolph Heier" shops at the outskirts of Dachau and in the immediate vicinity of the concentration camp. He had seen a lot with his own eyes and had heard much more from acquaintances among the SS guards who spoke freely about their methods of tormenting the prisoners. The camp extends over several square kilometres surrounded by dense banks entanglements threaded with high tension wires. Fringing the barbed wire about the camp there is a deep ditch. All the approaches are guarded by SS men armed with rifles and tommyguns ready to fire without warning at any prisoner attempting to approach the barrier from within. The prisoners live in barracks unheated in winter. Crowded together, they sleep on bare boards, benches and streets. The commandant of the camp is the SS man Weiss known for his brutality, as are his immediate assistants, the SS men Tsiel Hoffman and Niederman who, in emulation of their boss, subject the prisoners to such ghastly tortures that the regulation of punishment of twenty-five blows of stick seems a mere bagatelle by comparison.

To stiffen their regimes the SS men claim to have improved upon the latter form of punishment by meting out as many as a hundred instead of twenty-five blows. How is such a punishment administered? Stripped naked, the victim is placed face down on a table. Two hangmen take their places on each side and deliver their blows in unison with those of the chief overseer. Thus, the victim receives twenty-five blows from rubber clubs. Such a punishment is generally administered in open before the eyes of all. Many victims die or go mad after such beatings. If a prisoner is found untractable during the cross-examination, he is suspended from a wall or ceiling and his hands and feet are tied. For infringing against the rules or regulations, the prisoners are confined in underground lockups. Dogs are set upon the more unfortunate offenders. Very often are prisoners used for various experiments which generally result in death. Thus, in April and May 1943, experiments made with anti-malaria serums caused the death of several hundred of prisoners. In June 1943, by the command of the Ministry of Aviation certain experiments were made upon prisoners to determine the maximum endurance of human lungs during parachute jumps. The victims' lungs were filled with air by a special pump. Then they were hurled into a pool. Such experiments proved fatal in nearly all cases.

Corporal Christian Weber testified to the following which has been included in the special affidavit concerning the execution of war prisoners at the concentration camp:—

When a group of Russians—officers among them—were brought to the camp the prisoners had been so weakened by hunger that they could scarcely walk. In a few days they were loaded on trucks and driven to the shooting range which was some two kilometres from the camp. On the shooting range SS men under the supervision of the camp commandant Weiss and his assistant Hoffman tested some rifles newly received. The prisoners were used as targets. This target practice continued for two long summer days. Then the bodies of the victims were loaded on to trucks and removed to the camp of crematorium. The ghastly affair culminated with the burning alive of five Jewish war prisoners who were hurled into the furnace by the order of Weiss. Christian Weber heard about five who were burnt alive from SS man Helich who was present, but the mass murder of war prisoners on the shooting range was something which he saw with his own eyes.

Confined in the camp with war prisoners there are the so-called emigre Frenchmen, Poles, Russians, Greeks and other people who refused to be slaves to Germans. All wear special outfits striped with white and blue. There is a triangle on the chest of each. The colour of the triangle determines the prisoners' status: red for prisoners of war, blue for Belgian emigres (runaways) and yellow for Jews. In addition, the nationality of each is specified by a letter in the centre of the triangle —the letter R for Russians and Ukrainians, P for Poles, etc. The Dachau Concentration Camp, with its varied assortment of torture and mass murder, is an efficient murder factory organized with the characteristic German method.

THE DEAD END

"That reminds me of a Squadron Leader who came home—and shot himself! It happened this way. He was just back after four years away from home and went into a tobacconist, plonked sixpence down on the counter, and said, 'Packet of cigarettes, please!' 'Another eightpence' Sir,' said the tobacconist. 'Cheapest are one and two for ten now.' 'O.K.' said the Squadron Leader, 'here's your eightpence. And give me a box of strikes too,' and put down another penny. 'Penny ha'penny a box of matches, Sir,' said the tobacconist. By this time he was a bit fed up, so he went across the road and into a pub. This time he thought I won't be caught, so he says, 'Half a pint of mild and bitter, please' and plonks down a pound note. Well, half of mild and bitter costing sevenpence, the barman says to him, 'Have you got a penny, please, Sir?' Well, that was the end, he went out and shot himself."—

(Squadron Leader D. J. Stewart in "Back Home" in the B.B.C. series "Calling Southern Rhodesia.")

THIS EVIL THING

(*By* A. E.)

What is this evil thing
That twists men's minds,
And tempts them with some gilded trash
Beyond a chimera of dreams?
That barbs their tongues with venomed spikes
To hide in subtle phrase
Ten thousand inconsistencies
And addle earnest honesty
Who strives to understand?
What binds good words in treacherous shape
To breed a million fancied ills and wrongs
And saddles with the blame
All those who work towards better things?
What demons alchemy compounds
Emotions good and bad
And pens them with the figment of a dam
Then let's them rush
To drown man's sense
And make him hate his brother man?

SOLDIERS AND CITIZENS

[The following is the concluding portion of the article entitled "Soldiers and Citizens" published on page 18 of last issue of the *Madras War Review*. (It is regretted that by oversight the line "To be continued" was omitted at the end of the page in the last issue).]

THERE is no fear that the Indian soldier will be without a trade at the end of the war. He will be able to stand on his own feet. For the purely material point of view, he will be a citizen contributing more to the common pool than he takes out of it. But more he will be a thinking creature. For the Army takes the best view of the material at its disposal. These men who are efficient fitters, artificers, cooks, carpenters, cobblers, gunners, sappers, electricians, are also citizens of India and the world in the cultural sense. How does the Army fit them to hold positions of value in the cultural world?

Welfare education appreciates the fact that the Indian soldier now serving in the army does not intend to continue serving in the army when the war is at an end. Few can resist the call of the land, least of all the sepoy to whom land means permanence and stability. "Current-Affairs" pamphlets written to keep the sepoy 'au courant' with the changing Indian village, generally publish articles dialogue—fashion on Savings, Rural Reconstruction, Village Hygiene, Improved Agricultural methods, Indian Industries, Civil Administration and Co-operation. The articles are written both in simple English and in Roman Urdu and are handled skilfully enough to intrigue those to whom land and village uplift are remote mysteries.

In close liaison with the Directorate of Amenities and Welfare, the Public relations Directorate of the Army puts out publications like "Fauji Akhbar" and "Jang-Ki-Khabren" and "War in Pictures". The main purpose of these is to the Indian soldiers informed of political happenings in various parts of the world. For those whose standard of general education fits them for it "Weekly Commentary" is as good a review of world political events as any in Indian and its forum is an excellent ventilating chamber for soldiers with strong opinions on controversial subjects. On the whole, the publications seek to ventilate grievances to express as many points of view as possible. They stimulate independent thought.

As a corollary to this informal political education units have Information Rooms equipped with up-to-date maps, with recent papers, with illustrated magazines, with technical photographs and photogravures with a daily news bulletin and with reference charts of various kinds. Here the men may browse at will in their spare time. Attached to the Information Room in a number of units is a reading and writing room and a dining room.

"MADRAS CALLING"

Political news of India and the world interest the simpler minded sepoy less than news of his own province and his own village. The realization that to a Madrassi, Madras and his own village are of much more intimate interest than India as a whole or the world as a whole has led to an exchange of news between soldiers of different provinces. "Madras Calling"—a news sheet of Madras and the south is directed to assuage the nostalgia of Madrassi soldiers posted away from their province, and "News from the North" fulfils the same function for Punjabis stationed somewhere in South India. These slender publications are intended to keep the sepoy in touch with his village and his province, to keep alive old memories, to give him news of his people, his cattle, his crops, they may be used as an informal agency of education, though their purpose is primarily one of entertainment and not of instruction.

So much for the tangible educational benefits of life in the Army.

The Indian soldier has become a tradesman. He has been educated basically. If he has availed himself of his opportunities, he is as well-informed as anybody else. But the incidental results of his life in a fighting army are of even more abiding value and may bear scrutiny.

His life in the Army has brought home to the Indian soldier as nothing in civilian life does to the same degree that he is a member of a body, that on him—on his health, his vitality, his efficiency, his discipline—depend the well being of the whole body. That is a sense of responsibility that he will not easily shake off in time of peace. He has learnt to be an active member of the community.

He has learnt, furthermore, that independence of thought in matters effecting him personally and in matters civic in which strength of individual opinion is of vital importance is quite compatible with strict subjection to discipline in all matters affecting the fighting army. Co-operation secures better results than isolated social action with independence but this co-operation is perfectly compatible of mind.

SOLDIER IS HIS OWN TEACHER

Travel and contact with a variety of people with a variety of convictions and manners rub off his angles, inculcate a wide tolerance and educate more liberally, perhaps because more intangibly, than the tutor and the schoolroom. In this respect the soldier is his own teacher. Provincial prejudice wears thin, Provincial loyalties remain strong. The soldier is young to the old familiar things but they no longer shut out the bigger world of India.

Above all the simple peasant has had the opportunity to grow character and personality, at absolutely no personal expense. Both some inadvertantly but generally at heavy cost in university fees and technical courses. They are achieved in the army at no material cost but with a wealth of experience, work conscientiously performed and directed to a single vital end, risks run in company with comrades and the advantage of seeing human strength and weakness at close quarters. Compact living and the constant reminder that death is around the corner are excellent correctives to our submissive acceptance of things as they are.

FOR YOUR RADIO DIARY

Every Friday at 8-30 p.m. on both the wavelengths from A.I.R., Madras, there will be a feature broadcast entitled "John Citizen in the Services".

GURKHAS SAVE TREASURE CHEST

Fighting their way out of a Jap ambush seven Gurkha riflemen, accompained by a five-year-old Bengali boy—a waif whom their unit had adopted-for seven days forced their way through tangled jungle on the eastern slopes of the Mayu Range to bring back to our lines the battalion treasure chest, containing several thousand rupees.

The Gurkhas, part of a guard left to look after a dump at Taung-Bazaar now in our hands again were attacked by a Jap riding party last week. Although the odds were against them they managed to kill five of the enemy in a running fight with grenades, rifles and light machine guns.

The guard was split. Contact with the non-commissioned officer was lost. But rifleman Balsha Gurung took charge of his small party of seven.

One by one, for seven days, the men took their turn of carrying the heavy treasure chest on their backs. Their young protege, whose name is Gopal, walked barefooted the whole way back, over 30 miles, through dense jungle. He was no passenger, however, for his knowledge of the local villages enabled the Gurkhas to rely on the country for food and water.

When I first saw them, writes an India Army Observer, I found the party still guarding the chest. They had arrived at a camp near Bawli-Bazaar and were planning to return to their unit with the money and with young Gopal whose mother is at present in Jap hands. His father was killed by the enemy.

BEHIND THE PICTURES

Producing the pictures of soldiers, sailors and air force men displayed throughout the length and breadth of India for the purpose of recruiting are a number of commercial artists, one of whom, 31-year-old K. B. Nathan of Trivandrum, worked for several years in Bombay.

Sitting in a studio of the Recruiting Directorate, studying action photos, he transfers to paper his artistic creations to draw the attention of the public to the needs of the various branches of the armed forces in the India Command.

WAR DIARY

BRITAIN AND GERMANY

7TH MAR.—Mr. A. V. Alexander, First Lord of the Admiralty, introduced the Navy budget and surveyed the war situation.

Mr. Churchill told the House of Commons that the coming discussions on Service pay would embrace all the three Services.

Mosquitoes attacked objectives in north-west Germany. Berlin was bombed.

8TH MAR.—American bombers attacked industrial targets in Berlin in daylight, 350,000 incendiary bombs and more than 10,000 high explosive bombs were dropped. Thousand bombers were over the city.

Mr. Oliver Littleton, Minister of Production, made a statement in the Parliament on Britain's output of war weapons.

An air raid warning was sounded in London area at night.

Mr. H. U. Willink, Minister of Health, outlined the British post-war policy.

9TH MAR.—There was slight German air activity over parts of southern England last night.

Berlin was bombed to-day heavily.

About 90,000 coal workers are in strike in Wales. The strike has spread to Scotland also.

Sir John Anderson, Chancellor of the Exchequer, announced that United Kingdom aid to United States under return Lease-Lend amounted up to December 31, 1943, to 339-million pounds.

"New secret weapons and devices," some of which have been used successfully by Allied bombers in the Battle of Berlin were mentioned by Captain Oliver Lyttleton, Minister of Production.

10TH MAR.—General Sir Bernard Montgomery said: "I do not suppose we can win this war unless everybody goes 100 per cent all out: as long as we do that then we will win the war without any question."

His Majesty the King inspected invasion troops.

Mosquitoes bombed objectives in western Germany.

President Roosevelt said that bombing would go ahead.

11TH MAR.—Allied planes attacked targets in western Germany.

12TH MAR.—Last night Mosquitoes attacked Hamburg and other objectives in western Germany.

A few German aircraft dropped bombs at two places in south-east England last night.

Admiral Doneitz, head of the German Navy, made a speech on the occasion of the "Fallen Heroes Day."

13TH MAR.—There was an air-raid alert in London area.

Objectives in western Germany were bombed.

14TH MAR.—Both the House of Lords and the House of Commons to-day unanimously adopted a motion inviting American Congress members to visit Britain.

Mr. Churchill told the Commons to-day that he thought it would not be wise for him to make a statement upon the coalmining position at present. Most of the workers have resumed work in Wales.

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE ATLANTIC

7TH MAR.—The State Department announced that Britain and the United States were undertaking a "preliminary and exploratory discussion on the petroleum question".

8TH MAR.—"The volume of reverse Lend-Lease aid furnished to United States by her Allies is increasing steadily" said Mr. L. Crowley, the Foreign Economic Administrator.

9TH MAR.—President Roosevelt announced new diplomatic appointments.

Colonel Frank Knox, United States Navy Secretary, said that under Lend-Lease 1,400 ships had been transferred to the Allies, mainly Britain.

The Chairman of the United States War Production Board, Mr. Donald Nelson, last night gave a warning that the United States was going to have even a harder time in keeping the economic balance during the remainder of this war than in the last two years.

10TH MAR.—A statement on U-boat warfare in the Atlantic in February was issued to-day.

The Allies have 'only dented the rim of Hitler's Fortress" and "touched the outskirts of Tojo's Empire" declared Lieutenant-General Somervell, Commanding-General of the United States Army Service Forces.

11TH MAR.—President Roosevelt presented the 14th Report on Lend-Lease operations to the United States Congress.

12TH MAR.—The Navy Department announced that the giant United States flying boat *Mars* landed at San Francisco carrying 800,000 letters from Pacific.

13TH MAR.—The War Man Power Commission has issued a statement on the United States coal position saying that stocks have become very low.

14TH MAR.—The Director of United States War Production Board, Mr. Charles E. Wilson, announced that aircraft production in the United States had reached the rate of 350 planes daily.

The United States submarine "Corvina" is declared lost.

* * *

INDIA, BURMA AND CEYLON

7TH MAR.—In the Hintdaw area Allied troops attacked high ground S. on the Maungdaw-Buthidaung road on the night of March 6-7. Early on March 7, this high ground was in Allied hands. Moulmein and Bangkok were attacked on March 6-7. On the night of March 7-8, bombers attacked Anisakan airfield.

8TH MAR.—Mr. S. L. De Carteret, Deputy Minister of National Defence, Canada, is now in India on a brief visit.

Lieut.-General J. R. Swayne has been appointed Chief of Staff in India.

The United States Lend-Lease Administrator, Mr. Crowley, gave detailed figures on Lend-Lease aid to India furnished by United States up to January 1.

9TH MAR.—During March 8, there was very little activity west of Mayu range, says to-day's South-East Asia Command's communiqué.

10TH MAR.—His Highness the Maharajah of Kashmir and Sir Feroz Khan Noon are appointed to the War Cabinet.

During the past 24 hours there have been only minor actions in the south and centre of the 14th Army fronts, says to-day's South-East Asia Command communiqué. In the Arakan, activity has been mainly confined to patrols.

11TH MAR.—During the night of March 10-11, Allied bombers attacked Bassein, says to-day's South-East Asia Command's communiqué.

H.M.I.S. *Rampur* was launched to-day.

His Excellency Sir Claude Auchinleck, Commander-in-Chief of India, inspected army training centres at Dehra Dun.

President Roosevelt has referred to India's importance as a base and paid tributes to her soldiers, when he presented the Lend-Lease report to the United States Congress.

12TH MAR.—United States fighters in sweeps over Heho, Aungban and Meiktila airfields on 11th March destroyed nine Jap fighters, says to-day's communiqué.

13TH MAR.—The Allies have captured Buthidaung, reports to-day's South-East Asia Command communiqué.

A press communiqué issued to-day says that on March 12, a small number of enemy aircraft bombed Silchar area in Assam.

14TH MAR.—It is revealed that Lord Louis Mountbatten, Supreme Commander, South East Asia, recently visited the Ledo headquarters of his Deputy, General Stilwell and that they toured forward areas. It is also announced that the Allied forces have taken Razabil, the important Jap held junction in Burma.

* * *

RUSSIA AND FINLAND

7TH MAR.—Fierce battles are raging before the two vital junctions on the Odessa-Sevow railway, Tarnapol and Proskurov. Russians have captured over 200 localities.

8TH MAR.—Soviet troops captured Chern-Ostrov. Russian formations broke through German lines south of Krivoirog.

It is said that Finland has delivered its reply to Russia regarding peace proposals.

9TH MAR.—A new offensive has been started in the third Ukrainian front by the Russians and the Soviet troops have captured Novy Bug, Kazanka, Staro Konstantinov and 200 more localities. Ulanov, Kryshavka, and 40 more localities were also occupied.

M. A. V. Lavrentiene has been appointed the first Foreign Minister of the Russian Republic (Russia proper) under the recent constitutional changes.

10TH MAR.—Russian forces captured Uman, Khristinovka, Talnoye, Buki, Mankovka, Babanka, Ekaterinopolhe, Manastyris and 300 other localities. Over 20,000 Germans were killed around Uman.

11TH MAR.—Soviet troops captured Berislavl, Zlatapol, Krasilov, Ladyshenka and other places.

It is announced that 20 lakhs of Russians have been massacred by the Germans in the occupied territory since the war began.

12TH MAR.—The Russian army captured Zlatapol, Novo Mirgorod and Berislavl, Gayvoron, Shevchenkovo, Bolskava-Alexandrovka and other places.

13TH MAR.—The Russians have captured Kherson.

14TH MAR.—Soviet reinforcements have now crossed the Dnieper estuary to join in the battle beyond Kherson. The collapse of German positions of Nikolaev is immient.

ITALY, AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

7TH MAR.—No major battles developed on the Italian fronts but minor engagements flared up at a number of points.

8TH MAR.—Patrols were active on all fronts. There were no changes in the front line.

Air Vice-Marshal John Henry D'Albiac has been appointed Deputy Commander, the Mediterranean Allied Tactical Air Force.

9TH MAR.—Two small attacks by the enemy against the Allied beach-head force positions were repelled. Allied patrols engaged the enemy on all the three fronts.

General Sir Harold Alexander, at the end of an inspection tour, told "Things are very much better in the beach-head."

Mr. Churchill made a statement in the Parliament about the future of the Italian fleet.

Sixty German aircraft attacked an Allied convoy off the North African coast.

10TH MAR.—Normal patrolling and artillery exchanges took place on the Fifth and Eighth Army fronts. American bombers attacked Rome.

11TH MAR.—Due to adverse weather conditions only patrolling and minor clashes took place on all fronts.

12TH MAR.—Patrols were active on all the three fronts.

13TH MAR.—Bad weather prevented offensive operations.

Russia has recognized Badoglio Government.

14TH MAR.—Trough weather improved snow and mud prevented major offensives. Patrols were active on all fronts.

* * *

VICHY, FREE FRANCE AND OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

7TH MAR.—Allied bombers attacked Trappes and Toulon in France.

Heavy fighting takes place in three different sectors of the Balkan Front—Western Bosnia, Croatia and Herzegovina says Marshal Tito's communiqué.

8TH MAR.—Fierce mountain battles are being fought in Western Bosnia between the Germans and Yugoslav Patriots.

The substance of M. Stalin's reply to the latest Polish proposals, was conveyed to the Polish Government by the British Government. The Polish Government met to-day for a preliminary survey of the position.

9TH MAR.—Fierce fighting is going on in Western Bosnia.

10TH MAR.—Allied bombers attacked Marignane near Marseilles.

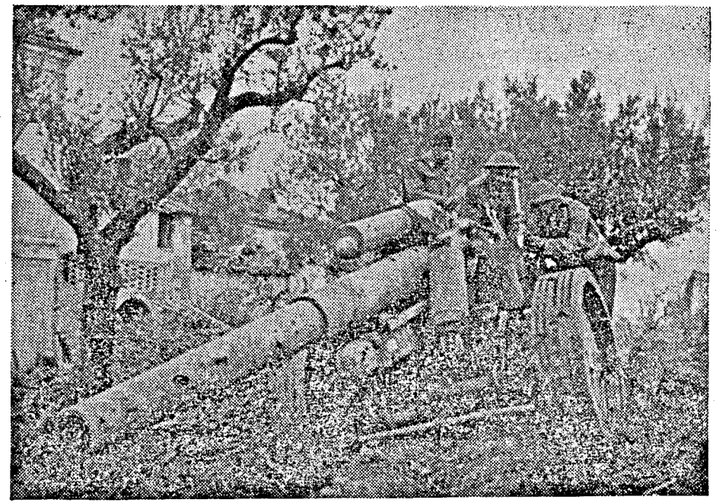
11TH MAR.—King Peter of Yugoslavia arrived in London with his Prime Minister Puritch and the Minister of the Interior M. Milichevitch.

Free Austrians in Britain have launched a liberation movement.

12TH MAR.—Pope has made an appeal to the belligerents to spare Rome.

Pas De Calais area in France was bombed by Allied aircraft.

14TH MAR.—Le Mans, the French motor manufacturing town, was heavily bombed.



INDIANS IN ACTION WITH EIGHTH ARMY IN ITALY—Indian troops have been in the thick of the battles on the eighth Army front. Picture shows: *Indian troops inspecting a German 15 Omm gun which had been put out of action during heavy fighting. The gun is near the building which was used by the Germans as their headquarters.*

THE NEUTRAL COUNTRIES

7TH MAR.—Mr. Eden told the House of Commons that he had no statement to make at present, on the withdrawal of the British Military Mission from Turkey.

9TH MAR.—The United States State Department announced that negotiations with Spain to halt wolfram shipments to Germany and curtail other German advantages in Spain are continuing.

10TH MAR.—The United States State Department's demand on the Eire to close the Axis legations in Dublin has been rejected by Mr. De Valera.

The Spanish Embassy in London has denied the report that Spain had given the Germans bases in Canary Islands.

11TH MAR.—Text of United State's note to Eire and De Valera's reply are published.

It is stated in Istanbul that the Turkish Ambassador in Britain has resigned.

12TH MAR.—All travel between Ireland and Britain has been suspended.

14TH MAR.—Mr. Churchill made a statement about Eire in the House of Commons.

* *

THE FAR EAST

7TH MAR.—Admiral Chester Nimitz, Commander-in-Chief of the United States Pacific Fleet, made a statement on the situation in the Pacific.

8TH MAR.—On the Admiralty Islands Allied forces continued their northward advance. Rabaul was bombed. Naval aircraft bombed Paramushiro, Japan's important naval and air base.

9TH MAR.—United States Navy Department announced that United States submarines have destroyed 16 more Japanese vessels in the Pacific and the Far East.

10TH MAR.—In the Admiralty Islands the Allies continued to expand their positions. Allied aircraft attacked Panapai, Boepop, Namatanai, Cape Lemeris, Rabaul and other places. Unopposed Allied occupation of Magine Islands on Feb. 27 was announced to-day.

The Australian Premier, John Cudtin, told the Parliament that he was going to Britain for a conference with Mr. Churchill.

11TH MAR.—American troops on New Britain captured the Talasea airfield. In the Admiralty group American forces continued to make progress on Los Negro Island. Allied bombers attacked Ponape and Kusaie.

12TH MAR.—The Tokyo radio said that the Japanese air-raid defence headquarters have passed regulations for speeding up air raid precautions.

Two Jap cargo ships in the Hollandic region in New Guinea were sunk. United States Pacific Fleet seized Wotho Atoll, a small group of islands.

14TH MAR.—Allied troops landed on Hawaei and Butyoluo islands in the Admiralty group.

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MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. V FRIDAY, MARCH 24, 1944 No. 29

Lord LOUIS MOUNTBATTEN

PLAYING A MAGNIFICENT PART

YOUR **rapid advance down the Hukawng Valley and your successes in a series of encounters with the enemy are gaining you much honour and renown**

YOU **are facing a formidable enemy in difficult country, but you are out-fighting and out-manœuvring him, and you have recently gained an outstanding victory in the Maingkwan-Walawbum area against one of the enemy's toughest, most seasoned Divisions**

WHAT **is more, you are pressing on supported in strength and supplied by your colleagues in the air, secure in the knowledge that you can and will succeed**

YOU, **who fight on the Ledo Front pushing forward the Ledo Road, are playing a magnificent part in assuring our joint victory**

DURING **my recent visit, I have seen for myself the courage and the spirit you display under the gallant leadership of General Stilwell and I shall remember with pride the days that I spent with you**

Lord LOUIS MOUNTBATTEN, in an Order of the Day on North Burma Campaign, on Monday (March 20)

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[NOTE.—*The summary of news and comments contained in the* MADRAS WAR REVIEW *generally relate to events and statements published till Wednesday, every week.*]

NO JAP THREAT CAN MATERIALISE

"As War Member and Commander-in-Chief of India, I am naturally in the closest daily touch with the Supreme Allied Commander regarding the situation on our frontier. I can assure the House that I am satisfied that the quality of our men and the strength we have at our disposal should enable us to deal in due course with the latest Japanese counterstroke. There is no need, therefore, to be unduly concerned about the fact that enemy columns are advancing across a line on the map which represents the frontier of India in this wild and thinly populated region. No real threat can materialise, unless and until the Japanese manage to penetrate to points whence they could attack our rail and river communications or our air-fields in Assam. To do this they must cross great distances of high mountain and dense forest. Lacking means of protection, and supply from the air, the enemy cannot hope to maintain such penetration without either destroying or forcing back our troops. These troops are well acquainted with this most intricate country and trained to fight in it and I know that their fighting spirit is at its highest. I am in no doubt myself as to the ultimate result of the fighting now beginning in this part of the front, though it may take time before the situation is finally cleared up to the satisfaction of our commanders."

GENERAL SIR CLAUDE AUCHINLECK, *Commander-in-Chief, in a statement in the Council of State, on Wednesday, March 22.*

◆

RE-ESTABLISHING INTERNATIONAL ORDER

"In the process of re-establishing international order, the United Nations must exercise 'surveillance' over aggressor nations, until such time as the latter demonstrate their willingness and ability to live at peace with other nations. How long the 'surveillance' will need to continue must depend upon the rapidity with which the peoples of Germany, Japan and Italy and their satellites give a convincing proof that they have repudiated and abandoned the monstrous philosophy of superior race and conquest by force and embraced loyally the basic principles of peaceful process."

MR. CORDELL HULL, *United States Secretary of State, in Washington, on Tuesday, March 21.*

MADRAS WAR REVIEW

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MANSTEIN'S RETREAT

FIELD MARSHAL VON MANSTEIN commanding the German armies in Southern Russia has been forced to stage a great retreat similar to that of Rommel in North Africa. This was due to the overwhelming pressure exerted by the Red Army. And now the retreat is followed by replacement—it was announced by a German military commentator on Wednesday (March 22) that Manstein has been replaced. He was one of Germany's most skilful commanders. He was entrusted with the difficult task of gaining time by contesting every square mile of ground for as long as was possible and maintain the cohesion of his stretched army as against the Red Army's massed offensive under the leadership of Marshal Zhukov. He did the former part of his task as best as he could. The abnormal early thaw that set in on the southern front was of some great help to him, but in spite of driving rain and mud, Zukov's offensive pushed onwards most successfully.

Played for Time

MANSTEIN'S object was to keep the Russians away from the Dniester until the spring thaw gave him sufficient opportunities to prolong the necessary breathing-time for the clarification of the general political and military situation in Europe. And Manstein was within an ace of achieving his object! But the Red Army's advance has been so swift that it has repeated on the Dniester its great feat on the Bug—it has denied the Germans time to regroup and put up a new defence line. It has cut the vital life-line of the German forces in southern Russia—the Odessa-Lwow railway. It has captured Zhmerinka, the strategically important town and railway centre which was at one time a key junction in Manstein's whole communications system. Over 100 towns and villages on the east bank of the Dniester on the Bessarabian border were occupied by the Russians. Describing the situation on the 1,000-th day of the Russian war, *Reuter's* Special Correspondent in Moscow says, "Defeat, rout, collapse—that describes the state of Field Marshal von Manstein's Army Group scrambling across the Dniester into the Moldavian hills and mountains. The Germans are being thrown out of South Russia so fast that it is doubtful whether they are capable of rallying even on the west bank of the Dniester."

THE Soviet thrust to the Dniester has split Manstein's army into two. The Red Army has moved nearer to Rumanian, Czechoslovakian and Hungarian frontiers. This has made the Germans invade Hungary from the north and also from Rumania, and occupy the whole country. Even before the occupation of Hungary, it seemed that Manstein's army would take its final stand on the narrow front of about 140 miles between the eastern spurs of the Carpathian mountains and the sea covering Galatz. Now that possibility seems to have become a certainty.

THE weakest spot of the German position at present is to be found in their communication difficulties. The cutting of the Lwow-Odessa line compels the Germans to use the three subsidiary railways which run into Rumania, but all these together carry only half as much traffic as the main life-line of the Germans. It would be a very difficult thing to keep Manstein's 50 divisions adequately supplied during major operations by means of this subsidiary railway system, even though some supplies may come by sea *via* Odessa and other ports. The cutting of the railway by the Red Army was an achievement of very great importance for it has turned the flank of strongly fortified German positions along the river Bug and added to the supply difficulties of Manstein's army.

Manstein's Task

IT may be asked why Manstein was committed to the dangerous position of fighting on a front which ran parallel to his principal line of communication, namely, the Lwow-Odessa railway. This was because he had to fulfil the function of keeping the Russians out of the Balkans, if need be by becoming detached from the Polish front. There is no doubt whatever that he was ordered to hold his own line from the eastern Carpathians towards the Baltic Sea coast at all costs, for in spite of the Red Army's tremendous pace of advance he did not show any sign of rapid withdrawal for some considerable time, which stands in glaring contrast to the swift withdrawal of the Germans out of the entire region east of Lake Peipus. But his plan of static operations during the long spring thaw has been upset by Marshal Zhukov's sledge-hammer blows, and Manstein was forced to retreat. The story of his resistance and retreat is one of the most interesting episodes of the whole Russian war.

ARAKAN SCENES.—Captured from a Machine-gun Company, this Jap prisoner is thirstily swallowing the tea with which he has been provided.

A typical Japanese prisoner captured on the Burma Front.

RUNNING COMMENTARY

The Finnish Peace Talks and Sweden's Anxiety

The eyes of all Europe are on Finland, particularly those of HITLER's satellite states. They are all anxiously watching the outcome of the peace talks that are going on between Finland and Russia. There has been a lot of speculation in the press regarding these talks. It was stated that Finland had rejected the Russian terms. The Helsinki correspondent of the *Morgon-Tidningen* says: "Finland has declared her will to negotiate, but has, at the same time, stated that the Russian conditions, as laid down, are unacceptable. How the Russians will react when the reply is received is an important question discussed in Helsinki just now." Swedish papers have been showing great anxiety that Finland should soon come to terms with Russia. They feel that there are certain strong forces which are at work in Finland to prevent her from making peace with Russia. The Swedish Communist paper *Nyt Dag* writes, "We know the position is complicated, but it will be ten times worse with each day's delay." The paper observes that acceptance of Soviet terms not only benefits the Finnish people but also removes many worries felt by Sweden. "It would remove the danger of war in the Gulf of Bothnia and the risk of Sweden being invaded by 200,000 Lapp refugees, which is what would happen if the offer were declined and the outcome left to be decided by military events."

The Stockholm newspaper *Afton Tidningen* refers to another aspect of the Swedish viewpoint. In an article reviewing the changing situation in the Baltic, the paper points out that there is a German ring around Sweden which will be broken if Finland makes peace and Russia occupies Lithuania, Esthonia and Latvia. Then Russians would be in a position to attack German shipping. "At the end of the war," adds the paper, "the Soviet Union will probably be the dominant power in the Baltic and Germany will be outclassed . . . If the air and sea communications with the east (that is across the Baltic) can be resumed in the near future, Swedish industry would be able to reach Russian markets in good time."

* * *

German Divisions in North Finland—Choice before General Deitl

As regards Finland herself, she seems to be worried by the presence of General DEITL's seven German divisions. Finland would have made peace with the Allies some months ago, but for these divisions. The present position seems to be something like this: If Finland accepts the Soviet peace terms she will be under an obligation to "intern" the German divisions, if not she must give facilities to the Soviet forces to carry out their task. If the German troops would fight to the last, then Finland would be the scene of a bloody Russo-German campaign. It seems Finnish Government circles are playing for time, counting on the fact that if there is a rapid Soviet advance into Esthonia, it would imperil Germany's communications with Finland and force DEITL to withdraw his troops. If this happens the problem automatically solves itself.

It is of some interest to examine what DEITL would do. It is possible that he may withdraw into the northern Norway by the motor road which exists in that region, but there is the question of prestige, and it is only to be expected that HITLER would order him to hold on at all costs rather than beat a hazardous and humiliating retreat. And then there is also the formidable difficulty of evacuating troops southwards from Kirkenes, for in the south there is a "large vacuum" of difficult country consisting of mostly moor and swamp regions.

Another route open to DEITL is to withdraw southwards to his base at Oslo on the Gulf of Bothnia. Perhaps while the peace talks are going on, he is already doing this. By so doing he will be eliminating a long and vulnerable overland supply line and be on the spot for embarkation when the need arises.

Lieutenant-Colonel F. W. Deakin, D.S.O., who was dropped by parachute on May 27, 1943, with the first members of the British Military Mission near Marshal Tito's Partisan Headquarters in Yugoslavia.

Colonel Deakin was an Oxford don before the war.

Command of the Baltic—Balance of power—Allied diplomatic co-operation

The following written by the correspondent of the Swedish newspaper *Nya Daglight Allehanda* would be read with interest in this connection:—

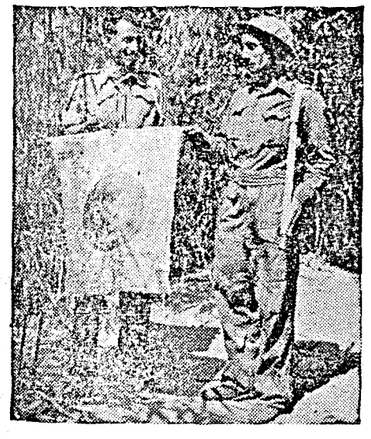
"DEITL was extremely reticent last spring when journalists pressed him for the explanation of the remarkable German inactivity while there were such juicy plums within reach as Fisherman's Peninsula and Murmansk. The length of communications and Russian defences were the probable explanation then; but if this army were now cut off from its supplies, the perspective would change very rapidly. DEITL has certainly two months of supplies and much may happen in that time, he may stake everything on one card and march on to Murmansk."

The Swiss paper *Staglaller Tabglatt* gives the reason why Germans will not abandon Finnish soil without a struggle. It says, "There is the use of the Petsamo nickel mines so indispensible for German war production, and the fact that with the loss of the Finnish coastline, Germany's strategic situation in the Baltic and Norway would be shaken."

If the command of the Baltic passes from Germany to Russia it carries with it tremendous consequences in the future political and economic balance in Europe, and that is why the Germans are extremely anxious to hang on in Finland as long as possible.

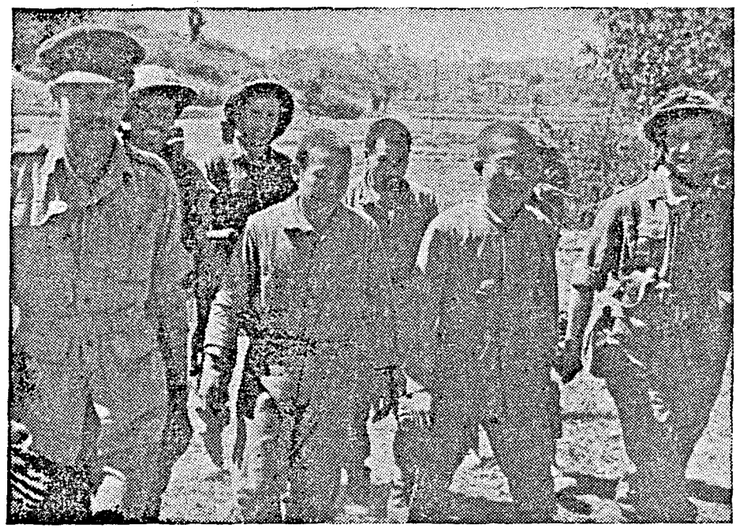
It is of interest to note that there has been complete Allied diplomatic co-operation in connection with the Finnish armistice negotiations, just as in the case of the Italian armistice. Though the terms of settlement with Italy were primarily a matter for the British and United States Governments, the Soviet Government were consulted and their approval obtained first. In the same way the Soviet terms were approved by the British Government before they were handed over to Finland. The approval of the United States Government was not sought because U.S. and Finland are not at war. The possibility of diplomatic relations with Finland being broken by the United States in case the negotiations with Russia are finally broken off has been discussed by a leading Swedish newspaper.

It is now announced that the Finnish Government have rejected the Russian peace terms. This is unfortunate. The Finnish leaders are playing a tricky and highly dangerous game and are gambling with Finland's destiny. They have nothing to gain but everything to lose by such rejection, for Russia may lose patience and withdraw her offer. This means that the Red Army would strike swiftly and force Finland to capitulate, or Russia may follow the policy of leaving Finland to stew in her own juice till she gets control of the Baltic States by developing the offensive north and south of Lake Peipus.



The recent Japanese attack against our positions in the Arakan has been smashed by British and Indian troops of the Seventh and Sixth Indian Divisions.

Photographed with the Japanese flag brought back by a successful raiding party are Sub. Karim Khan, I.D.S.M. (behind flag) and Naik Mohd. Yaqub, I.D.S.M., both of the First Punjab Regiment.



Three Japanese prisoners captured on the Burma Front being brought in for interrogation.

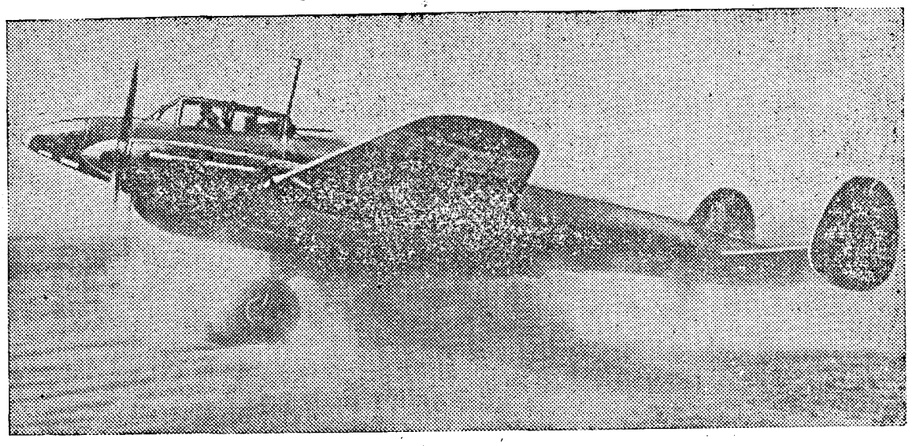
NEW ORDER IN EAST ASIA

(*By* R.G.)

That chosen race, the ingenious Japanese
Have proved in many ways their right to rule:
Murder and rape and robbery, by these
The lesser breeds they blandish, soothe and school.

But when their grinning troops in sacked Nanking
From harmless buffaloes cut dripping meat
The beasts' astonished anguished bellowing
Denounced the beastliest thing that goes on feet.

(During the sack of Nanking Japanese soldiers cut steaks from the sides of living buffaloes with their bayonets.)



SOVIET DIVE-BOMBER GOES INTO ACTION.—South-west of Voroshilovgrad: A Red Air Force dive-bomber "Petlyakov-2" setting out on an assignment.

COURAGE FROM RUSSIA

By E. J. BINGLE

IT was the year 1919. We were having a bit of a scuffle in the Sixth Form room at school when the Headmaster put his head round the door and enquired sarcastically, 'Is this a Peace Conference'? Peace conferences were not even then, regarded as the happy interchange of international courtesies; they were the scene of the fierce conflict of national interests and ambitions.

In that same form were two Russian boys, some of exiled refugees; they differed violently over Russian politics and the rest of us took sides over what was still a new thing—the Bolshevik revolution. Since then the world has continued to take sides over Russia—apparently you must either hate it or think it the best of all possible words. We badly need a synoptic view of Russia, if there is to be world peace.

One thing is worth remembering. Russia was not represented at the last Peace Conference. The victorious nations drew what the French called a cordon sanitaire round Russia, to prevent the views of Bolshevism entering Western Europe. They did not succeed; next they moved into Russia in an attempt to destroy Bolshevism. If the Russians had been at Versailles, the peace might have been a very different thing.

NEXT PEACE CONFERENCE

The Russians are going to be at the next peace conference; their presence may make all the difference. They will certainly make a very distinctive contribution and they will raise some difficult and delicate problems. The next peace conference is going to have some good headaches. The Russians will have decided views about remedies too.

They will come to the conference as the most massive victors of the war. Other countries will have fought longer, on fronts which are scattered all over the globe; other countries have been invaded and completely overwhelmed by the might of the Germans. But it will be the Russians who on a single front hundreds of miles long have withstood the full force of the new mechanised warfare. They have reeled before the shock; they have retreated till the Germans were at the gates of Leningrad and Moscow and nearly into the Caucasus. They have destroyed some of their great industrial plants, they have scorched their fields; their sacrifices in men and material have been beyond calculation. Now the tide has turned and they are rolling the Germans back into the Baltic states, into Poland and the Ukraine, until one day Germany itself will be in sight. The scale of it is beyond our imagination; they have kept occupied some 240 divisions of the Nazis and their allies. True the Russians have received help from Britain and America; Russia is a huge country with a vast population. It remains that so far the Russians have extended the German power as no other front has done.

All this is going to count at the peace conference. They have taken risks, they have suffered loss, they have won on a scale beyond that of any other of the United Nations. Last time the Russians fought on a big scale, but it was too much for them. The Russian State collapsed and out of that collapse came the Revolution. This time they have not collapsed; the problem of size has been overcome, the Russians have won and they think they know why they have won.

STALIN THE REALIST

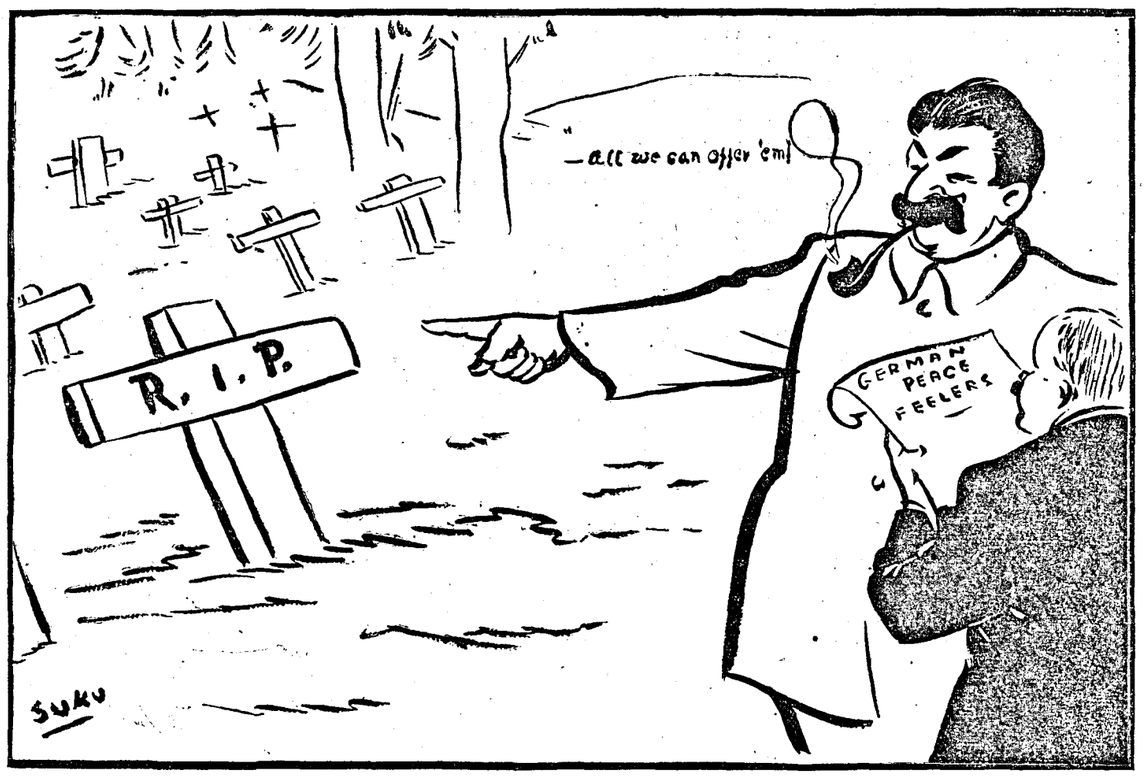
They know that between the Old Russia which collapsed and the New Russia which has won through there stands the Revolutions. The new Russia is a state based on a new principle. But principles however admirable don't save states and the Russians know that. The Revolution carried out by Lenin was forced into a particular direction by his successor, Stalin, after the most violent conflict with the advocate of an alternative policy, Trotsky. The present strength of Russia, it is held is due to the three five-year plans, to the collectivization of agriculture, to the industrialization of Russia with the possibility of a swift turn-over from peace goods to war-material. All this was Stalin's policy of 'socialism in one country;' events have proved its success, whether Trotsky's policy of world revolution was ever really feasible is a matter of doubt; Stalin emerges as the successful realist with enormously enhanced prestige. Whether the Russians are right is beside the point; they will come to the peace conference secure in the knowledge that they have won, with a firm belief in the political and economic reasons why they have won.

HITLER AND MUSSO AS PEN STANDS!

Caricature models of Hitler and Mussolini for use as pen stands are manufactured at St. Joseph's High School, Chingleput. Price Re. 1 a pair: As. 8 each.

APPLY TO—

The Principal and Correspondent, St. Joseph's High School, Chingleput.



It is reported from a neutral diplomatic source that Herr Abetz, German representative in Paris, had informally inquired of the Swedish Consul-General in Paris whether King Gustav would act as an intermediary with the Allies to arrange German peace negotiations.

—*Specially drawn for the* MADRAS WAR REVIEW.

SUBEDAR SUBRAMANIAM'S HEROISM

Indian troops on the Cassino Front are justly proud of SUBEDAR SUBRAMANIAN of an Indian Sapper Company, who gallantly gave his life to save a British officer and several Indian other ranks from certain death.

The British officer and the men had been clearing German mines in a broken area for several hours when Subedar Subramanian came to see how the men were progressing. They were edging their way a few yards forward when a Lance Naik stumbled on a mine.

The Subedar heard the mine-igniter setting off.

Without a moment's delay, he leapt forward and flung himself over the mine, taking the full explosion on his body. He was instantly killed.

The Lance Naik was hit by a mine splinter and was also killed, but all others, including the British officer who was working a couple of yards away, were uninjured.

Such a view has, I believe, important implications. While the war has justified Stalin's policies, it has also given them a great set-back. The aim of socialism in one country was to reach by collectivist methods a higher standard of production than the most advanced capitalist countries, so that socialism should be justified by its fruits as well as its roots. This policy was making great progress with the three successive plans, but it required peace as its necessary condition. That explains perhaps the Russo-German agreement of 1939. The war set back that progress and Russia will not only have to start again but start further back than she was in 1939, with large areas devastated, plants destroyed and a dislocated economy. It seems likely enough that a victorious Stalin will want to reconcentrate the energies of Russia on 'Socialism in one country.' There will be plenty of reconstruction to do in Russia but the Russians have a good deal more than reconstruction in their minds. Their 'new world' was already in existence in 1941 but it was not complete. The completion of the plans and still newer plans will absorb Russian energies for a long time to come.

RUSSIA AND PEACE

The condition of this policy remains peace. The idea that Russia will suddenly turn predatory and imperialist in Europe or in Asia seems unlikely in view of Russian pre-occupations and the declared policies of Stalin which he has put into practice over the last 16 years. Russia may not seek peace by methods we may approve but the Stalinist policy is essentially and necessarily a pacific one, as regards the immediate future.

Peace and security go together and the Russian aim will, I think, be to seek security especially on her western frontiers. This aim seems to explain the Russian policy with regard to the Baltic states, to Poland and to the Balkans. However weak Germany may be after the war, there will always be the danger of a quick German revival; in such a case the hostility of Hitler or his successor against Russia would be even greater than before. Even if Germany were to go communist, as she went democratic after the last war, in order to appease Russia—it would remain true that a strong Germany is a danger to Russia—this might delay those domestic policies which are so dear to Stalin's heart.

It is of course possible, even likely, that the state of Europe after the war will be so chaotic that the temptation to Russia to resume the policy of world-revolution may prove irresistible. It may even be that countries in Europe will want to go communist even against the wish of a Russian Government which already has too much on its hands; stranger things have happened before. If so, then Stalin will have the difficult choice between two policies, world-revolution and socialism in one country. So far Stalin's declarations in this matter have been plain enough; and his life-work as a statesman seems to bear him out. If experience is any guide, then Russia did not profit greatly by the abortive communist revolts in central and eastern Europe after the last war.

ANOTHER DEVELOPMENT

Another development in Russia seems to point in a particular direction. It had been noted long before the war that the Soviet state had become more and more nationalist in temper. The Revolution has become distinctively Russian; perhaps it had always been so, in spite of its German ideology. The workers' state had become a fatherland and everything Russian received increasing attention. The Revolution began by cutting itself off from the bourgeois past; now it was accepting Russian culture as its rightful heritage—its heroes were the great Russian Czars and soldiers, Ivan the Terrible, Peter the Great, Suvarov. It cherished the great Russian novelists and playwrights and poets. It was not only cultural. That bourgeois institution, the family, was restored to its primary place in social life. Socialism in one country meant a revival of Russian patriotism which in turn provided a great emotional reservoir from which the Revolution could draw freely and did. One aspect of this development has perhaps escaped notice, it means the particular Russian experiment more difficult to transfer to other countries without the same Slavonic background. It tends to draw communist Russia into closer affinity with the non-communist Slavonic peoples of Europe. We may not say that nationalism has triumphed over communism but it has given it a peculiar twist, which makes the Russian experiment more individual, more concrete, less universal.

COMBINED OPERATIONS.

HATRED ON A MASS-SCALE

This has been emphasized by another thing. The savage brutality of the German invasion of Russia, its wanton destruction and its seeming aim not only of military victory but of the destruction of an inferior race—these have made the Russians hate not only the Nazis and the rulers of Germany, but Germans as a whole. It has become increasingly difficult to distinguish between the German people and their rulers. The Russians have cherished hatred for the Germans on a mass-scale, as a result of their experiences, perhaps as much or more than any of the United Nations, apart from the occupied countries. That also will be a factor to be reckoned with in the Russian contribution to the peace-conference.

Russia will be at the peace-conference this time—victorious on a mass-scale, knowing why they have won; seeking peace and security to build up their socialist state; with a renewed patriotism and a devouring hatred—challenging, disturbing, but also hopeful, with their eyes on the future which will embody their ideal.

—A talk broadcast recently from A.I.R., Madras.

NEW BATTLE DRESS FOR TROOPS

Troops in India are to have a new tropical battle dress. With it (excepting Sikhs) they will wear green pancake hats.

The khaki drill uniform and the traditional topee or pugaree will be seen only in rear areas.

The new uniform is designed for jungle fighting. It is bottle-green and mosquito-proof.

The new jungle hat looks like a costermonger's cap. When the soldier is wearing his steel helmet he can put the cap in his pocket.

The new cap will save vast quantities of cloth. Every Indian sepoy is issued with more than five yards with which to make the picturesque head-dress which is the most distinctive feature of his uniform; the jungle cap takes less than a yard.

With the new emphasis on jungle warfare it soon became evident that topees must be discarded; many units now wear Australian-type slouch hats as an alternative.

F/O B. R. Rao, aged 29, of Ongole, Guntur district, Madras.

FIGHTER-PILOT FROM ONGOLE

A 29-year-old fighter pilot from Ongole, Guntur district, Madras, F/O B. R. Rao, is now on his first operations over Burma with the Indian Air Force and is enjoying the thrill of strafing Japanese transports and river-craft.

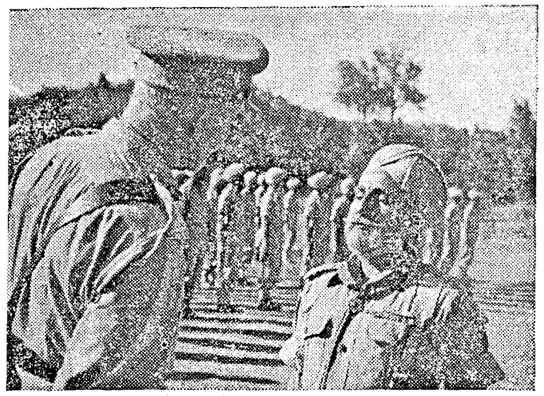
Claiming to be the first to join the Indian Air Force from Guntur district, he says, "I have been on operations on the North-West frontier, but I prefer flying over the beautiful natural jungle scenery of Burma. Since arriving at this forward base I have been on several expeditions against the Japanese and have been shooting up their road communications. The other day I came across 15 of their heavy transports travelling along a road. I gave them several bursts and the men in the trucks jumped out. Quite a few of them were killed".

GIFT BY THE CHINESE PEOPLE—TO BE USED FOR CYCLONE RELIEF IN VIZAGAPATAM DISTRICT

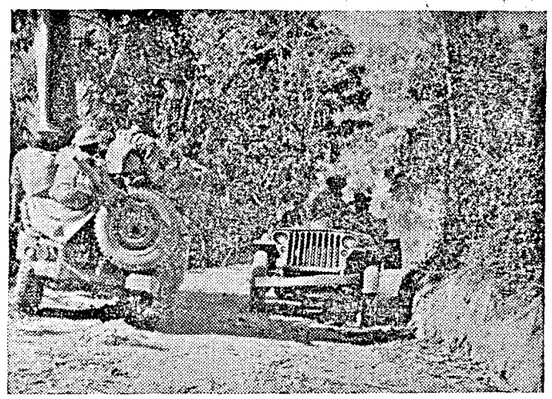
HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR has directed that the splendid donation of Rs. 20,000, so generously given by the people of China for the relief of distress in this Presidency should be spent in the Vizagapatam district for the relief of distress caused by the recent cyclone, and for the assistance of Burma refugees.

The distribution will be as follows:—	RS.
Chicacole taluk—	
Free distribution of standard cloth, and in coastal villages also affected by malaria, free distribution of rice.	10,000
Chipurupalli taluk—	
Free distribution of standard cloth	4,000
Vizagapatam labour camps for Burma evacuees—	
Provision of amenities and free distribution of standard cloth.	6,000

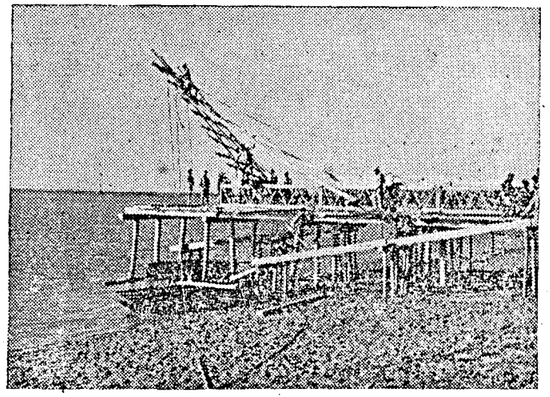
FRONT-LINE PICTURES FROM THE BURMA FRONT



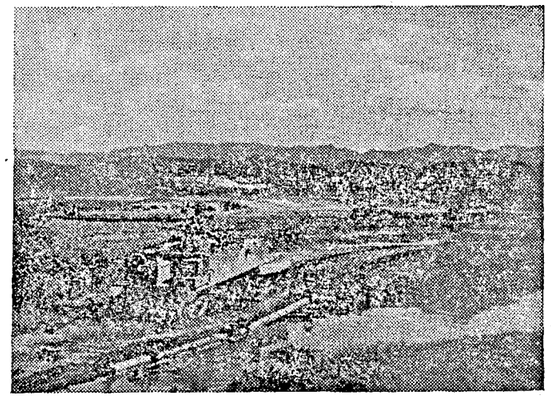
GENERAL GIFFARD VISITS ARAKAN.—General Sir George Giffard, G.C.E., D.S.O., A.D.C., Commander-in-Chief, Army Group, South-East Asia, recently visited the Arakan front, where he inspected and talked with Indian and British servicemen.



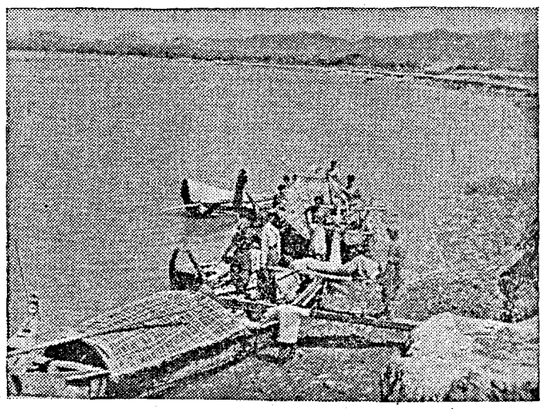
RECENT FIGHTING IN ARAKAN.—The recent Japanese attack against our positions in the Arakan has been smashed by British and Indian troops of the 7th and 6th Indian Divisions. Heavily loaded jeeps negotiate the steep Ngakyedauk Pass.



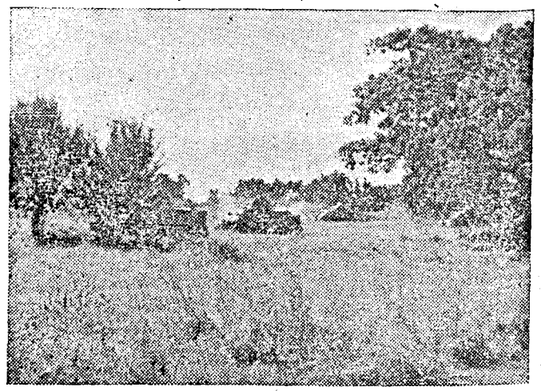
ARAKAN SCENES.—The water-ways of the Burma Front are used as supply routes. Here men of the Madras Sappers and Miners are building a jett on one of the main outlets of the broad River Naaf.



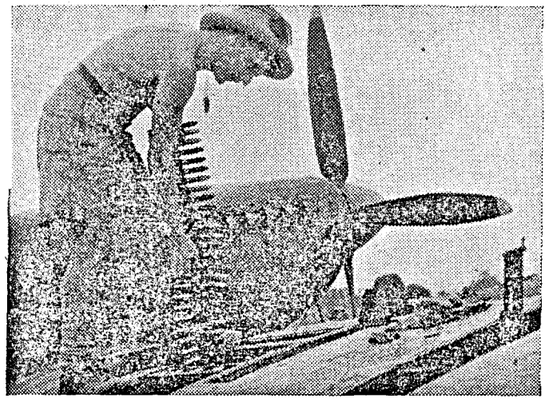
FIGHTING IN THE ARAKAN.—On the third day of the battle for the Buthidaung-Maungdaw Area our troops were making steady progress. This photograph secured during the fighting shows crossing a chaung at full speed, this Carrier charges into action.



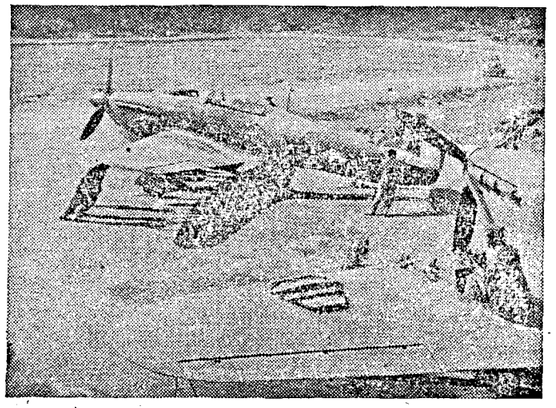
A stretcher case being carried aboard special hospital sampans, on the way to the Casualty Clearing Station.



Tanks on the Burma Front giving the Infantry covering fire while advancing.

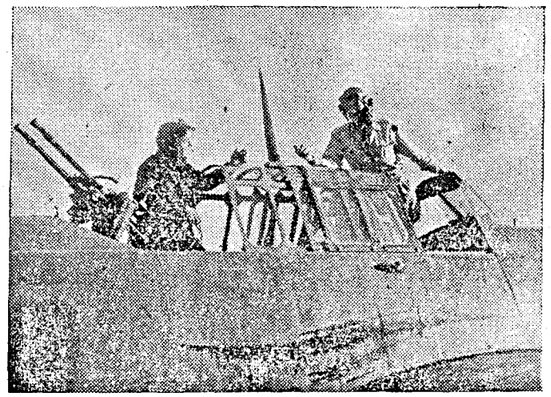


SPITFIRES OPERATING IN BURMA.—L.A.C. Skelton, 47, Limehouse Avenue, Loughborough, rearms with cannon shells a Spitfire of a famous squadron.

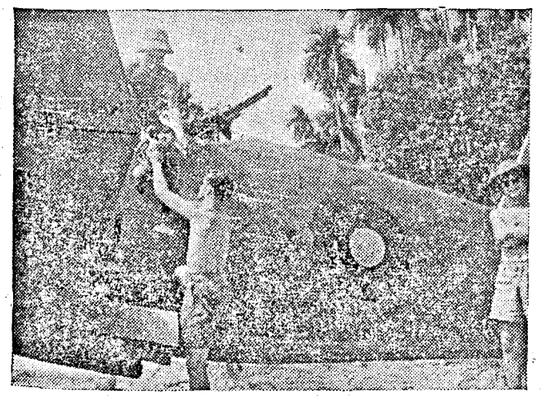


INDIAN AIR FORCE ON THE BURMA FRONT.—Planes of the Indian Air Force being serviced on their return from a sortie.

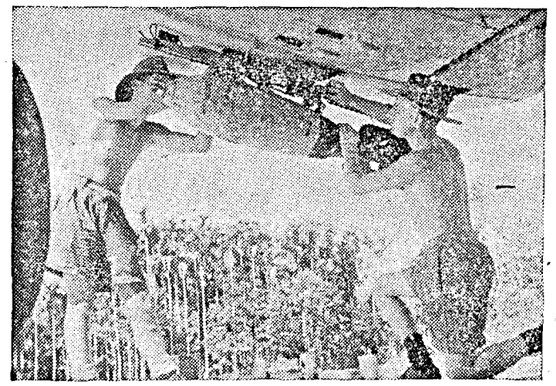
HURRICANES GO SAMPAN-BUSTING IN BURMA.—Men of a sampan busting Hurricane Squadron improvise engine changes in the Burma jungle.



VULTEE "VENGEANCE" DIVE-BOMBERS IN BURMA.—Vultee "Vengeance" dive-bombers are doing grand work in Burma. It is a Vultee "Vengeance" squadron which has the best serviceability record of any operational squadron, in Burma.

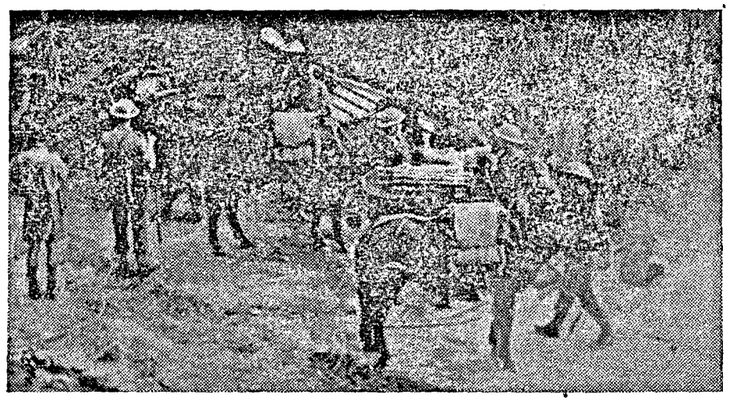


Air cameras are carried by Vultee "Vengeance" divebom-bers to record hits on targets. Photo shows *an air camera being placed in an aircraft just before a sortie.*



In Burma after one very successful attack a Vultee "Vengeance" Squadron was complimented by the Army Commander who said: "Congratulations, bombing best ever." Photo shows *a Vultee "Vengeance" dive-bomber being loaded with 250 lb. bombs.*

IMPRESSIONS OF THE ASSAM-BURMA FRONT



SUPPLY PROBLEMS OF THE ASSAM-BURMA FRONT.—The important task of keeping our troops operating on the Burma Front fully supplied with the sinews of war is a herculean one. These photographs show supplies being transported over jungle paths on mules along tracks impossible to any other form of transport; and ferried up rivers by the native craft of the country.

"Came to a river and couldn't get across." Mules being unloaded so that their packs can be ferried across a river which is too deep for them to negotiate without damage to the supplies they carry.

A visit to an operational area always gives you a thorough shaking. I am not referring to the army's motor trucks—it's one's ideas about war that get shaken up: some get clarified and crystallized, while others are thrown out. The News-reels and the occasional photographs that I had seen in the papers didn't give me a correct impression of what jungle fighting means. Perhaps I am being unfair to the photographers, for after all their business is to take photos which do show clearly, one or both, of the combatant forces, but the real jungle is so different. You are talking to a party of men. One of them says "I must be going, I have got something to do," and before you can turn around, he has vanished. He had only to walk a few yards away before the jungle covered him from view. We have no doubt learnt a great deal about camouflage, and the jungle makes up for the rest. Unfortunately, this seems to cut both ways. Surprise attacks are easy, and so are ambushes. One doesn't know what lies behind the next clump of bamboo, the canteen for which one is looking or an enemy machine gun party. That our men have been able to fight successfully in such jungle I can attribute only to the special training they have received for the job.

COVERED BY MOUNTAIN RANGES

The districts through which our armies are advancing to-day is covered by mountain ranges, deep rivers and uncharted jungle. Fortunately we have been able to get a large number of experienced men for our Forward Survey Companies. These are working in close co-operation with our aerial survey squadrons, and have been able to chart in accurate detail, the country we are entering. They supply excellent maps to the advancing units and to the bridging and road-building sections. I may say that the mountain roads we have built are a credit to our engineering skill. To mention just one aspect, in two hundred miles of road that I travelled over, there was not even one hairpin bend, and this, mind you, across mountain ranges over 8,000 feet high. As the fighting units advance, the roads are keeping pace and the signals too—wireless, telegraph and telephone, the transport companies, the mobile workshops, and all that a modern mechanized army needs.

I was able to go right up to the Chindwin. In the sector that I visited, the Japs had been cleared out of the right bank and our units had moved close to the river. The Chindwin had shrunk from its banks, leaving a sandy stretch on either side. It was still too wide to swim across, and thick jungle covered both banks. The enemy was hidden in the jungle on the other side of the river—and I hoped he couldn't see me any better than I could see him.

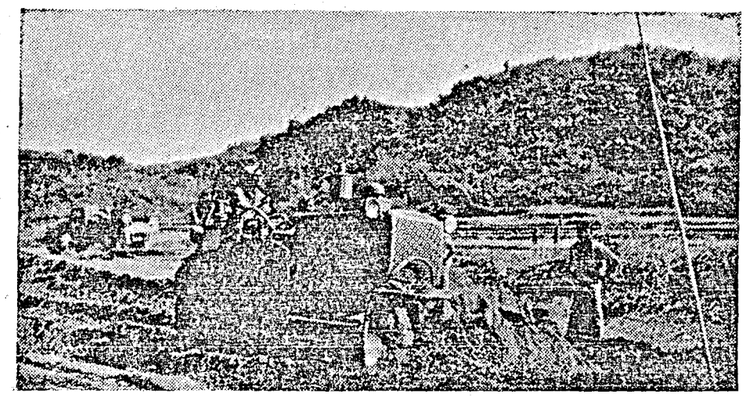
By A MEMBER OF THE A.I.R. STAFF.

When I was there, it was limited to patrol work. Parties of our men, led by an officer, would set out at night, cross the river, and penetrate the territory held by the Jap. They would return after having gathered information about the Jap positions and where possible bring away prisoners for interrogation. And generally they succeeded in doing some damage to his store dumps or his communications before they came away. As there was no cover on the sandy stretches of the river, these parties could go out only at night. They had to take care that they didn't leave any tracks on the sand, for that would invite an ambush. Inside the enemy territory they had to be even more careful, for the Jap had always a number of sentries out and these would throw hand-grenades at every noise. Occasionally, Jap patrol parties would cross over and probe our side, but we have always had the better of these exchanges.

UNDISPUTED AIR SUPERIORITY

Lower down the river, our men were in contact with the enemy and forcing him back from one position after another. Our artillery attacks of which reports have been released in the papers were just starting. There was little sign of the Jap in the air, and our air forces had undisputed superiority. Every day, commencing at dawn, our fighters and fighter-bombers would take off on their daily routine, bursting bridges, shooting up any Jap boats that dared show up on the river, bombing and machine-gunning the enemy positions. Not a single Jap plane would come up. I believe the Japs didn't even dare to have any planes in the area; whenever they found themselves hard-pressed and wanted help in the air, they would get their planes from much farther in the interior. The local air-fields were used only for refuelling.

I can give you the impressions I gathered from my talks with the men. They are quite confident of victory. Two years ago, the Jap had an advantage. He had been fighting for years, and he had developed certain tactics which took our men by surprise. To-day, the Jap has lost that advantage. Our men know what he can do, and they have learnt the answer to it. More, our men are better armed, they have had better training, and they are any day better fighting men than the Japs.



"The mountain roads we have built are a credit to our engineering skill." Photo shows Sappers and Miners preparing new roads in the Buthidaung-Maungdaw area.

The Jap is wily, and full of tricks, but seems to work on certain set lines dictated by his peculiar psychology. When our men attack and seize a Jap stronghold, they know exactly what will follow. The local Jap commander has "lost face." He doesn't stop to analyse our moves or figure out our future plans. He counter-attacks within a few hours and throws in all the men he has in a desperate effort to retake the position. And when that fails, he throws in his reserve in an attempt to encircle and wipe out our men. Behind all this, there is only one idea, to restore "face." This appears to have been happening all along the front. Of course this means that we must always be ready to hold whatever we take, and even a minor advance has to be backed by careful preparation. We definitely have the upper hand, and this is due in great part to our superiority in the air.

CHEERFUL AND CONFIDENT

I talked to pilots and ground crew in the I.A.F. and in the R.A.F. Some of the I.A.F. pilots had seen service in Burma in 1942 and they were glad to have the opportunity to fight there now, with the tables turned against the Jap. Both among pilots and the ground crew, there were many of our boys there, all in fighting trim, quite cheerful and confident. All over that area, in every Indian unit that I visited I found South Indians, and in quite large numbers too. I am sorry I can't say that of officers, but among the men, I wouldn't be surprised if South Indians formed a very large proportion indeed. They were all there—Telugus, Tamils, Malayalees, Mysoreans. They are in excellent condition, with little to complain of. The food suited them, the climate was not too bad, and they were proud of their work in the army. Some of the men have been there for nearly two years now, except for spells of leave. There was not much of sickness. Even Malaria had been brought under control, and there was no crowding at the hospitals. The food at the hospital was quite good, and the nursing service competent. Even among the medical officers there were many South Indians.

—*Substance of an interview broadcast from All-India Radio, Madras, on March 17.*

LIEUT.-GENERAL CHRISTISON

LIEUT.-GENERAL ALEXANDER F. P CHRISTISON, one of the victors of the Arakan battle in Burma is waging a war of vengeance, writes a *Daily Express* staff reporter.

Every yard of rock and jungle won back by his 15th Corps brings him nearer to the spot where his only son, Lieutenant John Anthony Alexander Christison, aged 25, died resisting the Japanese invader two years ago.

"My brother will have been only too glad to get some of his own back on the Japs—only too delighted to have some revenge," said Sir Robert Alexander Christison of Lympstone, Devon.

"His son was fighting with the regiment he commanded himself in 1937-1938, the Duke of Wellingtons. But my brother was at Quetta commanding the 25th Army Corps when his boy was killed in the retreat from Burma. By his death our Baronetcy comes to an end. My brother will succeed to it at my death but after him there will be no heir now."

A Passion Cross set upon a threefold base forms the family crest of the Christisons and the family motto is "Vitam dirigat" (May it guide my life).

Most of General Christison's life—he is 50—has been spent in soldiering. He went straight to France from the O.T.C. at Oxford during the last war. With the exception of a period in this country between 1941 and 1942 he has been in India throughout this war. He was given command of the 15th Corps a few months ago.

His wife, daughter of the late Bishop of Aberdeen and Orkney, is in India with their three daughters, Heather, Alison and Foina.

MADRASSIS ON BURMA FRONT

The following are some of the Madrassis who have distinguished themselves by gallantry in action on the Burma Front:—

HAVILDAR JAYARAM (Sidduppery village, Vellore, North Arcot).

HAVILDAR RAMBU (Vizagapatam).

HAVILDAR DORAISWAMI (Chingleput).

HAVILDAR SIVAPRASAD (Kottary, Travancore).

WAR CORRESPONDENTS FILMATISE

HAVING an idle hour on my hands one day, I was casually turning over the pages of a book. It was a book on France. I got interested. It told the story of the fall in simple, direct language. It was written by a man who was there when the Germans came. He was an eye-witness to the happenings. "The French went down with their hands tied behind their backs," he wrote; "They were all mobilized and had to obey the orders of an incompetent general staff and of a Government which became a 'peace at any price' Government. They were badly led, but given a chance they could have been their own leaders, the very thing which the Petains and the Weygands feared and did their best to prevent. They have not lost heart but they are now expressionless beneath the heel of the conqueror." These are the words of GORDON WATERFIELD. He was *Reuter's* representative in Paris from 1935 to 1940 and was war correspondent with the French armies during the fateful months—April, May and June 1940.

First Indian to serve abroad as War Correspondent: Mr. A. K. Qureshi, of Reuter's *who is covering the Indian Division Fighting in Italy.*

IMPRESSIONS OF FLIGHT IN A BOMBER

I was particularly interested to read his impressions of a flight in a bomber, because they more or less coincided with mine. But there was this difference: he accompanied a real bombing expedition during the night while mine was only a mere practice operational flight during day time, though it was the first of its kind in India when journalists were given a bombing eye-view of the earth below. "We moved slowly over the airfield, took up our position and started our dash across the field," writes GORDON WATERFIELD, "Slowly we mounted to 5,000 feet and proceeded steadily along through the dark night. It was as uneventful as a ride in a London omnibus, but less comfortable, for I had to sit bolt upright, like a mid-Victorian, since the bulky parachute stuck into my back." Then the war correspondent goes on to describe in a graphic manner all that he saw and felt. It's all as though we are ourselves in GORDON WATERFIELD'S shoes, or should we say, parachute ?—everything is so real!

His description of the effect of the German break-through, on the people brings before us a vision of the endless procession of refugees. He points out how France lost the battle, how the old French Army created to fight on a stable front and organized on outworn principles collapsed when the front disappeared and when it faced an army organized for modern mechanical warfare.

Compare this with what has been happening in Russia for some months. The despatches of war correspondents like PAUL WINTERTON of the *News Chronicle* show how Soviet Russia fought the enemy on a highly mobile and elastic front, not merely by the strength of her arms but what is perhaps more important, by the strategy of her great generals. The full story of Russia's marvellous resistance and the Nazis' disorderly retreat has yet to be written, as the war on the Eastern Front has a few more rounds to go. When the war correspondents narrate the story in all its details, it is bound to recapture much of the thrill and excitement of the achievements of the Red Army. It would be the colourful story of an army that *stood up and fought, unlike the army* in France which collapsed before the fight.

ALLAN MOOREHEAD ON TOBRUK

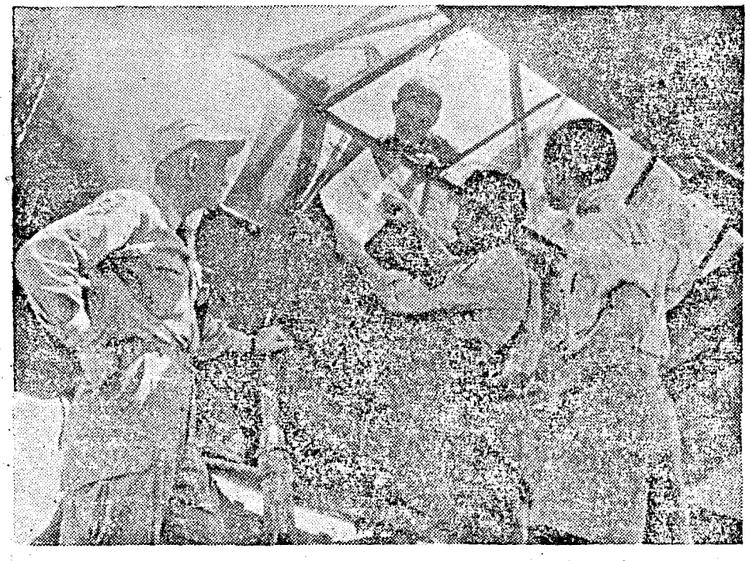
The achievements of the Red Army naturally remind one of the campaign in North Africa where the Eighth Army also fought on a mobile front and drove the Germans out. ALLAN MOOREHEAD of the London *Daily Express* was one of the war correspondents who covered this region. His book "Mediterranean Front" attracted wide notice, and he wrote a second book "A Year of Battle" which is the story of the war between August 1941–42. MOOREHEAD was in India for sometime in 1942. He was in the Middle East ever since the war began, but paid short visits to Britain and the United States. In the opinion of critics, he is "a reporter of genius," and his vivid portraits of great generals like Wavell and Auchinleck lend support to the view. Most of the war correspondents have the good reporter's facility of filmatising in words, as it were, the scenes on the war front. MOOREHEAD has described Tobruk after the siege was lifted—a description which is considered to be one of the most brilliant pieces of reporting in this war. He says:

"You could distinguish the men of Tobruk from other soldiers . . . Their clothing, their skin, especially their faces, were stained with the same colour as the earth. They moved slowly and precisely with an absolute economy of effort. They were lean and hard and their lips were drawn tightly together against the dust."

"No man has done a better job in this war than the infantry soldier here, British and Indian alike," writes Cecil Beaton, Daily Mail *Correspondent in Burma.* Photo shows *men of the Gurkha patrol receiving final instructions before creeping out to work havoc among the Japs.*

BATTLE-FRONTS IN WORDS

From the Red Army and the Eighth Army Fronts, let us go to the Fourteenth Army Front in Burma and see how some of the war correspondents there do the job. CECIL BEATON, Correspondent of the London *Daily Mail* has toured many war-fronts and his plain, unvarnished pictures of the life of the ordinary British soldier, whether grilling in the sand of the Western Desert, or floundering in the monsoon mud of Burma, have always been read with interest. Let us take for instance his despatch published last Thursday, March 9. "I have just been to the front lines of the Forgotten Army," he writes, "This is the name by which our troops fighting the Japanese in the Chin Hills have, until recently, referred to themselves . . . They know that, in comparison with the fighting in Italy and Russia, their job does not place them in the Big News".



ARAKAN WOUNDED EVACUATED BY AIR.—R.A.F. and American pilots flying light aircraft evacuated British, Indian and Gurkha wounded when our forces were trapped east of the Mayu Range. Flying day and night unarmed, unescorted, incessantly fired on by the Japanese, these aircraft landed on paddy fields and successfully evacuated large numbers of seriously wounded men to base hospitals.

British Medical Officer chats with American pilots. (left to right) *Staff/Sgt. Glen Abel, Kansas City, Kan. U. S. T/Sgt. P. W. Reeves (pilot in aircraft) Hattiesburg, Mississippi, U.S.A., Staff/Sgt. R. J. Patterson, Athens, Texas, U.S.; F/Lt. P. R. Latcham (M.O.) Balney, Haywards Heath, Sussex.*

Describing the conditions in the Burma jungle he says:

"For a time water was short, and washing was permitted only once in three days. Then clouds of large pale moths, portents of the monsoon, appeared, pivoting in the air like miniature helicopters. After them came the deluge. For a third of each year these troops have lived in an almost solid mass of tropical rain. Enormous trees, hanging with long festoons of parasitic moss, dripped heavily and without ceasing. Sometimes for a week on end the men were soaked to the skin unable to change their sodden clothes . . . With the damp weather came the leeches, millions of them. They were of no great size when they came, but after a feast of human blood they swelled to thumb-size. The soldiers learned quickly that leeches would drop off if touched with a lighted cigarette or if salt were put on the greasy black skin; but if you tried pulling a leech from your body the head remained embedded, and the wound soon became septic."

A TOUGH BUSINESS

What is the reaction of the men to living under these difficult conditions? How do they take it? CECIL BEATON says:

"No man has done a better job in this war than the infantry soldier here, British and Indian alike. 'It has been a tough business,' a senior officer said to me. But tough though it is, the visitor sees a cheerfulness and an atmosphere reminiscent of holidays in Switzerland or California. 'Yes, it is cold at night. Thirty degrees of frost. You just have to suffer it, that's all,' said one of the gunners at what is claimed to be the highest ack-ack gun-site in the world."

There is one other passage in CECIL BEATON'S despatch which I am not able to resist the temptation of quoting. He refers to the "crystalline sunlight of the combined spring and autumn climate which creates a falsely idyllic appearance to the activities of these forward troops." Then he describes the scene. I quote:—

"Gurkhas, with steel helmets covered with moss and winged with branches of leaves, come trekking through the jungle carrying a mobile

wireless set, clerks work in an Intelligence room made of plaited bamboo and reminiscent of Peter Pan's underground home, and the proud subedar of a battery gives orders to fire wearing a turban decorated with a gold fringe. Other scenes, too, give this false impression. At the hour when the sun goes down over the mountain occupied by the Japs, Private Sullivan sits at the wheel of his truck reading a love story, 'Sunshine After Rain'; near by, Lance-Corporal White, with freshly brilliantined hair, is sprawled on the roots of a tree, writing home to his wife in reply to the three letters he has just received from her, though they are dated December 17, 18 and 22. In the distance a gramophone is playing and tea is being brewed over a small wood fire. Even when in the blackness of the night guns are fired and the noise is vicious and painful to the nerve centres, while the flashes hurt the eyes, it is hard to realize the grimness of this war."

Finally BEATON says, "They are no longer the Forgotten and Anonymous Army—they are the men to whom Mr. Churchill addressed a special message. They are the men of the Fourteenth Army."

INDIAN WAR CORRESPONDENTS

Now, I must mention the name of an Indian journalist on the Burma front—CAPT. M. L. KATJU, M.C., the Indian Army Observer, who marched with Brigadier Wingate's force far into the heart of Burma. He has been reported "missing, believed killed" and his despatches have an abiding interest to the student of war-time literature. This is what he wrote on February 6, 1943:

"As I write this sitting on the top of a little hill, I can just see the Chindwin four miles away glistening in the sunlight like a silver streak in a green bowl. Beyond, the forest-covered slopes of a hill come down almost to the river's edge. Behind that hill is the 'green jungle hell' through which we must find a way, destroying the lurking enemy. Looking behind me there is a never-ending vista of hills, small ones and tall ones, heavy with their weight of virgin forests which have seen scarcely a few hundred human beings in their centuries of existence. Further back still are higher hills, almost mountains, which have left us a sore remembrance of blistered feet and aching backs."

Another Indian war correspondent who has distinguished himself is Mr. A. K. QURESHI of *Reuter's*. He is now covering the Indian Division which is fighting in Italy, and is stated to be the first Indian to serve abroad as a war correspondent. RICHARD BUSVINE is touring Italy for a daily paper in India, and his counterpart in Burma is F. R. MORAES.

MAUNGDAW MADHOUSE

I was particularly delighted to read F. R. MORAES' description of the press camp at Maungdaw, and this is what he wrote:—

A stone's throw from the Naf river was a collection of untidy wood and bamboo structures. In one of these, with officers going to and from the front, were housed the war correspondents—One correspondent, an individualist, two correspondents, a controversy, three correspondents, a babel. Small wonder that the Press Camp was christened the Maungdaw Madhouse. The click and rattle of typewriters could be heard throughout the day. Nightfall brought the more companionable clink of glasses. Presiding over this oddly assorted company of individualists was an officer who, in the palmy days of peace was associated with the stage. When spirits were low (in more senses than one!) and tempers a little frayed this resourceful Good Companion could be relied on to put over an act. He was a superb mimic with a devastating turn of phrase. Assisting him at these improvised revels was a former revue producer with an inexhaustible fund of stories and an inimitable patter. They were worth their weight in good Scotch."

RISKING THEIR LIVES FOR THE COMMON CAUSE

But what will be the worth of war correspondents themselves? QUENTIN REYNOLDS and VINCENT SHEEN, RAS MUNRO and ROBERT DUNNAT and a host of others, very famous, famous and not so famous—they are all doing their job voluntarily in the far-flung fighting fronts of the world, risking their lives so that the man-in-the-street may know what is happening. A number of war correspondents have actually lost their lives in the discharge of their duty. Recently RAYMOND CLAPPER, the famous columnist and commentator on world events was killed in a plane crash while reporting the invasion of the Marshall Islands.

I wonder if people sufficiently realize the great contribution to *The Common Cause* which is made by War Correspondents.

—*A talk broadcast by Mr. T. A. V. Nathan in the* Common Cause *series, from A.I.R., Madras, on March* 15.

A LITTLE LOWER THAN THE ANGELS

(*By* R.G.)

Watch birds and beasts if you would see
Body's act and majesty:
There's not a mighty man can pace
With cat's dark dignity and grace:
There's not a lovely girl can vie
With swallow or with butterfly.

But O the beasts know nothing of
The sinewy strength of country's love;
And birds wind-riding do not wing
Like honour; nor can panther spring
So taut as courage when men die
For ancient faith and liberty.

Watch beasts and birds for bodily
Achievement, strength and harmony.
But only Man, poor crooked race,
Shows movements of unfading grace
When he (still humping knapsack) springs
To snatch at flying freedom's wings.

PERSIA'S CONTRIBUTION TO WORLD CIVILIZATION

[*In view of the forthcoming visit of the Persian Cultural Mission to Madras, the following articles will be read with interest:*—]

PERSIA has been a seat of civilization and culture from ancient times. Her sons always had wide knowledge of the sciences, philosophy, mathematics and astronomy. The relics of the Achaemenid days, which have not been ravaged by time, portray their skill in architecture. The Sassanid dynasty, which followed the Achaemenid, is recognized as a period of learning and culture which shed rays not only on Persia but also on the world. Darmstetter, the distinguished Orientalist, speaks of this period thus: "The Sassanid era has a historic importance not only applicable to Persia itself. Its significance pertains to the general history of the entire human race. At no period of history has the influence of morals and ideals been so great in East and West as at that period. Persia, as the pivot of the whole ancient world, was considered the focal centre of this movement. From her all things originated, and in her they found an end."

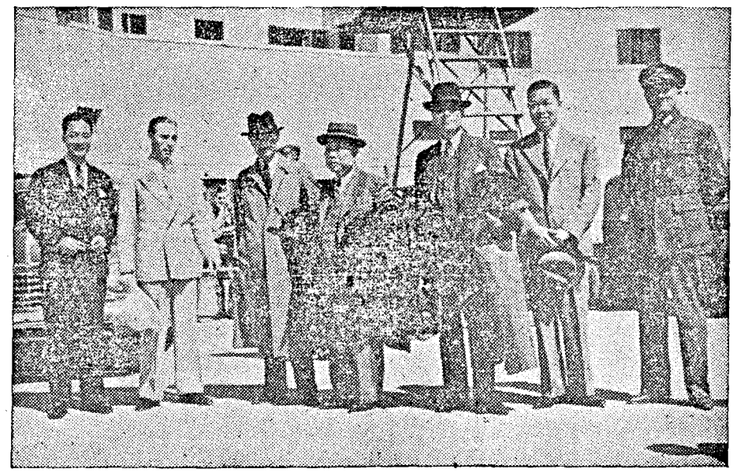
Persia's fame was not confined to Government and politics; it embraced literature and poetry. Orientalists specializing in the past of this country have termed Persia "the land of poetry and literature." Professor Brown, the famous Orientalist, writes: "It is, perhaps, impossible to compare and weigh the literature of various tongues with each other, for, apart from the question of personal taste and preference, there are few persons who are well-acquainted with the literature of more than two or three languages. In spite of this, if a list were to be prepared of the greatest of poets of all ages, there are few who doubt that Persia will have at least two or three representatives on that list. The literature of Persia is one of which any nation might be proud, especially in the sphere of poetry."

In the domain of fine arts Persia holds a privileged position. Professor Pope, the distinguished American Orientalist, who has conducted extensive researches into the history of the fine arts and crafts of Persia, is of the opinion that Persia is one of the greatest centres of industrial life in Asia and the source of the finest and most enduring of fine arts which have appeared in the human world. "Exquisite arts appeared in Persia centuries ago, and no other country can vie with her in this respect."

The post-Islamic period has also produced such a host of savants, literary men, diplomats, politicians, artists and craftsmen in Persia that two-thirds of the history of Islamic civilization is taken up with recording the conditions and activities of this group.

Islamic civilization is accounted as one of the greatest civilizations of the world in the Middle Ages and Persia has contributed a notable share to it.

PERSIAN CULTURAL MISSION.—The Persian Cultural Mission paid a visit to Delhi University. Here is its Leader, His Excellency Ali Asghar Hikmat, discussing Persian books with Mr. Das Gupta, Librarian of the University.



CHINESE GOODWILL MISSION TO BRITAIN.—Members of the Chinese Goodwill Mission to Britain photographed on their arrival in New Delhi on their way back to China.

PERSIA'S RESOURCES

PERSIA is one of the United Nations and is making an important if unostentatious contribution to the common war effort.

Persia is a vital link in the supply routes to the U.S.S.R. Along her railway lines and roads are being carried war materials from the British Commonwealth and the United States. Besides supplies of many raw materials, lorries and aircraft are being sent through Persia. American lorries are shipped in parts to the ports on the Persian Gulf, where they are assembled and inspected, and then driven across the Persian roads by Russian drivers. Bombers too are handed over to Russian pilots in Persia.

A country 2½ times the size of France, Persia is normally the fourth most important producer of petroleum in the world. The output of crude petroleum in 1940 was 10,444,000 metric tons. The major operating concern is the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company. The main oilfields are at the head of the Persian Gulf. There is a smaller field further north on the frontier of Iraq.

OIL REFINERIES

There are three refineries, to which the oilfields are connected by pipelines. The chief refinery is at Abadan, at the head of the Persian Gulf; this is one of the largest refineries in the world. There is a new refinery at Bandar-Shapur and a small one further north at Kermanshah. These refineries have a total crude oil capacity of 16,000,000 tons a year, of which Abadan's capacity is 14,000,000 tons. Their "cracking capacity" is 7,500,000 tons, of which Abadan's is 6,000,000 tons. The Abadan refinery is now producing high octane spirit in increasing quantities.

Other minerals have not been exploited to any extent. Small quantities of coal are mined near Teheran, and iron ore and copper are also mined in very small quantities. Other minerals which have been discovered include lead, zinc, manganese, cobalt and nickel.

Some industries have been set up during recent years, but have not yet reached any significant degree of development. Those factories which have been set up are owned either in part or entirely by the State. The financing of industry is operated by the various banks under direct control of the Ministry of Finance.

Persian carpets are famous throughout the world, and form the most important export after petroleum. These are mainly manufactured in small workshops, although some factories have been set up recently.

COTTON MILLS

Several cotton mills have been set up recently, the largest being at Shahi. Other mills are at Teheran, Yezd, Isfahan, Sennan and Kerman on the plateau, at Tabriz in the province of Azerbaijan, and at Bandar Abbas on the coast of the Persian Gulf.

Woollen goods are manufactured at Tabriz, Yezd and Isfahan. Silk goods are now being manufactured at Resht and Chalus in the province of Gilan on the coast of the Caspian Sea. There are jute mills at Resht and Shahi. Several factories have been set up for the refining of both cane and beet sugar. There are iron foundries and blast furnaces at Mazanderan on the coast of the Caspian Sea, and also aircraft and munitions factories there and elsewhere. There are ship-building yards at Pahlavi on the Caspian Sea; the first ship, a dredger, was launched in November 1940.

Until 1921 Persia was very backward in her transport system. Travellers and goods were carried by slow-moving camel or mule caravans, which were unable to cover more than 20 to 25 miles a day over rough tracks. Several roads now run from Teheran to points on the Caspian Sea. The Teheran-Istahan-Bushire route is now usable in all weathers, and also the one from Isfahan to Bandar Abbas on the Persian Gulf. The chief railway is the Trans-Persian. This was completed in 1938 and runs for 868 miles across the country. Starting at Bandar-Shapur, the port on the Persian Gulf, the railway crosses the flat land in the province of Kuzestan to Ahwaz. From there it climbs the Zagros mountains, reaching the highest point in the journey in a pass 7,200 feet above sea-level. It then crosses the high but fairly level plateau to Erak, and descends slowly through Kum to Teheran.

There have been many recent developments in the construction of loops and sidings on the Trans-Persian Railway and the number of locomotives and trucks used on the line has been gradually augmented from Britain and the United States. The locomotives have been converted to burn oil instead of coal.

AIR SERVICES

Regular passenger and freight air services are run from Teheran to Baghdad via Kermanshah. There is another service from Teheran to Bushire on the Persian Gulf. These are under the control of the Ministry of Posts and Telegraphs. A weekly air service by British Airways was begun between Cairo and Teheran in November 1941. There are about ten civilian aerodromes in the country. Most of the larger towns have a landing ground.

The major proportion of Persia's trade passes through the Persian Gulf. The chief ports on the Gulf are Bandar-Shapur, Bandar Abbas, Bushire, Khorramshah and Abadan (which is almost exclusively an oil port). Bandar Abbas cannot be entered by large vessels, and the approach from inland to Bushire is extremely difficult. The importance of Bandar-Shapur, a new port opened in November 1932, is therefore increasing. It is the terminus of the Trans-Persian Railway and has a long railway jetty to which the largest vessels can tie up. The new railway branch line to Khorramshah, which is situated at the junction of the river Karun and Shattel-Arab, has added greatly to the importance of the town, and relieves to some extent the strain on Bandar-Shapur.

On the Caspian Sea, Bandar Shah is important as the terminus of the Trans-Persian Railway, but Pahlavi, Astara and Babul are also important for trade with the U.S.S.R., although not directly connected with the railway.

ARMY CAMELS

Army camels in India are now issued with boots and chest protectors.

This "concession" has been granted following a "camel comfort" investigation conducted by the army on the North-West Frontier, where the camel has come into its own again for moving essential war supplies as a result of increasing pressure on more modern forms of service transport.

More than 6,000 camels are now on active service with the R.I.A.S.C. Faced with a big increase in its camel strength the army appointed officers to see what could be done to get the best out of them.

These "camel welfare officers" have reduced the camel's burden and at the same time increased his carrying power by using carts instead of heavy packs, they have introduced horse artillery draft harness to ease his load, they have invented a chest protector to safeguard the vulnerable piece of flesh on which he rests while seated, and they have provided him with boots to prevent him from slipping on bad roads.

"We love our camels," said Lieut. Peter C. K. Andrewes, of Kidderminster, who is second-in-command of a Rawalpindi camel unit and has nearly 1,000 in his charge.

"Not having been to the zoo I had never seen a camel before I came to India. Now they are just like children to me.

"There is something very attractive about a camel. They are slow-witted and docile but they grow on you. Besides, they are extremely interesting internally."

Veteran of the Indian camel companies is Major H. de Vere Gosselin, of Roland's Castle, Hants., who has worked with camels for 26 years.

"They are undemonstrative creatures but they all know a camel officer when they see one," he says. "Perhaps one gets a camel smell about one."

"And when properly looked after they are not the filthy beasts which people seem to think they are."

Camels save petrol, tyres and freight space. They can go where wheeled traffic must stop and they can make long journeys without food or water.

A corps of British and Indian officers has been specially trained for service with camels. For the camel is a moody creature, liable to sudden fits of temper, and must be sympathetically handled. He eats 26 pounds of food and drinks nine gallons of water daily and takes two hours over each meal.

"Siss" ("sit") and "gumph" ("rise"), traditional words of command used by generations of Indian camel men, compel obedience from the most obstinate camel.

WAR DIARY

BRITAIN AND GERMANY

15TH MAR.—German planes raided London and other places in southern England.

Brunswick, Dusseldorf and other targets in west and central Germany were attacked by Allied bombers.

British coastal forces attacked a German convoy off the straits of Dover.

16TH MAR.—There was a little German air activity over parts of south-east England including London area. One thousand bombers raided Stuttgart, Munich, Augsburg, Ulm and other places in Germany.

17TH MAR.—Ulm and Friedrichsafen were attacked by Allied bombers.

18TH MAR.—Two thousand American bombers attacked places in western Germany in daylight.

Mr. Churchill has sent a message wishing success to the Savings Campaign in Britain.

19TH MAR.—Frankfurt was heavily bombed last night.

German planes raided parts of East Anglia and East Midlands.

20TH MAR.—Six thousand square miles of Britain are to be closed to the public "for operational reasons" announced the Secretary for War, Sir James Grigg.

Military targets in south-west Germany were bombed.

21ST MAR.—Mosquitoes attacked targets in western Germany. German shipping in the Straits of Dover were shelled.

* * *

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE ATLANTIC

18TH MAR.—Two American submarines *Capelin* and *Sculpin* are presumed to be lost.

19TH MAR.—The Secretary of State Mr. Cordell Hull and the Foreign Economic Administrator Mr. Leo T. Crowley have issued a statement regarding Lend-Lease Aid to Britain.

20TH MAR.—The American destroyer escort *Leopold* has been sunk in the Atlantic according to a Navy Communiqué issued to-day. It is disclosed that United States Auxiliary submarine rescue vessel *Macaw* sank in the Pacific on February 13.

21ST MAR.—President Roosevelt is suffering from cold.

* * *

INDIA, BURMA AND CEYLON

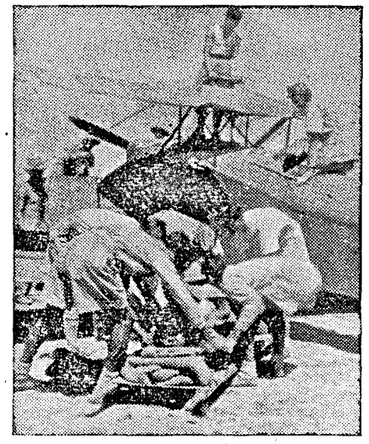
15TH MAR.—In the Razabil "fortress" area during 14th March Allies occupied additional strong points.

16TH MAR.—To-day's communiqué from South-East Asia Command gives details of Allied offensive on the Burma front.

17TH MAR.—Air Vice-Marshal M. Thomas has been appointed Air Officer Commanding, India Command.

It is disclosed that British and West African troops have effected landings on the Japanese coastal flank in the Arakan and are holding to-day six villages. It is also revealed that an Allied base has been established in the heart of northern Burma (150 miles inside Burma).

19TH MAR.—It is reported that enemy aircraft attacked Imphal area in Assam on 16th and 17th.



A former London policeman, F/O Edwin E. Mackey, 3, St. Aidan Road, Carlisle, watches anxiously from his cockpit while medical orderlies lift his stretcher case from the aircraft.

It is now apparent that the Japs are staging a major offensive on the Chindwin Front, says to-day's South-East Asia Command Communiqué.

20TH MAR.—Lord Louis Mountbatten has issued an Order of the Day commending the troops fighting in North Burma Campaign. Allied communiqué issued to-day says that on 19th March Allied aircraft bombed Wuntho, etc.

21ST MAR.—To-day's Allied Communiqué says that Allied forces have captured two key positions in North Burma, Jambu Bum and Sumpra Bum. Fierce fighting is reported on the Assam-Burma front.

* * *

RUSSIA AND FINLAND

15TH MAR.—Soviet forces captured Voorovitsa, Troistinets, Bereznigovataya and Znegirovka. Odessa, Nikolaev and four of Manstein's six defence centres in the Ukraine are threatened.

16TH MAR.—Russians have crossed the Bug river. Soviet troops have captured Vakmiarka, Kapurtino, Novakovka, etc. Hundreds of other localities were also captured.

The Finnish Parliament considered Russian peace terms. President Roosevelt and King Gustav of Sweden have urged Finland to get out of the war.

17TH MAR.—Russian forces captured Dubno, Demidovka, Turgowica. Soviet troops have reached Dniester at several points.

18TH MAR.—Russians have captured *Zhmerinka*, Ponoshnaya, Nova Ukrainika, etc. Over 100 Dniester towns and villages were occupied by Russian forces. Yampol and Rybnista were captured.

19TH MAR.—Soviet troops have broken into Vinnitsa and the Russian army has captured *Kremenets*. The Red Army has forced the Dniester on a stretch of over 30 miles and captured more than 40 localities including Saroca.

20TH MAR.—Russians have captured Mogilev-Podolski, *Vinnitsa*, Chervono-Armeisk and Radzilvilow.

The Finnish radio said that considerable modification has been made in the Russian peace terms and that the outlook was better.

21ST MAR.—Marshal Koniev's Bessarabian spearhead is only 7 miles from Baltic rail junction. Russian troops are only 50 miles from Rumanian border.

Finland has rejected the Russian peace terms.

* * *

ITALY, AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

15TH MAR.—In the beachhead Allied front lines were improved. On the main Fifth Army and Eighth Army fronts patrols were active. Cassino was heavily bombed.

16TH MAR.—Cassino is destroyed completely. Patrols were active on other fronts.

The United States War Secretary, Mr. L. Stimson told that the Allies have obtained strategic objectives in the Italian Campaign.

17TH MAR.—Three attacks on the Fifth Allied beachhead were repulsed.

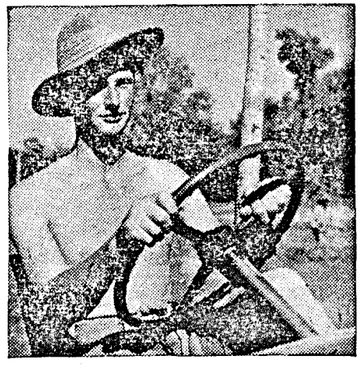
The Secretary of State, Mr. Cordell Hull told that the United States will not consider extending diplomatic recognition to the Badoglio Government.

18TH MAR.—Heavy fighting continued in the Cassino area.

19TH MAR.—The Fifth Army has tightened its grip on Cassino.

20TH MAR.—The enemy has succeeded in reinforcing his strong points in Cassino. There were no important changes in other fronts.

21ST MAR.—The struggle for Cassino continues. British troops of the Fifth Army Allied Bridgehead Force made two successful raids on enemy positions. Strong patrol clashes occurred on the Eighth Army Front.



A. J. M. Smith, D.F.C., "Arbourtree" House, Wombourne, Nr. Wolverhampton (seated in jeep), a former chemist whose main job is arranging air support for General Slims Fourteenth Army, organized the air evacuation of wounded and himself surveyed paddy fields for suitable landing grounds where the evacuation planes could land to pick up casualties.

VICHY, FREE FRANCE AND OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

15TH MAR.—Military targets in Northern France and Belgium were attacked by Allied aircraft.

Mr. Eden told Parliament that Britain hoped to have discussions on Yugoslav affairs with King Peter.

17TH MAR.—Marshal Tito's communique reports fierce fighting near the Austrian frontier in Northern Slovenia.

Allied bombers attacked Creil, Amiens, etc.

President Roosevelt at his press conference indicated that he had reached a decision regarding the status of the French Committee of National Liberation.

18TH MAR.—General de Gaulle addressed the French Consultative Assembly.

19TH MAR.—Allied bombers attacked military objectives in Northern France.

20TH MAR.—Nazis have completely occupied Hungary.

21ST MAR.—Allied bombers attacked Angouleme in France last night and Pas de Calais to-day.

The Axis offensive in the Yugoslav Province of Srem has completely broken.

* * * *

THE NEUTRAL COUNTRIES

17TH MAR.—Mr. de Valera in a broadcast to his people justified his stand on neutrality.

21ST MAR.—Eire is treated as a member of the British Commonwealth but is excluded from the benefits of all special war-time measures, stated Mr. P. E. Evans, Under-Secretary for Dominions.

* * *

THE FAR EAST

15TH MAR.—Mr. Eden in a statement in the House of Commons about British prisoners in Jap hands said, "It is not in the power of the Foreign Office or any one else unhappily to make the barbarous Japanese humane."

Ponape, Kesaie and other airfields in Caroline and Marshalls were bombed by Allied aircraft.

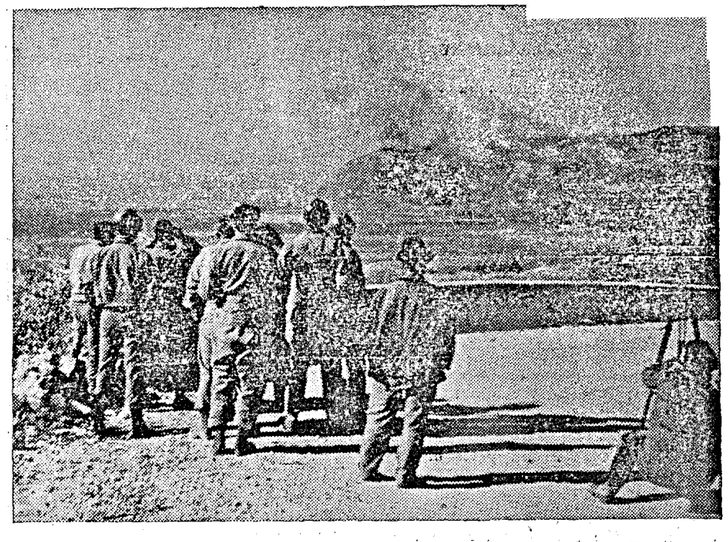
Admiral Nimitz has returned to his headquarters in Pearl Harbour after his conferences in Washington.

16TH MAR.—Several enemy bases including Wewak, Kavieng, Rabaul, Tobera and Altape were bombed. Americans attacked Truk. Hawei and Butzazo islands were captured by the Allies.

17TH MAR.—The Allies have landed on Manus island in the Admiralty group. The Surabaya naval base and the Den Passar in Bali were bombed by Allies.

The Governor-General of Australia, Lord Gowrie decorated General Mac Arthur with G.C.B. conferred by His Majesty King George.

18TH MAR.—Paramushiru, Shimushu and Matonava were heavily bombed by Allied bombers yesterday.



BOMBING OF CASSINO MONASTERY.—In the distance one can see Cassino Monastery, which stands on top of a hill being bombed. Smoke and flames envelop the target.

FOR YOUR RADIO DIARY

MAR. 27.—DELHI—8-30 p.m. "Problems of the New India: the problem of population." Discussion.

" 28.—DELHI—8-30 p.m. "I was in Japan." By Lieutenant Colonel S. R. Hunt.

" " BOMBAY—8-30 p.m. "Out of the Night: Yugoslavia." By Dr. H. Gosal.

" " CALCUTTA—9-00 p.m. War Commentary.

" " LUCKNOW—9-45 p.m. "The Setting Sun: Analysis o' Japanese Radio Propaganda." By Dr. Fredd M. Perril.

" " MADRAS—9-45 p.m. "Allied Contribution: Wisdom from China."

" 29.—DELHI—8-30 p.m. War Commentary. By Lieutenant-Colonel A. Boyes Cooper.

" " DELHI—8-30 p.m. "The Voice of America."

" " MADRAS—9-45 p.m. The Common Cause.

" 30—BOMBAY—8-30 p.m. "Out of the Night: China." By Dr. Hubert S. Liang.

" 31.—MADRAS—9-45 p.m. World Affairs; Relayed from B.B.C.

" " " 10 p.m. Red Cross Variety.

19TH MAR.—Lorengan has been captured. This completes the Allied occupation of all important areas of the Admiralty Islands.

20TH MAR.—Mille Atoll in the Eastern Marshall Islands was heavily shelled by Allied battleships.

21ST MAR.—Allied bombers have sunk five ships in a Jap Convoy near Wewak. United States submarines have sunk 15 Jap ships in operations in the Pacific not previously announced, says United States Navy Secretary, Colonel Knox.

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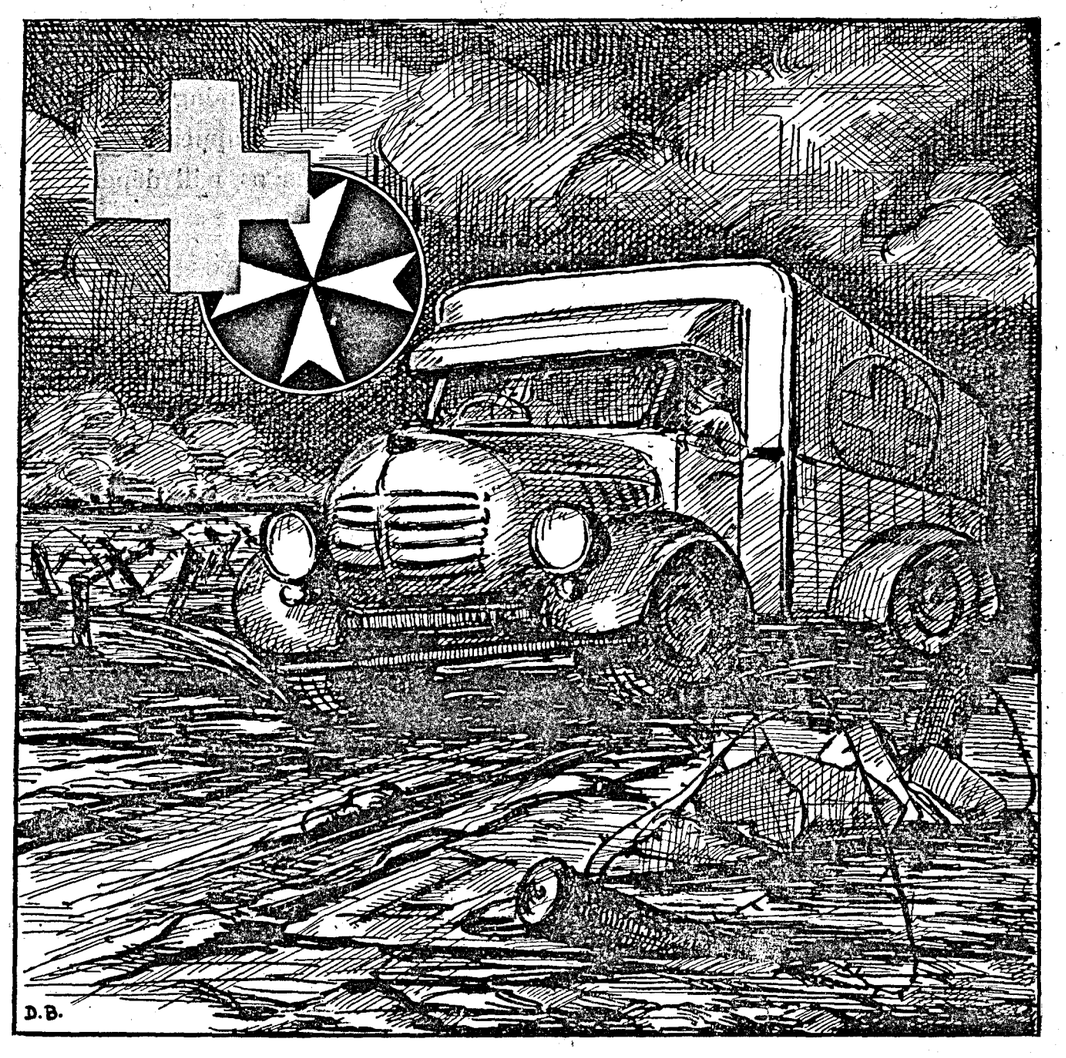
RED CROSS NUME

MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. V FRIDAY, MARCH 31, 1944 No. 30



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[NOTE.—*The summary of news and comments contained in the* MADRAS WAR REVIEW *generally relate to events and statements published till Wednesday, every week.*]

INDIAN RED CROSS WORK—THE VICEROY'S APPEAL

Members of the nursing divisions have assisted at military hospitals all over the country. I cannot over-rate the value of these services, since the shortage of nurses in India has long been a matter of deep anxiety. I strongly support the appeals that have been made for more nurses. We need for the nursing services every suitable woman that can be found and I trust we shall not appeal in vain. The comfort, perhaps the lives of many who have fought well for us, will depend on the result.

◆

We shall have to give more and more help to the military hospitals and we shall need closer and closer co-operation from the provinces. The appointment of regional commissioners will, I hope, make it possible both to help the provinces more and to co-ordinate more closely all the splendid effort that is being put forth.

◆

There are many thousands from whose minds a heavy burden of anxiety would be lifted if they could be assured that our prisoners of war in Japanese hands were being treated humanly and were receiving food and comforts through the Red Cross, but I fear I have nothing to add to what General Jolly has told you. As he has said, we will sustain our efforts and keep our stores ready to ship. In view of the attitude of the Japanese there is no more we can do immediately but we are not forgetful of all those who are condemned to endure till the progress of our armies can free them and restore them to their families. May that day be soon.

HIS EXCELLENCY LORD WAVELL, *at the annual meeting of St. John Ambulance Association and Indian Red Cross Society, in Delhi, on March 22.*

MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

L. V | FRIDAY, MARCH 31, 1944 | No. 30

MISERICORDIA

MISERICORDIA is a beautiful Latin word.

THE very shape of it is enough to switch one's mind from Anger, Hate and Revenge, to Pity, Mercy and Succour.

IT won't spoil morale if we in Madras dwell for a moment each day for a couple of weeks on these more tender and pleasing traits of human make-up.

THE papers tell us that a certain country sadly but proudly expects to have half a million casualties soon and suddenly.

HALF A MILLION more are thus to be added from one country alone to the figures of four years of bloody war on the Seven Seas, three Continents, a multitude of islands and the corridors of the sky.

NEVER mind what country this is. There are several others with the same grim expectations. And a large proportion of those casualties will be deaths.

BUT there are hundreds of thousands of the not-killed and more still who will again escape immediate death. Again, never mind whose nationals they may be. They are human beings—the young and the strong and the brave—and they are, or will be Sick, Wounded or Prisoners of War.

THEY NOW need, and WILL need, *all* the help that the Red Cross and St. John, throughout the world, can possibly give them.

THIS great organization is doing its noble best, but it cannot yet do enough. It wants help—badly. It wants for this year alone, and for India alone, three crores of rupees to carry out the work it can see ahead, to say nothing of what it cannot foresee.

Madras will—MUST—help it
AD MISERICORDIAM!

H.E. THE GOVERNOR'S APPEAL

H.E. SIR ARTHUR HOPE.

The Joint War Organization of Red Cross and St. John strives to fulfil one of the noblest of human desires, the relief of suffering.

It provides comforts for the sick and wounded and much needed amenities for Prisoners of War in enemy hands.

I commend this appeal to the people of Madras with complete confidence that they will once again demonstrate their unsurpassed generosity and practical sympathy for this excellent cause.

ARTHUR HOPE,
Governor of Madras.

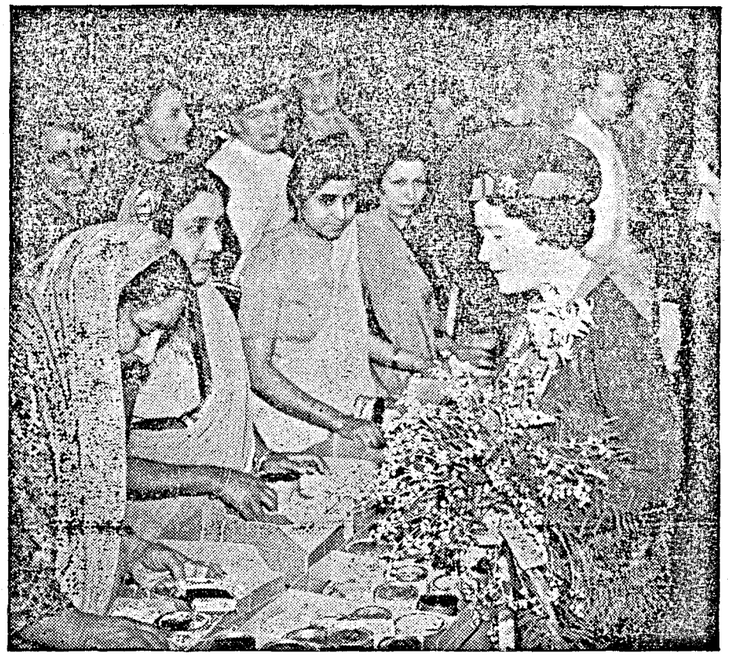
RED CROSS WEEK

By MRS. G. G. ARMSTRONG

THERE have been recently a good many advertisements in the papers about the work of the Joint War Organization of the Red Cross and St. John and mention of a special Red Cross Week. In most parts of India, this week was celebrated from January 30th to February 6th, but some parts of the country are making this special appeal at a different time and Madras is one—not merely from a general desire to be different, but because this date clashes with the War Savings Campaign, and although the need for Savings is never over, any more than the need for help to the Red Cross, it seemed inadvisable to press both upon the public at the same time. So the special Red Cross appeal in the Madras Presidency will be from the 1st April culminating in the Red Cross Sunday on the 16th.

Various questions are asked about this Joint War Organization of the Red Cross and St. John. One is, why Joint? Why does it take two bodies to do the same thing? Well, they are aiming at the same thing, assistance to the sick and wounded, but St. John does it by providing men and women training first aiders and nurses, and the Red Cross does it by providing things, hospital equipments and stores, comforts and amenities for the patients, supplies for prisoners of war. Obviously these two sides are allied, but equally obviously they are different. It is also asked, what are the relations between the Joint War Organization and the Red Cross Society? The Indian Red Cross Society is a body governed by an Act of the Indian Legislature, which lays down its constitution, rules of membership, and scope. Its work is the relief or prevention of suffering within India, chiefly by work among mothers and children, health education and relief work in such disasters as flood or famine. The Joint War Organization is a temporary and much more elastic body, with no special membership rules, formed to take over for the time being that great branch of disaster relief work resulting from the war. It is quite distinct from the Indian Red Cross Society, though naturally the same people very often work for both. Its scope too goes far outside India, it is responsible for supplies to Indian hospitals in the Mediterranean area, in Persia and Iraq, in Aden and Ceylon; and it will be responsible for hospital supplies for all troops going from India on the South-east Asia Campaign, whenever and wherever that may be. This is no small task; no wonder we want money.

Another question arises; why is not everything provided by Government; why do we have to do this? Well, for several reasons. In the first place, the scheduled supplies for hospitals are admittedly inadequate in several respects. Of course they ought not



Her Majesty the Queen, visiting India House, displayed a lively interest in the parcels of comforts being packed for despatch to Indian Prisoners of War, by Indian ladies in London.

to be; but can we be content to sit back and say so, to leave it at that and let the men go without? Of course, the ideal thing is to change the schedule, but that apparently takes an earthquake plus a miracle; miracle workers will be gladly welcomed, but meanwhile the rest of us feel we must do something in the hospitals. Then there is the question of speed a word unfamiliar to most Medical or Ordnance stores. Things are wanted urgently; we are an organization uncomplicated by the red tape which can supply at once and argue about the sanction afterwards. Also, even with the best supplied hospitals there are extra comforts and amenities for the patients which will make the hours pass more quickly, games and books, occupations and handicrafts, which we can supply and must.

The other great branch of Red Cross work is the provision of supplies for prisoners of war. We pay for the weekly parcels packet at India House for all the camps in Europe where there are prisoners from India, and we are sending bulk shipments of food, clothing and medical supplies to the prisoners in the Far East. The Japanese ship which came here in October bringing exchange prisoners took back a full cargo of supplies for those left behind.

All this costs money, and much more money every year. Last year the appeal was for $1\frac{1}{2}$ crores of rupees, which was secured. This year it is estimated that $1\frac{3}{4}$ crores will be needed for the hospitals and $1\frac{1}{4}$ crores for the prisoners of war, making a total of 3 crores, for which this special appeal is being launched. Madras hopes to raise 30 lakhs. Contributions may be sent either to the Governor's War Fund, earmarked for the Red Cross, or to the Joint War Charities Depot, Banqueting Hall, Government House, Madras, which is the provincial branch of the Joint War Organization. These also should be earmarked for Red Cross as distinct from Amenities for Troops Work. It is not just in one week we want help, but all the time.

At a regimental dinner the colonel came round and put a friendly hand on the shoulder of the young subaltern.

"Look here, my boy," he said in his fatherly way, "this is your first dinner and I know you won't mind a little advice from me. Go easy with the decanter and don't try to stick it too long. Here's a good tip for you. You see those two candlesticks there? Well, when you begin to see four instead of two, clear off."

"Righto," said the boy, "but I can't see more than one at present!"

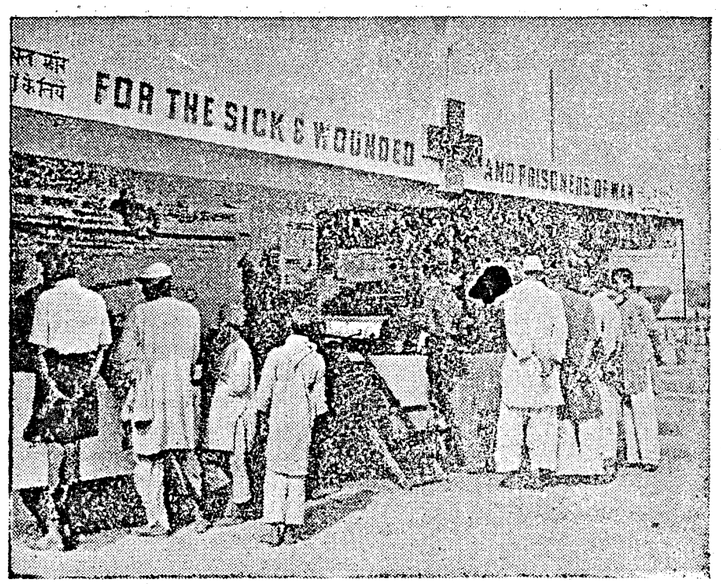
FOOD PARCELS FOR INDIAN PRISONERS IN EUROPE

From reports received from Geneva, the total number of Indian prisoners of war in Europe remains at about 11,500 including 1,250 in works detachments in Italy but expected to be moved to Germany if not already there, states the latest Quarterly Report of the Indian Comforts Fund, London.

During the period under review (the 13 weeks ending 29th January, 1944) 126,672 food parcels were packed and despatched to Geneva. Twelve thousand parcels are now being sent to Indian prisoners each week. Next of kin clothing parcels numbering 5,920 were also despatched. In addition, Indian games and musical instruments received from India were despatched to the Indian camps, while a consignment of hair oil was sent for the use of Sikh prisoners of war.

For Indian seamen, the Fund distributed at ports 6,474 bundles of clothing. Entertainments have been continued at ports and grants varying from £115 to £1,250 were made towards the institutions for Indian seamen at London, Glasgow, Falmouth and Swansea. Occupational therapy has been started for sick Indian seamen in recognized hospitals to whom special X'mas gifts were also sent.

The Fund issued the usual clothing and comforts to the 9th batch of Bevin Boys on arrival in England and contributed financially towards an outing for them in London. The balance in favour of the Fund on 31st January was £31,571.



FOR THE SICK AND WOUNDED AND PRISONERS OF WAR—At a Red Cross and St. John's Exhibition Stall.

PRISONERS, PRIVATIONS, PARCELS AND PRESENTS

By MRS. H. S. TOWN

HAVE you ever thought what it must be like to be taken prisoner by the enemy?—to be placed in a prison camp, with barbed wire round it, to have no freedom and to be guarded by sentries all the time?—to be poorly fed and with many other discomforts to put up with?

Have you ever thought what a terrible feeling of frustration and despair our prisoners of war must have?

No doubt comfortable homes, loved ones, may be a wife and family have been left behind, good jobs given up and one of the fighting services joined at great sacrifice, because the prisoner's country is at war, fighting for its very existence.

Think of the prisoners having nothing to do but sit around thinking of loved ones far away, and comrades still free and fighting for the cause for which so much has been given up.

Perhaps it is winter time and to add to either miseries, clothes, blankets and food are insufficient, the prisoners are cold, miserable and unhappy, the inactivity is irksome after the very active life that has been led.

Day after day goes by with nothing to break the monotony, only two meals a day are served, a slice of bread and a pint of soup in the morning, and the same for the evening meal, every day and every meal it is the same kind of soup; it may not seem too bad for the first few days, but think of it day after day, always the same with never a change, month in and month out, may-be for years.

But the Red Cross and St. John have changed this monotony, for every week, every prisoner of war in Europe receives a food parcel. Just think what it must mean to the prisoners, the joy the parcels must give, even just the receiving of them, the realization that the people in their own country have not forgotten them but remember and think of those who have fought for them and have been captured.

The Red Cross and St. John in India send money to the British Red Cross and St. John, they and the Indian Comforts Fund purchase food, pack the parcels and dispatch them to Geneva, where the International Red Cross have a huge organization to distribute these parcels to the Prison Camps.

The parcels contain food that all Indians can eat, no matter to what caste or community they belong, it is food to which they are accustomed to have in their own homes, such as dhall, curry powder, salt, fruit, dried vegetables, fish, chocolate, sugar and so on.

We know that the parcels are looked forward to and that they are appreciated as many letters of thanks have been received. We know that many of our prisoners would have died but for the parcels sent to them by the Red Cross and St. John.

But can we continue to send these parcels?

We must, and can if the public give generously. Each of these parcels cost Rs. 7-8-0 and one and a half lakhs are spent every week, this alone for food parcels to our prisoners in Europe.

Not only are food parcels sent, but parcels of clothes, each prisoner receiving one every six months; many kinds of useful things are included, such as combs (special ones for Sikhs), mirrors, soap, etc.

(*Continued on page* 8.)

Getting the theatre ready. The theatre itself is in a lorry, behind which is a trailer containing all the necessary equipment. Here are two officers, one a surgeon, placing in position the floor connecting the lorry with the trailer.

It is the Red Cross service which provides them with those little comforts and personal requirements, which make a man feel that after all he is not quite alone in his suffering.

As most of you know, the Red Cross Women's Work Parties all over India are constantly making hospital supplies. This is where the *Supplementary* service comes in. Naturally Government supply the basic essentials, but with the increased war activities, more and more supplies are needed, and I should like to urge those of you who can form or join a Work Party, and to those of you who are already doing this work, to increase your efforts in your Work Party output. Headquarters in Madras will send regular parcels with various articles to be made up, which are then returned to Madras, from where they are despatched to the various hospitals either in the war zones or in India. All the materials for these are supplied by the Red Cross out of voluntary donations. Let me make it quite clear that the bulk of these supplies are for Indian troops.

Another section of this service is the "Amenities for Troops" Fund, which is purely intended for the fit men. Among other things such as books, games, wireless sets, gramophones and records, woollen comforts, like pullovers, socks, helmets, gloves, mufflers, etc., are knitted for them by the Women's Work Parties.

Now for the way in which the *Emergency* service is provided. Supposing there is an outbreak of dysentery or malaria in some station in India and the hospital authorities have difficulty in providing the extra equipment required. The Red Cross Organization has managed to save such situations time and time again, by supplying that extra equipment, until Government supplies are available.

I should like to point out at least *one* aspect of the work of the Indian Red Cross which cannot be discharged by any Government. I refer to the work in connexion with Prisoners of War.

By the very fact of being at war, any approach by a hostile Government to another hostile Government, with which it is at war in respect to prisoners of *that* war, must naturally be viewed with the greatest amount of suspicion, and it is here that the Red Cross alone plays the part of mediator. Indeed we can go further and say that the Red Cross is *more* than mediator, and becomes an unofficial guardian of those rights to which a prisoner of war is entitled, and which in former years have been honoured by *belligerent Nations* throughout the world. Never before have those rights been so *flagrantly dishonoured* as by the Japanese in respect of the prisoners of war taken in Burma, Malaya and Hongkong. Even so, *such* information as we *have* in regard to the prisoners, and such small comforts as

they have been able to receive, is entirely due to the unflagging work of the International Red Cross Association, backed up by the various National Associations, of which the Indian Red Cross plays such a prominent part. It may not be generally known that the Indian Red Cross regularly sends out parcels of foodstuffs and clothing to prisoners in the hands of those of our enemy who admit parcels.

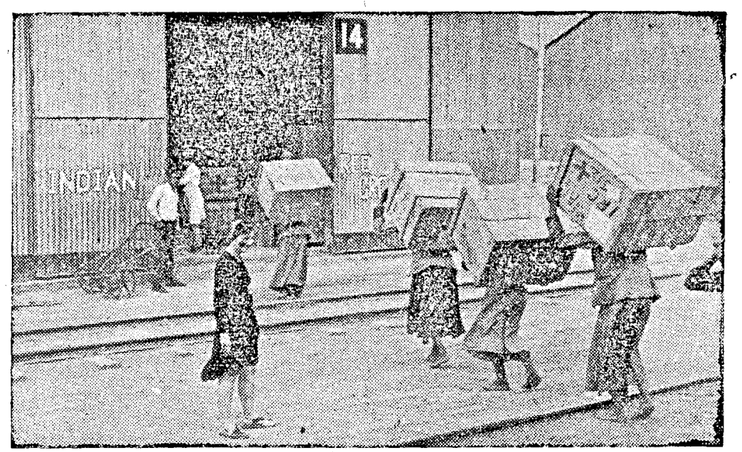
Lakhs of rupees have been spent to send parcels of food and comforts to Indian prisoners of war in German hands, through the India House in London. *Bulk* supplies have been sent to Prison Camps in Japanese occupied territory. When, as we hope, the Japanese *do* allow parcels, we want to be ready with the funds, so that there shall be no delay in relieving the lot of our men in their hands.

These are only a few examples,—and there are many more—of what the Red Cross Association does for our men.

To bring this matter forcibly home, we should not forget that Malabar has perhaps the foremost place throughout the Madras Presidency in recruitment to the various Active Services, and we should remind ourselves that within the near future it is inevitable but that some of these sons of Malabar will be at grips with the enemy. It may be that very soon the services of the Red Cross will be needed in ameliorating their sufferings and easing their lot.

With this thought in mind, is it asking too much for the fullest possible support to be given to the Red Cross funds now? It is no use waiting until greater calls still come upon the Red Cross; by our support and gifts at this time, we should endeavour to enable the organization to prepare the way for what is to come, and thereby provide for the comforts of the men from Malabar, whether they are fit and well, whether they are sick or wounded or whether they are unfortunate prisoners of war.

—A talk given recently at the Tellicherry Propaganda camp.



PARCELS FOR INDIAN PRISONERS OF WAR—A busy scene at an Indian Red Cross Goods Shed.

Once upon a time an absent-minded Professor took a Pair of Trousers to a Paper Salvage man. Shortly afterwards he called back, looking very anxious. "I beg your Pardon," he said. "I only intended you to have the Five Pound notes in the pocket. The trousers belong to my wife."

WAR DIARY

BRITAIN AND GERMANY

22ND MAR.—Mr. Churchill opened the debate in the House of Commons on the war medals and decorations.

German planes raided London and other areas in South-east England.

Berlin was heavily bombed in daylight to-day.

Hitler has summoned the Rumanian Prime Minister Marshal Antonescu and the Deputy Prime Minister Mihail Antonescu "for a conference of great importance".

23RD MAR.—Allied bombers in strong numbers were over West Germany. Objectives in Berlin and Frankfurt were bombed by over 1,000 bombers. Hamm, Achmer, Hardorf and Brunswick were also attacked.

24TH MAR.—Mr. Churchill addressed the United States troops in Britain.

General Montgomery, Commander of the British Invasion Armies, told that he found the army in very good trim and believed that when it went into battle it would prove the best army the country ever had.

Their Majesties the King and Queen and Princess Elizabeth toured for two days inspecting troops covering a very big area.

The Commons to-day went into secret session to discuss the tank position.

Mosquitoes last night attacked Dortmund and other targets in Western Germany. United States bombers attacked industrial targets at Frankfurt and Schweinfurt in daylight to-day.

25TH MAR.—Over 1,000 aircraft took part in the Bomber Command's attacks on Berlin, Kiel and other objectives in Western Germany last night. Two thousand five hundred tons of explosives were dropped on Berlin alone.

German aircraft raided London and other places last night.

26TH MAR.—Mr. Churchill in a broadcast talk reviewed the war situation.

Mosquitoes attacked Berlin and targets in Western Germany.

27TH MAR.—Last night Allied aircraft attacked Essen, Hanover and other places in Germany.

His Majesty the King took the salute at a parade which formed part of "Salute the Soldier" war savings drive.

28TH MAR.—German aircraft were over west of England, South Wales and parts of South and South-east England and dropped bombs at a number of places. An alert was sounded in London to-day.

Last night Mosquitoes of the Bomber Command attacked objectives in the Ruhr.

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE ATLANTIC

22ND MAR.—President Roosevelt's head cold is better.

The United States Chief of Staff, General George Marshall stated that American Air Forces were now "approaching complete air supremacy in practically every theatre in which they are in operation at a much faster pace than the United States Army dared to hope".

The Senate has approved an appropriation of $1,350 million as the United States contribution to the U.N.R.R.A.

23RD MAR.—The United States Navy took over from the Royal Air Force the operation of a British Naval airbase to hunt German submarines in the Bay of Biscay.

The House of Representatives Foreign Affairs Committee voted in favour of giving Congress the final say in the settlement of Lend-Lease contracts.

24TH MAR.—President Roosevelt proposed to-day that the free peoples of Europe and Asia should temporarily open their frontiers to the victims of Axis oppression.

The Secretary of State, Mr. Cordell Hull talked to Republican Congressmen about the future of Germany and Japan.

President Roosevelt told his press conference to-day that the United States will have five-million members of the armed forces overseas by July 1.

25TH MAR.—Senator John Connally, Chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, announced that Mr. Cordell Hull, United States Secretary of State, is preparing to seek Congressional aid in drafting an American plan for the international peace organization.

* * *

INDIA, BURMA AND CEYLON

22ND MAR.—Japanese columns have crossed into Manipur State between Tiddim and Imphal. Allies advance continues in other areas in the Burma front.

The Commander-in-Chief has issued a statement on the situation on the Burma front.

23RD MAR.—Jap forces have developed a counter-thrust along a 200-mile front. Allied opposition continues. Allied bombers attacked objectives in Taungup, etc.

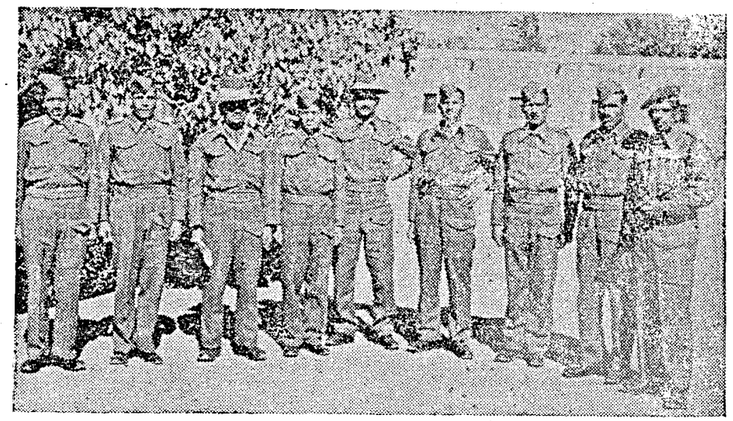
24TH MAR.—To-day's Allied communiqué narrating the fighting on the Burma front says that in the Hukawng Valley Allies continued their advance.

Ceylon, "the springboard for Far East defences is right in the war and well prepared for anything" stated Dr. C. D. Horsley, Bishop of Colombo.

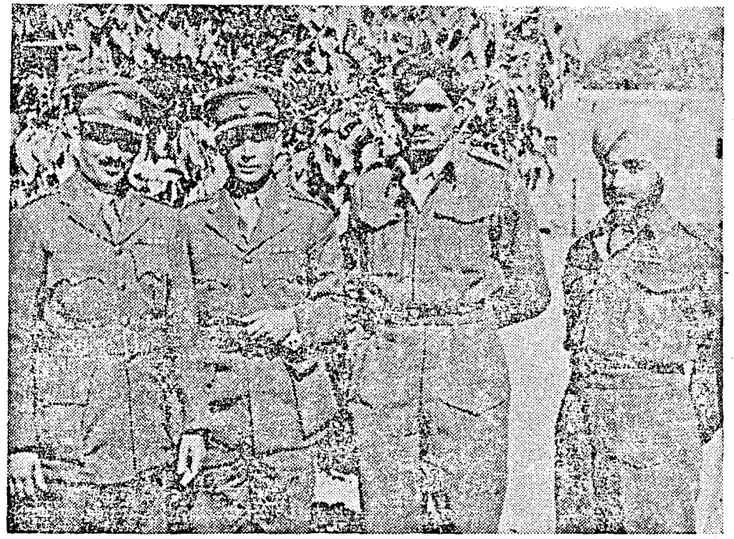
25TH MAR.—In the Mogaung Valley the Allies have occupied the town of Shaduzup.

A small number of enemy aircraft attacked an airfield in Cox Bazaar area this morning.

26TH MAR.—Sir Claude Auchinleck, Commander-in-Chief, witnessed a display by an Indian Armoured Corps.



ESCAPED INDIAN PRISONERS.—This party of Indian soldiers escaped from prison camps in Italy during the fighting and managed to reach our lines. They were sent back to North Africa and from there have just arrived at Karachi. Photo shows *escaped V.C.Os.*



King's commissioned officers now safely back in India after their escape from Italian prison camps.

East of Mayu range, the enemy made two attacks on Allied positions on 24th and 25th, says to-day's Allied communique.

27TH MAR.—There was considerable patrol activity on the main Arakan front during the night of March 24–25 and during the following day. On March 26, Allied troops cleared the enemy from a hill feature in the hills bordering the coastal plains says to-day's communiqué from South-east Asia Command.

28TH MAR.—Operations to clear the Imphal–Tiddim Road of the Japs continue satisfactorily says to-day's Allied War Communiqué. On the North Burma front Chinese troops occupied Hkawn-Glawyang.

* * *

RUSSIA AND FINLAND

22ND MAR.—Soviet troops have captured Pervomaisk, Konstantinovka, Gorohovka, Nadishino and numerous other localities.

23RD MAR.—The Russians have begun a new offensive in Tarnapol-Proskurov direction. They have occupied Kapuchintsy, Trenbowla, Peshki and hundreds of other localities.

The United States Secretary of State, Mr. Cordell Hull, indicated that negotiations between Soviet Russia and Finland had not been finally terminated. Mr. Eden said in the Commons that the Russian Government has kept informed of the progress of the Russo-Finnish armistice negotiations.

24TH MAR.—The Red Army is continuing its progress towards Rumania and at one point it is within 15 miles of the Rumanian border. The Russians have cut the Tarnopol-Lvov railway and crossed river Serets. They have captured Voznesensk, Czortkov, Husiatyn, Zalescyk and 400 other localities.

25TH MAR.—The Russians have captured *Proskurov*, Deazhynya.

26TH MAR.—The Red Army has reached the Rumanian border. Soviet forces have captured *Balti* and Reutel.

27TH MAR.—The Russian forces have captured Kamenets-Podolski and other places.

The Red Army captured Monasterzyska, Potokznoty, Koropets, Vonkovtsi, Germolintsi, Harodenka, Zastavna, Sovran and several district centres and localities.

28TH MAR.—The Russians have captured *Nikolaev*, Gvozdetz, Slobodka and other places.

* * *

ITALY, AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

22ND MAR.—Bitter hand-to-hand fighting took place in Cassino. In the lower Garigliano Valley and the Anzio beachhead, the position is generally quiet. On the Eighth Army front there has been patrolling and artillery duels.

23RD MAR.—Hard fighting continued in Cassino. Patrols were active in the Eighth Army sector and in the Fifth Army Allied bridgehead.

24TH MAR.—Very heavy fighting continued in Cassino. Elsewhere patrols clashed with the enemy on all fronts.

Allied Supreme Commander of the Mediterranean, General Sir Maitland Wilson, left Cairo to-day for his headquarters after the Balkan talks.

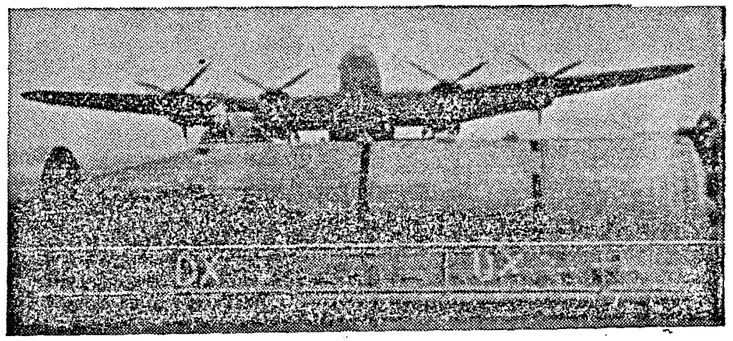
25TH MAR.—Heavy fighting continues in Cassino where the general situation remains unchanged. Patrols were active on all fronts.

26TH MAR.—The pace of fighting in Cassino slackened. In other fronts patrols were active.

27TH MAR.—The Germans still fight hard to hold Cassino. Weather hampered important fresh developments in other fronts.

28TH MAR.—Three small attacks against Allied Fifth Army bridgehead were repulsed. Allied patrols engaged the enemy on all fronts.

Mr. Churchill stated in the Commons to-day, "I certainly have not concealed my disappointment that progress has not been quicker," when questioned about the operations at Cassino and other Italian fronts.



R.A.F.'s NEW 12,000 lb. BOMB.—One of the first photographs of the R.A.F.'s new 12,000 lb. bomb which is being used with devastating effect on enemy factories in Europe. In the background is a Lancaster bomber.

VICHY, FREE FRANCE AND OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

23RD MAR.—German troops have moved from Hungary to Rumania and occupied the country. General mobilization has been ordered in Hungary. Bulgarian regents have been summoned by Hitler to meet him.

Laon and Lyons in France were attacked by Allied bombers.

24TH MAR.—German airfields at Nancy and St. Dizier in France were bombed by United States aircraft.

25TH MAR.—Bulgarian Regency Council has accepted all Hitler's demands concerning the utilization of the Bulgarian army.

26TH MAR.—Last night aircraft of the Bomber Command attacked objectives at Aulnoye and Lyons in France.

27TH MAR.—Military objectives in North France were bombed by the Allies Courtrai, in Belgium was also attacked by Allied bombers.

28TH MAR.—More than 500 Allied bombers attacked nine aerodromes in Southern and Central France yesterday and marshalling yards at Tours.

United States Flying Fortresses bombed enemy aerodromes to-day at Chateres, Chateaudun, Rheinis and Diyon in France.

* * *

THE NEUTRAL COUNTRIES

22ND MAR.—Mr. De Valera, Premier of Eire, warned the people of the terrible risk in depending for any essential commodity on supplies from abroad.

28TH MAR.—Mr. Churchill stated to-day that the British Commonwealth was in full agreement with the United States approach to Eire on the subject of Axis diplomats in Dublin.

* * *

THE FAR EAST

22ND MAR.—The Allies have captured Amirau and Elomusao in Bismarck Archipelago.

The Jap Premier Tojo has made a statement on the war. "The war situation is truly grave" he says.

23RD MAR.—A Japanese destroyer and two cargo ships have been sunk off Sitape, in New Guinea. To-day's communiqué issued by Admiral Nimitz says that Ponape and Kusaie in Caroline Islands were attacked by the Allies on Tuesday.

The former British Ambassador to Japan, Sir Robert Craigie told that Japan will fight to the last.

24TH MAR.—Aerodromes in Rabaul and other military targets in the Wewak and Bougainville area were attacked by the Allied aircraft.

The United States Navy Department announced that United States submarines have sunk 11 more Japanese ships in the Pacific.

25TH MAR.—It is announced that Wake Islands and four Japanese bases in the Marshalls and two in the Carolines were attacked by United States aircraft on Thursday.

26TH MAR.—It is reported that American destroyers have shelled Pityilu Island in the Admiralty group.

27TH MAR.—United States aircraft bombed Paramushiro, Onnekotan, and Shimushu in the Kurile's chain. Ponape Island in the Eastern Carolines was also attacked.

28TH MAR.—It is reported the Allies have occupied Amo and Ndrova Islands in the Admiralties.

ELEPHANTS HELP I.A.F.

Elephants are helping to make airstrips for hurricanes of the Indian Air Force in the dense jungles of Arakan. They use their trunks to remove thickets and bushes.

In the evenings the officers and men go for joy-rides on them.

The elephants are specially trained in placing heavy logs. They are partners with British and Indian soldier-engineers who are helping to push the war into Burma.

The elephants have been specially drafted into one of the strangest armies in the world, the vast concourse of men, animals and machines which is opening up the wild jungle tracts. Officers with many years' experience in elephant work in Burma are in charge of them.

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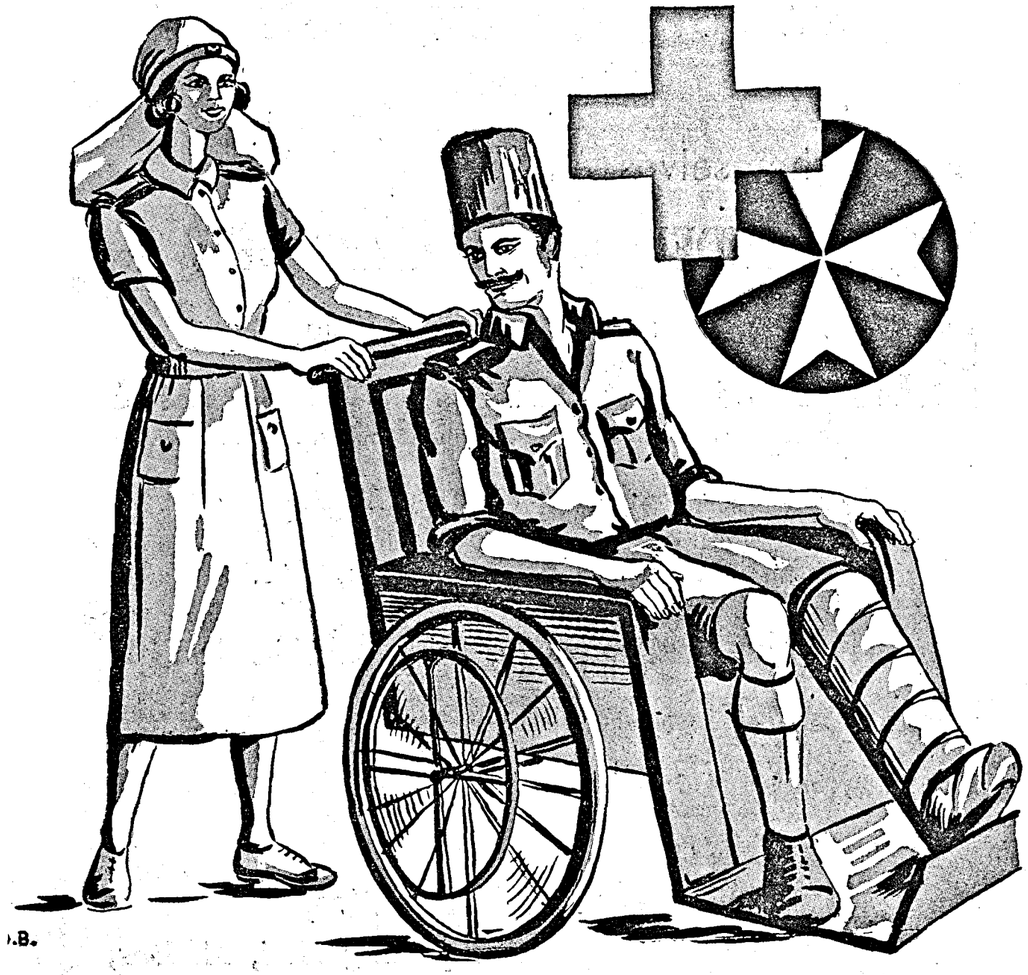

BRING AID AND COMFORT TO THE

SICK & WOUNDED

MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. V | FRIDAY, APRIL 7, 1944 | No. 31

Field Marshal Sir JOHN DILL

NO PEACE UNTIL JAPAN IS DESTROYED

AFTER the defeat of Germany, the full resources of Britain will be thrown into the war against Japan. When the final day of reckoning with Germany comes, we shall know our task is but half-completed. There cannot be peace or rest until our other savage foe has been utterly destroyed

Field Marshal Sir JOHN DILL of the British Army, in Williamsburg on Monday, April 3

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[NOTE.—*The summary of news and comments contained in the* MADRAS WAR REVIEW *generally relate to events and statements published till Wednesday, every week.*]

A GREAT DEAL TO DO

"The enemy is increasing his activities in the Indian Ocean and the Bay of Bengal. You will soon have plenty to do. Everybody would have liked to engage the enemy more closely. That is not my fault, nor yours. It is the fault of the enemy who does not co-operate. But I can promise that in the not far distant future you will have a great deal to do."

AIR CHIEF MARSHAL SIR RICHARD PEIRSE, *Air Officer Commanding South-East Asia Command, in an address to Air Force men in Ceylon.*

CARRY FORWARD

"General Wingat[illegible] has been killed in the hour of his triumph. The Allies have lost one of the [illegible] forceful and dynamic personalities that this war has produced. You have lost the finest and most inspiring leader a Force could have wished for and I have lost a personal friend and faithful supporter. He has lit the torch. Together we must grasp it, and carry it forward. Out of your gallant and hazardous expedition into the heart of Japanese-held territory will grow the final reconquest of Burma and the ultimate defeat of the Japanese. He was so proud of you. I know you will live up to his expectations."

LORD LOUIS MOUNTBATTEN, *the Supreme Commander of the South-East Asia Command, in an Order of the Day, issued to Wingate Forces, on Sunday, April 2.*

JAPS WILL BE PUSHED BACK

The Japanese have made a resolute advance. It is only now they are encountering our troops. These troops are well trained. Their reinforcements are also well trained and their equipment is good. The Allied troops in Burma will succeed in pushing back the Japanese.

H.E. SIR CLAUDE AUCHINLECK, *Commander-in-Chief, in an address to officers at Waltair, on Monday, April 3.*

MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. V FRIDAY, APRIL 7, 1944 No. 31

BURMA: THE NEW JAP OFFENSIVE

IN an address to Officers at Waltair on Monday, His Excellency Sir Claude Auchinleck, India's Commander-in-Chief, has expressed confidence that Allied troops in Burma would succeed in pushing back the Japs. His Excellency pointed out that although the Japs had made a resolute advance, it was now that they were encountering our troops, which were well-trained and well-equipped to meet the new offensive of the enemy. That this particular offensive or something of the kind in the same area had been for sometime expected by the Allied Command was clearly explained by the Commander-in-Chief in his address to the Council of State last month. "We have always realized," he said, "that there was nothing to stop the enemy sending raiding columns, into these sparsely inhabited mountain tracts if he wanted to do so. It has always been open to the Japanese thus to cross our frontier and so to carry out a token invasion of India." In this connexion, it must be remembered that there is no such thing as a continuous "front" in Burma, as that is precluded by the very difficult nature of the country. Parties of light troops of the enemy could always come through the jungles and across the mountainous corrugations towards the Indian border, but mere infiltration and manœuvre cannot help the enemy.

Encirclement and Counter-encirclement

IN a hilly and jungle country like that in which the present operations are going on, it is obvious that mere encirclement of troops cannot mean their annihilation. It is only a process of encirclement and counter-encirclement and the propaganda blast of Tokyo that the Japanese have "smashed" the Seventh Indian Division has as much truth in it as its previous "annihilation" of our troops in the Arakan. These boasts are not going to help the enemy in any way. If he thinks that his "token invasion" will have a damaging effect upon the morale of the defenders of India, he is very much mistaken. Unless he can show that he has forced our troops to make a major withdrawal from their positions, he has nothing much to boast of. In a type of warfare in which both sides can and do encircle each other, it is clear that only the destruction of the opposing forces can enable the attackers to make any substantial gains.

NOW the broad position from the Japanese point of view may be stated to be something like this. Their ground forces had a bad knock in the Arakan, and they have suffered considerable losses not only in their major set back in the Mayu Range, but also in the fighting around Buthidaung. In the north, there has been a deterioration in their position on account of the advance of General Stilwell's Chinese and American forces who have been covering the construction of the Ledo Road. These forces have taken Jambu Bum on the pass separating the Hukawng from the Mogaung valley, and have opened up a prospect of developing a threat against Kamaing, Mogaung and Myitkyina, three important towns in northern Burma. Further, Gurkhas and Kachin levies have wrested Sumprabum, another key position in the north, from the Japanese. These successes have been achieved after the Japanese began their offensive across the Chindwin and into parts of Manipur State.

WHAT the Japanese are anxious to do now is to cause a diversion of Allied forces which the abortive Arakan offensive failed to achieve and to cut the main Allied communications in an effective manner. Thereafter, they would like to attack by ground forces the air-bases in Assam and Manipur, for it is here that the Allies have built up a significant air superiority.

IT was in pursuit of these objectives that the Japanese launched their three-pronged offensive across the Upper Chindwin in the middle of last month. This offensive differs from that which developed into the Mayu Range battle in one important respect—here the area affected is about 180 miles from north to south and some 80 miles deep, but in the Mayu offensive the whole area of intense fighting was only about seven square miles. At the time of writing, our rearguards are continuing to operate successfully on the Tiddim-Imphal road; the Japanese attacks on our defensive positions east and north of Imphal have been repulsed; but the Japanese raiding parties that reached the Imphal-Kohima road have not yet been dislodged. The threatened Jap attack on Imphal has not materialized, but vital battles are expected to be staged in this area. Our troops which have air superiority and superior fire-power are waiting for the Japs to emerge from the jungles before forcing things to an issue. Meanwhile, the special guerilla forces organized by the late General Wingate, one of the greatest military leaders of the present war, whose death in a plane crash is deeply regretted in India and elsewhere, are slashing at the rear communications of the Japanese. In the very near future, the Japanese have to come out and meet our troops in pitched battle. It is the result of this battle that will count.

RUNNING COMMENTARY

The Red Army in Rumania—M. Molotov's Declaration.

The Red Army has kept up its terrible pace of advance and pursued German and Rumanian troops into Rumania itself. M. MOLOTOV in a statement which was broadcast by the Moscow radio on Monday (April 3) said, "The Supreme Command of the Red Army has issued an order to the advancing Soviet formations to pursue the enemy until his rout and capitulation." The Soviet Foreign Commissar adds that the entry into Rumania is dictated solely by military necessity and it does not in any way affect the integrity of Rumanian territory or the existing social order. He pointed out that the Red Army's advance to the State frontier between Soviet Russia and Rumania was the first step in the restoration of the frontier established by the treaty of 1940 which was broken by Rumania by her treacherous attack in 1941 in the wake of Hitlerite Germany.

Now the war has been carried right into Rumania itelf. Marshal KONIEV's armoured spearheads have reached points more than 15 miles in the interior. Within a week of their crossing the Dniester river they reached the river Pruth on a 50-mile front. This is a very great achievement and was rightly celebrated by Moscow by a salute of 324 guns which is stated to be the biggest salvo the Russian capital has heard till now. The significance of the celebration lay in the fact that the Red Army reached the line from where the Wehermacht started its drive against the Ukraine. The river Pruth has not been a serious obstacle at all to the Red Army which has already crossed in strength the broad and fast flowing Dniester. Compared with that river the Pruth is more or less like a big muddy ditch.

* * *

River Pruth crossed—Manstein moves back.

On a sixty-mile front between Dorohoi in the north and to the north-west of Jassy in the south, Soviet tanks have crossed the river Pruth in considerable numbers, and have succeeded in capturing a good road leading to Jassy, the capital of Moldavia, formerly VON MANSTEIN'S headquarters. This means that MANSTEIN must have moved his headquarters further back. Not only his defence line on the Bug but also parts of the Dniester defence line have been smashed by the Red Army which has pursued him beyond the Pruth.

INDIA TO BE

(*By* R.G.)

This India, this something more than a word,
This land, this people, this nation to be,
By gusts of freedom and turbulence stirred,
Like leaves and boughs of a wind-wooed tree,

Slowly to consciousness of the whole
Knits the multiform limbs and cells,
Infusing in all a single soul
Of courage and pride, until there swells

The cry of a nation come to birth
Between shy mist-hung mountain chains
And sapphire oceans hushing the earth
And herded clouds heavy with monsoon rains—

Youngest of nations but growing strong
And soon to discard the swaddling bands
And infancy's kindly cradle-song
For stormier tunes and unheld hands,

And front the future of strife and grace
With feet not at odds but ready to run
And sinews knotting each in place,
Many indeed but also one.

☆

I.A.F. BURMA SQUADRONS ARE "EYES OF THE ARMY"

(*Special to* MADRAS WAR REVIEW)

Indian Air Force pilots on the Burma Front have frequently been described during recent months as the "eyes of the Army."

I asked a reconnaissance pilot, Flying Officer M. Ramunny, from Madras, what this term really implies, writes an I.A.F. Public Relations Officer, on the Burma Front.

"Every morning a call comes through from Army Headquarters to the Air Liaison Officer of the Squadron saying what the Army Commander wants to see during the day," replied Ramunny. "It may be enemy dispositions a few hundred yards away from our front line or it may be their movements along far off jungle tracks or along winding rivers.

"Pilots may be asked to find cunningly concealed positions or likely targets for our bombers or fighters, or to estimate the damage done by our bombers and fighters on the previous day. Our aircraft are fitted with cameras so that the pilots, who are trained in photography, can check their visual observation.

"Our work is not spectacular. We are not expected to shoot down enemy fighters. We fly not very far above the ground, skimming the tree-tops and flying between the hills. It's a job which demands patience, judgment and—just a little nerve."

"AT YOUR SERVICE, SIR!"

—*Specially drawn for the* MADRAS WAR REVIEW.

Now let us have a brief look at the situation between Nikolaiev and Tarnopol. The Russian capture of Voznedausk and Novaya-Odessa between Pervomaisk and Nikolaiev threatened not only the defence of Nikolaiev but also the security of Odessa, 60 miles to the west of the town. The object of the stubborn German defence between Nikolaiev and Odessa was to protect the German garrison in the Crimea, for if Odessa goes, the Germans lose a valuable naval port covering the Crimea. Already there are reports regarding the evacuation of the Crimea. Nikolaiev is a large regional and industrial centre, and important railway junction; it is also one of the largest ports on the Black Sea and an important German strong point at the mouth of the southern reaches of the Bug.

* * *

Capture of Nikolaiev—Odessa threatened—Evacuation of the Crimea

The capture of this last of the German coast bastions before Bessarabia brings the Russians within 75 miles of Odessa which is called the "Pearl of the Black Sea."

As regards Odessa itself the overwhelming mass of the Russian forces is pressing in on this Black Sea base of the enemy. There is a three-pronged Soviet drive to bottle up this base. Firstly, General MALINOVSKY's spearheads are driving ahead at right angles across Odessa's two rivers. To their right Marshal KONIEV's forces are pouring down the east bank of the Dniester. On the west bank of the river, another part of Marshal KONIEV's forces are aiming to complete the isolation of Odessa from the rear.

It will not be a matter for surprise if in these circumstances, with Rumania itself in great danger, Hitler decides on evacuating the German and Rumanian troops from the Crimea.

GREAT DEVOTION TO DUTY AND SELF-SACRIFICE

SIR HUGH HOOD'S TRIBUTE TO SUBEDAR SUBRAMANIAM

"I cannot imagine a greater example of devotion to duty and self-sacrifice than that of Subedar Subramaniam, who gave his life to save others on the Cassino front. We have in Madras a long tradition of devotion to duty, loyalty and self-sacrifice, and the past history of the Madras Army and its traditions are something which require to be lived up to."

—SIR HUGH HOOD, *Adviser to H.E. the Governor of Madras, at the 89th Anniversary Celebration of the Tondaimandalam Thuluva Vellala School, Madras, on Monday (April 3).*

POLITICAL AND STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES OF RUSSIA'S ADVANCE

THE starting success of the Red Army in the last few days achieved at the highly unfavourable season of spring thaw has reached a point where fundamental strategic objectives, which are also economic and political, come directly in view, writes *The Times*.

It must have become an urgent question to the Germans how long they can keep the Rumanian Government docile and the Rumanian army in the fighting line and the natural resources of Rumania at the disposal of their war machine. Already their writers are explaining away the alarming losses of ground in the Western Ukraine with the frenzy of specious eloquence which in itself suggests that they expect soon to have greater losses to excuse. The whole plan of the defence of Europe has been invoked. It is alleged that the "elastic defence" of the eastern front is making it possible to form strategic reserves of men and material which are not visibly in present use on the eastern front or elsewhere but "will play an important, perhaps even a decisive part in the development of war at a given hour." The given hour is evidently the moment of landings in the west.

In the *Veelkischer Beobachter*, Sundermann, Deputy Chief of the Reich Press, dilates on the "great link connecting the events in the eastern theatre of war with those in the south and with the threat from the west" and reveals with the plan of the German command is governed by the conception that the fighter in the east must be protected from stab in the back. Special pleading of this laborious kind is the most convincing testimony the enemy can pay to the effectiveness of joint planning by the United Nations.

INVASION OF ITALY

It acknowledges that the Allied invasion of Italy and the imminent landings in the west, even now in their preparatory phase, are making their decisive contribution to the overthrow of the German armies in the Ukraine. It must be small consolation to Manstein that he is protected from a stab in the back if thereby he becomes exposed to bludgeon blows in the face. The reassuring effect of the explanation in the German press depends on the assumption that he is withdrawing in good order from a territory of little value.

In fact all news suggests that his retreat is becoming daily more disorganized and more costly and it is quite certain that the front on which he has been defeated is of first rate importance for the future of the war. Behind him lie vital oil wells and refineries, source of one-third of the entire oil fuel supplies of Germany. If they fall in Allied hands the exhaustion of the enemy's present reserves will mean the end of his capacity to continue the fight.

Ploesti is perhaps the greatest, single strategic prize in Europe. Geographical factors governing the defence of this cardinal site become of ever-increasing importance as the Russian armies drive across the rivers of the Ukraine and Bessarabia.

An invasion from the direction of Uman having the oil refineries as its distant objective, would have to cross the Dniester into the hilly country of Bessarabia and it would then naturally thrust down the valleys into the Danubian plain before swinging to the right hand round the Transylvanian Alps to Ploesti. The commander holding the coasts west of the Crimea would have an easier task from Odessa; he could drive straight across the plain. Manstein confronts the threat of the first of these operations and if he cannot counter it the second may soon develop. When his remaining position in the Dnieper bend began to collapse before the triple offensive of Generals Zhukov, Koniev and Malinovsky, it was natural to expect that he would make a determined stand on the Bug where a formidable defensive zone has been prepared.

The middle sector of this zone, however, was swept away with such apparent ease that it had to be assumed that Manstein, if indeed his plans had not completely miscarried must have intended to fight only a delaying action on the Bug and base his real defence on the Dniester. Now the impetus of General Koniev's thrust across the Bug has carried him one stage right through the Dniester on a front of 60 miles and along a stretch of 30 miles and he is stated to have continued without pause across the river into Bessarabia. So swift was the advance and so easy the crossing of the stream, that is here 200 yards wide and fast flowing, that it makes it impossible to believe that there was any organized resistance, and yet it is equally incredible that Manstein planned to abandon this second river barrier without a struggle in circumstances that open a way for a vast turning movement at the expense of his forces still fighting on the Lower Bug.

If Manstein still possesses resources to retrieve this dangerous situation he is bound to show them at once and his immediate reactions will indicate whether or not the battle has gone finally beyond the possibility of control. The Russians having pushed so rapidly ahead and so stretched their communications cannot but be vulnerable in their newly acquired bridgehead on the right bank of the Dniester provided the power to exploit their danger exists. Manstein must attack them there now or never and if he lets this opportunity pass it will be taken as a sure sign that his armies are broken up and his situation nearly desperate. It is true that while the line of the Middle Dniester has caved in suddenly that of the Lower Bug far to the south still holds with great tenacity. But if the Russians once consolidate their footholds in Bessarabia, whole areas of the two valleys must pass rapidly into their power. With it would go Odessa, the port of supply for the hostile armies isolated in the Crimea and the key to an advance into Rumania by way of the coastal plain. It is small wonder that the Rumanians whose armies were remorselessly sacrificed before Stalingrad, and the survivors for the most part penned in the Crimea, are showing an increasing sign of panic or that the Germans who well know that any campaign for the defence of the Danube valley will coincide with their most urgent pre-occupations in the west are instituting emergency measures in Hungary for buttressing their whole shaken position in the Balkan peninsular.

THROUGH A GLASS DARKLY

(*By* R.G.)

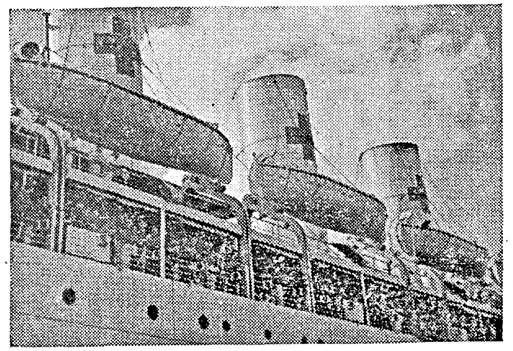
Learning only from papers and books
The terrors and torments of war,
As one through binoculars looks
At a hunting furious and far,

I discern defined in the field
Of this spyglass courage and pain,
A print-sharp image revealed
Bright to the retinal brain.

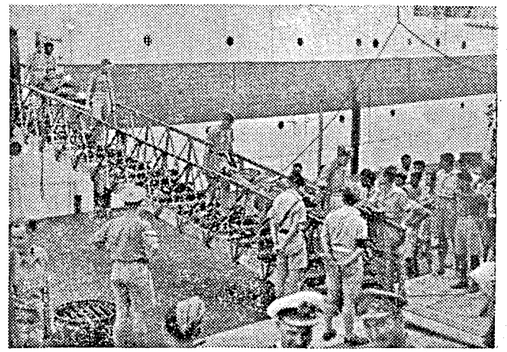
But words to the ear and the heart
Through distance carry no wave
To excite grief's coil or impart
The vibrant truth of the brave.

Here, I sit and descry:
There, they labour and bleed—
O mind, pluck the heartstrings that I
May fitly match word to their deed.

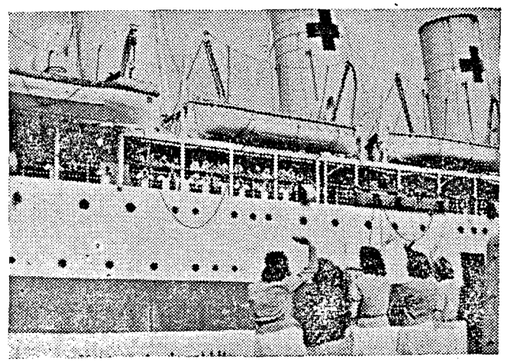
RED CROSS AID TO PRISONERS OF WAR



INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS PRISONERS OF WAR—The first contingent of Indian prisoners from Germany, whose repatriation was arranged by the Red Cross, disembarked at a port in the Middle East and boarded a Red Cross Train on their journey home.



The stretcher cases being disembarked.



W.R.E.N. Naval canteen workers welcoming the arrival of the prisoners of war on the hospital ships.

Naval Canteen girl distributing Indian sweetmeats to the returned prisoners.

These veteran merchant marines photographed with the Red Cross sign of the ship in background, had reason to look happy on disembarkation.

MOBILE CANTEENS WITH THE TROOPS.—Mrs. Clubwalla, with her enthusiastic band of helpers, visits the camps of Indian forces in South India with mobile canteens, providing tasty foods from funds privately raised. These three Indians appear to be enjoying the welcome change from their ordinary army diet.

THEY GIVE THEIR BLOOD FOR OTHERS

BRITISH and Indian servicemen are giving their blood for their comrades. Blood taken from soldiers, who give it voluntarily, is scientifically stored by the Army Blood Transfusion Service for use when emergency transfusions have to be given.

During the Arakan campaign many hundreds of pints of blood from the Army Blood Transfusion Service went to save the lives of servicemen wounded or injured. The service in India came into being in September 1942, with the arrival of two British base transfusion units and a few field units. To-day those base units are main army blood depots at Poona and Dehra Dun. These are connected to field transfusion units through advance base units at Bangalore and Calcutta.

All these units have to be supplied with the necessary apparatus and equipment for drawing and transfusing blood. The supply of instruments is limited but in spite of this difficulty the service has through the untiring energy of its officers and men been able to meet all demands. Plans for considerable extension of the use of this valuable life-saving measure are well forward.

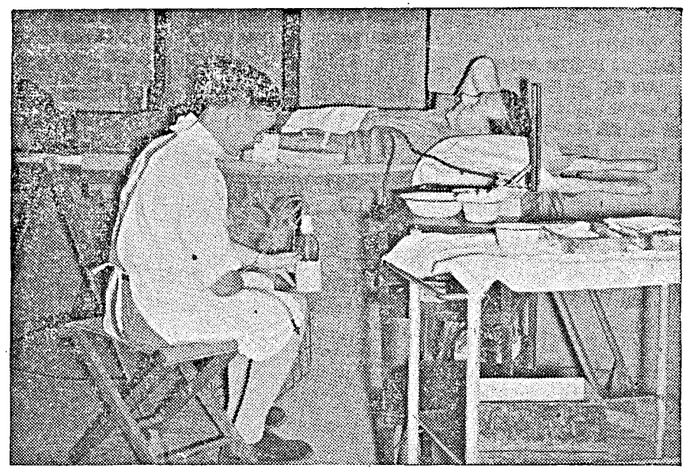
At present the Army Transfusion Service is drawing nearly 1,000 pints of blood every week. As more equipment arrives the output will be increased. Courses in blood transfusion have been started for medical officers and many are now skilled in this new form of treatment.

After blood is collected it is made into wet plasma. Dry plasma is at present made in India only to a limited extent owing to lack of drying machines, but these are being imported. Dry plasma is superior to wet plasma because it can be kept for as long as three years without changing and is not affected by heat.

Blood is given both by servicemen and civilians. There are two types of donors —those who give blood periodically and those who are held in readiness for cases in which plasma could not be used and in which actual blood would have to be transfused directly.

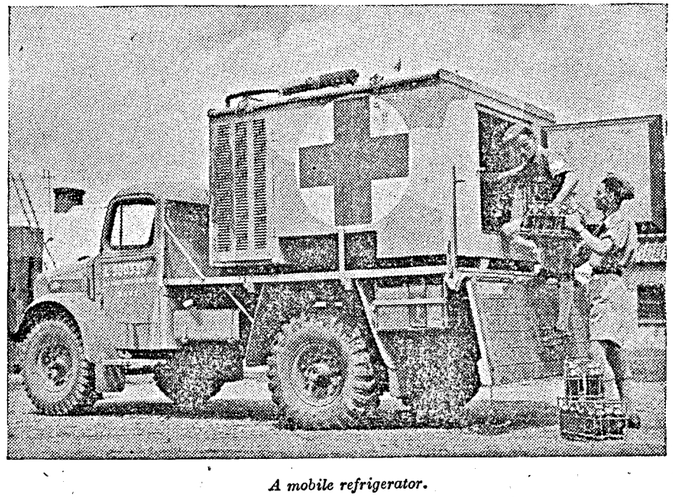
"Patients who need the blood of the latter come at irregular intervals and consequently long periods may elapse before donors on the waiting list may be summoned," said a senior medical officer at General Headquarters, India. "This makes some of these potential donors think that their offers of donation are being forgotten. The army medical authorities are anxious to remove this impression. We want many more blood volunteers."

Appeals for civilian donors will soon be made by the Army Transfusion Service in many towns in India. It is hoped that when these appeals are made the public will give wholehearted support. Every pint of blood given may save a life.



THE ARMY BLOOD TRANSFUSION SERVICE, INDIA.—Blood transfusion is regarded as the greater medical advance in the treatment of the wounded soldier that this war has yet produced. Demands on the British organization have become very heavy and it is now necessary to make the Army in this country as self-supporting as possible. General Headquarters have created an Army Transfusion Service for India on similar lines to that established in the United Kingdom. Two Blood Depots, set up at Poona and Dehra Dun have been equipped with up-to-date apparatus for processing blood products and have been staffed by personnel who until recently were working in the Army Transfusion Service, England. These two Depots act as the Headquarters of the Army Transfusion Service for the West and East of India, respectively.

A donor in the process of giving blood.



A mobile refrigerator.

"PETERBOROUGH," in the *Daily Telegraph*, tells the following good story :—

The C.R.A. was watching a gunner subaltern doing a shoot. The subaltern was working out all his calculations on a small slide-rule with considerable speed and accuracy.

After observing him for a time with slight distaste, the C.R.A. suddenly snatched his slide-rule away. "Your slide-rule's been shot away. What are you going to do now ?" he asked.

Without a word the subaltern felt in his battledress pocket, produced another slide-rule and carried on.

R.I.N.'S FINE WAR RECORD

"THE record of the Royal Indian Navy has been second to none in this war," declared Sir F. E. James in a speech during the Budget discussion in the Central Legislative Assembly at New Delhi. Sir F. E. James asserted his belief that India's future needs in defence matters would lie in a small and efficient army, a larger Navy and a larger Air Force.

In the course of a lengthy reference to the Royal Indian Navy Sir F. E. James said:

"It is sometimes forgotten in this House and elsewhere that the Royal Indian Navy is the senior service. As a Navy it is well over 300 years old. The present Royal Indian Navy is the direct inheritor of the Navy of the East India Company which, I believe, was established in 1612. For 160 years it was called the Bombay Marine. Then it became first His Majesty's and then the Royal Indian Marine, and it had that nomenclature for about 51 years. For the last 10 years it has been the Royal Indian Navy, and I am glad that I was a member of this House when the Royal Indian Naval Discipline Act was passed in 1934."

PROPHECY COME TRUE

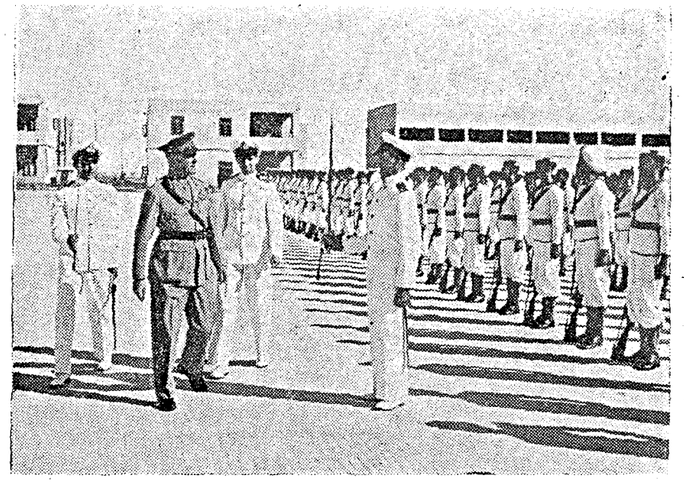
Sir F. E. James recalled saying on that occasion that when the time of emergency came, the Royal Indian Navy would contribute not a little, first of all, to the defence of India's coasts and then, if need be, to the defence of the Empire. He claimed that that prophecy was true, and added:

"The record of the Royal Indian Navy has been second to none in this war. After the last war, in common with many other Navies, particularly in common with the Royal Navy, this small fleet suffered great neglect. Although it did useful service in the last war, it was ruthlessly cut down by the Inchcape Committee. . . . The reduction in the Indian Navy after the last war was a very great disservice to this country, for which she even to-day suffers. The Rawlinson Committee marked a turning point, and in 1934, the Royal Indian Navy again achieved combatant status. It has justified that status in this war. I have no time to refer to all the exploits of His Majesty's Indian ships in the Persian Gulf, in the Red Sea, in the Indian Ocean, in the Arabian Sea, and the Bay of Bengal, on the coasts of Africa, on convoy work in the south-west and south-east, and in the great uneasy Atlantic."

Pandit Lakshmi Kanta Maitra: "And in the Mediterranean."

Sir F. E. James: "And in the Mediterranean. I claim therefore that this small, rapidly growing but efficient force . . . is worth a role greater than that which has been allotted to it. For years the defence policy of India before this war and indeed before the last war has been governed by the mentality of the Bengal Lancer. Tradition dies hard, and although to-day the dangers of the north-west are forgotten, yet there still remains in many

(Continued on page 12)



"The record of the Royal Indian Navy has been second to none in the war"—Sir F. E. James.

The above photograph was taken when H. E. Lord Wavell visited the Training Establishments of the Royal Indian Navy at Karachi. H.E. the Viceroy is seen inspecting the guard-of-honour on the parade ground of H.M.I.S. Himalaya.

W.A.S. (B)'S SERVE THE SOLDIERS

"On alternative Wednesdays all ranks will be specially well-shaved with their hair cut and in clean clothes—and no swearing."

This notice, displayed at an A.A. gun-site on the Assam-Burma border, shows what serious attention is accorded by out-of-the-way units in the forward area to the fortnightly visits of the W.A.S. (B) (Women's Auxiliary Service, Burma) canteens. And their interest is fully reciprocated.

"We are particularly glad to visit these lonely gunner posts," Sgt. Elaine Cheverton told an Indian Army Observer. "We feel that we've adopted them —or they have adopted us, I don't quite know which!"

The W.A.S. (B)s (pronounced "Wozbees") have now been operating a canteen service in this area—as well as elsewhere on the border—for four months. At the moment there are ten of them—the majority "army wives and army daughters," most of them with a pre-war Burma connexion. They hope to get more canteens shortly.

One of their latest undertakings is a divisional library, with books and vehicles supplied by headquarters.

For operational reasons they are not yet permitted to visit the most forward areas but in the meantime they tour on a wide radius and bring news and the "feminine touch." They offer, torches, plum cakes, tinned foods, watch straps, pencils, cigarettes, sweets and writing paper to a larger number of isolated units.

They are hoping that very shortly, as the Jap is pushed back, they and their canteen lorries will be going well into Burma itself.

Their routine day starts at 9 a.m. and they are seldom home before 6-30 in the evening. Sometimes, on their longer trips, they have to stay out all night, getting accommodation either at a hospital or in a special "basha" (hut) at their disposal in a headquarters in the field. Except for an occasional argument between their vehicles—until recently they had only three-ton trucks with no special equipment—and the roadside they have had few adventures —not that they want any. And if their lorry does get ditched there is always some unit more than willing to do a Sir Galahad—hardly surprisingly in a countryside where a pretty girl is rarer than a soda fountain in the Sahara.

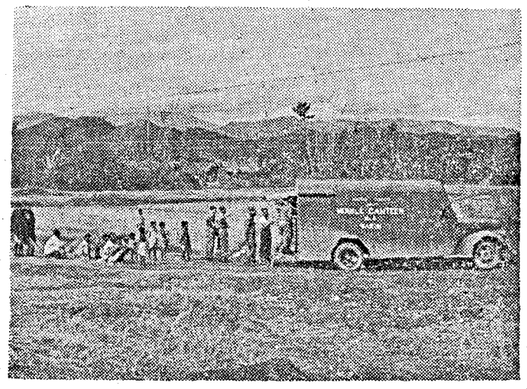
Most of the W.A.S. (B)s, though, had enough adventures in the Burma evacuation. Mrs. Taylor, the Commandant, received the O.B.E. for her work during that hectic period and Mrs. Morton, Officer Commanding of one unit, and Miss Pelly, who was a "cypherette" in Rangoon, as well as many of the others, came out of Burma "the hard way."

Altogether it is hardly to be wondered at that the troops on this otherwise exclusively masculine front like to make a special effort to appear neat and tidy for these visits—and even to say "dash" and "bother" instead of anything more picturesque.

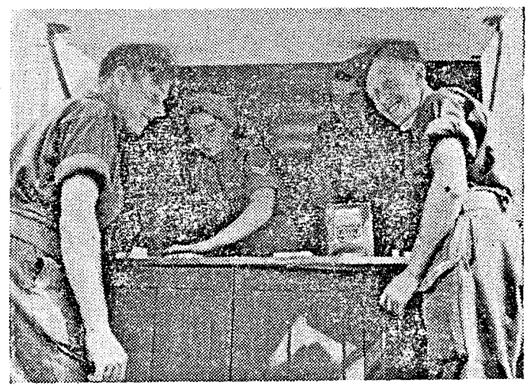
W.A.S. (B)'S SERVE FRONT LINE TROOPS

W.A.S. (B)'s SERVE FRONT LINE TROOPS—Giving valiant service behind the line, on the Burma front, are girls of the Women's Auxiliary Service (Burma). Manning mobile canteens, they go wherever it is possible to serve the soldiers, providing them with tea, coffee, food, cigarettes and other items.

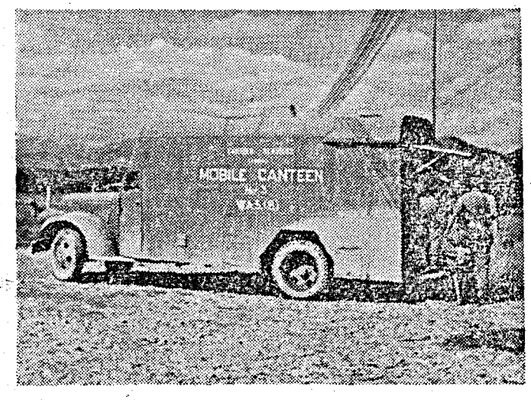
Cpl. Pelly, one of the W.A.S. (B) Mobile Canteen workers.



Local Manipuri Indians watching soldiers being served at a W.A.S. (B) Mobile Canteen.



A counter is fixed at the rear of W.A.S. (B) Mobile Canteen. Here are A.A. men receiving refreshment.

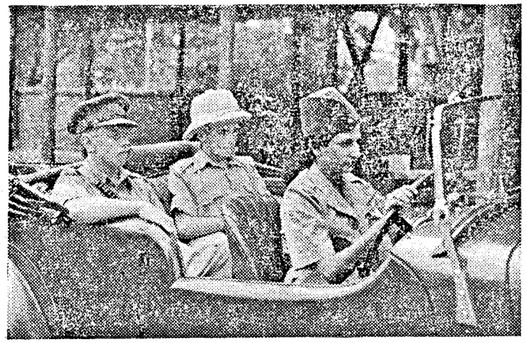


A W.A.S. (B) Mobile Canteen serving men of an A.A. site, and also R.A.F. personnel of a front line squadron.

Cheerful W.A.S. (B) Mobile Canteen workers serving soldiers.

W.A.C.(I). ANNIVERSARY ON APRIL 9

[The W.A.C.(I.) anniversary falls on Sunday (April 9). A large number of girls from various Provinces of India have joined the organization. We publish below a few W.A.C.(I.) photographs.]



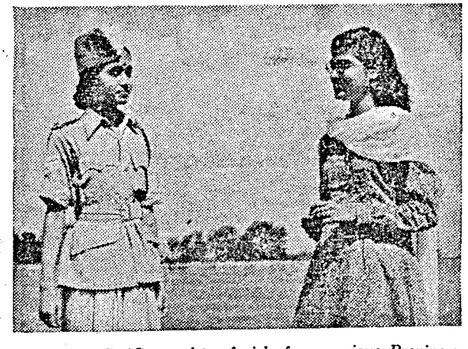
Her Highness the Begum of Dacca is a leading member of W.A.C. (I.). She is seen driving a car.

Her Highness the Begum of Dacca engaged in testing the tyre of a car.

H.H. the Maharaja of Travancore's 'At Home' to the Armed Forces in Madras—Members of the W.A.C. (I.) were present in large numbers and in the foreground are three taking tea. From left to right *are Private De'Souza, Private Arujah and Corporal Baptist.*

H.H. Maharani Sethu Parvathi Bai talking to Sergeant F. Johnstone and Private F. Leonard of the W.A.C. (I.). To her left *is Colonel G. S. Gill, O.B.E., I.M.S. (Retd.);* in the background *can be seen Major Eapen.* On the right *is Mr. S. Gopalan, Station Director, A.I.R., Madras.*

H.H. the Maharani with Colonel Gill, Sergeant F. Johnstone, Private F. Leonard and Private L. Gaughan.



The W.A.C. (I) consists of girls from various Provinces. Here we see two North Indians. They are Miss Sita Kamath (in uniform) *and Miss Vimal Sashital.*

(*Continued from page* 9.)

quarters—quarters which are influential in the defence organization of this country—an outlook which is not helpful to the growth and development of the Royal Indian Navy. I said that to-day the dangers of the North-West Frontier are forgotten. We think of the north-east, where the only rational form of transport is the air. We think of the coasts and coastal waters of India. Those are her real frontiers, and those are the frontiers on which India must make herself secure in the days after the war.

"As a member of the Defence Consultative Committee I had the privilege of visiting some of the training establishments of the Royal Indian Navy—His Majesty's Indian ships *Dilawar Bahadur* and *Himalaya*. I should like here to pay very warm tribute to the enthusiasm and vision of those who are in command of those establishments. My colleagues and I were deeply impressed by the spirit, discipline and keenness of the men and boys who, after a period of training, seemed to be quite competent to handle even the most complicated machinery. I would urge that the policy adopted in these training establishments should be strengthened and extended to the utmost limit. Training for the Navy is not an easy matter. Not only do you have to establish new traditions, but old traditions—old seafaring traditions that have existed many years in this country—we have got to try to recapture them."

AFTER THE WAR

Concluding his speech, Sir F. E. James said:

"I do enter a very earnest plea for a better consideration, on the part of this House, of the public and of Government, for the Royal Indian Navy. Sir, I believe that India's future needs in defence matters will lie in a small and efficient army, a larger Navy and a larger Air Force. Without touching on any internal political arrangements that may be made in the future, I venture to suggest that some Union of India or in India, and possibly with other groups, for defence purposes will be necessary. From the point of view of trade and commerce, India is an island, and if she ever wishes to have a mercantile marine worthy of the name and tradition she bears she must have a Navy to protect it. After the war, when the army is demobilized, I hope that the Royal Indian Navy will be consolidated and strengthened. It is not so difficult, or it will not be so difficult, to provide ships after the war. It will be more difficult to provide men with the tradition and training required. May I express therefore the hope that with this war the dominance of the land outlook will have gone for ever.

Members of the American Army now stationed in England write home that most of the English people they meet are not at all familiar with the mode of living in the States, but with so many Americans around, they are now eager to learn even the simplest details. One soldier, recently, was showing his English hostess a hotel menu that his sister had sent to him from the States. He was quite astonished when his hostess spoke up in a tone of horror: "Baked Indian Pudding! Can it be possible in a civilized country?"

RESERVES ON THE ASSAM-BURMA FRONT.—While front-line troops are battling with the Japanese, those in reserve carry on their everyday occupations while awaiting their turn for action.

Members of a Mountain Artillery Regiment find time for a game of cards.

ANGLING CLUB IN CHITTAGONG

(*Special to* MADRAS WAR REVIEW)

AIRMEN stationed in the Chittagong area have formed their own Angling Club, and practically every day finds some of them standing by dhobie ponds and jhils dangling their lines in true Waltonian fashion.

"We've certainly made a hit with our angling club", said the President, a corporal from Tottenham, who was formerly an engineer, and who has been a member of the London Angling Association for the last ten years. "New members are constantly being found. The surprising thing is that few of them have ever done any fishing before. Of course, those of us who have fished in the English rivers and ponds find many differences. At home, we had no red ants and leeches to annoy us while we indulged in our sport, and certainly hadn't to keep on the look out for snakes."

The enthusiatic Honorary Secretary of the Club, an L.A.C. from Wallasey, formerly a manufacturing chemists' representative, is a convert to fishing, and is every bit as keen on the pastime as the old hands.

The Club recently had its first contest, when a trophy presented by the President's wife was the principal award. Like her husband, she is keen on this angling game, and has been a member of the Pure River Society for several years. A Lambley (Nottingham) airman won the contest with a catch weighing 1¾ lb. Incidentally, the Commanding Officer's bearer caught an 18-pounder in the same pool that afternoon, but, unfortunately for him, he was not a member of the club.

Now all good anglers are equally efficient trencherman and these Chittagong fishermen are not to be outdone. They are now arranging for a bumper dinner at which the winner of the contest will receive his trophy. The atmosphere of the typical English riverside inn will be absent, but there'll be some good fun, as well as the usual stock of fisherman's tables.

A traveller noticed a number of men working in a field and stopped for a chat with the farmer who owned the land.

"Most of these men are ex-soldiers," explained the farmer.

"Oh, really!" replied the other. "They are all privates, I suppose?"

"Well, as a matter of fact, they aren't," said the farmer. "There are one or two privates, and one of them was a corporal. But one is a major and one a colonel."

"And are they all good men?

"Well, the privates are pretty good on the whole, and the corporal isn't bad at all."

"What about the major?"

"Oh, he's only so-so."

"And the colonel?"

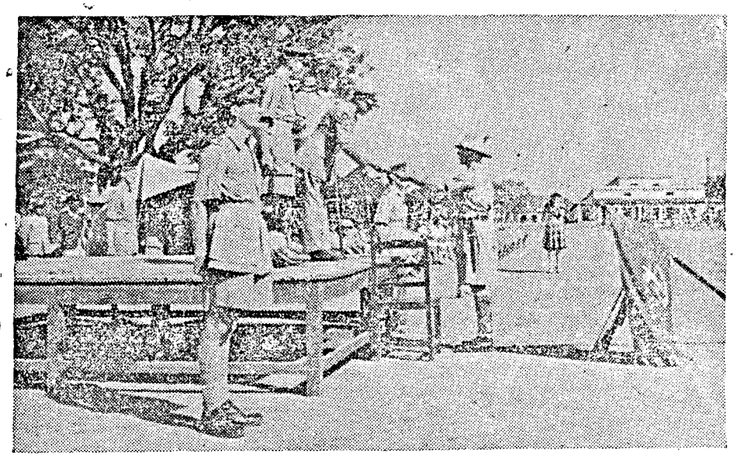
"Well," replied the farmer hesitatingly. "I'm not going to say anything against a man who's been a colonel in the Army, but I've made up my mind that, whatever happens, I'm not going to hire any generals!"

* * *

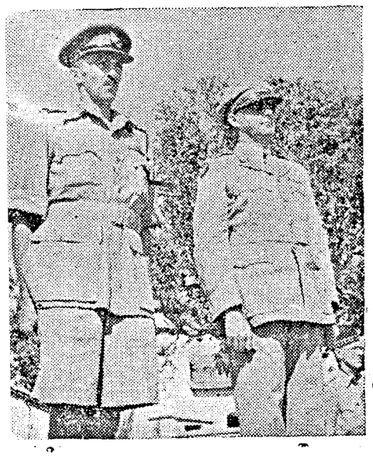
CAPTAIN: "I hope the next time I see you, you'll be a second-lieutenant."

PRIVATE (*flustered*): "Yes, sir. Thank you, sir. The same to you sir."

O.T.S. PASSING OUT PARADE AT BANGALORE



O.T.S. PASSING OUT PARADE, BANGALORE.—Colonel George E. Felton of the United States Army Air Force (bending down) presenting the book "Generals and Generalship" by Lord Wavell to Officer Cadet P. McGrath, the outstanding cadet of the course.

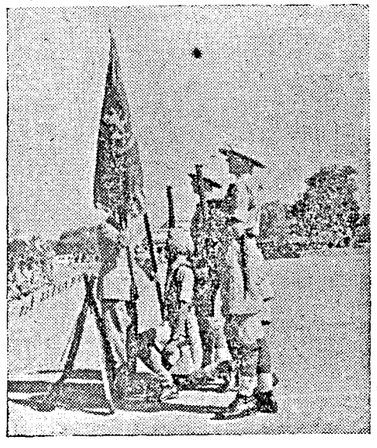


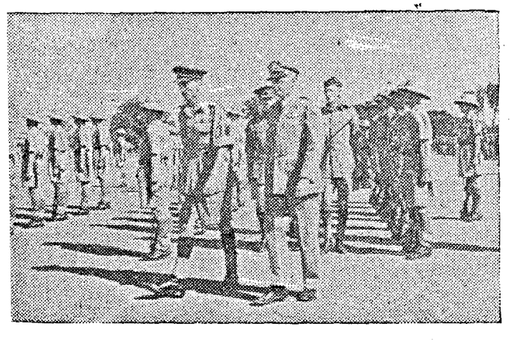
Left:

Colonel George E. Felton (right) *and Brigadier L. B. Jones, D.S.O., I.A.* (left), *Comdt. of the School.*

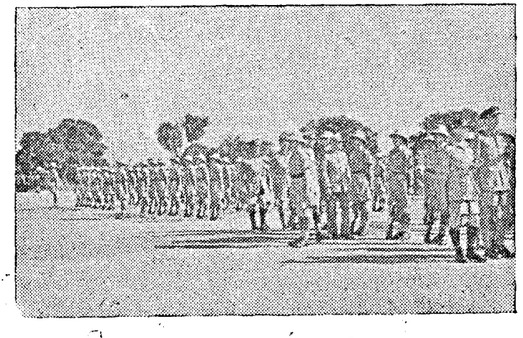
Right:

Colonel Felton presenting Wavell Banner to 'D' Company—Banner Bearer Officer Cadet Arjit Singh of Harindar, Faridkot (kneeling down).





Colonel Felton, Comdt. of the School, inspecting 'A' Company on parade.



'A' Company on parade.

"EXCITING JOB" IN THE ARAKAN

(*Special to* MADRAS WAR REVIEW)

THE sight of a Royal Air Force officer pushing a kistie (fishing boat) over the mudbanks of a Burmese river recently, came as a shock to an advance patrol of the Fourteenth Army. He was, however, returning from an important quest to find a crashed Japanese aircraft. In that kistie were numerous relics and souvenirs that would delight his colleagues of that very exclusive branch of the Royal Air Force known as "Technical Intelligence".

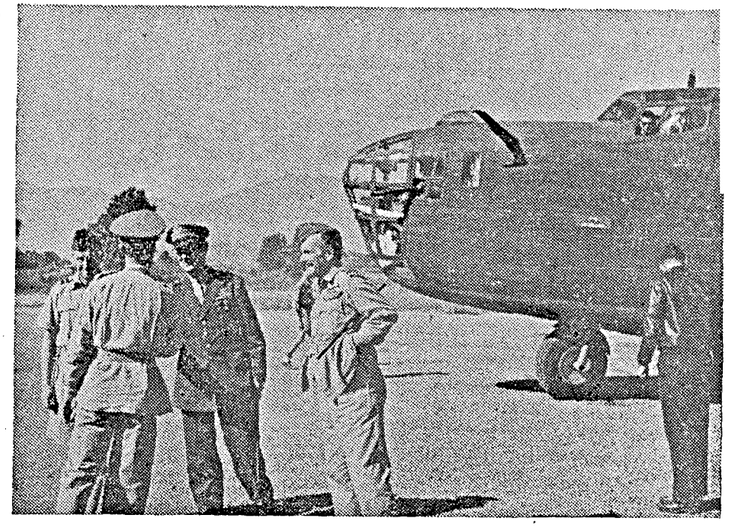
Technical intelligence is, indeed, one of the most exciting jobs available to members of the Royal Air Force, and is concerned with crashed enemy aircraft. Every time a Zero or other enemy machine is brought down by our fighters or ack-ack guns, the "Tech. I." men are on the spot as soon as possible, looking for any interesting gadgets or new developments which will assist them in unravelling the constructional details of the latest enemy models.

Working on the Arakan Front is a group of Technical Intelligence Officers and men under the direction of a Flight Lieutenant and in recent weeks their work has carried them into places well within the range of the Japanese guns.

A Pilot Officer, formerly an Ayrshire engineering student, had an exciting journey into Maungdaw at the time the Japanese held the Razabil feature above the junction of the Indian and Buthidaung roads. "We had to cross a series of paddy fields within full view of the enemy and certainly let the jeep go all out during that hectic dash. The Japs tried to get us but nothing came near. On the way out, I saw my hat go sailing away, but for once didn't bother about losing it. Even as we returned I was not very concerned about stopping to pick up my hat, although I saw it still lying in the paddy fields," he said.

On more than one occasion, this Ayrshire officer has been forced to spend a night in the jungle because the return journey was impossible under the cover of darkness, although not so long ago, he was more fortunate. He managed to reach a village police station and was entertained as a guest of the local constabulary!

A steel manufacturer from Sheffield, who in peace-time explored the Derbyshire caves and pot-holes in order to find some excitement at week-ends is now getting plenty of thrills from his wartime job. This Flying Officer was recently trying to beat the tide as he was coming up a narrow creek in a kistie. "To make matters worse, the kistie sprung a leak and we had to bale out furiously", he said. "Eventually we met another boat and managed to transfer ourselves and the things we had brought away from the crash into it. Next we were drifting about aimlessly and found that the man in charge had fallen asleep. We took the oars and rowed ourselves, but it was jolly hard work and it took us three hours to get back to our base. If you've never tried manipulating a kistie, you should have a shot at it. The oars get crossed and you get in a hopeless tangle until you really acquire the knack."



MAJOR-GENERAL STRATEMEYER ON BURMA FRONT.—Major-General George E. Stratemeyer, Commanding Eastern Air Command, and Air Marshal Sir John Baldwin, Air Officer Commanding Tactical Air Force, recently inspected the Allied Air Forces on the Burma Front.

Major-General Stratemeyer being greeted by an R.A.F. Officer on his arrival at one of the airfields. On the right is Air Marshal Sir John Baldwin.

GALLANT MADRAS SAPPER GAVE LIFE TO SAVE OTHERS

The news that Subedar Subrahmanyam, an Indian Sapper, gave his life by deliberately flinging himself on a mine at Cassino (Italy) to save his Officer and several other Indian Other Ranks did not come as a surprise to those who knew him, especially a veteran Officer in South India, who knew him well.

According to this officer, Subrahmanyam was always an inspiration to the men who worked with him. He was a go-getter and kept his Company up to the mark the whole time, not an easy task when detachments were often some considerable distances apart.

It may be recalled that Subrahmanyam won the I.D.S.M. in 1943 for gallant conduct in the Tunisian Campaign. The citation stated that he had shown great courage and initiative when taking part in operations near Oued Zigzaou in Tunisia on 22nd March 1943. He also distinguished himself at Oued Amarit in Tunisia.

Incidentally Subrahmanyam's father is Hon. Lieut. Kanniyaraman, who also won the I.D.S.M. and served in 61, K.G.O. Madras Pioneers.

The deceased sapper's home is in Kil Ottivakkam village near Wallajabad, Conjeeveram taluk, Chingleput district. He joined the Army in 1932 and also served in Razmak (North-West Frontier Province) in 1939-40, going overseas in April 1941.

"A MILLSTONE ROUND THE GERMANS' NECK"

By M. FISHER

THE sirens wail in Berlin day and night, and day and night Berlin people rush down to the air-raid shelters. There is hardly a pause now. By day it is American airmen, at night British bombers who attack the German capital. The city has no normal life any longer. Traffic is paralysed in many parts of Berlin; there is no gas or electricity. Whole sections of the town, the main traffic centres and the great business and factory quarters have been razed to the ground. The great railway junctions have been put out of action.

What can the Berliner's thoughts be when he comes out of the shelter after a raid and sees the devastation with his own eyes? Not even Goebbels's most cunning propaganda, which for four years has managed completely to delude the German people, can conceal the terrible truth. Goering's lighthearted promise that not a single British bomb would ever fall on German soil must be present to everybody's mind like a grim mockery.

Now the truth will out. German propaganda can no longer preach faith and confidence and the "divine mission" of their Fuehrer to the haggard and exhausted population of Berlin.

Now news comes from Sweden that the Berlin authorities are seriously contemplating evacuating the town. The Stockholm paper *Afton Tidningen* of March 7 reported that at a conference of competent authorities it was decided that since the Government must reckon with heavy and continuous Allied air attacks in the next few weeks, total evacuation of the town must be considered.

Only those who know what Berlin meant for the German Reich, not only now but even before the war, can gauge the full import of this proposal. Berlin is, so to speak, the main artery of the Reich. From there the life-blood flows to every part of the country. Berlin is the centre of administration, of the traffic of war, of the armaments industry; it is the seat of the Government and the Ministries. The Nazis themselves have always fully realized the importance and significance of Berlin as the heart of the country, and so long as it was in any way possible, they hesitated to evacuate the Ministries and seats of administration, since this would involve decentralization.

Up to now Berlin has been the pivot of the great German industries, the headquarters of armies and the centre of political life. In the main thoroughfares and business quarters which now lie in ruins, there was noise, life and movement day and night. Now all is quiet, not sound. Not only is the city dead, but its ruins sprawl right across the German system of communications. Shortage of labour is so acute that the rubble cannot be cleared away and means of communication re-established. There is no question of rebuilding the houses—not even the most urgent repairs of traffic installations and destroyed industrial buildings and plants can be carried out. Consequently the capacity of production is dangerously impaired and steady flow of war material can no longer be maintained.

Berlin thus has become a millstone round the Nazis' neck. The advantages of centralization of transport, production and administration in this one town have been turned into a bane. For geographical reasons and considerations of prestige the Nazis cannot do without this capital, but this former symbol of Prussianism is now nothing but a wreck that is in the way and has become a danger and a heavy liability.

KNOCK OUT OF 'LUFTWAFFE'

By E. COLSTON SHEPHERD

WE have grown accustomed in Britain to the view that strategic bombing cannot be expected to yield quick results. The opinion attributed to an American spokesman in London that the *Luftwaffe* can be knocked out within 30 to 60 days sounds to British ears like asking a cart-horse to gallop.

Admitting that the scale of heavy bombings has risen and is still rising and agreeing that the German fighter strength has suffered seriously in air battles, we, who have watched the fruits of persistence, are unwilling to prophesy a swift final victory. Germany has shown certain skill in stretching her resources. The present optimism concerning the overthrow of her air arm rests on the alternative assumptions that she will present her fighter forces for a decisive series of combats or that if she rufuses combat, her aircraft can be destroyed on the ground.

Air forces in Europe are said to have been ordered to overwhelm the *Luftwaffe* and the best way to do it is to cut off their supply of aircraft and to shoot down those already in the front line. Neither method can be sure of complete success within a given period or in a given theatre of war. Goebbels was boasting the other day of the wide dispersal of the German aircraft industry in occupied countries and, tainted though that source is, we know that there is an element of truth in his statement. The bombing of factories which make aircraft components and of shops in which they are assembled could be expected to have an immediate effect only if the German production had been unable to build up a reserve during the winter.

For the greater part of the year, Germany has profited from the change-over to fighter production. That change was made during the winter of 1942. By mid-summer last, the fighter output was estimated at about 1,000 monthly. It has since risen to 1,500 and there were hopes in the Reich that it would go up to 2,000. That hope began to fall when the big aircraft shops at Wienerneustadt were damaged by the Americans early this year and when the Royal Air Force went for the components works in Liepzig, Munich, Augsburg and Oscerslen. There were other attacks on Regensburg, Brunswick and the industrial areas of Berlin.

During the past three months the German aircraft industry has been hard hit. Certain of its satellites in France have been harshly dealt with but those parts which were moved into East Prussia, Poland, Czechoslovakia and the Baltic States suffered compartively little. The remaining flow of aircraft from such sources may not have been quite enough to replace the losses of the past three months and yet sufficient to allay serious anxiety, particularly in view of the large

(*Continued on page* 16.)

MEN'S FACES JUST LITERALLY "LIT UP"

The following letter has been received by the Honorary Secretary, Joint War Charities Committee, Madras, from a Captain of an Indian regiment:—

"I must write and thank you for sending to this Company gramophone, records and books. They have taken a long time to arrive at us but then we have done a few miles since they were dispatched and after much hunting we managed to locate the boxes and now we have music every evening.

When I put the first record on and it was Tamil, the men's faces just literally "Lit up" and it was good to see.

They all ask that I will send you their thanks and I hope you will convey to your committee and your own goodself my very best thanks for such a grand effort, and so good luck to you all and Thanks again."

GERMANY'S STORY OF DEFEAT ON EVERY FRONT

By LIEUTENANT-GENERAL SIR DOUGLAS BROWNRIGG

THESE have been black days for Germany—a story of defeat on every front.

In Italy Kesselring's third failure to dislodge the Allied army at Anzio has been followed by a period of comparative quiet. This means either that the Germans are preparing for another attempt to drive General Alexander's men into the sea unless Hitler has accepted the presence of this running sore because he can spare no more reserves to deal with it.

On the main fronts the Fifth and the Eighth Armies' active patrolling has been the order of the day so as to prevent the enemy from withdrawing troops to other fronts, whilst the air forces whenever the weather has made it possible have attacked troop concentrations opposite the Anzio perimeter and communications and marshelling yards further north. Every day that passes brings better weather nearer and makes the German task in Italy more difficult. Meanwhile Anzio remains a steady drain on German resources.

The last few days in Russia have been one of tremendous tidings. The three Ukrainian army groups under Zhukov, Konev and Malinovsky represent the prongs of the mighty trident which Marshal Stalin is thrusting to the south-west against the Balkans. The prongs have pierced Manstein's epidermis and torn away the flesh in chunks. He is now reeling back and his only hope of continued existence would seem to be a complete regrouping of his forces (or such portions of them as he can still save) in the 100-mile wide gap between the Transylvanian Alps and the Black Sea.

This line—if he can get there in time—has several advantages. In the first place it would reduce the frontage from 400 miles to 100 and although its communications back to Germany are far longer than the direct lines from Odessa (which has now been finally rendered useless to him) yet there are three single-line railways which run across the Dniester into Rumania and which should be sufficient to keep his attenuated force supplied with the bare necessities for fighting.

Here for a while he might bar the Allies' path into the Balkans but the comfort of his position will depend very largely on what goes on in his rear.

A few weeks ago the alternative lines of supply back to Germany through Rumania and Hungary looked secure enough, but since then there have been increased whisperings and rustlings in those countries and in Bulgaria.

Manstein's lines of communications would then traverse in a countryside which would no longer even wear the look of friendliness. Stations might be burnt out and trains mysteriously derailed, as now so often happens in Yugoslavia. The outlook for Manstein has very noticeably darkened as he looks towards the Russian armies of the Ukraine and heavy clouds are rolling up behind him. Meanwhile the Allied air forces working from bases in Britain and Italy have increased the weight of their attacks on German industries.

A stage in air warfare has been reached when Allied airmen hope to meet opposition rather than avoid it because by destroying German fighters they steadily alter the balance against the Luftwaffe.

Once upon a time Goering had the freedom of choice in the targets he selected for attack, now he cannot find the means to defend all the targets he presents to his enemies.

"THE UNSINKABLE AIRCRAFT-CARRIER"

By OSWALD DUTCH

IN this war we have learnt to accept certain figures without bothering our heads about the amount of organization, labour and co-ordination they imply. We have read, for instance, that 1,500 aircraft simultaneously took part in a raid on Frankfort (800 bombers and 700 fighters). Nobody, however, could imagine that these 1,500 aircraft took off from a single airfield. No airfield, however large, could accommodate so many planes.

Even when only 1,000 or 1,200 heavy bombers and fighters take off for a specific raid, they are generally marshalled from some 40 or 50 different airfields to carry out their concentrated attack lasting from 20 to 30 minutes. Since such gigantic air squadrons have often taken off uninterruptedly, by day and by night, for 72 hours on end, it is possible to form some idea of the number of airfields on the "unsinkable aircraft-carrier", as England is often called.

SIMULTANEOUS MASS ATTACKS

The Times recently stated that there were at least 400 airfields in Great Britain from which the largest and heaviest types of aircraft can take off. This means that in case of necessity 8 mass attacks from Great Britain can be organized simultaneously. Moreover, what is perhaps even more important for the future, one can also gather how well equipped the British Isles will be for any developments in civilian air transport after the war, since they already possess so many ultra modern landing places.

Up to a certain point the construction of modern airfields may be compared with the building of an extensive road system. Figures officially published in Great Britain show that the concrete runways and perimeter tracks of these British airfields represent a total area of nearly 160,000,000 square yards which corresponds to 9,000 miles of roads of an average width of 7½ meters. All this was built during the war at a cost of £615,000,000 so far. Eighty per cent of these airfields are for the use of the Royal Air Force, the remaining 20 per cent were built for the American Air Force. The area covered by these airfields is gigantic. The average airfield has an area of 2 to 2½ square miles; it is surrounded by a concrete perimeter track some 8 kilometres long and 15 metres wide. This track encloses the runways, usually three in number, of which one is 1,800 metres and the others are 1,150 metres long. There are larger airfields with runways up to 2,700 metres long and 90 metres wide.

The large number of available airfields makes any surprise from the air impossible. Even if the Germans still possessed the means for mass air-raids on England, they might possibly damage one or another airfield or put it temporarily out of action altogether; but they could not in any way reduce the striking power of the British and American air fleets. This fact might be of some importance if at the beginning of the landings on the Continent the Germans should attempt to interfere with the air cover of the landing troops by attacking British airfields. Two or three years ago this might have been partially successful. To-day, however, the "unsinkable aircraft-carrier" has become so strong that nothing could impair its striking power.

(*Continued from page* 15.)

output of the preceding six months. Germany may quite possibly have built 7,000 or 8,000 fighters during that period. She has not lost one half of them in combat on the western and the southern fronts and she may be expected still to have units in Western Europe with a front line strength of about 1,500 fighter aircraft.

A force of that size may indeed be inadequate for the defensive work of such magnitude as that which has faced her during February and March. The Luftwaffe may well be questing about for new means of making a little go a long way. Some change in the tactical or the strategical plan may explain in part the immunity from opposition enjoyed by the American heavies that went to Berlin and to Munster recently. Whether the Luftwaffe intends to try an offensive against Allied air bases or to save its strength for an attempt to "scotch" the invasion when the second front opens, it is obviously persuaded of the need to take a long view.

The Allies will have to be sure of bringing the Luftwaffe to full combat if they are to knock it out in 60 days. The opening of the second front would probably do it but the prospects of tempting it to destruction without a gambit of that order are small as we in Britain have found during the past three years.

ACTIVITIE'S IN ARAKAN

DREW JAP FIRE TO HIMSELF

Two more posthumous awards of the I.O.M. (2nd Class) have been made for gallantry on the Chin Hills and Arakan fronts.

Determined to wipe out the few Japs responsible for holding up the advance of his platoon, Rfn. Kabiraj Limbu, 4th Gurkha Rifles, of Jamuna village, Ilam tehsil, Nepal, ran forward with a grenade after getting a Bren gun into position forward. He fell dead riddled with bullets, when eight yards from his main object.

"But he did not die in vain" says the citation. "The diversion he caused drew Jap fire temporarily off the rest of his platoon and enabled it to improve its positions."

Borrowing a rifle and bayonet Sepoy Gawanda, 17th Dogra Regiment, by himself charged a bunker position in Arakan. Returning he took a tommy-gun and although wounded made a fresh charge; the weapon jammed but without hesitation he came back, took hold of a dah and made a third charge in which he was killed.

He set an example which other men followed by capturing the enemy bunker in a bayonet charge. Sepoy Gawanda's village was Chhatri Laht, Palampur tehsil, Kangra (Punjab).

By assuming responsibility unhesitatingly at a critical period, rifleman Purba Sherpa, 4th Gurkha Rifles, Allobari village, Darjeeling district, awarded the I.O.M. (2nd Class) held with three others, a breach he had made in enemy defences for a difficult 20 minutes, although wounded. Only in compliance with an order from an officer did this Gurkha allow himself to be taken to the Regimental Aid Post. He was the sole survivor.

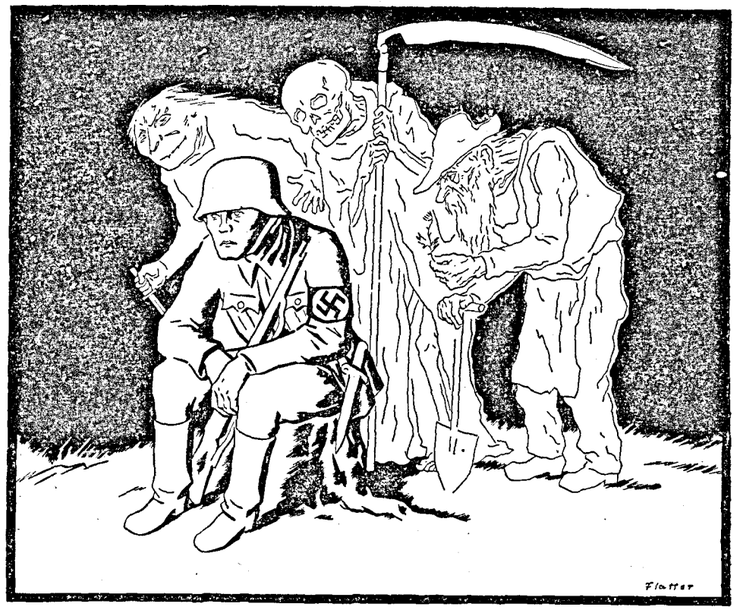
Jemadar Sarwan Singh, 17th Punjab Regiment, cleared an enemy bunker after four separate bayonet charges, killing the occupants. He held it for some time, though wounded, during the bayonet charges. In great pain, his courage, skill and leadership never failed.

Jemadar Sarwan Singh, who has been awarded the I.O.M. (2nd Class) comes from Karol village, Kangra district.

Personally leading an assault of ten men, Subedar Arian Singh, 1st Punjab Regiment, took an enemy post in the face of intense machine-gun and grenade fire. He pushed on to the second post, where he was seriously wounded and became unconscious. Recovering, he was unable to stand but directed and organized the evacuation of the wounded and refused to move until all serious cases had been removed.

He also was awarded the I.O.M. (2nd Class). He comes from Dharam, Garh village, Kharbar district, Ambala.

Another I.O.M. (2nd Class) has been awarded to Jemadar Hosknaki, 17th Dogras, of Salnu village, Bilaspur State, Simla. During the attack he led his platoon to within 30 yards of the enemy, killed three Japs, and wounded others. He repeated this performance on a second occasion.



HATRED, DEATH AND FAMINE, THEY ARE HIS FOLLOWERS.

INDIAN GUNNER SHOOTS DOWN A JAPANESE BOMBER

The story can now be told of an attack by some ten Japanese aircraft on two small steamers off the Arakan coast—an attack which ended in the destruction of one bomber and the "singing" of another.

It happened recently when a force of 26 Jap planes set out to do damage to our waterborne supply line near the India-Burma frontier.

The ships were 120 feet long, and had only light armament. They are two of the little fleet of river steamers which, under the command of Army Officers, have done such good service in the Arakan campaign.

The Jap sweeped down when the ships were steaming northwards about five miles apart. They attacked in pairs, one bombing, the other machine-gunning.

But the steamers' guns chattered defiance, the enemy was wide with nearly everything he sent down and the climax came when one bomber dived into the river, victim of an Indian gunner on board the first ship while another made off apparently damaged by the second.

Two of the few casualties on board were the Officer Commanding one of the ships and the successful gunner, but neither was seriously hurt, and the only damage to the two little ships consisted of a few bullet holes.

INDIAN SAPPERS CLEAR ARAKAN MINEFIELD

Clearing mines laid by the Japs in their retreat from Buthidaung was one of the tricky jobs performed by Indian sappers with the front-line troops, writes an Indian Army Observer with the Fourteenth Army.

Before they left the Buthidaung area the Japs laid mines extensively on the northern and eastern approaches to the town. The task of clearing this minefield and making a safe path for tanks and vehicles was carried out by a party of sappers from two field companies of the Seventh Indian Division.

Although trained in this work, this was the first time these men had carried out mine-detecting under operational conditons. Under constant danger of enemy shelling, the sappers detected and removed nearly a hundred mines.

"I hear you've been doing very well at school, John," said the fond grandparent. "What is your best subject—reading, writing or arithmetic?"

A look of quiet contempt crossed young John's face as he replied:—

"Don't be so absurd, grandpa! I produced the best plan for post-war reconstruction."

MILITARY MISCELLANY

HAVILDAR'S EXPERIENCES IN SNOWSTORM

Some idea of the rigours of the Italian winter, especially in the Appennines sector, may be gathered from the experiences of a havildar and a British N.C.O.

A havildar and an Italian officer were foregoing for local produce in Southern Italy when they were cut off by a snowstorm, writes an Indian Army Observer. After sheltering for 24 hours in their truck, the Italian officer said he would go and get help.

He did not come back, so the havildar set off on his own. Weak with exhaustion and cold he stumbled through the snow. When within twenty yards of a British truck he collapsed. But before he did, he managed to call for help. British troops in the truck heard him and dragged him to their lorry. He was taken to the hospital and has now recovered.

Next day digging through the snowdrifts, British troops found the body of the Italian officer a few yards away from where the havildar had collapsed.

A British N.C.O. worked all day trying to get some frozen vehicles started and by the evening he was soaking wet. To prevent catching pneumonia, he took off all his clothes and lay wrapped in blankets at the back of the truck.

Next morning when he went to put on his clothes they were frozen stiff. He had to lie between the blankets in the truck for the next 24 hours until a new battle-dress could be brought to him.

When he got his other clothes back to the quartermaster's stores they were stiff with frost for several hours.

* * *

THE MULES SHOW THEIR PACES

Amid all the problem which have beset sappers in the construction of their roads and M.T. personnel in the maintenance of their vehicles, the Animal Transport Companies have gone quietly on patiently discharging the heavy responsibility thrust on them in the difficult terrain of the Assam-Burma front.

A host of stories has grown round these mule companies on the Burma border.

One company Commander, asked to provide 130 mules, sent out his newest recruits and remounts under the impression that they were required for an exercise and that this would be an excellent opportunity to train them. Much to his surprise he later learned that they had been used with a detachment on an actual operational move.

Out of the total animals used 129 returned, all with the exception of three being in first-class condition. Mules and men had more than proved their worth under trying conditions after only a few weeks training.

Often mules are called upon to swim swollen streams, and they invariably accomplish their feat where horses become confused and fail. A patrol which penetrated to the other side of the Chindwin in the dry weather was accompanied by mules which swam across with the greatest ease.

Once when a troop was on the march on a track over the border, a tiger was seen sitting in the undergrowth several yards from the tract. Solemnly it watched the procession go by and, according to one driver, it appeared to be "interested and friendly."

* * *

THEY SAY IT WITH SONGS

The singing of Hindustani songs by British sergeants and "Tipperary" and other English songs by havildars is a feature of off-duty hours at a Middle-East Weapon Training School in India.

In the desire to get to know each other the sergeant-instructors of the British Wing invited the havildars of the Indian Wing to become members of their mess. Language differences caused no difficulty.

Not only did this lead to a grand feeling of fellowship but was of considerable help in exchanging ideas about weapons and their use in training.

* * *

EDUCATING SERVICE MEN'S CHILDREN

Educating the children of service personnel who have lost their lives in the war and assisting the sons and daughters of servicemen, is the object of an Educational Endowment Scheme evolved by Royal Indian Army Service Corps.

Part of the R.I.A.S.C. Fund (Indian) is to be utilized for the scheme. Serving soldiers, units and organized entertainments are contributing to this fund. It is expected that unit regimental funds which have to be liquidated at the end of the war will also be used and, with the considerable number R.I.A.S.C. units in the Indian Army, a large amount is likely to be available. Already a substantial sum of money has been collected.

Depending on funds a preparatory school for these children may be started to give initial training before they go on to higher education and subsequently into Government service including the Army, Royal Indian Navy, the Indian Air Force, the Indian Police and the Indian Civil Service.

Scholarships and other financial assistance will be given to ensure that the largest number of the children of R.I.A.S.C. officers, V.C.Os. and other ranks receive the best basic education to the age of 16 and to provide higher general, scientific and technical training to a limited number who show special aptitude and promise.

Orphans will have priority of claim and a large number of the scholarships will go to the children of V.C.Os. and Indian other ranks.

A story is told of an American conscript who needed a minor nose treatment. "Since you're the one who discovered this," he told his medical board doctor, "how about doing the treatment yourself?" The doctor told him to report at his surgery the next morning.

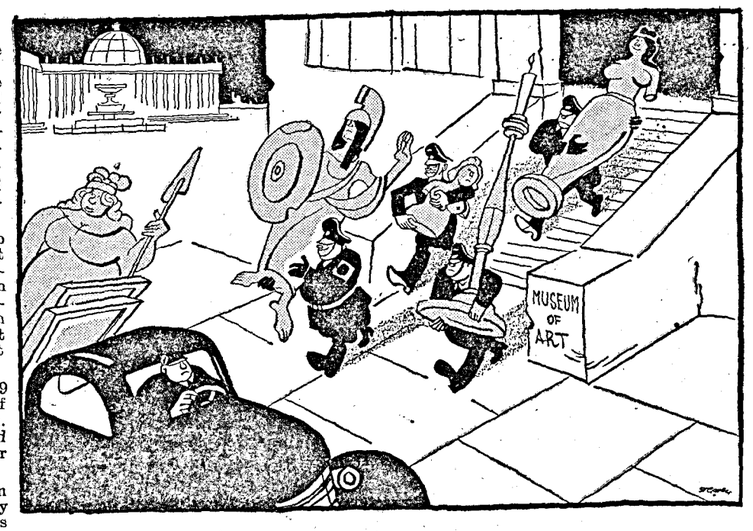
When he arrived, the doctor said: "Go into the next room and remove all your clothes."

"Just for a nose treatment?" the patient protested wonderingly.

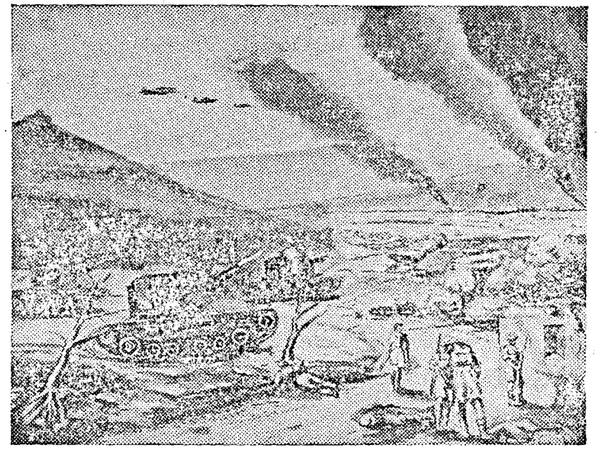
The man went into the adjoining room and removed his clothes. There he saw a stranger, also nude, holding a parcel.

"All I came here for is a minor nose treatment," the conscript grumbled to him, "and the doc makes me take all my clothes off and stand about shivering here."

"That's nothing," sighed the other, "I just came to deliver a parcel."



"Art achievements under the Fuehrer's supervision have reached a higher point than ever before . . . ."—(Dr. Goebbels).



BRITAIN RELEASES A SECRET WEAPON—THE DEADLY "BISHOP" GUN HELPED TO WIN SICILY VICTORY.—Britain has now released one of her "secret weapons"—The "Bishop" Mobile gun. This is the famous 25-pounder mounted on a Valentine tank chassis, a weapon which proved of immense value in the victorious Sicilian Campaign. Time and again the mobility of this gun was the undoing of the enemy-opening up from unexpected quarters and forcing the surrender of key posts. Picture shows *an artist's impression of Bishops going into action.*

WAR DIARY

BRITAIN AND GERMANY

29TH MAR.—Allied aircraft attacked Brunswick.

Mr. Eden said that Allies are following a united policy with regard to Europe.

30TH MAR.—Allied bombers attacked Kiel and other objectives in Western Germany.

Mr. Churchill stated in the House of Commons to-day that the Atlantic Charter and its principles remained Britain's dominating aim.

31ST MAR.—Nuremberg and other targets in Germany were very heavily attacked by the Allied bombers.

There was slight German air activity over east and south-east England including the London area.

1ST APRIL.—Allied planes bombed military objectives in western and south-western Germany. Brenen and Hanover were among the places hit.

2ND APRIL.—Last night Mosquitos of the Bomber Command attacked objectives in Hanover, Krefeld and Aachen.

During March over 8,000 Royal Air Force night bombers dropped 28,000 tons of bombs including 20,000 on Germany itself.

* * *

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE ATLANTIC

29TH MAR.—The United States Foreign Economic Administrator, Mr. Leo Crowley, made a statement on the Lend-lease aid of war materials by America to the Allies.

President Roosevelt has signed a Bill enabling the United States to participate in the work of U.N.R.R.A.

Mr. Robert Patterson, the United States Under-Secretary of War, told the House of Representatives Military Affairs Committee that the time had arrived when 3½ million men hitherto classified as unfit for military service, must be assigned to essential industry or enter the army in labour battalions.

30TH MAR.—In the course of a statement, the United States Secretary of War, Mr. H. L. Stimson, reported that United States Army Air Forces had destroyed 9,463 Axis aircraft in the air last year and 1,579 on the ground.

Mr. Stimson said that the overseas strength of the United States Army would be doubled by the end of 1944. On January 1st, he said, one-third of the Army was abroad.

31ST MAR.—President Roosevelt, in a message to the Congress to-day, said he was allowing the Soldiers Vote Bill to become law without his signature.

The United States Navy Department announced that in operations in the Mediterranean from January 22, 11 American ships were lost. These losses bring the total United States losses to 158.

1ST APRIL.—Casualties of the United States armed forces from the outbreak of the war to date total 173,239 according to a report of the Office of War Information.

2ND APRIL.—The Executive Director of the War Refugee Board, Mr. John W. Pehle to-night said that all the power and prestige of the United States was being used by the board to save victims of Nazi agression.

The United States Assistant Secretary of State, Mr. Adolfe Belle and Vice-Chairman of the United States Civil Aeronautics Board, Dr. Edward Warner reached Britain to discuss civil aviation questions.

* * *

INDIA, BURMA AND CEYLON

29TH MAR.—In the coastal plain south of Maungdaw, Allied patrols were active and there was some artillery activity says to-day's South-east Asia Command Communiqué.

30TH MAR.—To-day's South-east Asia Command Communiqué says that on the coastal plain south of Maungdaw, patrols of both sides have been active during the last 24 hours. The western tunnel on the Maungdaw-Buthidaung Road has been captured.

The Victoria Cross has been awarded posthumously to Lieutenant Alan George Harwood, D.C.M., for valour in Burma.

31ST MAR.—His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief made a statement in the Central Assembly on the Assam-Burma Front.

South of Maungdaw Allied patrols were active both on the coastal plain and in the foot-hills says to-day's Allied War Communiqué. Enemy pressure continues along the Tiddim-Imphal road and in the vicinity of Palel. Enemy artillery shelled Allied positions near Tamu.

1ST APRIL.—It is announced that Major-General Wingate has been killed in an aeroplane crash while on a flight across the jungles on the India-Burma frontier. The crash took place on March 24.

The enemy in the neighbourhood of Ukhrul has made some further advance to the west at the cost of heavy casualties. East of Kohima severe fighting continued throughout 30th and 31st March.

2ND APRIL.—Small parties of the enemy have now infiltrated to points on the Imphal-Kohima road and are being engaged by the Allied troops. Rangoon railway station was bombed on 1-2.

Lord Louis Mountbatten has paid high tributes to Major-General Wingate, in an Order of the Day.

The Air Officer Commanding South-east Asia Command, Air Chief Marshal Sir Richard Peirse, who recently made an inspection tour of Ceylon told Royal Air Force and Royal Canadian Air Units stationed in Ceylon that "the enemy is increasing his activities in the Indian Ocean and the Bay of Bengal. You will soon have plenty to do."

3RD APRIL.—East of Imphal Allied patrols inflicted casualties on the enemy in the foot hills says to-day's South-east Asia Command Comuniqué

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RUSSIA AND FINLAND

29TH MAR.—Russian forces have crossed the River Pruth. Fighting is taking place in the suburbs of Cernauti. The battle for Odessa has opened. The Red Army has captured *Kolomea*, Balta, Kirvoye-Ozero, Bolshaya-Vradyevka, Yastrebinovka and Moldavka.

It is said that Finnish-Russian contacts are being resumed.

30TH MAR.—Soviet troops captured *Cernauti*, capital of Bukovina and other district centres and towns of Thumacz Nadworna, Delyatin, Obertyn, Sablotov, Lipcani, Rybnitsa, Lyubatovka, Mostovoye, Vesalinovo, Varvarovka and numerous other localities.

31ST MAR.—The Red Army has cut Kishinev-Jarsy railway line. The Russians have captured Dunaevtsy, *Ochakav*. Soviet troops stand only 15 miles from the Czechoslovak border and within 10 miles of Bukovina-Rumanian border. Other places captured by the Russians are Darabany, Kapleotha, Griva, Mamalyga, Kotovsk, Ananyev, etc.

The Soviet and Japanese Governments have signed a protocol whereby Japan agrees to transfer to the Soviet of Japanese oil and coal concessions in Northern Sakhalin.

1ST APRIL.—The Russians had broken into Tarnapol. They have captured Podhajce. The three-way drive on Odessa continued.

Dr. Paasikivi, Finnish elder statesman, has reported modifications in Russia's armistice terms to Helsinki, after two days conferences in Moscow. Finnish military personnel on leave have been recalled.

It is probable that the Finnish Government will announce a new decision on the Finnish-Russian relations when Parliament meets in full session.

2ND APRIL.—The Russians have crossed the Pruth at several points into Rumania.

3RD APRIL.—M. Molotov, Foreign Commissar of Soviet Russia, made a statement regarding the entry of the Russian forces into Rumania.

Battle of Rumania is in full swing.

The Russian forces have captured the towns of Gorokhov, Berestechko, Lopatin, etc.

* * *

ITALY, AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

29TH MAR.—Allies withdrew from two positions in Cassino. Patrols were active on all fronts.

30TH MAR.—Two small enemy attacks on the Fifth Army Allied bridgehead were repulsed. Allied patrols were active on all fronts.

The United States War Secretary, Mr. H. L. Stimson, told a press conference that the Allied attack on Cassino had subsided "without achieving the results we had hoped".

His Majesty the King has awarded the Victoria Cross to Captain William Sidney for superb courage on Anzio front.

31ST MAR.—Enemy attacks against Allied positions at Cassino were repulsed. Elsewhere patrols were active on all fronts.

1ST APRIL.—Allied troops in the mountainous central sector advanced about a mile and occupied the important height Mount Marone.

2ND APRIL.—Allied forces captured another hill. Patrols were active on all fronts.

3RD APRIL.—Allies have gained another 4,000 feet height north-east of Monte Marrone.

* * *

VICHY, FREE FRANCE AND OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

29TH MAR.—Allied aircraft bombed military objectives in the Pas De Calais area.

The Polish Ambassador M. Ciechanovski presented to the United States Secretary of State, Mr. Cordell Hull, a message for President Roosevelt from the Polish Government. It is presumed that this may be the beginning of a new effort to settle the Russo-Polish dispute.

30TH MAR.—Last night Allied bombers attacked Vaires and Lyons. Sofia, capital of Bulgaria, was heavily bombed by the Allied aircraft.

1ST APRIL.—Plans drawn up by the French National Committee of Liberation for the administration of France's various areas as soon as they are liberated by the invasion have been communicated to the British, American and Soviet Governments.

The French Supreme Resistance Council and National Resistance Council held a Congress somewhere in France to unify the attitude and policy of the various Resistance Groups.

* * *

THE NEUTRAL COUNTRIES

29TH MAR.—A motion, calling for the resumption of relations between Switzerland and Russia, was accepted by the Swiss Federal Council.

31ST MAR.—"The position regarding the presence of Axis Legations in Dublin is being very carefully watched" declared Mr. Paul Emrys-Evans, Under Secretary for the Dominions in the Commons to-day.

The Turkish ship *Krom* has been sunk by an unidentified submarine.

1ST APRIL.—General Franco presided over a meeting of the Spanish Cabinet yesterday at which authority was given for naval defence measures.

American bombers by mistake dropped bombs on the Swiss town Schaffavsen on April 1st.

2ND APR.—The United States Minister in Berne, Mr. Leland Harrison, has expressed regret to the Swiss Federal Government for the accidental bombing of Schaffavsen.

* * *

THE FAR EAST

29TH MAR.—United States bombers attacked yesterday Jap barracks at Vin Yen in Indo-China.

The United States aircraft bombed Pakin island in the Carolines.

The Australian Prime Minister, Mr. John Curtin, said that the war in the Pacific would not be ended until the Australian prisoners captured in Malaya had been released.

30TH MAR.—The great Jap naval base of Truk in the Carolines was attacked and 49 enemy aircraft destroyed.

31ST MAR.—Palau Island in the Western Caroline group was heavily attacked. The Japanese bases of Woleai, Babo, Kavieng, Namatanai, Rabaul, Wewak and Hollandia were attacked.

1ST APRIL.—Allied forces have occupied Pityalu island in the Admiralty group. Allied heavy bombers attacked Truk, Penfoli, Rabaul and Bougainville.

2ND APRIL.—Allied air forces attacked Japanese aerodromes at Hollandia, Truk, etc., and destroyed about 82 enemy aircraft.

3RD APR.—Rabaul was heavily attacked by the Allied bombers. Allied troops on Bougainville island are making steady advance against the enemy.

FOR YOUR RADIO DIARY.

APRIL 13.—MADRAS—9-45 p.m. Radio Blitzgrieg—By Mr. J. Vijayatunga.

LAST MONTH. . .—

1ST MAR.—Allies land in Admiralty Islands.

2ND MAR.—Mr. Churchill congratulates Lord Louis Mountbatten on Allied Victory in the Arakan.

8TH MAR.—Thousand bombers bomb Berlin.

10TH MAR.—Russian forces capture Uman.

13TH MAR.—Soviet troops capture Kherson.

13TH MAR.—Allies capture Buthidaung.

17TH MAR.—The Red Army captures Dubno.

18TH MAR.—Russian troops occupy Zhmerinka.

19TH MAR.—Soviet forces capture Kremenets.

20TH MAR.—The Red Army captures Vinnitsa.

22ND MAR.—Jap columns cross into Manipur state.

24TH MAR.—Major-General Wingate killed in aircrash.

25TH MAR.—Russian armies capture Proskurov.

28TH MAR.—Soviet troops capture Nikolaev.

29TH MAR.—The Red Army occupies Kolmea.

30TH MAR.—Russians capture Cernauti.

31ST MAR.—Soviet troops capture Ochakav.

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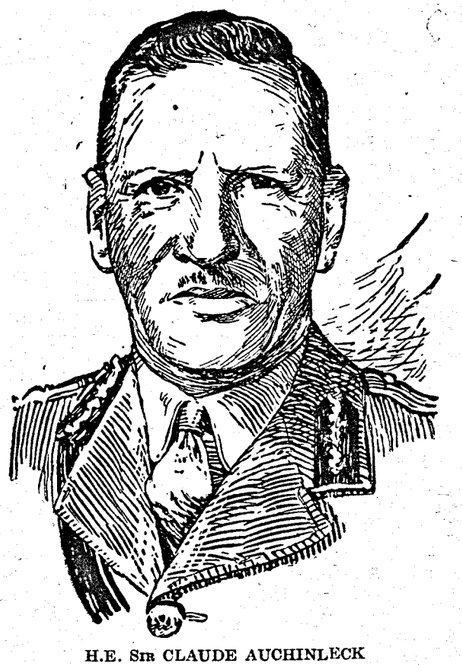
MADRAS REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN ON THE WORLD WAR

OL. V FRIDAY, APRIL 14, 1944 No. 32

Nowhere is more being done than in the South



H.E. SIR CLAUDE AUCHINLECK

THE training of our men to be soldiers and the moulding of our material resources into the form required for a military area is the task which is allotted to the India Command

I am satisfied that this work is proceeding apace. Officers and men of the services, civilians in war industries, women in the services and those engaged in voluntary work—we want more of these women,—all are playing their part This does not mean that we cannot do even more than we are doing. We can do more still and we must

MY recent visits to the presidencies and States of Southern India leave me convinced that nowhere is more being done than in the south. I wish to congratulate all concerned. Certainly, we must not dream of slackening off The end of the war is not yet in sight, in my opinion

H.E. Sir CLAUDE AUCHINLECK, Commander-in-Chief, India, in a statement from New Delhi, on Monday, after his South Indian tour

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[NOTE.—*The summary of news and comments contained in the* MADRAS WAR REVIEW *generally relate to events and statements published till Wednesday, every week.*]

NO COMPROMISE WITH AXIS

"There can be no compromise with Fascism and Nazism. It must go, everywhere. They can expect no negotiated peace, no compromise, no opportunity to return. Our foreign policy is comprehensive, is stable and is known to all men as President Roosevelt has said. Neither he nor I has made, or will make, any secret agreement, or commitment, political or financial. We are moving closer and closer to the hour of decision. Only the fullest measure of wisdom, unity and alertness can enable us to meet the unprecedented responsibility."

MR. CORDELL HULL, *United States Secretary of State, in a broadcast talk, on Sunday, April* 9.

◆

WE HAVE NO FEAR OF JAPANESE

"We have no fear of the Japanese. They are trying their usual tactics of infiltration, but now we have got their measure. They tried these tactics in Arakan eight weeks ago. Four or five thousand of their men got through, but we closed the line behind them and wiped the whole lot out. They are trying the same thing again now, but our military authorities are satisfied that they have the situation well in hand, and I have no doubt we are justified in placing our confidence in them."

SIR FIROZ KHAN NOON, *India's Representative in the War Cabinet, in London, on Monday, April* 10.

◆

PROUD TO HAVE WINGATE'S FORCE

"We are proud to have Wingate's Force as part of the Fourteenth Army. Major-General Wingate had sparks of genius in him. As a man of action he excelled, and he was truly dynamic. The force he built is his own. No one else could have produced it. He designed it, he raised it, he trained it, he led it, he inspired it, and finally placed it where he meant to place it—in the enemy's vitals. In all this he would have been irreplaceable, but he has accomplished his greatest work. He has forged the weapon: others may now wield it. From the force itself come his successors, imbued with his vill and his vision."

LIEUTENANT-GENERAL W. J. SLIM, *Commander of the Fourteenth Army, on Thursday, April* 13.

MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. V FRIDAY, APRIL 14, 1944 No. 32

THE SOVIET MASTER PLAN

REFERRING to recent Russian operations, *Reuter's* Correspondent in Moscow says that each step in the Soviet master plan is falling methodically into place. *First of all, on the extreme right wing*, the Red Army is thrusting the Germans back into the Carpathian defiles, and in the centre it is pressing on towards the Ploesti oilfields in Rumania. Secondly, German forces in the Crimea are being driven from one defence line to another, as the converging armies under Generals Tolbukhin and Ermenko move from the north and the east. Odessa has been captured and the Kerch peninsula is completely cleared of the enemy. Thirdly, on the diplomatic front, M. Molotov's statement has stolen the thunder out of Dr. Goebbels' anti-Bolshevist propaganda, and the liquidation of Japanese concessions in North Sakhalin and the amendments to the Fishing Convention of 1928 mean that Soviet policy in the Far East has been brought into line with the policy of Britain and the United States. All these great events have happened in such quick succession that their importance is being blurred by the fastness of the pace of time.

LET us first take the progress of the Red Army into Rumania. As expected, the Germans put up a stiff resistance in the area through which the railway from Rumania to Odessa runs. When the Red Army was at the gates of the great naval base on the Black Sea, von Manstein was driven to the position of holding the railway running west to Tirasapol at all costs, to avoid encirclement of about 100,000 German troops in the south-west corner of the Ukraine. The German General was anxious to keep open the Tirasapol-Odessa railway line of retreat, and that was why he made a desperate stand against Marshal Koniev's drive southwards. It was not an easy task that faced von Manstein, for he had to keep the Russians off this important railway, and at the same time ward off the danger which threatened Tirasapol itself. He failed in both.

Fall of Odessa

ODESSA, the largest and most important port on the Black Sea and the third largest city in the Ukraine after Kharkov and Kiev, was captured by Marshal Malinovsky's troops as the result of a skilful by-passing movement by infantry, cavalry and mechanized formations, in conjunction with a frontal attack. The Germans held extremely advantageous positions at the approaches to the City. They were protected to the east and north by waterways and estuaries as well as by numerous ravines. They had converted the narrow bottleneck between the Odessa-Kuyalnik and Khadzhibeisk estuaries into a powerful defensive zone with anti-tank ditches, block-houses, minefields and barbed wire entanglements. They did not want to find themselves with their backs to the sea, and so they retreated and shifted their resistance to the bottleneck. Marshal Malinovsky then launched a frontal attack on the enemy, and forced the Kuyalnik estuary and also struck at the Germans from the flank. Simultaneously, Odessa was outflanked by mobile units, tanks and motorized infantry, which rapidly advanced southwards to the sea coast and reached the western and south-western outskirts of the city at midnight. There was fierce fighting throughout the night and the result was that the port which was in German hands for two and a half years was at last liberated after an attack which may well rank among the great battles of history.

VON MANSTEIN also failed in his attempt to prevent Tirasapol falling to the hands of the Red Army forces. This town was an important German stronghold on the railway from Odessa to the Bessarabian capital of Kishinev. How important this town was in the enemy's defences on the Dniester can be gathered from the report that in the fierce fighting that took place Germans were hunted out from house to house.

Manstein's "Bolt Position"

COMING to Marshal Zhukov's front, we find that the capture of Cernauti at the foothills of the east Beskit Mountains, which form a range of the Carpathians proper, placed the Red Army forces in a very favourable position for striking southwards into Rumania or driving westwards towards the great German base at Lwow. It seems from recent happenings that Marshal Zhukov has, strengthened by the fact that Marshal Koniev has effected junction

with his forces, decided on both these courses. His plan seems to be to drive westwards along the Carpathians, which offer good a cover to the left flank of the advancing Russian armies, and outflank Lwow from the west.

AS regards the southward Russian drive into Rumania proper, Zhukov may push down south along the Siret river in the general direction of Galatz while Koniev strikes at Jassy from his positions at Balti. This would make von Manstein establish a "bolt position" between Sarat and Galatz with a view to preventing the armies of Zhukov and Koniev from rushing into the plains where lie Bucharest, the capital of Rumania, and the coveted oilfields of Ploesti.

ON the diplomatic front, M. Molotov's statement makes it clear, as Mr. Wickham Steed has pointed out in his broadcast from London last Friday, that the Russians are noted not only for military, but also for political wisdom. The statement dispelled two favourite notions that Goebbels had been sedulously propagating, that Russians wanted to Bolshevise Europe and that they would stop fighting as soon as they finish pushing the German armies out of Russia.

Liquidation of Oil and Coal Concessions to Japan

ANOTHER success in the diplomatic field is the transfer to Russia of Japanese oil and coal concessions in Northern Sakhalin. It may be recalled that on April 13, 1941, a Neutrality Pact was concluded between Russia and Japan. Simultaneously with the signing of this Pact Mr. Matsuoka, the Japanese Foreign Minister, and M. Molotov, Soviet Commissar for Foreign Affairs, exchanged letters, according to which Japan promised to liquidate the concessions given to her in North Sakhalin. Mr. Matsuoka declared in his letter that Japan would strive "in the course of a few months to settle the question of liquidation of concessions in North Sakhalin acquired under the treaty." One and a half months later (May 31, 1941) Mr. Tatekava, the Japanese Ambassador in Moscow, made a new declaration, on behalf of Mr. Matsuoka, confirming the arrangement. In this declaration Mr. Matsuoka said, "I am once more ready to assure you of my firm intention to settle without fail the question of liquidating concessions in North Sakhalin not later than six months from the date of my promise, as I declared in Moscow."

SO normally Japan ought to have liquidated the oil and coal concessions referred to, by October 1941, but she did not carry out her undertaking. This is evidently because after Germany's attack on Russia in June 1941 Japan believed that all would soon be over with Russia and that therefore there was no need for her to keep her promise. But neither the German plans nor the Japanese expectations fructified. The Red Army's marvellous successes brought about a sober view of the situation. This came in the autumn of 1943 when the Japanese Government recognized the desirability of negotiating with Russia in connection with the liquidation of the Japanese concessions. Negotiations were resumed, and a fortnight ago (March 30), a Soviet-Japanese agreement was signed providing for the liquidation of the concessions and the discharging of the obligation assumed by the Japanese Government under the Neutrality Pact signed three years ago.

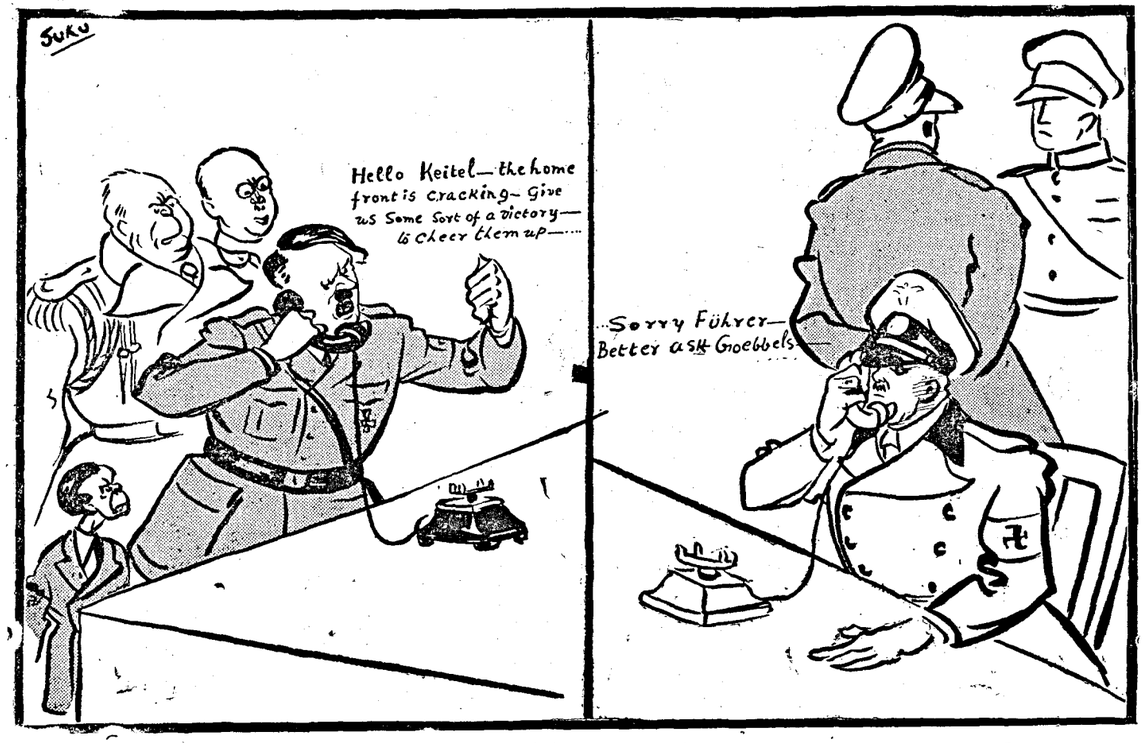
THE oil and coal concessions which have been liquidated were, while they lasted, extremely important to Japan and the benefits accruing therefrom had become all the more valuable on account of the war. Japan got a considerable quantity of petroleum from North Sakhalin which is estimated to be about one-fourth of her peacetime domestic requirements. As per the new agreement Japan has transferred to the Soviet Union all the installations, machinery materials, spare parts, means of transport, etc. It may be added that the concessions given to Japan have been liquidated 26 years ahead of the time stipulated in the contract.

Until Pacific War is ended

ANOTHER arrangement which is helpful to the Allied cause is the amendment made at the instance of the Soviet Government in the Fishing Convention of 1928. Japan has undertaken not to exploit the fishing concessions rented by her along the east coast of Kamchatka and Olutorski until the Pacific War is ended. The important point to be noted is that to-day Russia is strong enough to dictate her own terms to Japan in regard to concessions which Japan wrested from Russia when she defeated her in the Russo-Japanese War of 1904. The value of the new agreements lies in the fact that they, in the words of the Soviet paper *Izvestia* "testify both to the increased strength of the Soviet Union's position in international affairs, to the soundness of its foreign policy, and show that consideration has been paid for the special circumstances of the war situation in the Pacific as it affects our Allies."

☆

"BETTER ASK GOEBBELS!"



—*Specially drawn for the* MADRAS WAR REVIEW.

RUNNING COMMENTARY

Sir Firoz Khan Noon on Jap Tactics—Confidence in Allied Military Leaders

SIR FIROZ KHAN NOON, India's representative on the War Cabinet, has summed up clearly the present situation on the Assam frontier in an interview to *Reuter* on Monday, soon after his arrival in London. "We have no fear of the Japanese," he said: "they are trying their usual tactics of infiltration. But now we have got their measure." He referred to these tactics tried by the Japs in Arakan eight weeks ago and how the 4,000 and 5,000 of their men who got through were encircled and wiped out. "They are trying the same trick again," observed Sir FIROZ, "but our military authorities are satisfied that they have the situation well in hand, and I have no doubt that we are justified in placing our confidence in them." That the situation is satisfactory has well been stressed by General Sir CLAUDE AUCHINLECK who declared that he had no doubt "as to the result of the fighting now in progress." The Commander-in-Chief explained the position very clearly when he said:

> "We cannot stop every Japanese thrust as soon as it makes itself apparent, and it is therefore always possible that some of these may succeed in temporarily interrupting our communications . . . I am convinced, however, that the security of Assam has never been in danger, let alone the security of India."

* * *

Two Lines of Approach—The Enemy's Plan

Two of the Japanese thrusts towards India have been attempted because of the advantage furnished by the rugged mountainous line that forms the Indo-Burma

I.A.F. SUPPLEMENT

With this issue is published as supplement an I.A.F. Illustrated Souvenir of 16 pages.

Some of the pictures published are "exclusive" to the *Madras War Review.*

Mr. Churchill and General Eisenhower inspecting United States paratroops in Great Britain.

border. This gives the enemy two main lines of approach—one in the south from the Arakan towards Chittagong and the province of Bengal, and the other in the north towards Manipur and Assam through a very mountainous country. Two months ago (February 4), the enemy advanced on the first line. He promised to capture Chittagong and began doing propaganda that the Indian 5th and 7th Divisions had been "annihilated" and "re-annihilated." But what happened ultimately was that the "annihilated" Divisions captured the Jap stronghold of Buthidaung, to defend which the Japs sacrificed more than 3,000 troops. Now our troops are inflicting heavy casualties on the enemy who is trying to retain his hold on the 20-mile long hill road.

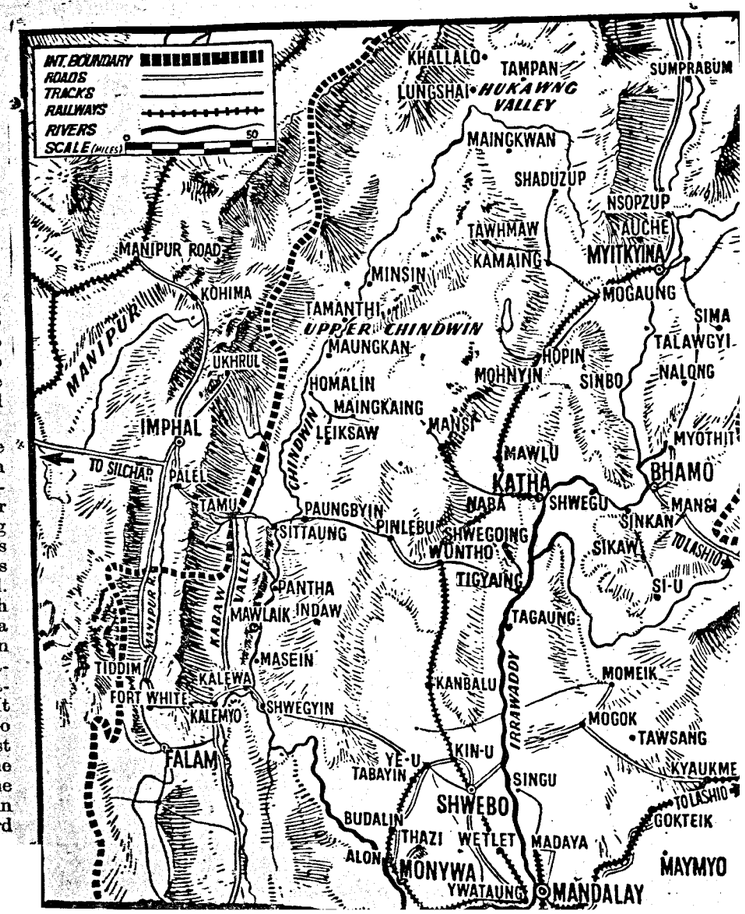
Having failed in his attempt in the south, the enemy tried the northern line of approach to India, and is endeavouring to penetrate the physical barrier of mountain and jungle stretching over 200 miles from the Chin Hills south of Imphal to the Somra Hills tracts east and south-east of Imphal. His object seems to be to establish himself in the Imphal-Kohima area before the monsoons come and then strike at our rail and road communication from Calcutta along the Brahmaputra into north-eastern Assam. It was for this purpose he sent troops to threaten Assam from the south-east and north-east. His intention in the south, *viz.*, the Tiddim area, was the same as that he unsuccessfully tried in the Arakan—to get behind our forward troops and cut our supplies. In the east, that is in the Tamu area, his object seems to be to cut our supply line first and then to make a direct thrust towards Imphal. The northern thrust begun from his main base at Homalin is directed at Kohima on the main Manipur road, about 60 miles north of Imphal.

* * *

Tiddim—Tamu—Imphal—Threat to Jap Rear

One fact must be clearly recognized in connection with these operations: it is not the holding of an advance post that is important so much as the destruction of the enemy forces. This was the reason why our troops withdrew from Tiddim and moved to meet the Japanese column which was trying to block the road from the north. The movement of another column of our forces from the north caught the enemy in between and inflicted heavy casualties. In the Tamu-Palel area, the Japanese wanted to block our supplies, did not succeed. Their attempt has weakened the direct threat to Imphal. Now it is reported that after taking Tamu, Japanese forces are trying to advance closer to Imphal from the east and north-east. It seems as though they are underestimating our strength, for during the past few days every yard they have advanced has cost them very dearly in men and equipment.

As they advance forward towards Manipur, they will find they are falling short of supplies and be forced to detach troops to remove the threat in their rear caused by the presence of our forces which were recently landed in the Katha area, which are already destroying railways, river communications and other enemy supply organizations.



THE WORD OF KRISHNA

(*By* R.G.)

How spake Krishna to Arjun, the god to the hero doubting
Amidst the clashing arrays, the dust and the shouting,

The hero unequalled in arms but dread sin of killing
To bring on his soul through sudden compunction unwilling ?

Thus said Krishna to Arjun : The eternal purpose can never
By action be changed nor perverted, but changeless for ever

Calls man to his station and duty, calls warriors to heaven
Through warfare for honour and right ; nor is it forgiven

The fighter who shrinks from the combat, who lurks in a corner,
Dishonour his portion for ever, and sneers of the scorner.

Desire not, Arjun, reward nor power nor pleasure :
Your duty achieve for its own sake, itself is your treasure.

Your heart shall be steadfast and constant to virtue's one vision
If you fight without sorrow or hatred or fear or derision,

Happy in living and dying, succeeding or failing,
Not raucous in victory's hour, nor disaster bewailing,

In knowledge of truth and conquest of self-good achieving
The end of your labour and living, the prize of believing ;

Devoted, worshipful, faithful, your high heart, shall merit
With the souls of the righteous the heaven's peace to inherit.

Vishnu has granted you sight of the terrible beauty
Of the face of Knowledge and Purpose, the splendour of Duty.

In these rest and seek your perfection : above your own nature
Rise free from pride and delusion to fullness and stature.

There are men like demons, who truth and virtue denying
Their lust make their god, in a world of loathing and lying,

In their blindness the deeds of darkness and cruelty doing,
By arrogance bound, their desires to their death pursuing,

Boasting their gains and their plans, but still not sating
Their greed of destruction, and goodness hellishly hating.

Their doom is determined. But you, O Arjun, asunder
Stand from your fellows and linger away from war's thunder.

Get you into the field. To will it bravely is better
Than to do it denying your duty and feeling the fetter

You may not escape. Your nature and nurture fulfilling
You shall choose to do battle for right, or do it unwilling.

(The lesson of the Bhagavad Gita has been gravely misrepresented by those who wish to hold it up as a Gospel of Non-violence. The original poem, though it is now barely discernible under many layers of mystical philosophy and theology of later date, was an exhortation to Arjuna to do his duty and fight the enemy for the sake of righteousness. Though these lines are not a literal translation, they contain nothing that is not in the Bhagavad Gita, and put in a small compass a counsel given more than two thousand years ago but as relevant to the present war as if it had been written to-day.)

India's new Chief of the General Staff is Lieut.-Gen. J. G. des R. Swayna, C.B., O.B.E., who succeeds Lieut.-Gen. Sir Edwin Morris, K.C.B., O.B.E., M.C. transferred to a Command in the United Kingdom.

* * *

General Stilwell's Advance in Mogaung Valley

Another threat which the enemy has to fear is the advance of General STILWELL's forces in the far north-east. In spite of the counter-attacks of the Japanese, these forces have been steadily advancing down the Mogaung Valley and further east-west of the Chindwin below Sumprabum. At the time of writing the Chinese troops have advanced south of the Panglu River in the Mogaung Valley and contacted Japanese troops. Another column of Chinese troops is driving south in the hills west of the Mogaung Valley and has succeeded in dislodging the Japanese from strong positions south of Pumsin. As for the American troops, they are fighting in difficult terrain east of the Mogaung Valley, in the Kumon range.

It may be broadly stated that the operations on the Burma front now are more in the nature of securing vantage positions for the pitched battles to come than that of large-scale offensives. Whatever is happening now is only manœuvring of positions. The big fight is likely to come soon. It will be for Imphal. Our troops are ready and prepared to resist with all their might the enemy's attack on Imphal when it comes.

VULTEE "VENGEANCE" DIVE-BOMBERS IN BURMA.—Vultee "Vengeance" dive bombers are doing grand work in Burma. It is a Vultee "Vengeance" Squadron which has the best serviceability record of any operational squadron. In Burma after one very successful attack this squadron was complimented by the Army Commander who said: "Congratulations, bombing beat ever."

A well-known boxer, now in charge of the armoury of a famous Vultee "Vengeance" dive-bomber squadron, makes the lifting of a 250-lb. bomb appear easy. W/O A. Warren, of 4 Heighton Gardens, Waddon, Surrey, was recently awarded the British Empire Medal for outstanding work on armoured vehicles in the Middle East and for inventing a very successful incendiary bomb-container while in India.

AIR INVASION OF BURMA

By WING-COMMANDER L. V. FRASER

THE achievement of Royal Air Force and United States Army Air Force transport aircraft in landing thousands of armed men and equipment together with hundreds of pack mules on narrow single strips laid in the heart of Japanese-held Burmese jungle to co-operate with General Stilwell's Hukawng Valley forces and American and Chinese troops opposing the 18th Japanese Division is an operation unequalled in any previous Allied campaign.

Royal Air Force aircraft formed the larger part of the transport force which was under American command of General Old who successfully landed the first Dakota 12 hours after the initial landing strip was laid. He was followed afterwards by Air Marshal Baldwin.

The limiting factor of jungle warfare has always been dependent on lines of communication. At best, they have never been very good—just rough roads quite unsuitable for heavy traffic. More often tracks have had to be cut through virgin jungle.

The size of the present operation demonstrates that a strong force of troops can not only be made independent of ground communication, but can be established and maintained in the wildest and most difficult tracts of enemy territory.

Never before has air transportation of fighting men and equipment reached a similar proportion nor has an infiltrating force been dropped so far behind the enemy's lines.

LANDING GROUND IN 12 HOURS

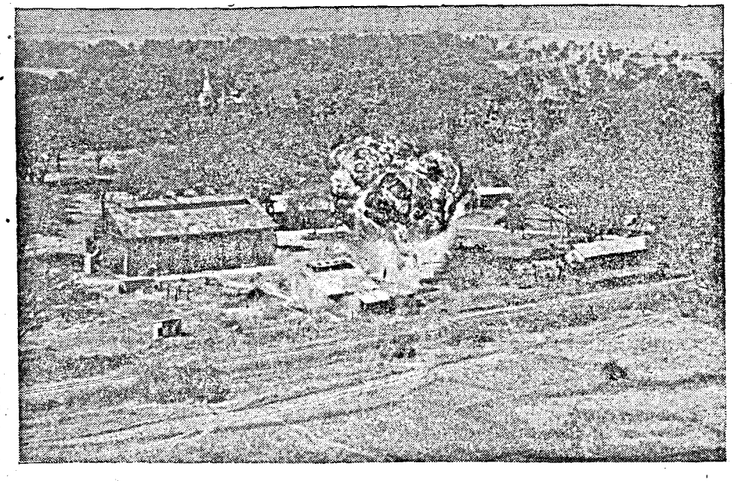
The story behind this operation as one of careful planning and skill in execution. The men were not dropped at random over hostile jungle territory, but landed on a narrow strip of airfield literally torn out of tropical forest. British and American troops made this possible by levelling out within 12 hours of their arrival a landing ground for the transport of aircraft.

By dusk on the first day after the arrival of advance ground parties (whose job it was to make the clearing serviceable), operations had begun in earnest. American glider pilots showed great skill in making these initial landings by moonlight.

RAIDING JAP AIRFIELDS

Even under these improvised conditions, Allied air superiority over the Japanese was soon demonstrated by the highly successful raid on a nearby enemy airfield. In the afternoon of March 8, Shwebe and other enemy-held airfields were raided by Mustangs pilots.

What can be termed air invasion of Burma has begun well despite all natural difficulties. Allied air forces may be expected to profit from the experience gained by repetition of those tactics.



Japanese oil supplies in Burma go up in smoke when Royal Air Force Beaufighters are around. Photo shows *an oil blaze started by Beaufighters in a recent attack on Thegon pump station some miles north-west of Moulmein near the mouth of the Sittang River. The explosive appearance of the fire suggests that the blazing oil is escaping from a pipe-line burst open during the attack.*

Subedar Subramaniam.

To

JAMEDAR KANNAYIRAM,
Extra Assistant Recruiting Officer,
Chingleput.

SIR,

As a war journal serving this Province, we venture to tender very sincere sympathy in your recent bereavement by the death in action of your son, Subedar Subramaniam. His loss is grievous not only to yourself and his other near relatives, but to the Province he belonged to and the Service he adorned.

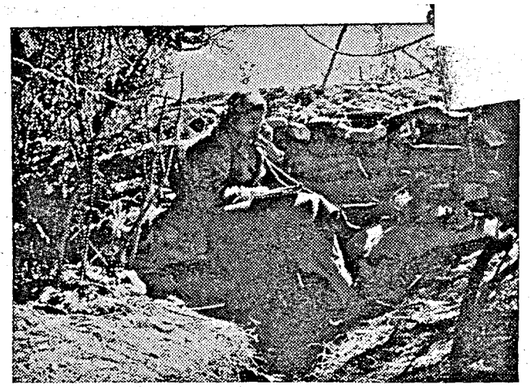
You yourself, Sir, if we are not mistaken, hold in your own right, the respect of your friends and neighbours, and have an honourable career behind you, but it is not given to all such to sire a paladin, and we respectfully offer our congratulations on the fame which your late son has brought his family, district and Province, not only by the performance of his life but in the manner of his death.

Your son, Sir, was a Soldier. Not all soldiers are heroes—one who knows writes this. A good physique, a keen brain and a sense of duty makes a soldier, but it takes more than these to make a hero.

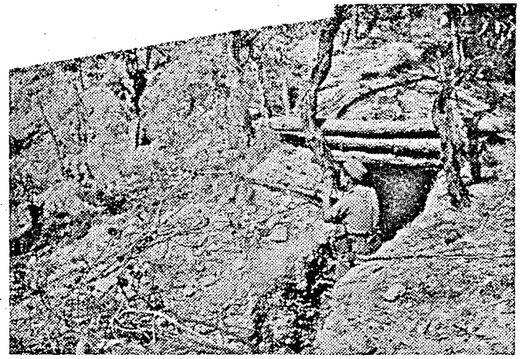
We recount the bald details of his noble story because they can never become too familiar. Four thousand miles away, in cold, muddy and battle-scarred Cassino, he saw a mine about to explode, to the inevitable destruction of a group of officers and men. With the rapid thought of a trained mind he realised the impossibility of removing the danger, and so threw himself upon the mine, deliberately and magnificently abandoning his own life for the salvation of his friends.

This short story to-day becomes a South Indian epic. May we hope that some Tamilian poet will hymn it, and 'bhagavatars' sing it to many generations, and may we also hope that the weight of your declining years may be daily lightened by the memory of a Madrassi who lived a soldier and died a hero.

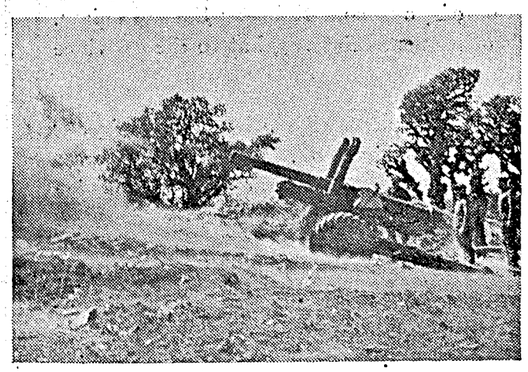
Yours sincerely,
Editor, Madras War Review.



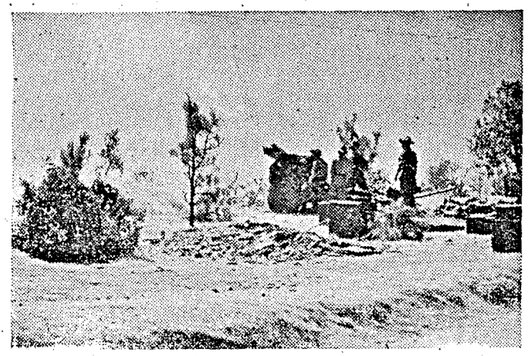
Indian Signaller passes fire orders back to battery from forward Observation Post.



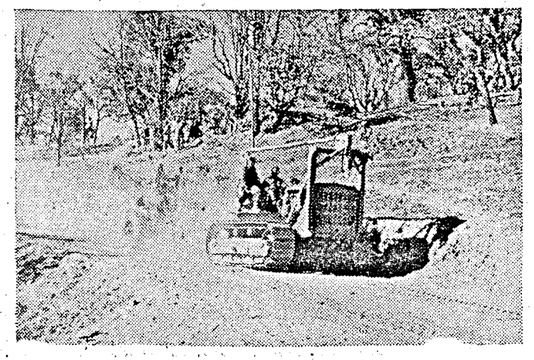
Dogra soldier mounts guard in communication trench that links former Jap bunker positions.



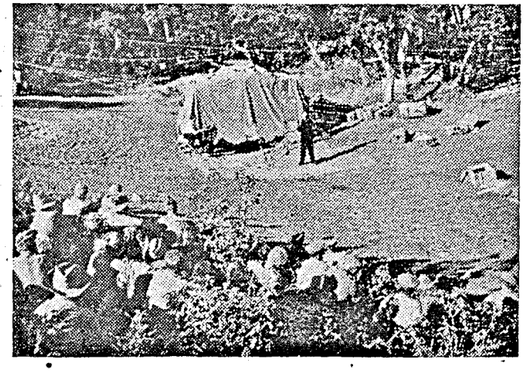
A medium gun firing at Jap bunker positions from its site high up the Chin Hills.



British 25-pounder field gun is seen in action against the Japanese.



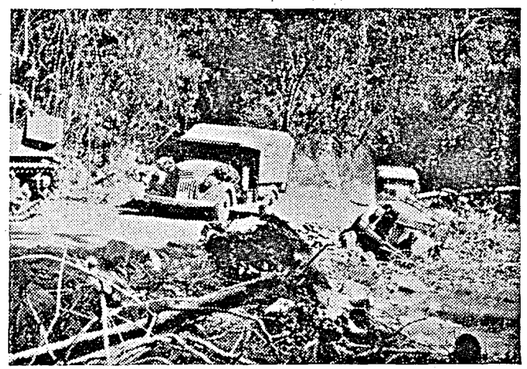
Getting medium artillery 8,000 feet high in the Chin Hill sector is a major problem. Here Bull-dozer takes medium gun towards its battery position.



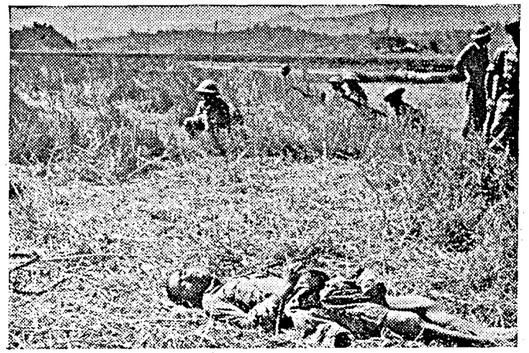
Rousters Concert Party. A.B.E.S.A. organization brought their sets to the gun site, occasionally being interrupted by guns firing from the actual post they were playing in.

THE SEVENTH DIVISION AT ARAKAN

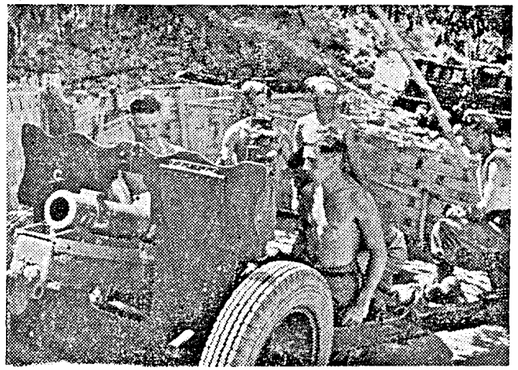
Jap prisoners receive humane treatment by Seventh Division doctors. Here one is seen having wounds dressed.



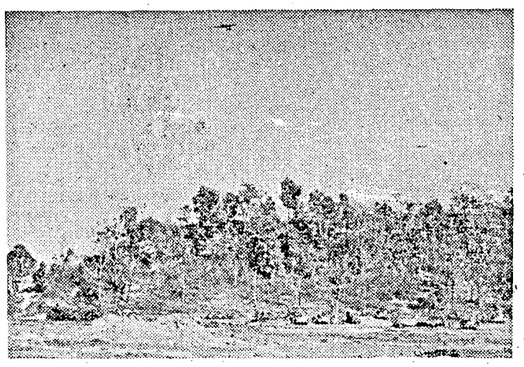
An ambulance convoy bringing wounded from Seventh Division after their relief, climbs over the pass.



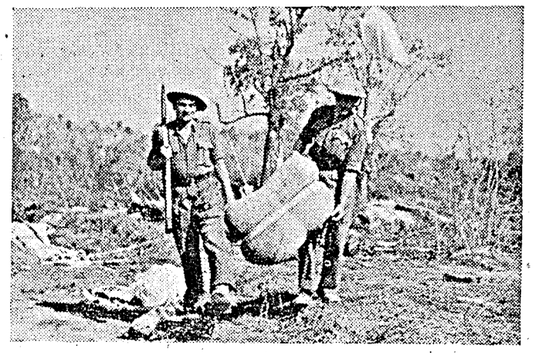
Just another dead Jap. He met the Seventh Division.



A 3·7 howitzer, used for bombardment of Jap positions in Ngayedauk Pass, being loaded by Seventh Division gunners.



Here the Royal Air Force are supplying the surrounded Seventh Division by air.



Men of the Seventh Division Pte. John Bache of Wellington Somerset and Sgt. W. Meadows of Middlesborough, Yorkshire, retrieving air dropped supplies in the Seventh Division box.

WOMEN IN THE ARMY

"WHAT sort of a job are women in India doing to-day inside the Army?" The answer is provided in the steady growth of the Women's Auxiliary Corps (India) who celebrated their second anniversary on 9th April.

In Russia and China women are in the firing line so also many women in Nazi-held countries. In England women are in every form of industry and the defence services. That stage has not yet reached in this country. Yet, women all over India drawn from all communities are doing a man's job efficiently and perhaps a little more neatly for the inclination for tidiness is inherent in women—a quality which is being greatly appreciated in the vast intricate war machinery of to-day. Among some of the jobs women are doing are:—

General duty clerks.

Typists (stenographers).

Officers and Auxiliaries in Ordnance shops and ration stands.

Plotters and tellers on AA gun sites and in Royal Air Force filter rooms.

Ciphor personnel for the Army and Royal Indian Navy.

Photographic work for the Royal Air Force.

Store-keepers and accounts clerks in Ordnance depots.

Electrical and radio mechanics.

Signal duties.

GREAT TRANSFORMATION

A middle-aged outsider, who has closely watched their progress during 1943, gives a clear picture of transformation that takes place after a brief period of training:—

"In April last year, I saw off a big contingent of new recruits who were travelling to join the Women Auxiliary Corps (India). Some of the girls were particular friends of mine, most of them I knew by name and family, knew of their homes and schooling and of previous efforts to find employment. Much as I liked them, I wondered what the army was going to make of such very raw material. All were anxious and excited, wondering what the unknown future held for them. They were eagerly looking forward to good pay and interesting work, but rather dreading community life and discipline. Off they set, inefficient, anxious, but eager to learn and give of their best in the new service.

"I met most of them next on Christmas leave—and what a difference! The older women had lost that harrassed look of constant anxiety. The youngsters were neat, efficient, self-confident. They had acquired a poise and balance quite new to their race and generation. The part had toned down and the bashfull had toned up. Their clothes (whether in uniform or out) their hair, and especially their make-up, were so much better in quality and neatness, and worn with an air. Manners were much easier. They were ready to talk about their work with interest and pride, and those whose work was secret could say so without that mystery and self-importance which sometimes afflicts their seniors. Above all, they had realized that discipline is not an irksome, outside imposition intended to annoy, but a necessary part of communal living. A rule about the supply of food on a journey now is a rule for their comfort, not for their confusion.

"I have known and loved some of these girls since childhood, now I can also admire them. Chatting to them on Christmas leave, hearing how they have overcome difficulties, learnt much, played more wholeheartedly, worked with men without embarrassment, sent home regular money for the family or for saving, I feel vastly cheered. If all are going to acquire the poise of this batch of recruits in so few months, then the future womanhood of India is going to be much benefited by the opportunities given by service in W.A.C. (I)."

It is true that women in India have not joined W.A.C. (I) in such vast numbers as in other countries but it must be remembered that in a country where women seldom went out to work, they are to-day not only replacing man-power but all getting a training which will materially assist them in post-war reconstruction in which women in this country must play a prominent part.

It may be interesting to note that in the Southern Army area alone there are over 2,500 W.A.C. (I)s, 1,800 in the Army, 700 in the R.A.F. section and 200 in the R.I.N. section. Of the total number in India, over 7,000, nearly half are Indians.

W.A.C. (I) SECOND ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION IN MADRAS

MEMBERS of the Women's Auxiliary Corps (India) celebrated their second anniversary with a ceremonial parade on Sunday evening at the Island ground. Quite a number of the W.A.C. (I)'s were unable to be present as they were on duty, but the numbers that did attend were considerable. Both the Army and Royal Air Force sections were well represented and the Royal Indian Navy section attracted special attention by their smart white uniforms.

The whole ceremonial was quite impressive, the Women Auxiliary Corps' marching to the accompaniment of the band of the Madras Guards opposite the Munro Statue where the salute was taken by the Sub-Area Commander.

Quite a large number of troops in and around Madras together with many officers lined the route to cheer and honour the representatives of India's youngest service. There was also a large collection of civilian spectators both men and women.

On arrival the Sub-Area Commander was received by Senior Commander Mrs. M. A. Dyson, M.B.E. and introduced to the Platoon Commanders, Mrs. Rajah Urs and Miss Everett. In a speech after inspecting the W.A.C. (I)'s the Sub-Area Commander congratulated them on the smartness of their turn-out and on the numbers they had been able to muster. Describing the W.A.C. (I) as one of the most devoted forms of service he said one ought to be proud of and consider it an honour to join it in its efforts against the enemies of India and all civilization. The Sub-Area Commander added that as the war went on, the need for recruiting in even increasing numbers would grow and the W.A.C. (I) could assist in a number of ways in the common cause, namely, release more and more men for the battle against the Japanese. He was certain Madras would watch the progress of the W.A.C. (I) with sympathy and interest.

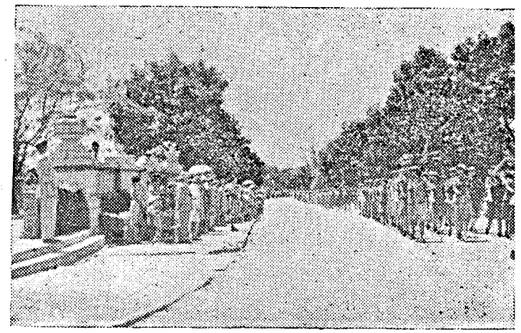
After the parade the girls were given tea by the Madras Hospitality Committee Mobile Canteen. The same night All-India Radio, Madras, by arrangement with Public Relations, Southern Army broadcast an extremely entertaining feature programme on the W.A.C. (I), a representative selection of W. A. C. (I)'s coming before the microphone to give their impressions and talk of their experiences. The highlight of the feature was an observer's account of the March Past (recorded on the spot) by Mrs. C. W. Spencer.

BANGALORE PARADE

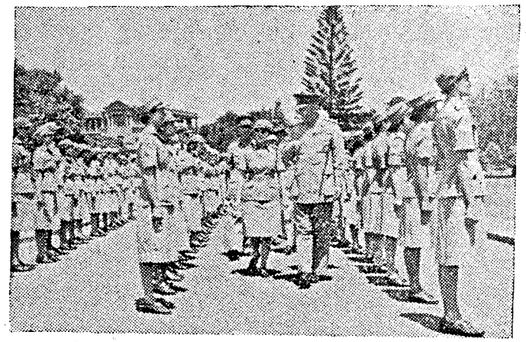
A fitting tribute was paid to the two-year old Women's Auxiliary Corps (India) on their second Birthday at Bangalore on Sunday when the General Officer Commander-in-Chief, Southern Army Lieutenant-General Sir Noel Beresford-Peirse, K.B.E., C.B., D.S.O., inspected them on parade and took the salute. The army commander in a few well chosen words told the corps what useful work they were doing releasing manpower for service in the front line. His only regret was that there were not enough women in the corps and he would like to see each one getting another recruit. He complemented them on their smart turn out. A large gathering witnessed the parade and among the distinguished persons present were the Diwan of Mysore. The Honourable Resident of Mysore, Lady Beresford-Peirse, Major-General Bruce and Mrs. Bruce, Mrs. Berwick, A. Commodore Mackworth, Collector Morris and area and sub-area commanders and senior officers of the Southern Army. The band of the Madras Sappers and Miners was in attendance.

W.A.C. (I.) ANNIVERSARY PARADE AT BANGALORE

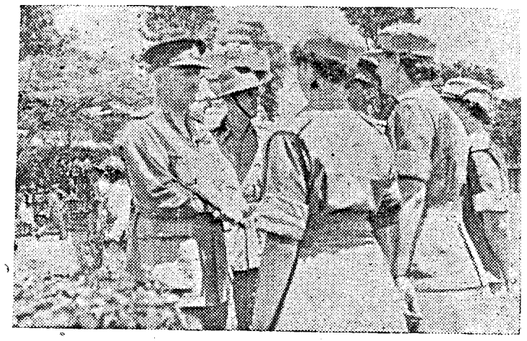
The G.O. C-in-C., Southern Army, Lieutenant-General Sir Noel Beresford Pierse, taking the salute.



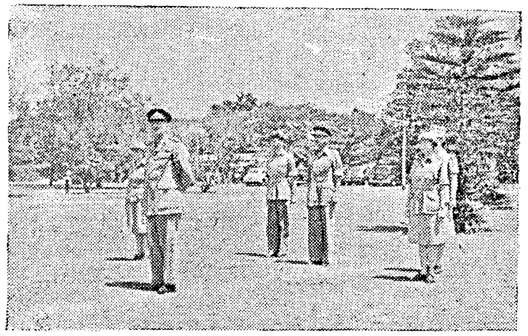
The March-past.



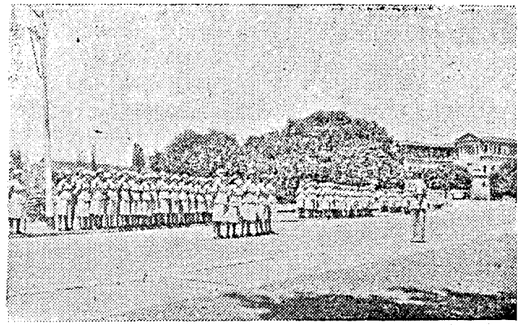
The G.O. C.-in-C. inspecting a platoon.



The G.O. C.-in-C. talking to a group of W.A.C. (I.) Officers.

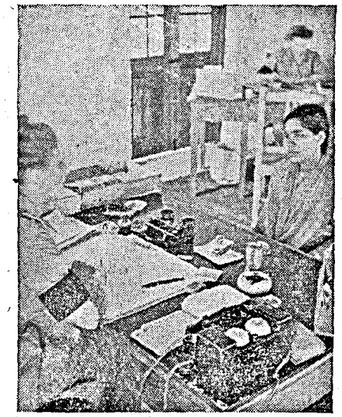


The G.O. C.-in-C. addressing the corps.



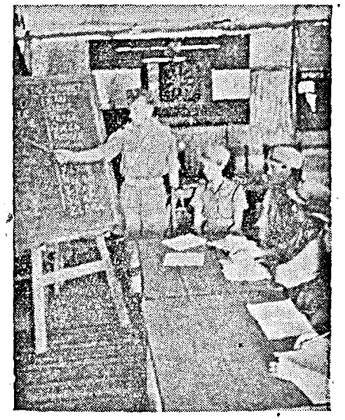
W.A.C. (I)s on Parade.

W.A.C. (I) AT WORK



A new recruit interviews the Recruiting Officer.

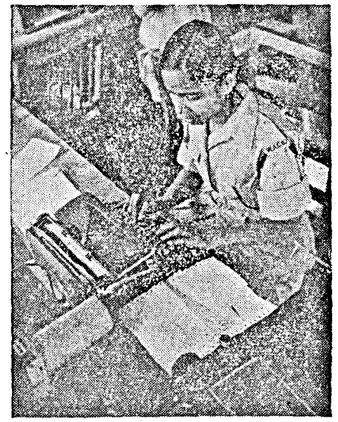
A Squad marching to work.



Attending class—learning phonetics for signal work.

Telephone Exchange operator.

A W.A.C. operating a wireless set.



Fully trained Indian girl at a tele-printer.

Passing operational traffic on tele-printers.

Open air class and instructor.

Off duty—practice hockey.

OPENINGS IN THE ROYAL INDIAN NAVY

By AN R.I.N. OFFICER

THERE are many misunderstandings about life at sea. India is a large country with an extensive coast-line. Until recently India has depended upon the Royal Navy to protect this coast and her shipping, but now India has built a large and efficient Navy of her own. A Navy manned by Indian sailors to protect India's commerce and India's coasts; a Navy of which India is justifiably proud. The Navy has many branches one of which is the communication branch. The communication branch is responsible for signalling and wireless. No ship can operate without communications. In the Navy for near messages signals are made by flags and lamps; but the bulk of communication is by wireless. The Indian Navy is responsible for all communications in the Eastern area. Indian Personnel man all W/T stations from Africa, Persian Gulf, Red Sea, the coast of India as far as Singapore, when we have driven out the Japanese. The responsibilities of communication ratings are very great; therefore it is necessary to have young men of intelligence and education who can speak, read and write English well as all communications are in English. It is *not* necessary to have passed matric; but men who have reached matric standard are required.

WIRELESS

Before the war wireless played a terrific part in world affairs. During the war it is vital. After the war wireless will play an even larger part. A great industry will grow up in India. Factories will develop to manufacture commercial sets; broadcasting stations will be established for news and entertainment. A large army of employees will be required in this industry. There is no finer way of learning this trade than in Royal Indian Navy. Thereby fitting yourselves for good employment in an expanding industry. During war new inventions are continually being made; these are put at the disposal of the Government only. Therefore only service men are able to learn about these new inventions, e.g., television, etc.

All communication ratings are trained in Bombay, their training lasts about six months. In Bombay there is a fine Signal School. Considerable thought and expense have been devoted to making this the finest establishment possible. This is the only Naval Signal School outside England: the men have a fine training here. Everything is done to make them comfortable and happy. Because the training is of technical nature it is mostly done in class room. Therefore to keep the sailors healthy, sports and games are encouraged, football, hockey, cricket, volley-ball, boxing, swimming are all played. They are not compulsory.

Many people say that life of a sailor is hard; here is the routine in the Signal School. We get up at 6-30, do 40 minutes P.T., then wash, shave, dress and fall in for inspection. After inspection we march to music to the class room for instruction. Instruction finishes at 4 o'clock with a break of one hour for midday meal and 15 minutes for refreshment at 11. After 4 one's time is one's own and one may play games, write letters, go out to pictures, etc. If one asks a sailor what do you do when you go on liberty. Do you see friends? Do you go for a walk? Do you go to the pictures? and often one gets the reply. "Sir, I never go on liberty. Everything I require is in the Signal School." The School has a new canteen in which the daily and weekly papers are supplied *free*. A library *free*. It has frequent concerts, cinemas and entertainments *free*. In the canteen, tea, cigarettes and other necessities are obtainable. *No free*. So it is not necessary to go out.

WHY THE NAVY?

A Royal Indian Navy Officer says:—

"I have interviewed over 2 thousand recruits individually. I always ask them the same question, why did you join the Royal Indian Navy and I have received a number of strange replies. The other day a recruit told me he joined the Royal Indian Navy because he quarrelled with his mother-in-law. But the majority join for one of two reasons, (1) to learn a useful trade, (2) to lead an adventurous and healthy life and a desire to see the world. There is no finer education than seeing other countries, other nations. In peace time, wealthy men spent crores of rupees on travelling, not only on business but simply to broaden their minds and to understand the problems of other nations and so be able to solve their own difficulties. I know of no other way in which a young man can see the world than with the Navy; and be paid for doing it. India's ships are mostly built in United Kingdom, Australia, and even America. These ships are brought to India by India's sailors who are sent to these countries as passengers; they spend some weeks waiting for their ships to be finished.

"During this time they are entertained by the people. All sailors returning from these expeditions tell of the good times they have had. When a rumour spreads that a ship has to be brought from abroad we receive hundreds of applications to go and bring it. In England there is conscription; they know there is no conscription in India. They know that the men in the Indian Navy are volunteers, consequently they admire and respect them and show them every hospitality.

FOOD

"It has been suggested to me that the food in the Navy is not good; recently the rations have been altered, two kinds of rations are served, vegetarian and standard. Every effort is made to give our men what they want. Twenty men eat at a table. We recently had a committee meeting. Representatives from each table made suggestions of what the men wanted. These suggestions were carried out. They wanted fish. They received fish every Friday. They do want beef. Only mutton is now served. Nuts or fruits are served on Sundays and every sailor receives a glass of fresh milk, every day. At each meal an officer goes through the dining rooms to enquire for any complaints. For five months I have had no complaint about the quantity, quality or cooking of the food. I always have complaints such as 'please sir, this man has taken one of my chappatties.'

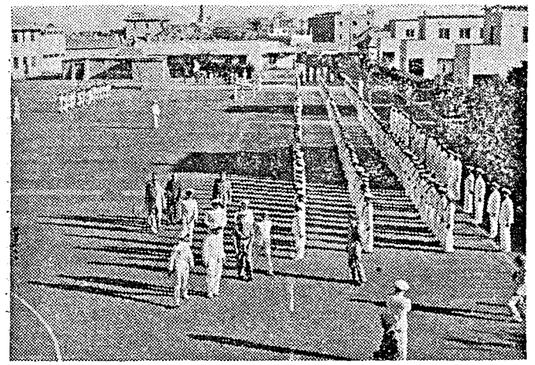
"Naturally it is in our interest to protect the health of our sailors; so a medical officer is in attendance, he can be seen at any time. At 8 o'clock there is a sick parade and any sailor who is sick is excused duty until he is better.

PAY

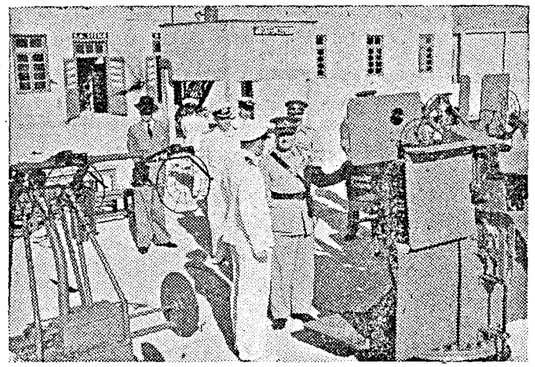
"Now I come to the question of pay. A communication rating receives a starting pay of Rs. 60. When considering this you must realize that over and above this cash payment, he receives his accommodation, his clothing, his food and most of his entertainments. Consider a young man who finds civilian employment away from his native place. He must pay rent, he must buy food, he must buy clothes, he must pay bus fares. This cannot be done for less than Rs. 60. So at a modest estimate Rs. 60 in the Navy is equivalent to Rs. 120 in civilian employment. 'Sailors do not care.' A sailor does not care if the price of rice goes up, a sailor does not care if the price of cloth goes up, a sailor does not care if the price of cinema seats goes up. Our men are paid once a month. In a long room they receive their money at one end, and then they pass along the table at which are seated the dhobi, the tailor, the cobbler, the barber, etc., and at the end there is a small table with two post office clerks taking money order forms to send home to their families. A large number of sailors send Rs. 40 home to their families every month. There are young men in the Signal School of 18 who are supporting their widowed mothers, younger sisters and educating their younger brothers.

"Soon you will be finishing your school life, you will have to decide what you are going to do with your future. I hope that some of you will consider joining the Royal Indian Navy, taking this golden opportunity of leading a healthy, care-free life, learning a useful trade, seeing the world and having immediate financial independence. At present I want a large number of young, keen, intelligent, educated men between the ages of 17½ to 24 who can speak good English."

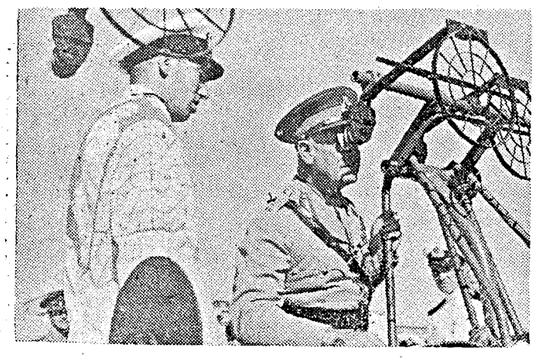
LORD WAVELL VISITS R.I.N.



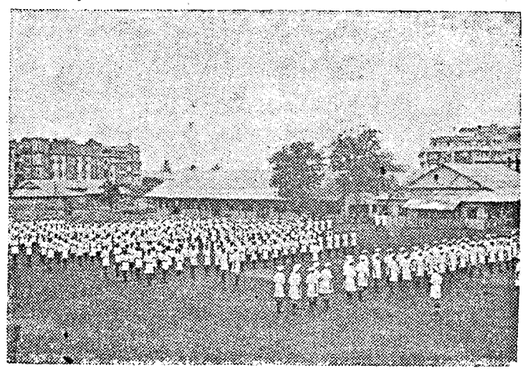
A contingent of Bahadur *Boys stands to attention as His Excellency the Viceroy is taken round the extensive parade ground of* H.M.I.S. Bahadur.



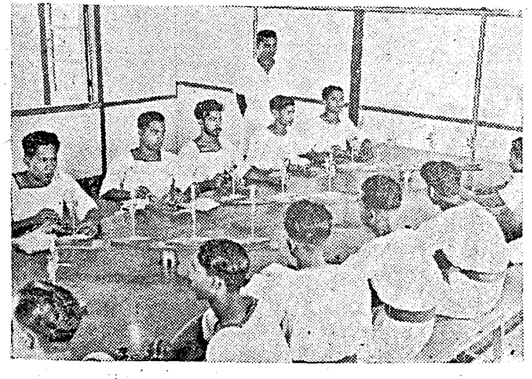
At the High Angle School which forms a part of H.M.I.S. Himalaya, *His Excellency inspected all forms of naval guns and equipment, in the use of which officers and men are given practical training.*



His Excellency the Viceroy looking through a Sight Trainer at the High Angle School.



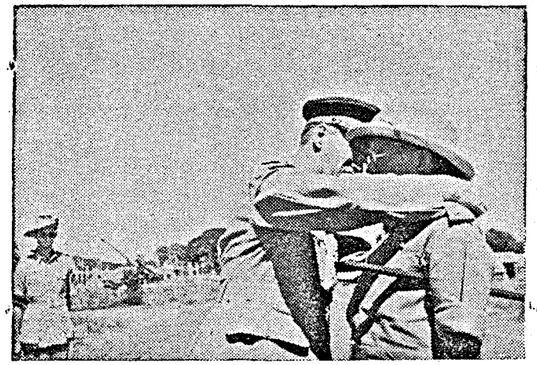
R.I.N. ratings doing P.T. exercises.



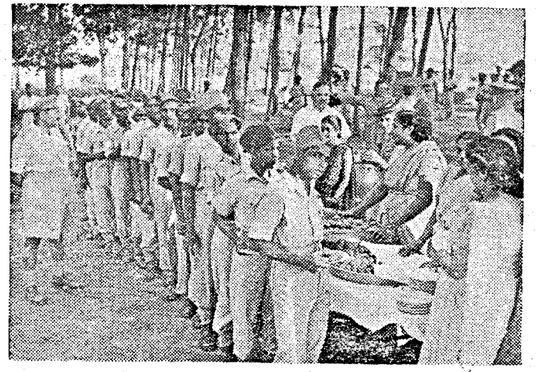
Ratings attending an instructional class.

Here you see ping-pong game in progress; and various other indoor games, like chess, draughts, etc.

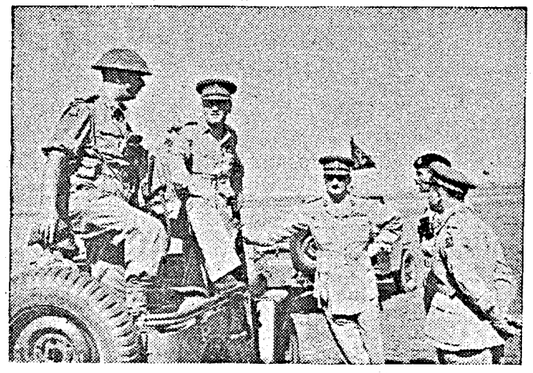
C.-IN-C.'s VISIT TO MADRAS



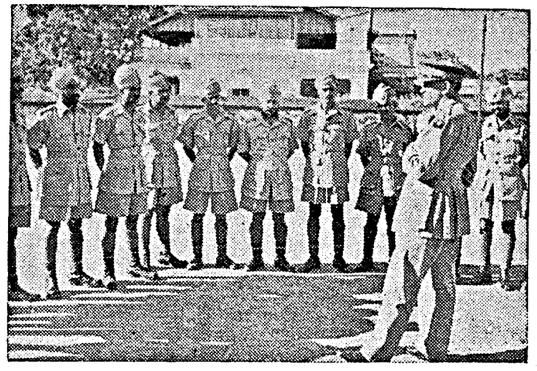
General Auchinleck is seen presenting the O.B.I. to Subedar Samuel of the R.I.A.S.C. whose home is in Vepery, Madras.



General Auchinleck displayed considerable interest in the welfare work done for Indian troops and is here seen watching the work of a mobile canteen run by Lady Hope, Mrs. Clubwalla and other ladies of Madras, which distributes tea and cakes.

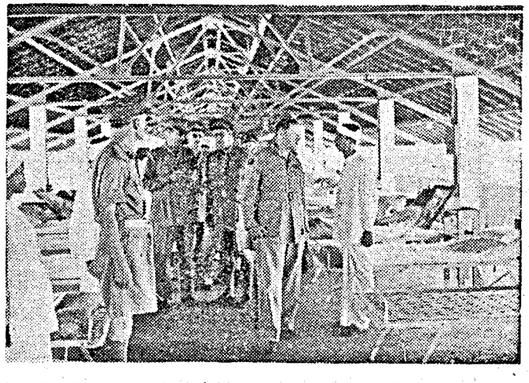


From a 'Jeep' he watched a combined army and airforce exercise and discussed points of tactics with the officers.



The Commander-in-Chief is addressing officers and V.C.O.'s of a Punjab Regiment in Madras.

During a combined army airforce exercise, General Auchinleck chatting with the officers while the troops were resting.



The Commander-in-Chief is seen inspecting a military hospital near Madras.

DISPLAY OF WAR WEAPONS TO LEGISLATORS AT COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF'S HOUSE.—Members of the Central Legislature and high ranking Allied officers were entertained by the Commander-in Chief, India, General Sir Claude Auchinleck and Lady Auchinleck at a garden party on Sunday, March 19, when they saw a comprehensive display of modern war weapons as used to-day by India's Armed forces.

Colonel Irving DOCH of the Chinese Army is shown the interior of a tank by Major H. I. Ahmad of the Indian Armoured Corps.

CHINA' S CONTRIBUTION

By R. SURYANARAYANA RAO

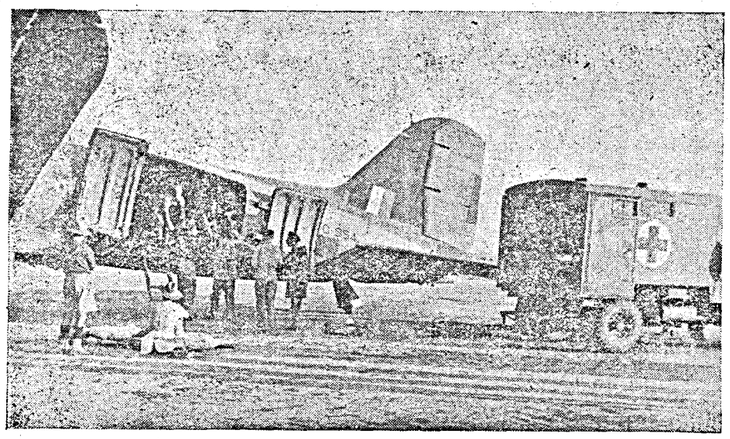
WHEN the din of battle ceases, when the roaring of guns is heard no more, when the armies in the various theatres of war equipped with the latest and most powerful instruments for human destruction lay down their arms and when the representatives of the victor and the vanquished nations sit at the Peace table to settle the future of the world, who is more qualified to take a leading part in the deliberations than China? Whose voice would carry more weight and command greater attention than that of China? It should be remembered that China has been waging war since 1937 drawn into it by the unprovoked aggression of Japan. The Axis partner who has now become a dangerous menace to the peace in the Far East spared no effort to carry on mischievous propaganda and to some extent succeeded in deceiving the gullible world into believing that she was justified in violating the spirit and intent of the Nine-Power Treaty by which the powers solemnly agreed 'to respect the sovereignty, the independence, and the territorial and administrative integrity of China,' on the plea of China's increasing revolutionary diplomacy which, it was alleged, was as dangerous as the Red Menace. Some among those who now form part of the United Nations failed then to appreciate China's real role as a brave opponent of the ruthless Japanese menace. Now bitter experience has made everyone recognize what a menace Japan has really been and how valiantly China has been fighting these six years and more without becoming dispirited by the failures incidental to such a prolonged struggle. It may not be wise to anticipate what the verdict of history would have been on the unprovoked aggression of Japan if the dominant Axis Powers in Europe had not declared war on the Allies in the West.

'When peace reigns, the spirit of a nation can only be passively displayed; in war it shines out in its full magnificence, especially when the war is against aggression and in defence of all that has become dear by the sanction of immemorial tradition and by the instincts that lie closest to the human heart.' In these words the writer of the Foreword, who is not himself Chinese, introduces the book *China—After Five Years of War*. In his opinion these words have been true of China. China was quite unprepared for the test. She had just emerged from a long and severe process of what may be called 'blood-letting,' and was about to enter upon the difficult task of restoring 'national health.' The Civil Government which had suffered considerably was in the process of restoration. Disintegration which had stood in the way of the establishment of a Republican Government had been overcome and measures for integration had been launched. Just at that time Japan struck a blow which if China had not resisted would have meant her complete subjugation. She would have been another Korea or at best a glorified Manchuko Empire. What China's fate would have been, can also be gauged from the sad plight of the present puppet regime—the Nanking Government. What is the gravemen of the charge so assiduously trotted out for long, and into the truth of which no nation, not even the League of Nations, dared to probe and take a firm stand, but which also is now seen in its true perspective? China was accused of promoting anti-Japanese education, of encouraging anti-Japanese organizations engaged in inciting and even intimidating the mass into hating Japan and of pursuing in general anti-Japanese policy of provocation and instigation. These charges are the acme of vagueness and appear to any unprejudiced observer more plausible than real and framed after the so-called incident staged to create a cause of action. The well-rehearsed incident at Marco Polo Bridge on the night of July 7, 1937, was made an excuse for wanton aggression for which Japan was anxiously waiting in order to take advantage of China's unpreparedness.

China has much to teach every nation at war. She not only decided to make her supreme war effort but also decided to continue the task of building up a social and political system which would qualify her for a place among the Great Powers of the world, a task to which she would have devoted perhaps much more thoroughly if she had been left in peace. Even in well-organized communities the task of post-war reconstruction has been thought of only recently and during the first years of the war, concentration was only on war effort. Even Mr. Churchill is forced to warn that everything may not be perfect, or that if the end of the war came suddenly, there may be an interval when things might be pretty rough. China's 'is costly wisdom that is bought by experience' accompanied by suffering, privation and death. This wisdom will be her valuable contribution at the Peace Table. She realizes more than any other nation the blessings of peace and order, value of the Freedoms of the Atlantic Charter, and total abolition of war and settlement of disputes by discussion and arbitration. Her bitter experience has taught her what the poets have truly said,

> "Peace hath victories,
> No less renowned than war" and
>
> "The arts of peace are great
> And no less glorious than those of war."

She demonstrates to the world how by infinite patience and resolution and calm confidence, even appalling difficulties and set-backs can be overcome. Hers has been the glory to suffer the heaviest blows long before her allies were drawn into the vortex. She is therefore an ancient 'enemy' of one of the most barbarous and brutal Axis powers; she has more experience of sufferings of war caused by ruthless foes, and she has realized the importance of building up peace-time institutions or so set up organizations for war work as to switch them on for peace-time tasks without causing even the least disturbance.



BURMA FRONT—WOUNDED EVACUATED BY AIR.—British and American pilots are co-operating in evacuating wounded by air from the Burma Front.

Wounded soldiers being carried aboard an evacuation plane. The casualty in the foreground has apparently already recovered sufficiently to take an interest in proceedings.

WAR DIARY

BRITAIN AND GERMANY

4TH APR.—Mr. Churchill stated in the Commons to-day that the British Empire casualties during the first four years of war were 667,159.

On a direct appeal by Viscount Cranborne, Dominions Secretary, the House of Lords to-day postponed its debate on the application of the Atlantic Charter to Germany.

5TH APR.—Sir Archibald Sinclair, Air Minister, said in the Commons that R.A.F. Bomber Command has dropped 48,000 tons of bombs on Germany during the first three months of 1944 compared with some 2,400 tons dropped by the Germans on Britain.

Air Marshal Sir Richard Peck, Assistant Chief of the Air Staff, R.A.F., declared that British and American airmen are now battling to convert air-superiority over German territory proper into air supremacy over Hitler's fliers there.

The German battleship "Tripitz" was probably put out of action by British naval planes.

6TH APR.—The British Minister for Fuel and Power made a statement on the coal situation.

The Commander-in-Chief of the Mediterranean Allied Airforce, General Ira C. Eaker declared "Germany has never been in such strained circumstances as now."

7TH APR.—Mr. R. Stettinius, United States Under Secretary of State, has arrived in London with a number of important officials from his country.

Hitler has appointed Dr. Goebbels to be the sole head of the administration of Berlin.

Last night Mosquitos attacked Hamburg and objectives in the Ruhr and Rhineland.

8TH APR.—U.S. bombers attacked Brunswick as well as aerodromes in north-west Germany. About 1,250 planes participated in the attack.

Germany has begun the flooding of 80,000 square miles of the north sea coastline in France and Belgium.

9TH APR.—The German Finance Minister, Count Ludwig Schwerin Von Krosigk warned the Germans that new taxation may be necessary to ward off the threat of inflation.

Allied bombers attacked Essen and other objectives in west and north-west Germany last night.

A joint statement by Mr. Churchill and President Roosevelt on the U-boat warfare in March is issued to-day.

It is reported that Hitler has been conferring with German political and military leaders at Berchtesgaden during the past two days.

10TH APR.—The United States' Under Secretary of State, Mr. Edward Stettinius and the American Ambassador in London, Mr. John Winant, had long discussions with Prime Minister, Churchill, yesterday.

Mosquitos bombed Mannheim and other objectives in Western Germany.

11TH APR.—The Supreme Commander-in-Chief, Allied invasion forces, General Eisenhower, told pilots that the time was coming when they would be needed to fly from dawn to dusk.

Heavy airbattles took place over Hanover and Brunswick. Allied planes attacked targets deep inside Germany including Oschersleben and Bernger.

Hitler is said to have conferred at Berchtesgaden with Mussolini, M. Antonescu, the Rumanian Premier, M. Sztojay, the Hungarian Premier, M. Laval, the French Premier, Vidkun Quisling of Norway, Pavelitch, the Croat Quisling, Dr. Hacha of Bohemia, and the Jap Ambassador in Berlin.

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE ATLANTIC

5TH APR.—President Roosevelt is still recuperating from bronchitis and was confined to his study.

Mr. Cordell Hull announced that the United States has been working with Britain to prevent Portugal from sending wolfram supplies to Germany.

6TH APR.—The U.S. Navy Secretary, Colonel Frank Knox, said that the Allies may expect "soon" a mass attack by German U-boats against North Atlantic shipping. "German submarine production has by no means stopped" he added.

The U.S. Foreign Economic Administrator, in an appraisal of Germany's economic strength, says that the mobilized economic strength of the United Nations is now overwhelmingly greater than the Nazis and the sheer weight of the Allied striking power makes victory certain.

7TH APR.—President Roosevelt at his press conference answered questions relating to French Liberation Committee and Armistice terms with Italy.

8TH APR.—The first month of the invasion of Europe will cost the U.S. Forces a maximum of 150,000 casualties according to tentative estimates by American departments. The Chairman of the House of Representatives, Military Affairs Committee, Mr. Andrew J. May gave this figure.

9TH APR.—President Roosevelt has joined in efforts to unite the Democratic party.

The United States' Secretary of State, Mr. Cordell Hull, in a broadcast talk outlined United States' foreign policy.

10TH APR.—It is announced that President Roosevelt has left Washington for a fortnight's rest.

* * *

INDIA, BURMA AND CEYLON

4TH APR.—Chinese forces are progressing in the Mogaung Valley, says to-day's South East Asia Command Communiqué.

5TH APR.—Enemy pressure has been felt at various points along the whole of the Assam front. Enemy attacks on positions near Imphal were repulsed.

Mr. Attlee, the Deputy Prime Minister, disclosed in the Commons to-day, that agreements had been made for the appointment of an experienced body of scientific advisers to the headquarters staff of each of the three fighting services in the South East Asia Command.

6TH APR.—Jap plans to capture Imphal from south has been shattered. Enemy threat to Kohima continues. Chinese forces attacked Wakawng in Mogaung Valley.

Assam Government's press note issued to-day says that "Cachar and Manipur areas were raided by a very small number of aircraft on the evening of April 3rd."

Air Vice-Marshal A. Dunston has been appointed Air Officer Commanding, R.A.F. Forces in Ceylon, and has taken up his duties.

7TH APR.—The Japanese are building up their strength in the Kohima area. The 17th Indian division has cleared its way to Imphal and is in a position to counter any threatened Jap offensive in this area.

8TH APR.—It is estimated that about 6,000 casualties have been inflicted on the Japanese on the Assam-Burma front. Threat to Kohima is imminent. Imphal is in a state of siege.

9TH APR.—A Jap counter-attack on the hill feature north of Imphal plan was repulsed. Japanese troops have captured Tamu. A counter-attack drove the Japanese forces which succeeded in getting to the outskirts of Kohima.

10TH APR.—Among other facts on the Burma-Assam front activity continued on the Arakan front on the 9th April; Jap pressure in the Kohima area continued. Allied aircraft bombed Rangoon and other places.

It is officially announced that two large enemy blockade-runners or supply ships scuttled in the Indian Ocean after being intercepted by Allied forces.

Sir Feroz Khan Noon, India's representative on the War Cabinet, reached England.

11TH APR.—On the Arakan front enemy resistance stiffened during the 10th April, says to-day's Allied Communiqué. In the Imphal area, they maintained contact from the south with Allied troops. In the Kohima area the Jap pressure has been maintained. Chinese troops have captured Wakawng in the Mogaung Valley.

Colonel Knox, United States Secretary of the Navy, told a press conference at Washington, that he was confident that the British forces in India would be able to halt the Japanese drive near Imphal.

* * *

RUSSIA AND FINLAND

4TH APR.—Russians captured Hotin. Most of Tarnapol was in Soviet hands.

5TH APR.—Soviet forces captured Razdelnaya.

Dr. Zuho Passikivi, the Finnish peace envoy, is reported to have returned to resume Finland-Russia peace negotiations.

6TH APR.—Soviet troops captured several strong points including *Skala*.

7TH APR.—The Red Army has captured Orgeev and several other centres.

8TH APR.—The Red Army has reached the Czechoslavak-Rumanian frontier. The Russian forces had forced the river Pruth north of Jassy. Odessa has been isolated. Sereth has been occupied by the Russians. Dr. Benes has sent greetings to M. Stalin on the Red Army's approach to Czechoslovakia.

9TH APR.—The battle for Czechoslovakia has now opened along the crests of the Carpathian passes. Savage fighting is taking place on the frontier.

10TH APR.—The Soviet troops have captured *Odessa*, the most important port in the Black Sea. The Russians have captured more than 200 inhabited localities in Rumania including Lagra and Zanorna. They have cut the Jassy-Pascany Railway line. The Russian offensive against Crimea has begun.

11TH APR.—Russian forces have advanced about 30 kilometres in Crimea after capturing Zhankoi. Other important places captured by the Soviet troops include *Kerch* and *Paxani*.

* *

ITALY, AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

4TH APR.—The Garigliano Valley to-day was the scene of artillery duel between the Allies and the enemies. Patrol clashes occurred on all fronts.

5TH APR.—German attempt to recapture Monte Marrone has been repulsed.

United States bombers from the Mediterranean raided Ploesti, the centre of Rumanian oilfields.

6TH APR.—All the railway lines down Italy supplying the German front have been dislocated as a result of Allied air bombings, it is announced. Patrols were active on all fronts.

7TH APR.—Allied patrols inflicted casualties on both the Fifth and Eighth Army main fronts and in the Fifth Army Allied Bridgehead.

8TH APR.—On the main Fifth and Eighth Army fronts patrol clashes occurred and artillery was active. On the main Fifth Army Allied Bridgehead an American combat patrol established a strong point.

9TH APR.—Numerous patrol clashes occurred.

10TH APR.—Casualties were inflicted on the enemy by New Zealand troops who attacked two strong points. Several enemy tanks were destroyed by artillery in Tyrrhenian sea sector of the main front. Allied patrols and artillery were active on all fronts.

11TH APR.—British troops of the Fifth Army, Allied Bridgehead force and Italian troops on the main front repulsed small enemy attacks. Allied forces of the Fifth Army took a few prisoners.

* * *

VICHY, FREE FRANCE AND OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

4TH APR.—General de Gaulle becomes the titular chief of the French Armed forces. A special meeting of the French Liberation Committee has come to this decision.

Bucharest and Budapest were heavily bombed by the Allies.

5TH APR.—Cologne and Pas De Calais were attacked by the Allied aircraft.

Mr. Eden informed the Commons that it was naturally not the intention of the British or American Governments to have anything to do with the "renegade authorities of Vichy".

6TH APR.—German air repair plants at Toulouse were attacked by Allied bombers.

7TH APR.—General Giraud has resigned.

8TH APR.—General Giraud has been appointed Inspector-General of the French Army and Military Adviser to the National Committee of Liberation.

It is reported that at least 80,000 Frenchmen and women have been shot since the armistice.

9TH APR.—U.S. planes raided Posen, Tutow, Warnemunde and Marienburg in Poland.

10TH APR.—Aircraft factories and other military objectives in Brussels, in Belgium, Bourges, Pas de Calais in France were attacked by the Allied aircraft.

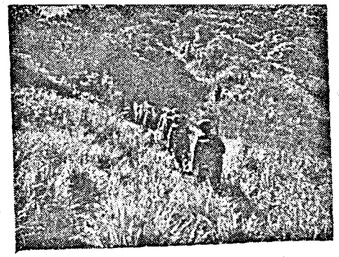
11TH APR.—Last night 900 British bombers attacked railway targets in France and Belgium. The places bombed were Ghent, Tours, Tergnier, Aulnoye and Laon.

* *

THE NEUTRAL COUNTRIES

4TH APR.—An air raid alert was sounded in western Switzerland to-day.

6TH APR.—Violent earthquake shocks were felt throughout Istanbul. The damage is presumed to be considerable.



Gurkha troops of the 10th Gurkha Rifles moving to the attack on Hill 52.

7TH APR.—Turkish deliveries of chrome ore to Germany are nearly three times greater at present than the monthly average in 1943.

* * *

THE FAR EAST

4TH APRIL.—The Japanese envoy at Madrid left for Berlin to take part in an extraordinary meeting of Japanese envoys to Central European countries.

The United States Navy Secretary announced that United States submarines have sunk 14 more Jap ships in the Pacific. All Jap ships at Palau Woleai and Yat were sunk or damaged. The total Jap ships sunk or probably sunk by United States submarines since the start of the war is 667.

On Bougainville Island the Japanese have withdrawn at Empress Augusta Bay. Allied aircraft raided Truk, Wewak and Rabaul. Eleven more atolls in the Marshalls had been taken by the American forces. They are: Wotho, Uzae, Lae, Sile, Namu, Allinglapalap, Namorik, Ebon, Kili, Arno and Bikini.

5TH APR.—The entire Jap airforce at Hollandia has been wiped out.

The Allies have occupied Rambuto Island in the Admiralty groups.

6TH APR.—To-day's communiqué says that Moen and Dublon islands in Truk Atoll were attacked for the 13th time on April 3/4 night. Ponape, Rabaul, Wewak, Keopang and Lautem were also bombed by American aircraft.

7TH APRIL.—An announcement by Admiral Nimitz states that 25 Jap ships were sunk when Palau harbour was raided. Widespread Allied attacks on enemy positions in Wake Island, Ponape, etc., are reported.

9TH APRIL.—It is reported that Allied aircraft attacked Truk.

10TH APR.—Allied aircraft raided Hanoi in the French Indo-China, Weichowtao in the Tongking Gulf and Yulikan, in Hainan Island.

The Royal Australian Air Force is being expanded and is now thirty-fold stronger than it was before the war, stated the Federal Air Minister, Mr. Arthur S. Drakeford, to-day. He pointed out that this was being done although 90,000 men are being released from the army.

11TH APR.—To-day's Communiqué said that a major portion of New Britain is now in Allied hands. The Japanese are in full retreat from Central New Britain to Gazelle Peninsula. They have abandoned installations at Gasmata and Cape Hoskins.

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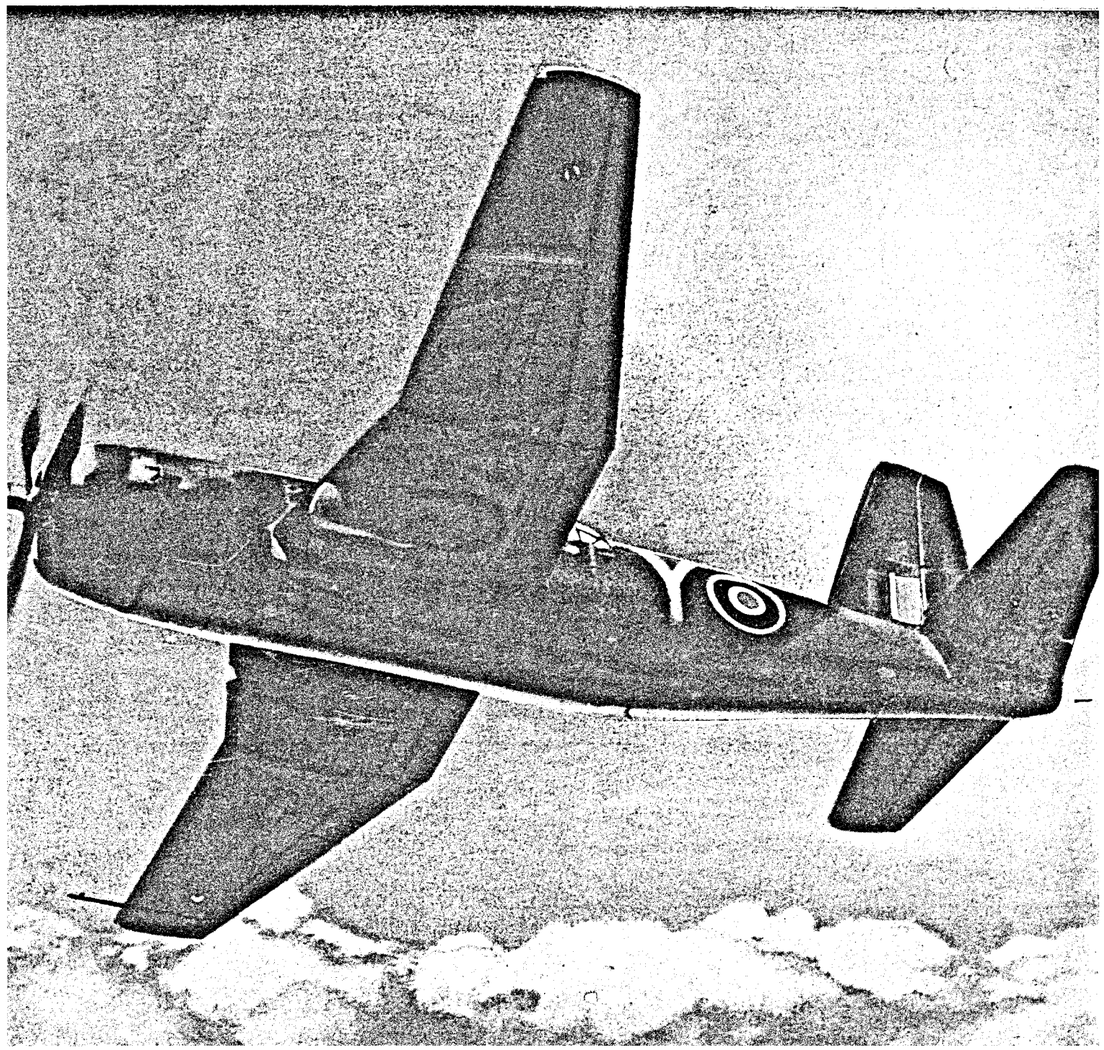
MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

FRIDAY, APRIL 14, 1944 No. 32-A

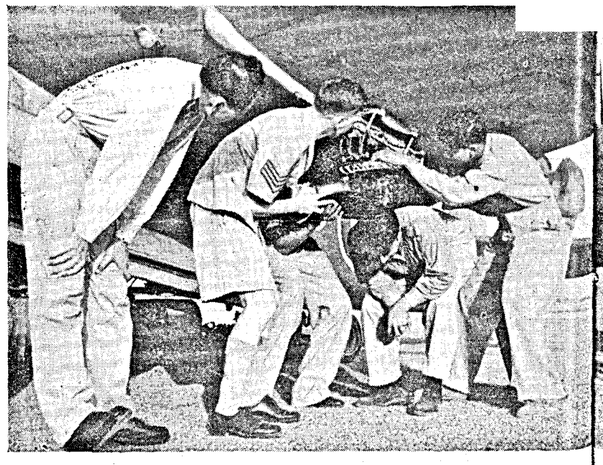


India's University of Flying

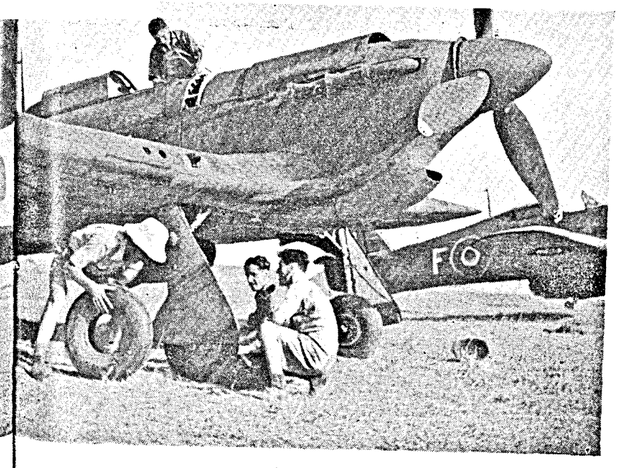
THE FLYING CLASSROOM—The Indian pupil on the right, with the aid of the Navigation Officer and a computer, plans his flight while in the Avro Anson Aircraft.

I.A.T.C. Madras University

INAUGURATION OF I.A.T.C. SCHEME—Air Marshal *Sir Guy* Garrod chatting with a member of the I.A.F., receiving technical training at the Engineering College, Guindy, Madras.

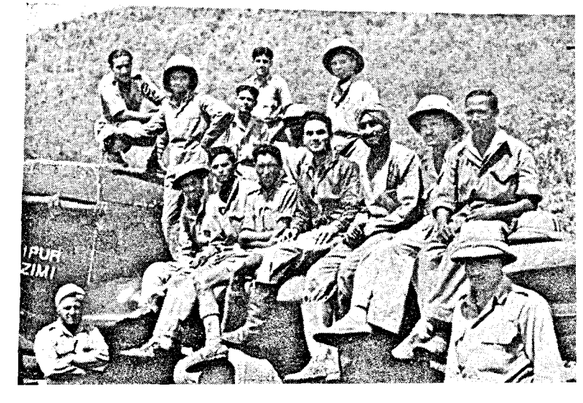


INSTRUCTIONS ON "BOMBING UP"—Indian Officer Pupils lifting a 250-pounder, up to the Bomb racks of a Vengeance Dive-Bomber.



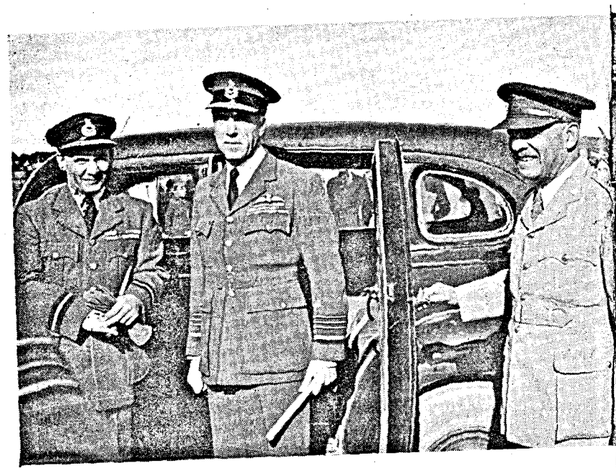
HURRICANES OVER EASTERN INDIA—Our fighter aircraft are doing great work. Here we see mechanics at work on a Hurricane.

FOLLOWING THE BALLOON—Pupils under the supervision of the Met. Officer follow the balloon released by the Met. Staff, on the Theodolite.



A HAPPY TEAM—Among the officers and men of the Indian Air Force there exists a happy comradeship—the spirit of the Indian Air Force.

Air C.-in-C. at Bhopal

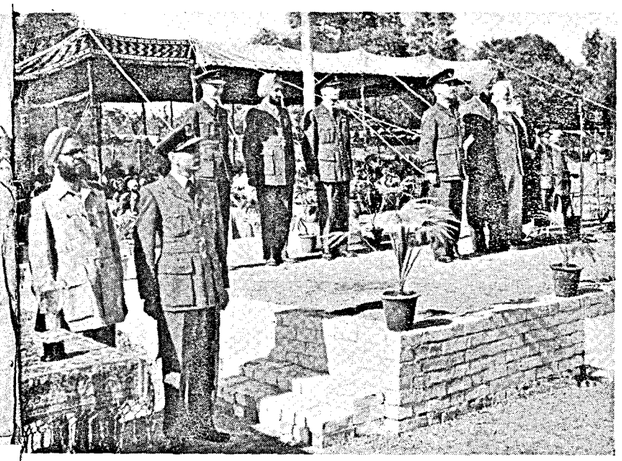


S.E.A.C. AIR CHIEF AT BHOPAL—Air Chief Marshal Sir Richard Peirse, Air Commander-in-Chief, South-East Asia Command, paid a visit to Bhopal, where he was presented with a guard-of-honour. Photo shows Sir Richard soon after arrival.

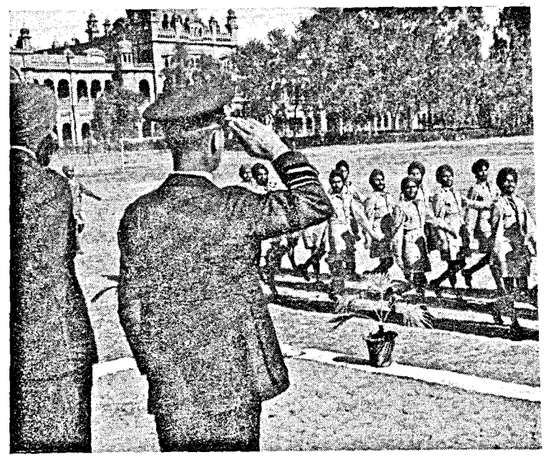
INSPECTING THE GUARD-OF-HONOUR—Sir Richard Peirse, with H.H. Air Com. the Nawab of Bhopal.

AT THE PARADE GROUND—The Air Chief Marshal goes round inspecting the guard-of-honour presented by the State troops.

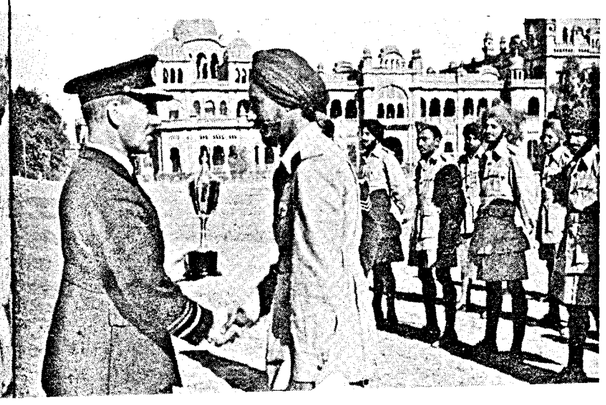
I.A.T.C., Amritsar



AT THE KHALSA COLLEGE—Air Marshal Sir Guy Garrod inspecting the U.T.C. Cadets. In the background may be seen His Highness the Maharajah of Faridkot, D. Kirpal Singh Majithia, S. B. Sardar Jodh Singh (Principal) and P/O Ahmad.

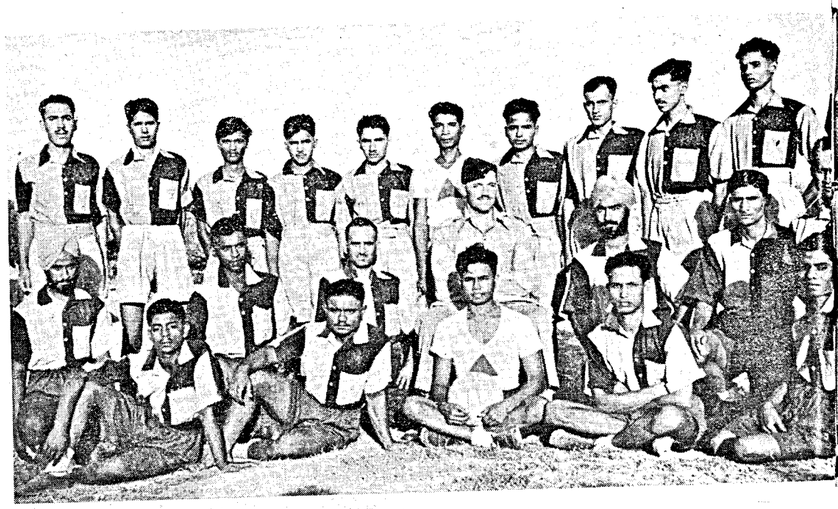


PASSING-OUT PARADE—Air Marshal Sir Guy Garrod taking the salute at the march-past.



PRESENTATION OF TROPHY—The Air Marshal presenting the most coveted trophy to the successful candidate.

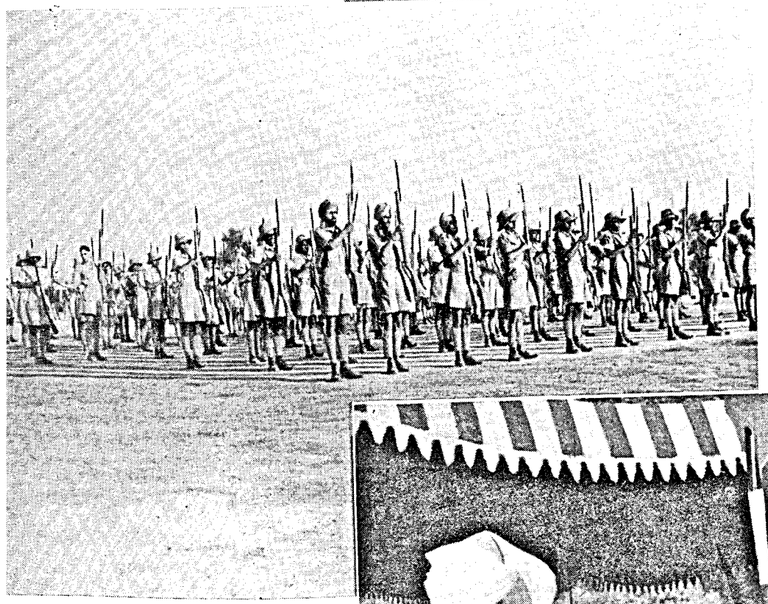
cruits Training Centre, Lahore



Recruits to the Indian Air Force are being trained at No. 1, Recruits Training Centre, Lahore. Photo shows a happy group of trainees.

R.A.F. Fighter Demonstration

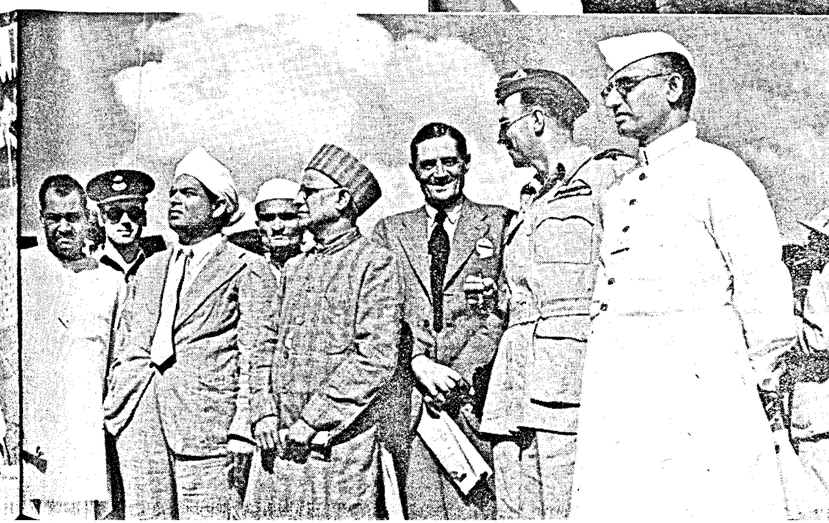
Editors who attended the recent All-India Editors' Conference in Madras crowding round the Hurricanes eager to examine them closely.



I.A.F. airmen on parade after six weeks of intensive training.

Spectators in Madras intently watching the Hurricanes in action.

At the march-past of the newly-enrolled I.A.F. recruits from the Air Training Corps of the Lahore University.

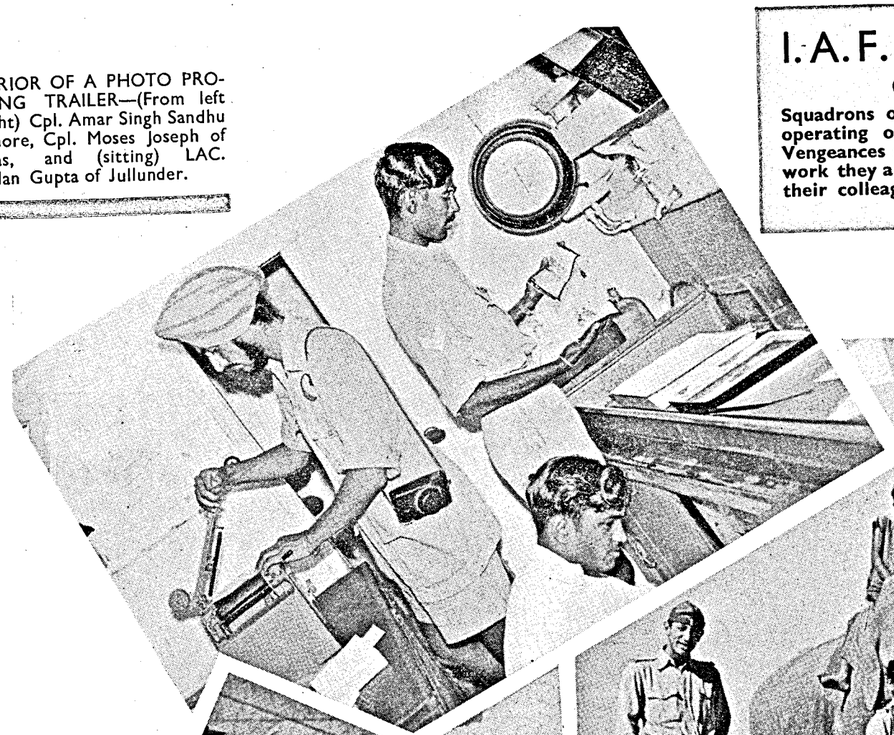


Editors as spectators: (from right to left) Mr. S. A. Brelvi, A/C. Mackworth, Sir Francis Low, Mr. K. Srinivasan, Mr. R. Goenka and others.

I.A.F. on the Burma Front

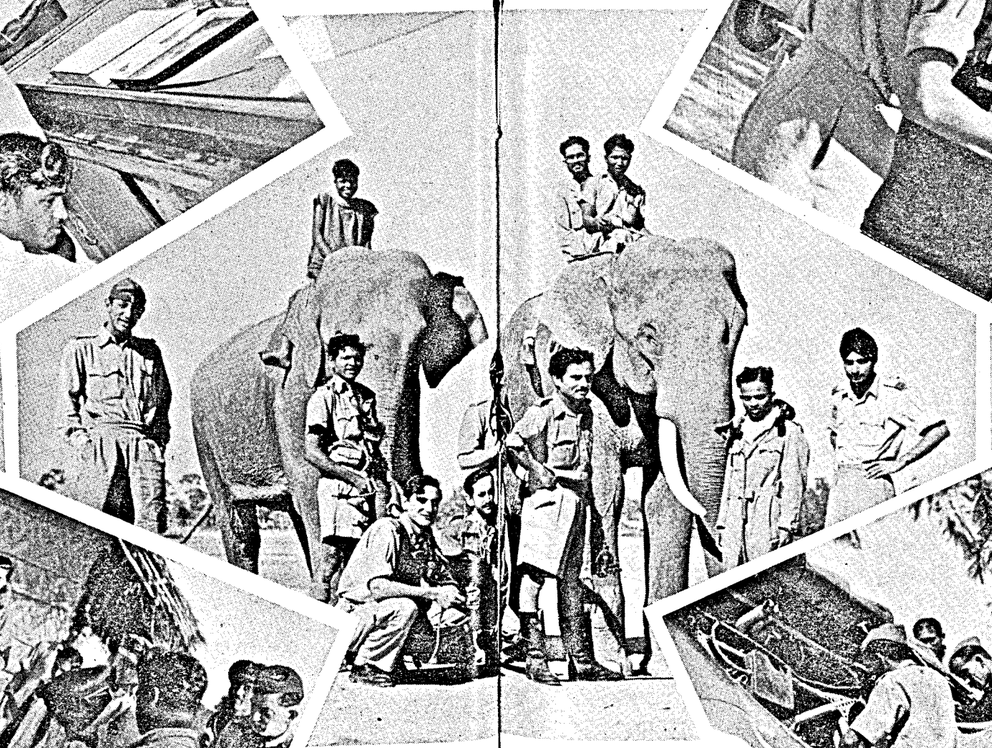
(Pictures exclusive to Madras War Review.)

Squadrons of the Indian Air Force are now successfully operating on the Burma Front. They are flying Vultee Vengeances and Royal Air Force Hurricanes, and the good work they are doing is appreciated both by the Army and their colleagues of the Royal Air Force.



INTERIOR OF A PHOTO PROCESSING TRAILER—(From left to right) Cpl. Amar Singh Sandhu of Lahore, Cpl. Moses Joseph of Madras, and (sitting) LAC. Repudan Gupta of Jullunder.

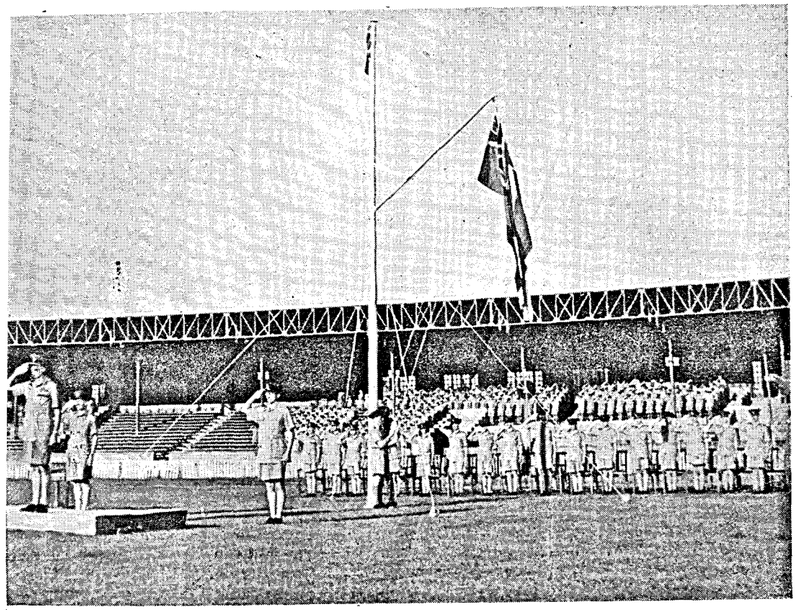
REPAIRING INSTRUMENTS ON AIRFIELD—Among the important jobs on the Burma air front is that of attending to repairs of aircraft. Picture shows mechanics at work.



A TYPICAL SCENE THE BURMA FRONT—It's not only the men and the machines that do their job well, but the elephants too! Picture shows pilots photographed with two elephants which do useful work on the airfield.

"STAND BY" AIRCREW—The call may come at any time! Here we have a group of airmen having their breakfast. They remain near the briefing room from dawn to dusk.

DAILY OVERHAUL OF AIRCRAFT—Utmost efficiency is expected. F/O Ramunny of Tellicherry, son of a famous South Indian author, watching the daily overhaul of his aircraft.

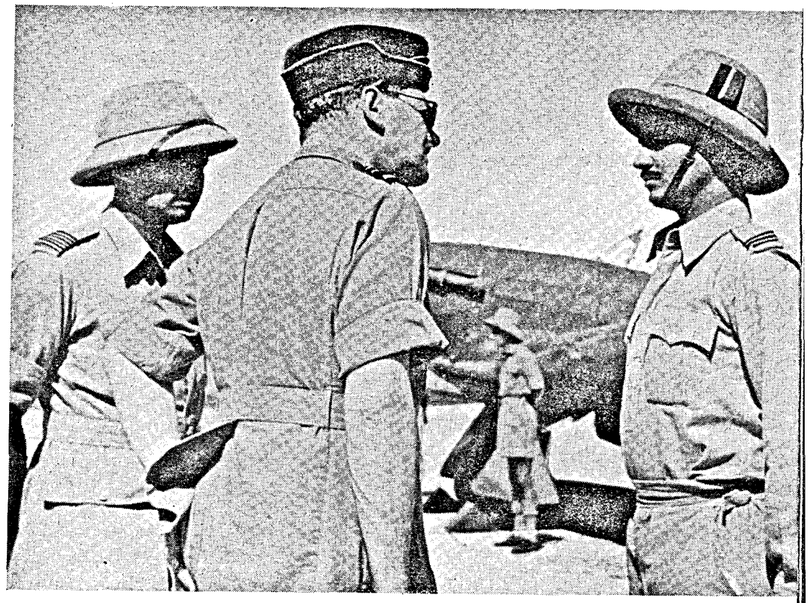


Battle of Britain Parade

Air Chief Marshal Sir Richard Peirse taking the salute at the Battle of Britain Commemoration Parade, New Delhi.

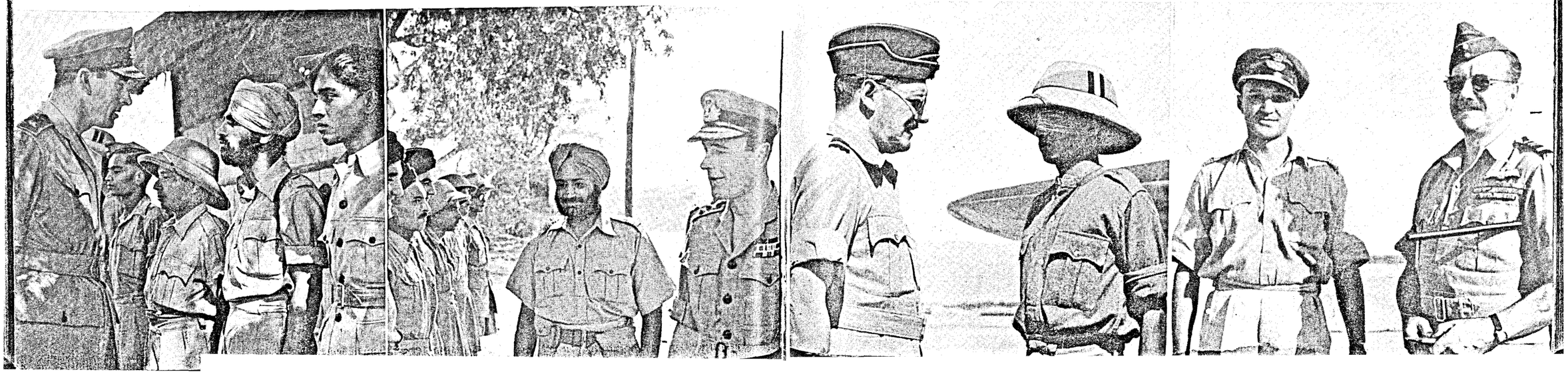
Air Marshal Sir John Baldwin

The Air Marshal accompanied by Wing Commander Sobruto Mukerjee of Calcutta, talking to an I.A.F. Fighter Pilot.



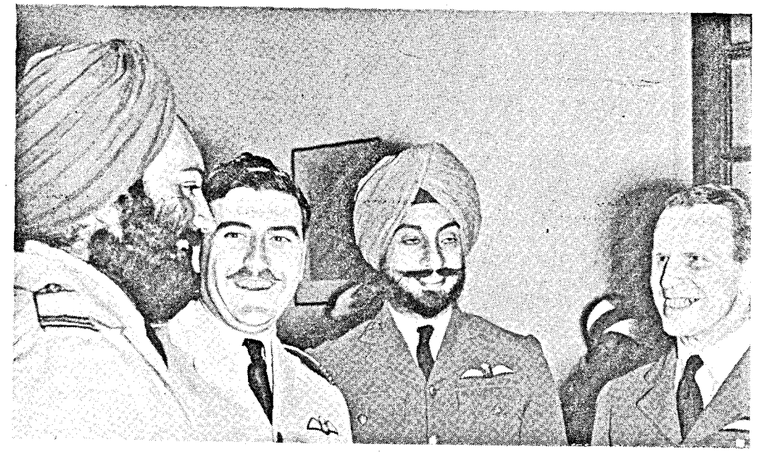
Lord Louis Mountbatten, Supreme Allied Commander, S.E.A. Command, inspects Indian troops near the Arakan Front.

Air Marshal Sir John Baldwin with A.C.I. Trivedi (left) and S/L. Hem Chandhri of Calcutta (right).

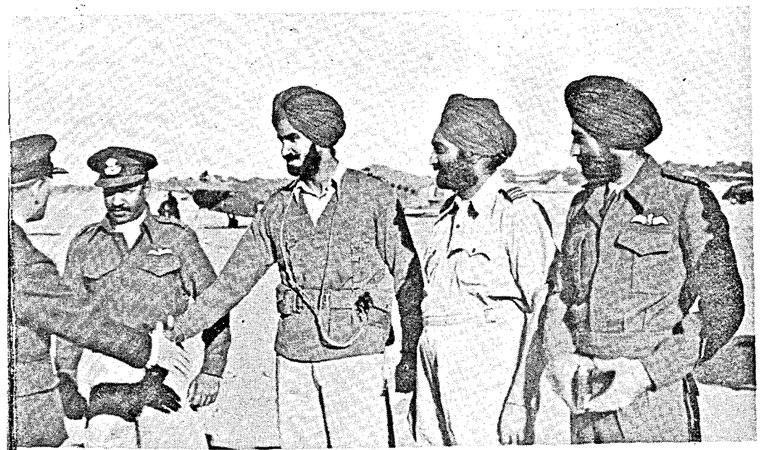


Squadron Commanders of the I.A.F.

First row: S/Ldr. Arjan Singh, W/Cdr. Fish, W/Cdr. Mukherji and S/Ldr. Chaudhari.

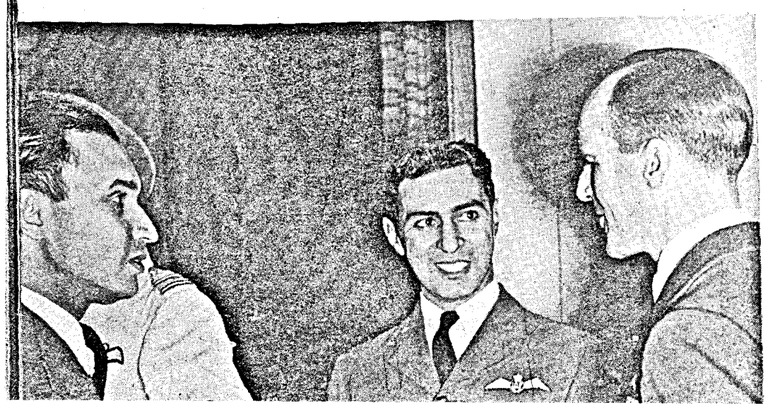


Squadron Leader Mehar Singh, W/Cdr. Fish, S/Ldr. Majithia and Air Vice-Marshal Baker.



Air Commodore Proud saying *au revoir* to Squadron Commanders of the Indian Air Force in Delhi who were returning to join their unit. (Left to right) Squadron Leaders Prasad, Prithipal Singh (shaking hands), Mehar Singh and Arjan Singh.

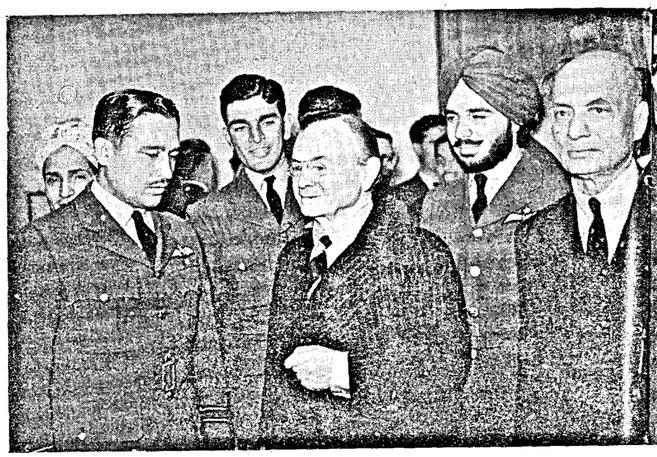
Standing: S/Ldr. Kipps, W/Cdr. Fish, S/Ldr. Arjan Singh, W/Cdr. Upton, S/Ldr. Ridler, Air/Cdr. Proud, S/Ldr. Prithipal Singh, W/Cdr. Mukherji, S/Ldr. Majithia, S/Ldr. Prasad and W/Cdr. Cootu Robinson—Sitting: W/Cdr. Majumdar, S/Ldrs. Mehar Singh and Chaudhari.



W/Cdr. Mukherji, S/Ldr. Italia and Air Vice-Marshal R. V. Goddard.

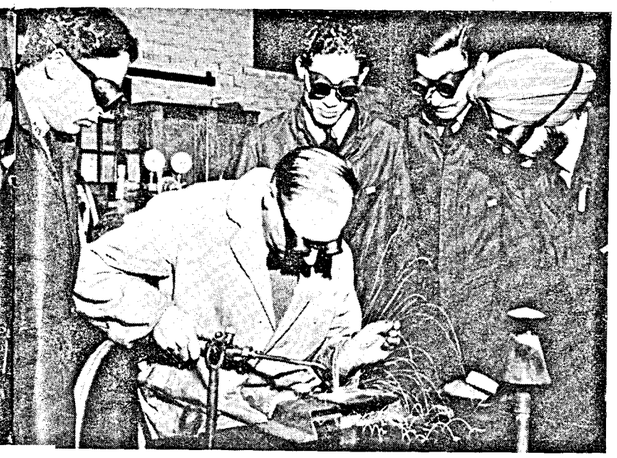
Air Vice-Marshal Baker talking to Squadron Leader Prithipal Singh.

At a London Reception



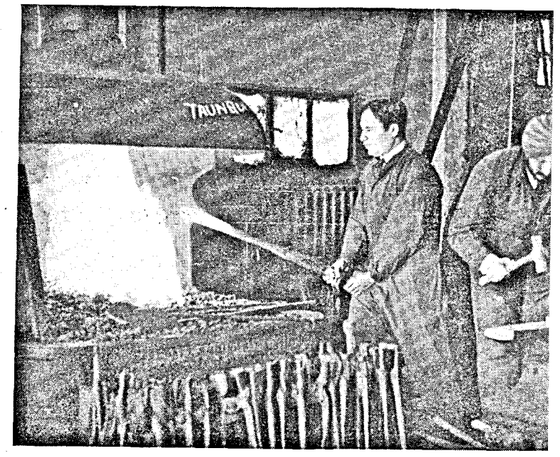
Rt. Hon. Mr. Amery in the company of S/Ldr. H. D. Singh and other I.A.F. Officers, at the reception given by the British Council.

Electric Welding in England

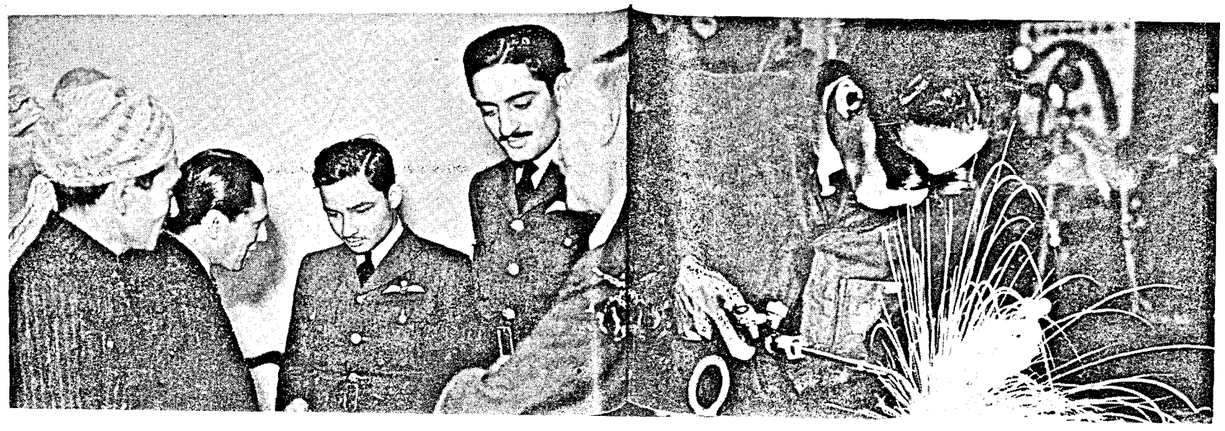


S/Ldr. R. H. D. Singh, F/O U. K. Nair, S. S. Bedi and K. S. Taunque being taught latest developments in electric welding apparatus in England.

Sir Malcolm Robertson, Chairman of the British Council, with some I.A.F. Officers.

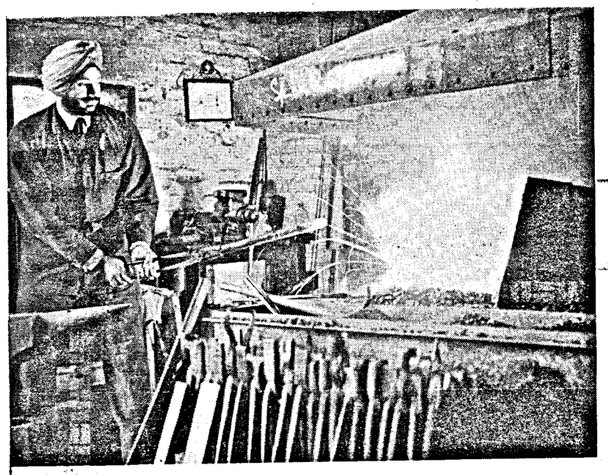


S/Ldr. Singh and F/O Taunque at an R.A.F. Technical Training Command School.

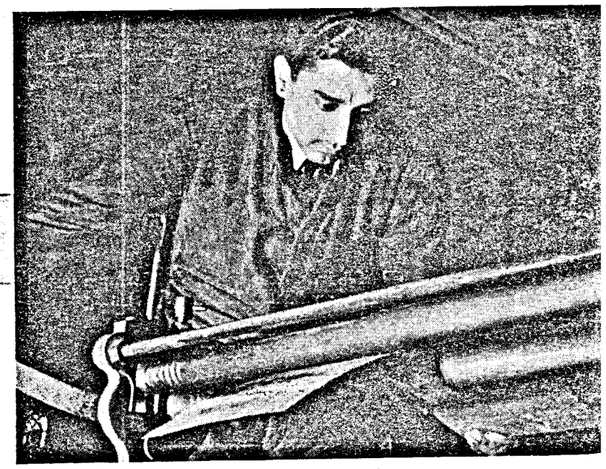


Other Indian Air Force Officers who went to the United Kingdom for advanced training.

F/O Nair working on an electric welding apparatus in an Air Tech. School somewhere in England.



F-O Taunque



F-O Sapuran Singh Bedi

[The Editor, **Madras War Review,** xpresses his grateful thanks to the .A.F. and I.A.F. authorities for their ind and enthusiastic co-operation n the preparation of this Illustrated ouvenir issued in connection with the lth birthday celebrations of the ndian Air Force

MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. V FRIDAY, APRIL 21, 1944 No. 33

CEYLON, BASE FOR COUNTER-OFFENSIVE

Admiral Layton

The move of South-East Asia Command Headquarters to Ceylon marks a further stage in the organization of full-scale offensive against Japan. This fact should be an inspiration and stimulus to us all but we must guard against impatience and over-optimism

Eventually, we can expect that the Supreme Allied Commander will move his headquarters into the re-conquered territory. But while he is here Ceylon will become the object of world attention to a degree not known before and during this phase, which is just starting, Ceylon's maximum effort will be required

Just over two years ago the Japanese made their attacks on Colombo and Trincomalee. We do not forget this and it is fitting as well as most gratifying that Ceylon, where the tide of Japanese aggression was first checked, will now become the base for counter-offensive of the United Nations

The war in the East will outlast the war in Europe, and we must be prepared for prolonged exertion in conditions that make necessary effort difficult—when the danger of invasion is passed and war weariness is growing. In the end, Ceylon's war effort will amount to an endurance test

ADMIRAL SIR GEOFFREY LAYTON, *Commander-in-Chief, Ceylon, at a Press Conference on Monday*

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[NOTE.—*The summary of news and comments contained in the* MADRAS WAR REVIEW *generally relate to events and statements published till Wednesday, every week.*]

THE BOOT NOW ON THE OTHER FOOT

"To-day, it is almost perfect peace as compared with those days, in fact, the boot is now on the other foot. The people in the streets are looking much happier and confirm me in the belief that the people are confident about the coming victory."

SIR FIROZ KHAN NOON, *recalling the days of the* blitz *when he was in London as High Commissioner, in a B.B.C. broadcast, on Tuesday.*

❖

UPPERMOST OBJECT

"So far as the political situation in India is concerned I say with confidence that the country is probably the most peaceful in the world to-day.

There is one object uppermost in the minds of all people in India, including critics of Great Britain, and that is to defeat our enemies, particularly the Japanese. So far as this aspect of the war is concerned there are really no two opinions in India."

SIR FIROZ KHAN NOON, *India's representative in the War Cabinet in a broadcast from London, on Tuesday.*

❖

ONE IN A THOUSAND

"The number of sinkings under convoy had been reduced to one in one thousand. We are planning for a more active war against Japan."

LORD CHATFIELD, *Admiral of the Fleet, in London, on Wednesday.*

❖

TWICE IN ONE GENERATION

"Twice in one generation that strange and very formidable compound of docility and ferocity which makes up German mentality has brought disaster on the world. The British Government will take every step, however inconvenient it might be, to prevent a recurrence and no tenderness for the enemy or the troubles it might involve for him will be allowed to stand in the way."

LORD CHERWELL, *in the House of Commons, on Wednesday.*

MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. V FRIDAY, APRIL 21, 1944 No. 33

ON THE IMPHAL FRONT

"WE are now on top, and we must remain on top," said Lord Louis Mountbatten addressing the 17th Indian Division on the Imphal battle front, on Saturday. The Supreme Allied Commander of South-East Asia has summed up in these words the situation in that area. The fighting has been more or less confined to the semi-circle east off the line formed by the Manipur road up to Kohima in the north and Tiddim road 37 miles from Imphal in the south, with the Imphal plain as its centre. Local actions in the Imphal plain which covers a vast area of 700 square miles, were reported in a S.E.A.C. Communiqué a week ago. Previously the fighting was confined to the north and north-east of Imphal, from which Japanese forces crept forward through the hills and valleys. A war correspondent describes the fighting in this area as mostly a grim game of hide and seek—the Japs doing all the hiding and the Allies all the seeking.

SO far as the Imphal plain is concerned, it is entirely in our hands. The forces defending it have certain solid advantages. They hold the roads entering the plain from the south by which alone the Japanese can bring up their heavy weapons. It is true that the rearward communications of our forces may be temporarily cut, but they can be supplied from the air. These advantages are stressed by *The Times* in a leading article on the Burma Campaign published last week. The journal goes on to point out that while our troops retain their key positions, their mobile columns, which are provided with tanks and guns, attack Japanese detachments whose armaments are only what they can carry on their backs or bring by pack mules through the forests. "Nor should it be forgotten," says *The Times*, "that the law of diminishing returns applies to operations of such forces. They start with the advantage of surprise but with the handicap of relatively light hitting power, and this applies equally to our air-borne troops in northern Burma. Unless they can be supplied with food and ammunition from the air, as Wingate's columns have been, and are supplied, or by pack convoys which are liable to interception as soon as they leave the forests, their fighting value diminishes with every cartridge fired and every day's rice consumed." Further, considerable losses are inflicted on the enemy who is finding that things are not going so smoothly for him after his initial push towards the Imphal plain, as he expected.

IT is not possible to say as yet when the main battle, for which Allied dispositions have long been made, will take place around Imphal or around Kohima, but in view of the fact that Kohima was more important to the Japanese, every effort was made to strongly resist the Jap pressure from the north. It may be pointed out that the enemy developed the considerable movement on the northern flank against the road junction of Kohima, about 65 miles north of Imphal by road and about 30 miles south-east of the railway at Dimapur and surrounded the Kohima garrison. Our troops have broken through the enemy's strong road block positions on the Kohima–Dimapur road, and contacted the garrison.

AS regards Imphal, the Japanese had, after the occupation of Tiddim and Tammu, the advantage of good roads northwards and northwestwards to the town. If they can get heavy materials and supplies to the road-heads, they may have a better prospect of debouching in strength into the Imphal plain. At the time of writing, there has not been much activity south of the Imphal plain on the Tiddim road; west of Bishenpore and south of the track to Silchar, bitter fighting is going on for a hill feature; and in the north-east of the Imphal plain, our infantry, supported by tanks, have made further advances.

IN the Mogaung Valley, General Stilwell's forces are edging forward, thanks to tank and air co-operation. Units of the 38th Chinese Division have reached the Lankraw river east of the road and south of Tingring, and troops of the 22nd Chinese Division have come to clash with the enemy in Warazup. Two important successes scored by Allied forces in this area are the repulse of a Jap attack on one of the air-strips in the heart of occupied territory and the defeat of the enemy at the rail-road block on the line to Myitkyina. Japanese counter-attacks here have not succeeded because of the establishment of Allied bases and air-strips and the continued initiative and resourcefulness of the Chindits groups, which effectively strike at vulnerable spots in the Japanese network of communications. The Chindits have seen to it that so far the enemy did not achieve his main object of ham-stringing the Chinese-American threat down the Hukawng and Mogaung valleys to the key towns of northern Burma.

AS we said in an earlier article, the issue of the fighting on the Assam frontier and in northern Burma will be decided, not by mere encirclement or counter-encirclement, but by a real trial of strength in a pitched battle on open ground.

A month after Berlin announced that the "British Empire is in danger of being annihilated by the periscopes. Allied shipping losses are increasing day by day." But later the tone changed. On May 6th, Admiral LUETZOW, the well-known German naval spokesman said:

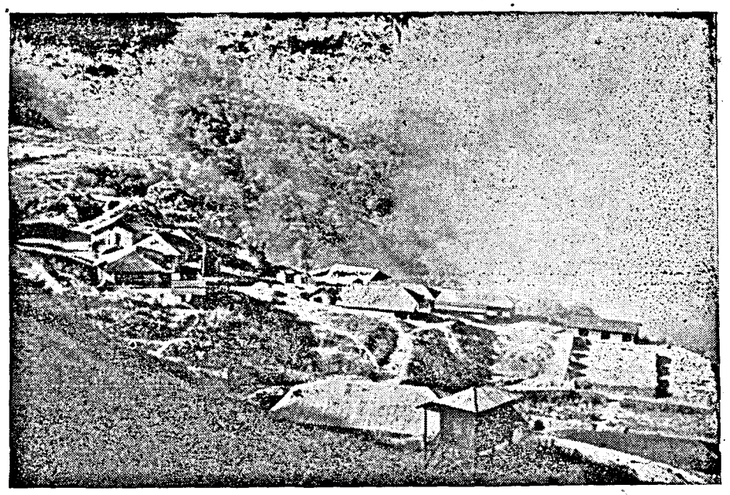
> "It is not to be hoped that the submarine successes will mount steadily . . . The enemy left no stone unturned to defend himself successfully against the submarines."

Two months later (July 1943) he said:

> "Our enemies have intensified their anti-U-boat defences. Consequently any action in which our ships are involved from the moment they leave their home bases until they return has become a hard struggle which knows no pause . . . The battle our U-boats have to wage has become very hard . . . In short, the enemy at present has the upper hand. He is trying to develop still further his means of defence, but we also are straining every energy to wrest from him the advantageous position he holds."

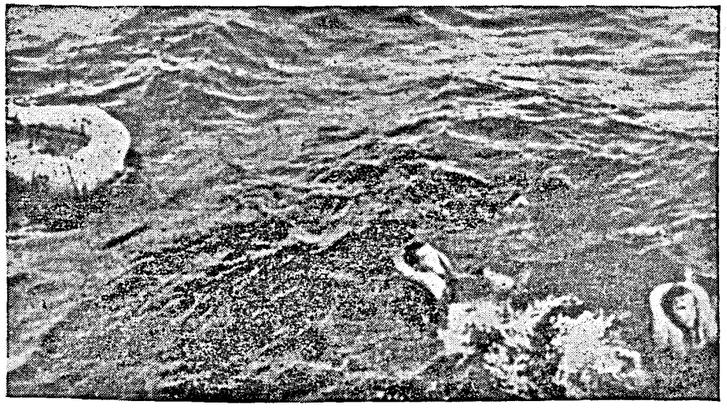
* * *

The means of defence referred to by Admiral LUETZOW are mainly the building of more and better Allied ships and their improved handling. Increase in the number of ships provides a cushion against losses and helps the transport of men and material to various war zones. The great volume of new shipping construction very nearly defeated the U-boats. It may be recalled that Mr. CHARLES WILSON, Executive Vice-Chairman of the U.S. War Production Board, announced recently that building of merchant ships in the United States had increased from 1,088,000 in 1941 to 19,000,000 tons in 1943. As for 1944 he stated that there will be an 80 per cent increase over the 1943 record. Further there has also been an enormous increase in British, Canadian and Australian shipbuilding. So great has been the increase that it may be said that the sinkings at sea are more than compensated by new shipbuilding.



FIGHTING IN THE CHIN HILLS.—In the high jungle-covered mountains of the Chin Hills, in tropical rain or snow, a relentless war has been waged against the Japs by Gurkha, British and Indian troops aided by the Chin Levies, ever since Allied forces withdrew from Burma in 1942. Silent in their movements and killings, the Chins have gained a great reputation as jungle fighters as also the respect of the Japanese. This struggle goes on and the Japs are now finding life less healthy than they imagined would be.

Not a fort, but this is Fort White so often in the news.



Sloops of the Second Escort Group of the Royal Navy under the command of the Navy's ace U-boat killer, Captain F. J. Walker, C.B., D.S.O., and Double Bar, recently scored a hat-trick in sinking in one period of 16 hours. In 20 days the sloops routed a U-boat pack waiting to attack Allied convoys in the North Atlantic and accounted for the certain destruction of six German submarines. Not a single ship in the convoy was lost. This is the most devastating blow ever delivered against U-boats in a single patrol since the beginning of the war. The First Lord of the Admiralty, Mr. A. V. Alexander, was present to greet the ships on return to port and described the cruise as one of the greatest, perhaps, the greatest, of the war.

The total score to date of this group is 17 German submarines sunk for certain, besides a number damaged.

Some of the U-boats' crew swimming to H.M.S. Starling *to be picked up.*

* * *

Allied Counter-offensive against U-boat Menace

There is another aspect of the U-boat warfare which deserves attention, and that is, the Allied counter-offensive which is designed to eliminate the submarines themselves. There has been a great increase and improvement in the means of combating the U-boat menace. This has not only brought about a lessening in the number of losses of merchant ships, but also greater submarine casualties. It may be that German submarine yards are replacing the U-boat losses, but it is as well to point out that Allied air attacks against these bases and on German industry generally are making the task of the Germans difficult, if not impossible.

GENERAL AUCHINLECK AT MUTTRA.—General Sir Claude Auchinleck, Commander-in-Chief, India, recently visited the Field Artillery Training Centre and other Units at Muttra.

Madrassi gunners at gun drill, watched by the Commander-in-Chief. It was men like these that distinguished themselves at Bir Hacheim, fighting to the bitter end against heavy German attack.

The offensive phase of the U-boat war falls under four heads, namely, (1) air attacks on U-boat building yards; (2) air attacks on U-boat pens and bases in France and Holland; (3) air attacks on German industries and elsewhere where U-boat parts are made; (4) attacks on U-boats at sea by aircraft and escorting vessels. The effect of Allied measures to tackle the U-boats is clear from an admission made by ADOLF WAGNER reported by the *Volkischer Beobachter*. (WAGNER was one of HITLER'S oldest colloborators, and his death was reported by Berlin on Monday.) According to this report the German leader said:

> "We have been compelled practically to cease U-boat operations because the enemy succeeded in finding an effective means of defence."

* * *

Another Doenitz Offensive expected—Allied convoys to Russia

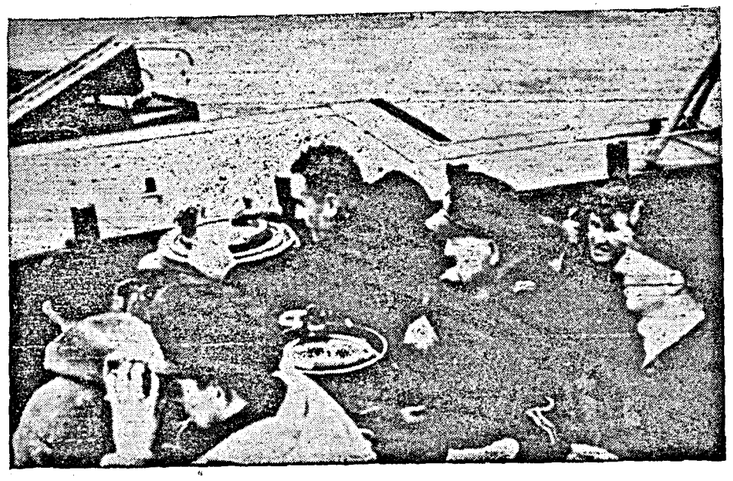
This does not however mean that the U-boat has ceased to be a menace to Allied shipping. Last month (March 7) Mr. A. V. ALEXANDER, Britain's First Lord of Admiralty, stated in the House of Commons that a renewed effort by Admiral DOENITZ over expanded areas may be expected and that Germany's U-boat strength was still considerable. He showed that war against U-boats had taken a favourable turn for the Allies and made no secret of the dangers that lay ahead. In a recent statement, Colonel KNOX, the U. S. Navy Secretary, said that U-boats in larger numbers might begin to operate in the North Atlantic.

So far, the U-boats operated mostly in the Atlantic and the North Sea, but the Allied counter-offensive has practically driven them out of these waters. This has made them extend their operations over widely dispersed waters, and it was to this that increased shipping losses in March, referred to in the joint statement of Mr. CHURCHILL and PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT, are due. They are also due to the fact that there has been a larger number of U-boat attacks on convoys bound for Russia. These convoys are mainly defended by escort vessels and aircraft, and until such time that an increased number of escort vessels are available, such losses may be expected. But on account of the tempo of Allied production, it may not be long before this lack of escort vessels is remedied.

The CHURCHILL-ROOSEVELT statement refers to attacks on Allied convoys going to Russia. The Germans have been trying for a considerably long time to prevent Allied supplies from reaching Russia and they have taken great risks to do so. It may be recalled that four months ago (December 26, 1943) the Germans risked and lost their mighty battleship *Scharnhorst* when they attacked the convoy off the North Cape. Another great calamity suffered by them was the crippling of the 42,000-ton German battleship *Tirpitz* at the beginning of this month (April 3). The fact that Allied supplies are reaching Russia in ever-increasing volume is a tangible proof of the success of the anti-submarine offensive.

In his statement on March 7, Mr. A. V. ALEXANDER estimates the U-boat strength as being as much as it

(*Continued on page* 15.)



A dramatic scene on the bridge of the sloop H.M.S. Starling *as Captain Walker clutches a hastily grabbed sandwhich and takes bearing on one of the submerged U-boats.*

BRITAIN'S PRINCESS CHARMING

By HECTOR BOLITHO

H. M. The King.

H. M. The Queen.

WHEN Tennyson was an old man he went to tea with Queen Victoria. As he was leaving, the old poet said to her, "You are so alone on that terrible height." The education of heirs to the Throne towards "that terrible height" is one of the most tantalizing themes in history: a theme which has often brought unhappiness to the family life of monarchs and their children.

It is because Princess Elizabeth was brought up by the parents who never even dreamed that they would come to the Throne that we need not be disturbed by these ancestral voices. The marriage of her parents was in accordance with the domestic policy laid down by Queen Victoria when her daughter married the Marquess of Lorne, afterwards Governor of Canada. The Queen said that she placed "only small political importance" on marriages with European royalties. From her own experience, she knew that domestic happiness was as necessary to princes as to any other people in the land.

When Princess Elizabeth's parents were married, they lived in modest houses and they succeeded in making their own life, away from the glare of London. The King once said, "I am not palace-minded", and this fact influenced all Princess Elizabeth's childhood. It is an amusing sidelight on the simplicity of her mind that when she had to leave her modest home in Piccadilly and go to live in the space and gilt of Buckingham Palace, she asked if an underground passage could be dug so that she could go back to her old home to sleep at night.

LESSONS AT HER MOTHER'S KNEE

During the early years of her life, Princess Elizabeth was little noticed by the mass of people. Then came the summer when she began to spend her Sundays with her grandparents at Windsor. In the afternoon the townspeople used to walk along the terrace in front of the Castle, to listen to the band.

I used to join them sometimes, standing on the East Terrace, to look over the park where the first Elizabeth shot buck and where Shakespeare's Falstaff made his ignominious journey in the washing basket. One Sunday afternoon, Queen Mary appeared at the window of the Castle, holding up a little girl for us to see. She waved us a podgy hand through the glass.

But these public appearances were rare and when Pressmen tried to photograph Princess Elizabeth, she frowned and gave an impression of unwillingness. It was only the shyness which was natural to the way she was being brought up. When she was a little older, her parents were given the Royal Lodge in Windsor Park, as a country home.

It was here that Princess Elizabeth learned her first history of England, where so much of that history had been made. But it was learned at her mother's knee. Her first lessons in writing and reading were simple and thorough. And there was a weekly dancing class where her first gift was noticed: her grace and her poise. She moves to-day with an engaging quality of grace and stillness which startled those who saw her inspect her Regiment of Foot-Guards for the first time in the quadrangle at Windsor.

The prevailing grace of Princess Elizabeth's character began to show itself at the beginning of the war. Her parents had already noticed that when she played card games with children younger than herself, she always helped them. It was the first expression of the unselfishness which now dominates her character.

One day when she was lunching with some older people, without her mother and father, she found herself between an old friend and a visitor who was shy and silent. She devoted herself to the stranger and said to the old friend afterwards, "I hope you did not mind, but he was shy and I felt that I ought to devote myself to him."

AS SHE IS TO-DAY

This story stirs a wish to see the Princess as she is to-day. Imagine a castle on a cold afternoon, with the towers rising high above the bank of the Thames. The clock in the Curfew Tower strikes three—the same clock that struck the hours for Gray when he wrote his elegy in Stoke Poges churchyard, 200 years ago.

Up from the stables walks a man leading two horses. From the door of the castle step two figures, one still young with the quick movements of childhood; the other taller, girlish and slim, moving with alert grace. Her shyness has gone. When she meets you, she extends her hand and smiles with complete acceptance. She has inherited the quality which made Sargent write of her mother as the "only completely unconscious sitter" he had ever painted.

The man with the horses is waiting. Princess Elizabeth waits until Princess Margaret has mounted her horse and then she climbs into the saddle. Her hair is no longer as fair as it was, but

it still has golden lights and a natural wave. Her eyes are big, blue-grey and quick with intelligence. She has the astonishing complexion which is the birthright of the Royal family.

We see her wait, watching Princess Margaret with the motherly care she adopted long ago towards her younger sister. Then they ride off through the park where the monarchs of 900 years have walked. Her education and training have been too careful for her to be allowed to worry over much about the place she may take in the tremendous procession of the centuries.

But ever since her father was crowned King, she has been trained towards that knowledge, with such naturalness that there is no hint of it in her manner or her speech. One reason for this is the atmosphere of the Court which the King and Queen have created about them.

Here indeed is an important achievement in their lives—an atmosphere which must have a fine influence on Princess Elizabeth's growing mind. She lives in a Court of exceptional men and women who are gifted with tact, sense and humour. There is none of the gossip and jealousy which has wrecked many a prince's life when he has been surrounded by the wrong people.

THE STORY OF A PANTOMIME

I went to see the Princesses acting in their Christmas pantomime, "Aladdin" presented in the country house. The players were children from the forest school, aided by a corporal from the Life Guards. The audience was made up of members of the Court, people from the town near by, friends and servants, with about a hundred soldiers scattered among them. In front were the King and Queen. The curtain went up and we saw "A Street in Peking." Very soon Princess Elizabeth appeared, with Princess Margaret. They were "Aladdin" and "Princess Rexana." Widow Twankey, their "mother", was a schoolboy with an uncommon talent for burlesque.

It was a simple children's pantomime, produced on a stage at the end of a big room. The two Princesses tap-danced and they sang. They were especially funny when, with Widow Twankey, they impersonated three old women "called in to oblige"; the phrase used in England to describe that particular type of Cockney woman who chars by the day.

The jokes were local and the fun was made at the expense of the audience. It was a jolly, modest and very pretty entertainment. Out of it shone a refreshed conviction of Princess Elizabeth's unselfishness. Alone, she danced and sang quite beautifully, but when the others were on the stage, she was self-effacing and helpful.

MONARCHY'S SERVICE

Two thoughts remained with me as I walked down the hill, when the pantomime was over. The first hovered about the word "service." It is what the Americans call a shy-making word. Yet this word is the essence of Princess Elizabeth's life.

It is a peculiar service that monarchy performs. The people of Britain like to feel as they pass Buckingham Palace that inside are living the members of a contented and good family. Princess Elizabeth is one of that family. It is still as part of that family that we think of her just, although she is being educated now as heir to the Throne.

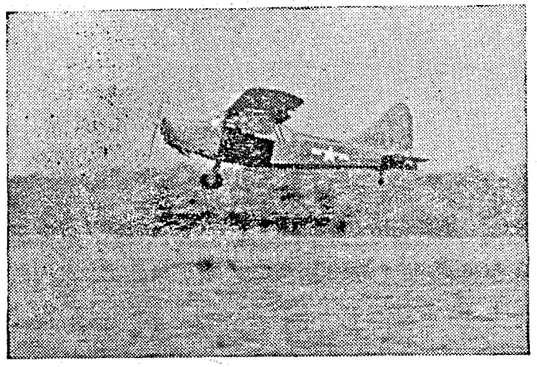
About a quarter of a century ago, when the present King was still a young man, he made his first speech, outlining the qualities of leadership. He said, "To my mind a leader must possess three great qualities: personality, sympathy and, above all, idealism . . . Nobody can lead unless he has the gift of vision and the desire in his soul to leave things in the world a little better than he found them."

He has kept the promise of that young speech and he has instilled its meaning into his daughter. It is already apparent in her growing mind and character.

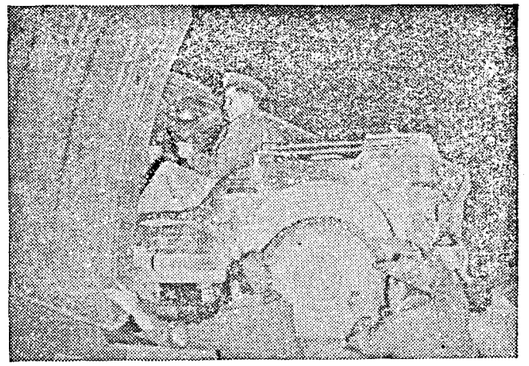
The Royal Princesses at home. Princess Elizabeth celebrates her 18th birthday on April 21, 1944.

FIRST AIRBORNE LANDINGS IN BURMA

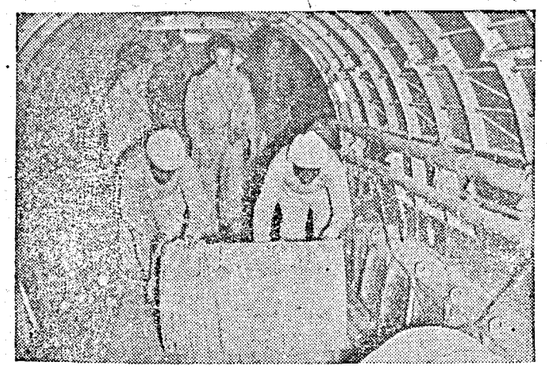
[Crossing the 7,000 feet high Chin Hills, columns of General Slim's 14th Army were flown into Burma and landed 200 miles behind the Japanese lines.]



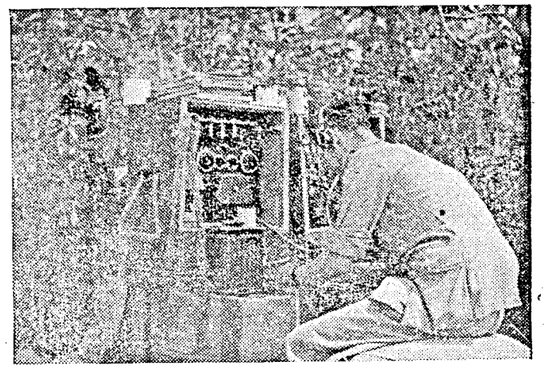
An American Stinson Aircraft taking off from the airfield.



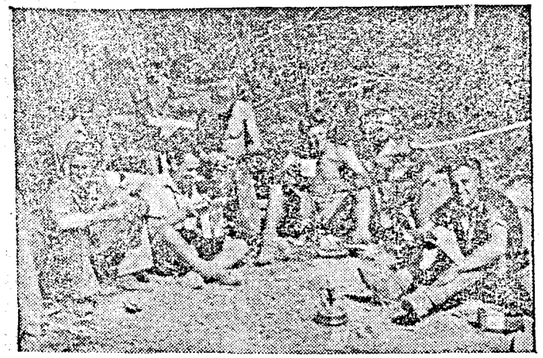
A Jeep being loaded into one of the transport aircraft at a supply base.



A fifty-gallon drum of oil being rolled into one of the transport aircraft by two Indian soldiers.



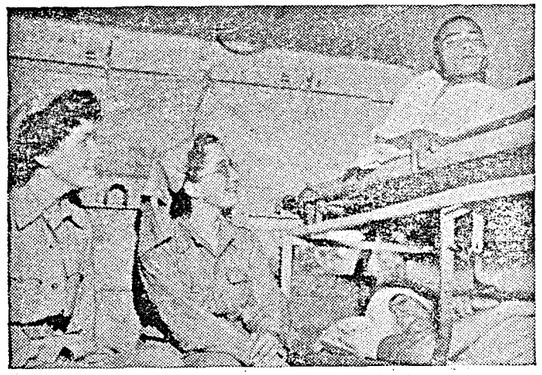
Concealed by trees a wireless operator uses a receiving and transmitting set which keeps the newly established airfield in constant touch with Advanced Headquarter in India.



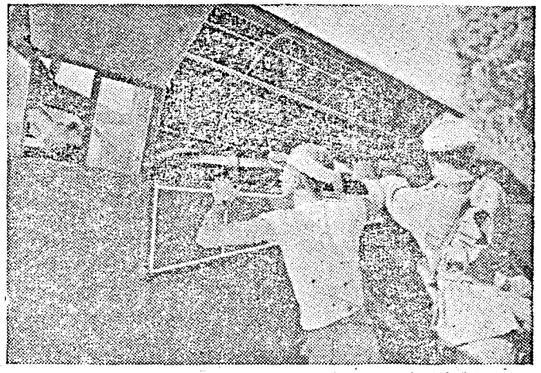
Between Alerts some of the ground crew snatch a hasty meal.

An Air Commodore chats to pilots at their dispersal point on our new airfield inside Burma.

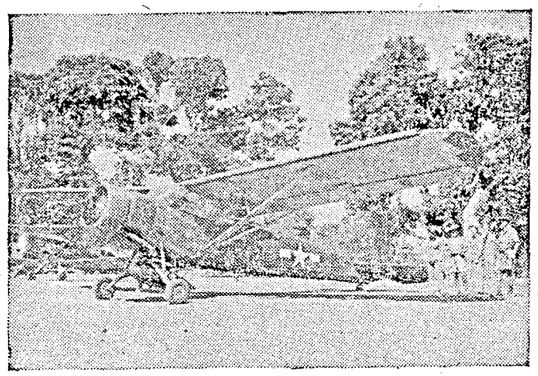
EVACUATION OF WOUNDED BY AIR



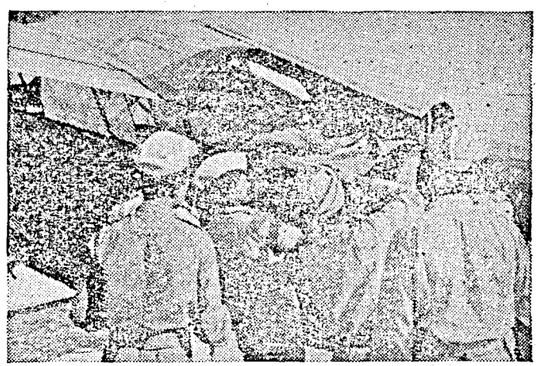
Sitting in an ambulance N/O S. G. McDermoth, Q.A.I.M.N.S., of Prestbury, Cheltenham, chats with patients who are awaiting an ambulance aircraft.



Stretcher cases are carefully put aboard the aircraft from the ambulances which brought them to the tiny landing strip.

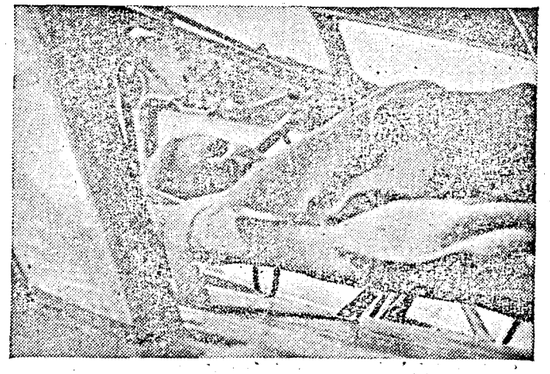


An American 'plane awaits patients.'



Pte. Woodcock of Leyton, London, is carefully lifted aboard the midget Stinson aircraft which will fly him from the battlefield.

On arrival at an airfield, close-by the Base Hospital, a nurse prepares to remove a patient from the Ambulance aircraft.



Suffering from petrol burns, Gnr. A. W. Gibson, 45, Mortha Street, Shadwell, London, E. 1., is seen in the small American aircraft which flew him to a base hospital. He is now recovering.

FREEDOM AND ITS MEANING

By R. GALLETTI, I.C.S.

IF we say that the United Nations are fighting this war for the preservation of freedom, we are no doubt telling the truth; but it is up to us to say what we mean by the word "freedom." Freedom and liberty are words of that large and useful but dangerous class which move the emotions without conveying any definite image to the mind. There are no definite and specific objects to which you can point and say "This is freedom." But the poets and orators have given the word splendour and enriched it with associations, till there are few words which so readily evoke a sentimental or emotional response; and in many countries and in many ages glib demagogues who themselves had no real notion of freedom in life or thought or government have used the word recklessly, knowing that in minds as undisciplined as their own the power of association would rouse a feeling by which masses of men might be moved, often enough to action incompatible with the freedom of the majority. Hitler's diddling of the German people is neither the first nor probably the last of such performances.

WORDS AND FACTS

Words tend to become independent of facts and to be used without any meaning. Stuart Chase in his entertaining and illuminating book *The Tyranny of Words* gives for example this piece of wind (which could be paralleled in the political oratory of any country):

"The Aryan Fatherland, which has nursed the souls of heroes, calls upon you for the supreme sacrifice which you, in whom flows heroic blood, will not fail, and which will echo for ever down the corridors of history."

This would be translated (he remarks):

"The blab blab which has nursed the blab of blabs, calls upon you for the blab blab which you, in whom flows blab blood, will not fail, and which will echo blab down the blabs of blab."

"The 'blab' (he goes on) is not an attempt to be funny; it is a semantic blank. The hearer simply hears nothing comprehensible."

If then we want to say "freedom" and not mean "blab", we must define our meaning by referring the word to definite requirements in practice. Burke, in discussing the grievances of the American colonies, well said:

"Abstract liberty, like other mere abstractions, is not to be found. Liberty inheres in some sensible object and every nation has formed to itself some favourite point, which by way of eminence becomes the criterion of their happiness."

SAVED OUT OF THE LAST WAR

And I invite you now to follow me in trying to determine what kind of "sensible objects" are fundamental for a free man in a free country, and what are the "favourite points" on which the English people in particular have *insisted and still insist to the point of* waging war and incurring death and destruction rather than risk having to do without them. For, as G. K. Chesterton magnificently declared in his Autobiography, something was saved out of the last Great War (the same thing that is to be saved again). Writing about the Beaconsfield War Memorial, he said:

"The Memorial was set up. . . to commemorate the fact that something had been saved out of the Great War. What was saved was Beaconsfield; just as what was saved was Britain; not an ideal Beaconsfield, not a perfect or perfectly progressing Beaconsfield, not a New Beaconsfield with gates of gold and pearl descending out of Heaven from God; but Beaconsfield. A certain social balance, a certain mode of life, a certain tradition of morals and manners, some parts of which I regret, some parts of which I value, was in fact menaced by the fate of falling into a complete and perhaps permanent inferiority and impotence, as compared with another tradition and mode of life. It is all nonsense to say that in such a struggle defeat would not have been destruction, merely because it would probably not have been what is legally called annexation. States so defeated become vassal-states, retaining a merely formal independence, and in every vital matter steered by the diplomacy and penetrated by the culture of the conqueror. The men whose names are written on the Beaconsfield War Memorial died to prevent Beaconsfield being so immediately overshadowed by Berlin that all its reforms would be modelled on Berlin, all its products used for the international purposes of Berlin, even if the King of Prussia were not called in so many words the Suzerain of the King of England. They died to prevent it and they did prevent it. Let those who enjoy the thought insist that they died in vain.

THE INSUFFERABLE PRUSSIAN

Conflict came to a head in Europe because the Prussian was insufferable. What would he have been like if he, who was already insufferable, had been shown to be insuperable? What would the Kaiser, with his Mailed Fist and his boasts of being Attila and the leader of the Huns, even in time of peace, have been like if he had issued completely victorious out of a universal war? Yet there is the common-sense question to be asked, if we are asking whether it was worth while for men to fight and go on fighting. It is not the point to put wild and visionary questions about whether the world has been vastly improved by the war; whether Utopia or the New Jerusalem have come out of the war; to ask in that apocalyptic fashion what has come out of the war. We have come out of the war, and come out alive; England and Europe have come out of the war, with all their sins on their heads, confused, corrupted, degraded; but not dead. The only defensible war is a war of defence. And a war of defence, by its very definition and nature, is one from which a man comes back battered and bleeding and only boasting that he is not dead.

NO BETTER AND NO WORSE

Those who now think too little of the Allied cause are those who once thought too much of it. Those who are disappointed with the great defence of civilization are those who expected too much of it. We never promised to put a final end to all war or work or worry. We only said we were bound to endure something very bad because the alternative was something worse. In short, we said what every man on the defensive has to say. Mr. Brown is attacked by a burglar and manages to save his life and property. It is absurd to turn round on him and say: "After all, what has come out of this battle in the back-garden? It is the same old Septimus Brown, with the same face, the same trousers, the same temper a little uncertain at breakfast, the same taste for telling the anecdote about the book-maker at Brighton." It is absurd to complain that Mr. Brown has not been turned into a Greek God merely by being bashed on the head by a burglar. He had a right to defend himself; he had a right to save himself; and what he saved was himself, so far no better and no worse.

That is what I mean by saying that for me the War Memorial of Beaconsfield commemorates the rescue of Beaconsfield; not of an ideal Beaconsfield, but of the real Beaconsfield. There are all sorts of things in such an English country town with which I do not agree; there are many which I have tried all my life to alter. I do not like the English landed system, with its absence of peasants and its predominance of squires; I do not like the formless religious compromise of Puritanism turning into Paganism; but I do not want it discredited and flattened out by Prussianism. The defence of its prestige and independence against an inhuman and heathen hegemony was just."

NECESSARY DISTINCTIONS

Before I go on to discuss English freedom in particular, I want to make some necessary distinctions. Logically and in fact there are different kinds of freedom, different classes of things that can be described by this word. We can in the first place distinguish freedom as Absolute, or Individual, or Collective. Of Absolute Freedom I do not propose to treat; the ordinary man does not hope to attain it and is not interested in it. It is described, so far as such a thing can be described, in the utterances of the great sages, in the pages of the Bhagavad Gita, the sayings of the Buddha, the writings of Spinoza, the conversations of Ramakrishna, as well as in the Christian gospels, and is summed up philosophically in the word 'detachment.' But not one individual in a million even begins to conceive it. I am now concerned with ordinary men going about their social and political affairs. To them freedom is in the first place their own personal liberties, and we can distinguish four main groups—first, the freedom of the body; second, the freedom of the mind; third, the freedom of action in society; fourth, the freedom of action in the political state. In the second place, there is the freedom collectively enjoyed, which is different according to the nature of the group—the freedom of the social group, the freedom of the political group, and quite different from these two which are enjoyed within the state, the freedom of the state itself, which is much better known by the more precise term "independence." The habit of calling both the independence of the state and the liberties of the individual by the same name of "freedom" has led to some of the most absurd confusions both in thinking and in talk, and so to absurdities in action.

POSITIVE AND NEGATIVE ASPECTS

I must further distinguish between what may be called the positive and negative aspects of freedom. It co
monly happens that the desire for fr
dom is conceived and grows because
a felt denial of freedom; and so t
mind is apt to think of freedom *fr*
something or other—freedom *fr*
bondage, freedom *from* oppressic
freedom *from* taxes, freedom *from* wa
and fear and so on. This is w
enough and true enough but far le
important, I am inclined to believ
than the notion of freedom as a positi
thing—freedom to do something
other. Without the power to att, fre
dom must be something blank a
meaningless. This the Americ
thinkers who wrote the Declaration
Independence and the Virginia Bill
Rights recognized and bracketed wi
liberty the pursuit of happiness.
is because individual man is so helple
against the forces of nature and t
wild that liberty is found at its greate
not where at first thought we migl
expect to find it—where men are awa
from all coercion and restraint,
desert places and on remote frontiers-
but where we might least expect
find it—in highly organized societie
with an elaborate system of law an
police and rules inhibiting independenc
of action.

TO ACT AND TO DO

To an Englishman it is the freedo
to act and *to do* which counts, an
because he realizes this, he will no
when he thinks clearly, talk loosel
as many do of freedom being a right or
"birthright." There is nothing mor
helpless and less free than a new-bor
baby; and no man or community ca
enjoy freedom of action, whether agains
nature, or against his fellows, or agains
a tyrant, unless he is willing to thin
for it, work for it, and sometimes figh
for it. The English people made it
freedom for itself by hardwork and no
without mistakes in a process that ha
continued for over a thousand years
Freedom is not a right but an achieve
ment—a system of rights constructe
with care so that an impartial justic
can secure to each man the power t
think and act according to his abilities
This is all very abstract. But befor
I go on to the English system as i
stands, I ask you particularly to re
member that the relation of 'freedom
to 'rights' and to 'justice' is the only
way by which liberty in general, a
distinct from particular liberties, can b
defined. All men can be free only in a
just society; and a just society is on
in which rights are defined and main-
tained in such a way that none i
oppressed even if all are to some degre
restrained. In other societies particu-
lar men and groups can be free, bu

YOUNG MEN

(*By* R.G.)

Young men I met in London, in shop and bus and bar,
Kindly, courteous, hopeful, with life's door just ajar,
Have gone with cheery whistling to journey long and far:
And reached the end of journeys and life and love and war.

Young men I met on Lassen on winter holiday,
Skiing, drinking, dancing, strong and tall and gay,
In Solomons and Marshalls a sterner skill assay:
And some are gaunt and grimy and some are dead this day.

Young men who slouched round Oxford in dirty corduroys,
Talking, smoking, idling, lax hobbledehoys,
Have taken wings and anger and put away the joys
Of green youth in green places, to die like other boys.

Young heirs of all the ages, you burnish and refine
The courage, worth and cleanness that seemed in '39
Doomed to a weary ending when Hitler sprang his mine:
And, dead, like moons that mirror undying honour shine.

those who have few rights or none, and those whose rights are not maintained, will be excluded from freedom.

And it will be right at this point to insist that the 'freedom' or rather the 'independence' of a nation has little enough to do with the freedom of its citizens. We did not need Nazi Germany to make this evident; but it is too often forgotten. And one of the claims of the English to the leadership of thought on freedom is that they have nearly always laid the stress where it ought to be—on the freedom of men, not the 'freedom' of the state. When they called in a Dutchman and later a Hanoverian to be their king, at a time when the monarch still had a great and even preponderant power in the state, they risked a little of their independence, to ensure that they should not risk their freedom.

THE ENGLISH SYSTEM

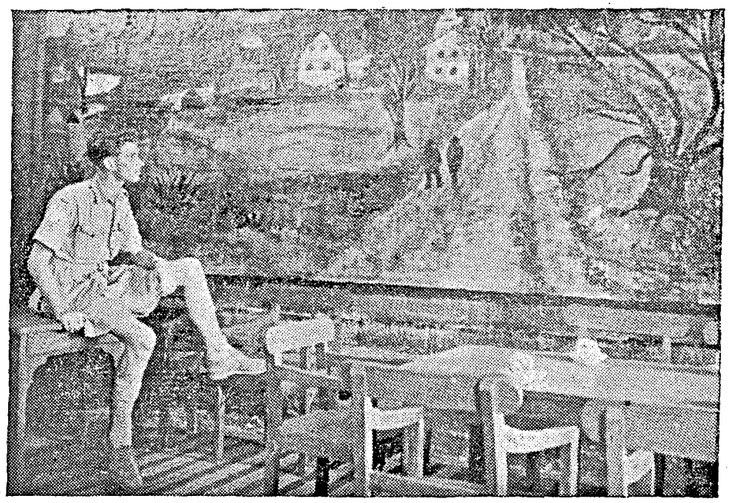
But the English do not underrate independence. Each society must develop freedom in its own way, and two different systems do not readily mix. Even if the English had not thought their system better than others, they would have resented interference from peoples with other systems; and they have actually thought their system the best of all, taken all in all and over long periods. The Dutch, the Swiss and the Danes developed excellent systems; and the Americans take a legitimate pride in theirs. But by contrast with the Italian, Spanish, German and French systems till the nineteenth century and even later the English system appeared the only successful one in a major European state, so that not only was Milton in the 17th century in Italy "counted happy to be born in such a place of philosophic freedom as they supposed England was," but Burke could in the 18th say not wholly falsely in speaking on conciliation with America,

> "Slavery they can have anywhere. It is a weed that grows in every soil. They may have it from Spain, they may have it from Prussia. But until you become lost to all feeling of your true interest and your natural dignity, freedom they can have from none but you. This is the commodity of price of which you have the monopoly."

The English have been jealous of their independence for the sake of their freedom. They would not have been able to develop their system of rights if a Spanish inquisition or a French Grand Monarchy or a Prussian bureaucracy had been able to tamper with their laws. For this reason the idea of freedom has been bound up with the idea of independence in their thinking. But because the liberties and immunities of persons are to the English mind the primary thing, and not the glory of the state, it will not be surprising if English thinkers and statesmen are the first to work out a system of mutual dependence between states by which the freedom of the citizens of all may be secured.

I shall return before I end this series to the possibilities of a true system of freedom for states; in my next talk, I shall turn to the English notion of freedom for a man's self.

—*The first talk in the series* Concept of Freedom, *broadcast recently from A.I.R., Madras.*



Sergt. R. G. Thomas, of 8, Maple Avenue, Yeiwsley, West Drayton, who is in charge of an M.T. Section in India, and the typical English village scene he has painted on a wall of the Sergeants' Mess at a Royal Air Force Unit in the Sind Desert.

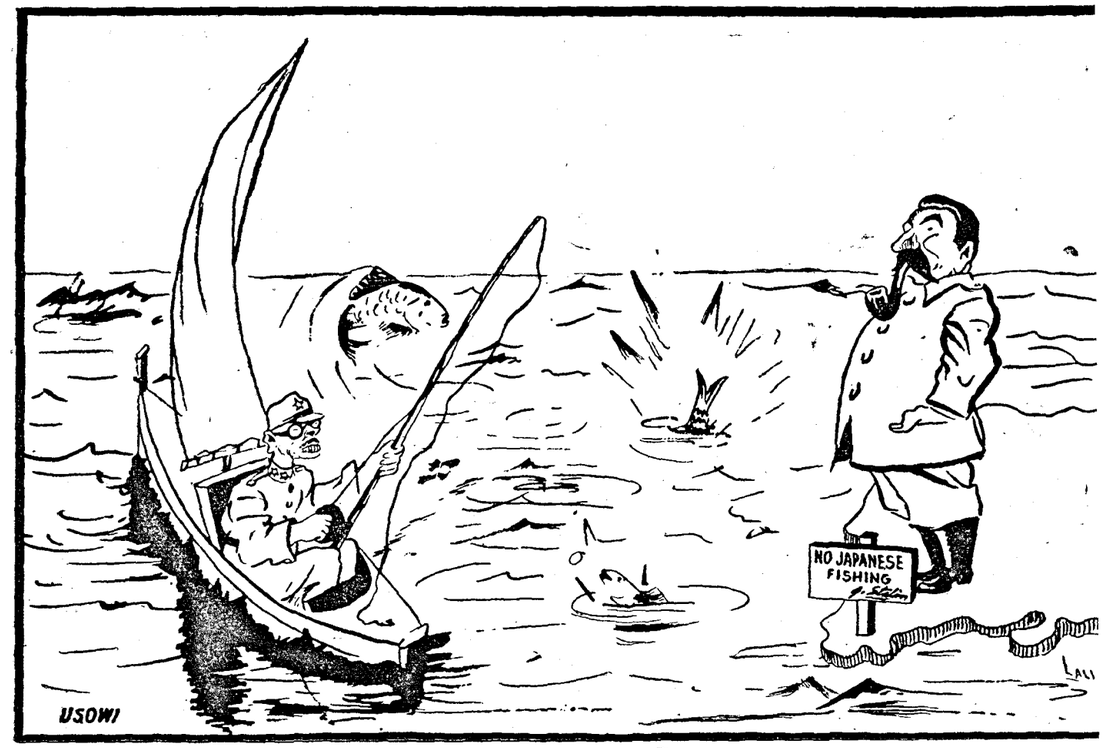
"OASIS" IN SIND DESERT!

MURAL paintings of the English countryside are on view to-day in a wild and arid spot on the edge of the Sind Desert. They decorate the mud-bricked walls of the Sergeants' mess at a flying boat station recently established on the shores of the Arabian Sea.

The murals are the work of Sergeant R. G. THOMAS, the N.C.O. in charge of transport, and painted in oils 'scrounged' from unmentionable sources. No professional artist is he, but his success with the brush can be measured by the fact that his fellow sergeants smack their lips in frustrated anticipation of a pint of mild and bitter every time they take a look at the "Weathercock Inn," which is featured prominently against a sunset over the Shropshire hills.

The walls of the mess are built of large uneven bricks as rough as breize blocks. The artist coated this unpromising surface with varnish before embarking on his work of art, which he carried out during his leisure hours.

Sergeant THOMAS, who has served nine years in the R.A.F., has one ambition when the war is over—no, not to exhibit at the Royal Academy but to become a farmer. He is countryborn—his parents live in Shropshire—and he wants to get back to the land. He has a wife waiting for him at 8, Maple Avenue, Yeiwsley, West Drayton.



RUSSIANS CANCEL VALUABLE JAPANESE FISHING CONCESSIONS OFF SAKHALIN ISLAND

RUSSIA'S ADMIRATION FOR BRITAIN

RUSSIA'S immense admiration for Britain's technical supremacy is one of the many links which will continue to combine the two Allies after the war, reports Alaric Jacob, the Moscow correspondent of the *Daily Express.*

He says that Soviet people who admit they have much to learn from England, appreciate above all the special skill of the British worker. They admire his world record of maximum individual output and know that if Russia's population of 190 million had proportionately as many industrial technicians as Britain possesses, most of Stalin's post-war problems would vanish.

Alaric Jacob continues: The lines of production in which Russia seeks chiefly to emulate Britain are: development of light industry with electric power, her outstanding aeroplane production, her leadership in television and radio, railway electrification, ship-building, house-building and architectural development such as is seen in municipal settlements, and efficiency of the Royal Navy.

DEEP INTEREST IN BRITISH CULTURE

Apart from the technical side, the British culture. "They want to learn more of our literature, our theatre, our games and the British people's way of life." They are eager to assimilate British ideas, for the British war effort has taught that they have much to learn from the West, concludes Alaric Jacob.

Among British industries, whose post-war output will benefit immensely from wartime research, London industrial circles make special mention of the radio industry. They point out that in this field, above all, British scientists have made great advances of incalculable aid to the Allied war effort, advances which, after the war, will re-act to the benefit of ordinary households throughout the world. Here, special attention is called to the potentialities of the thermionic valve. In fact, one expert visualizes a whole new range of industries and services centred round this valve after the war. The first and main practical development will be in cooking and heating. Here, thermionic heating does with heat what a transmitter valve in a radio station has done with sound. Two examples are given of its application. Firstly, it will enable a complete meal to be cooked in three minutes and secondly, it will enable houses to be warmed at an exceedingly low cost.

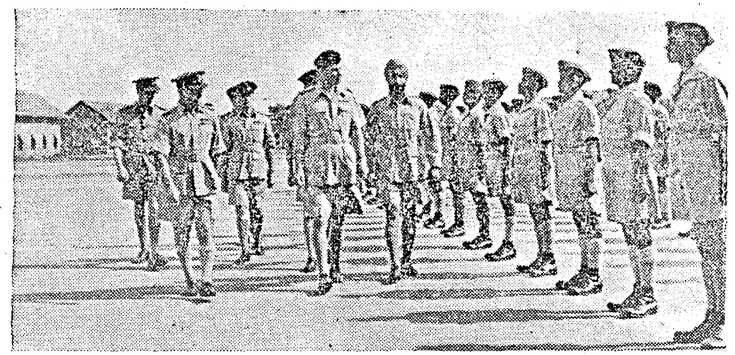
Thermionic valves vary in size, from four feet long and a foot and eight inches in diameter to handle 400,000 watts in a radio transmitter to one inch long and three-quarters of inch in diameter for the reception of very high frequencies. The valve in the three minutes cooker of to-morrow will be about nine inches long, they conclude.

(Continued from page 7.)

was "in the beginning of 1943." But there has been a decrease in the number of U-boats operating. This may be due, not to the lack of sufficient U-boats—for Germany has still a large number of U-boats in commission—but to the fact that Admiral DOENITZ may be preparing for a major U-boat offensive. The Allies are prepared for this and they are capable of meeting any intensification of the U-boat offensive by the Germans with success.

INDIAN AIR FORCE DAY
CELEBRATION IN SOUTH INDIA

The Air Officer Commanding, Air Commodore P. H. Mackworth, C.B.E., D.F.C., addressing the parade.



The Air Officer Commanding, Air Commodore P. H. Mackworth, C.B.E., D.F.C., inspecting the parade.

THE eleventh anniversary of the formation of the Indian Air Force was celebrated on April 1st at an I.A.F. Recruits Training Centre somewhere in Southern India.

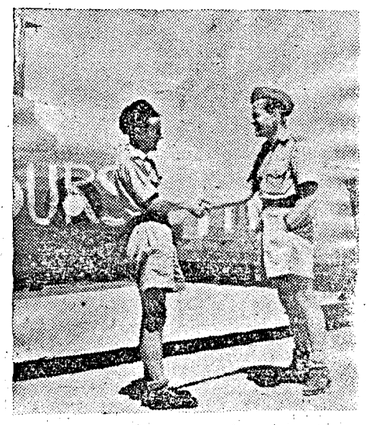
The Air Officer Commanding, Air Commodore P. H. Mackworth, C.B.E., D.F.C., who was met on arrival by the Officer Commanding the Training Centre, Wing Commander W. Berwick, D.C.M., received the General Salute and inspected the parade formed smartly up in wings in close column.

The Air Officer Commanding, addressing the parade, paid high tribute to the growing Service of India's youth which, formed for the defence of India, has expanded with such phenomenal rapidity.

The Air Commodore then took the salute as the parade marched past in columns of route.

Very marked was the smart bearing of these youthful Indian Airmen of but a few weeks' training who have rallied to their country's side in her time of need. At this Training School they receive their initiation into Service life and are taught the rudiments of the English language by R.A.F. instructors, some remaining for a lengthy course. From here the recruits are sent to more advanced training schools where they learn skilled trades, working again with men and officers of the Royal Air Force. When the war against the Axis aggressors is won, they will be fitted to take their place in the very wide field that civil aviation will open to them, for a score of essential trades are taught at these Air Force Training Centres.

Cast along the lines of the Royal Air Force, whose vast experience and efficient organization make it a fitting parent for a future independent Service, the Indian Air Force offers congenial occupations to its young men, good jobs for the future and pride that they are working as a team in such a great and vital Service.



The Commanding Officer congratulates the pilot of the bomber on making a 'happy landing.'

"FLYING" WARNING TO BOMBER CREW

A warning chalked in monster letters on the side of another aircraft which met them on their return to base probably saved a bomber crew in South India recently from a bad accident.

On taking off, one of the tyres of their aircraft burst. The accident was seen by the ground staff, and being unable to warn the pilot by radio, the Commanding Officer of his Unit, a Squadron Leader who comes from Werrington, Staffordshire, took off shortly before the aircraft was to land, with a warning chalked on the fuselage of his own 'plane.

"We heard the explosion just as we became airborne, bound on a recce," said the Flying Officer who was piloting the aircraft and who is a native of Middlesborough, Yorkshire." "It certainly 'shook' us. We could not decide exactly what had happened, but carried out our programme as scheduled and then proceeded back to base.

"As we approached the landing field, a Hurricane took off and made toward us. It formated on me to attract attention and then I saw the warning chalked in enormous letters on its side. The message read, 'Burst Tyre'.

"Having signalled back that I understood the message, I decided to crash land. I brought my aircraft in with wheels retracted and was lucky enough to make a perfect belly-landing. The aircraft received comparatively little damage and, beyond a shaking not a member of the crew received injury."

SOUTH INDIAN ATHLETE BECOMES SUBEDAR

Since the age of 15, Subedar B. D. Venkates has won over 20 cups and about 25 medals. Serving with an Artisan Works Company, Indian Engineers, in Assam, Subedar Venkates, who is an all-round athlete, has excelled in hockey, football, the high jump, long jump and hurdles.

Subedar Venkates has represented the All-India Combined Military and Civil Hockey team against many well-known combinations. He has also played in tournaments in Madras, Mysore and in Burma.

With the same enthusiasm with which he began his hockey career, playing for his school, the R.B.A.N.M. High School, Bangalore, Subedar Venkates now is determined to make his company team the best in the area.

ELEVEN RELATIVES IN R.I.N.

A youth with eleven near relatives serving in the Royal Indian Navy proudly greeted a party of R.I.N. Officers and ratings during their recent goodwill tour of the Punjab and North-West Frontier Provinces. He himself is anxious to go into the Navy, and is studying at school with this object in view.

He was one of a great number of townsfolk and villagers whom the Naval goodwill parties met during their extensive tours.

Both Provinces have in recent years become increasingly Navy-minded, and the Punjab in particular provides many naval ratings. One object of the tour was to meet parents and relatives of serving personnel, to convey to them the greetings of the Service and to acquaint them with the progress of their sailor sons and kinsmen. Remote villages as well as towns and district headquarters were visited.

Two parties were engaged in the tours, one headed by Commander L. H. Peppe, R.I.N.R., a former Executive Officer of H.M.I.S. *Bahadur*, the Senior Boys' Training Establishment and the other by Lieut.-Commander H. M. S. Choudri, R.I.N., a senior Indian Officer who took part in the operations against Italian East Africa.

VETERAN SOUTH INDIANS STILL DOING THEIR BIT

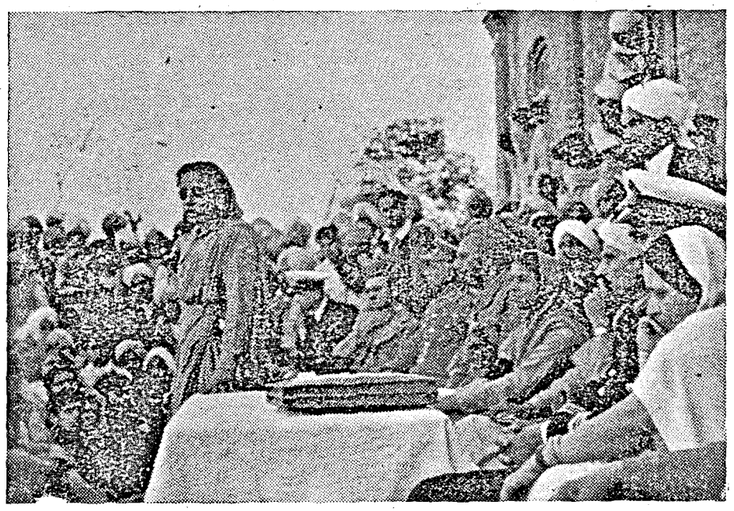
Five veterans from South India, whose combined ages total 224 years, have staged a "come-back" to the Army. They are No. 16474 Jemadar Anthoni Muthu (aged 41), No. 16489 Q. M. Havildar M. Palaniyandi (aged 47), No. 61129 Havildar Manickam (aged 49), No. 61136 Naik Jeevaratnam (aged 45) and No. 61345 Naik Antoniswami (aged 42).

After several years retirement from the Army these men volunteered for active service and are to-day with an Artisan Works Company of the Indian Engineers in Northern Assam. It is largely due to the experience and energy of the veterans under their British officers that raw recruits have been transformed into efficient tradesmen-soldiers.

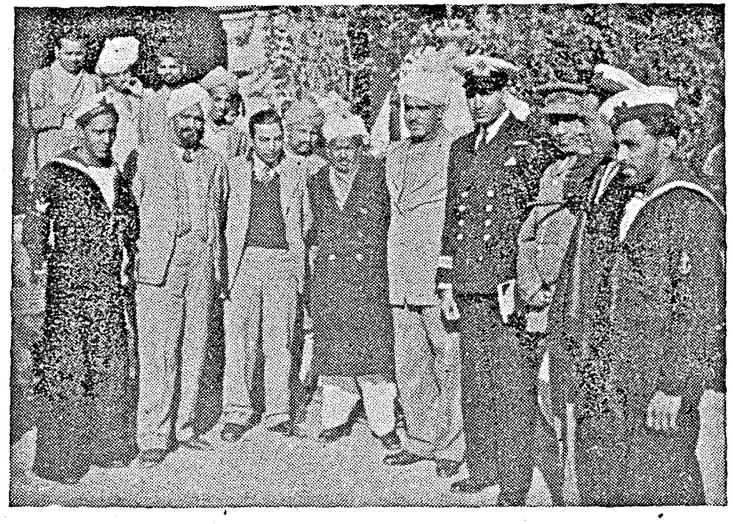
The unit is a combination of Madrassis, Malayalis, Mahrattas and Bengalis who, using Urdu as a common language, and under the guidance of the older men, are working together with a grand team spirit.

During 18 years service with the Madras Sappers and Miners, Jemadar Anthoni Muthu served in Egypt, Palestine, North-West Frontier, Shanghai, Burma and Iraq. G.M. Havildar M. Palaniyandi had 12 years' service and Naik Jeevaratnam and Naik Antoniswami have had 15 and 18 years, respectively. Before his retirement after 21 years in the Army, Havildar Manickam saw service in Egypt, North-West Frontier and in Burma and was awarded three medals with clasp.

For endurance and fitness these veterans more than hold their own with the younger men of the company and since joining the unit not one of them has spent a day in hospital.

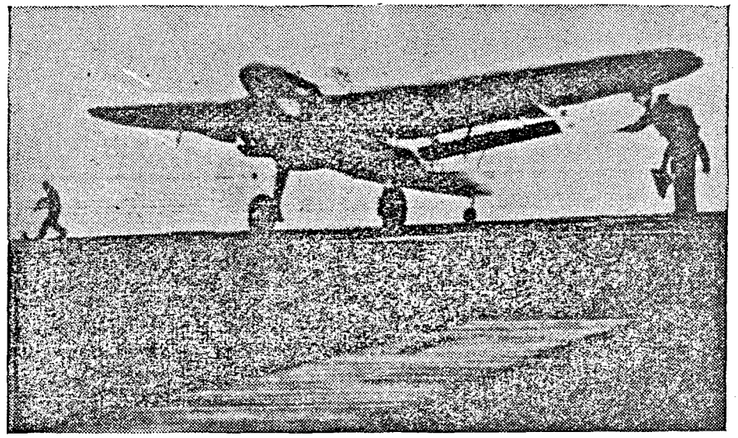


Begum Shameem, an Honorary Assistant Recruiting Officer in her area, is here seen explaining the aims and objects of the Royal Indian Navy Goodwill Mission to a large gathering at Khanna in Jullunder area.



ROYAL INDIAN NAVY GOODWILL TOUR.—To foster goodwill between the Royal Indian Navy and the people, and to make personal contacts with relatives of men serving in the Royal Indian Navy, a party of Naval Officers and ratings, under Lieutenant-Commander. H. M. S. Choudri, R.I.N., recently toured extensive areas in the Punjab.

Royal Indian Navy Goodwill Party at the entrance of a school in Ludhiana where Lieutenant. Commander Choudri addressed a large meeting.



One of the first pictures of the Baracuda, the Navy's new torpedo bomber. In the photograph the aircraft is about to take off from an aircraft carrier.

The daring attack on the German battleship Tirpitz *in the Atlen Fjord on April 3 was carried out, by Baracudas flying through a 'flak canyon.'* (A radio photograph.)

I.A.F. PHOTOGRAPHER'S FINE WORK

From an I.A.F. air-conditioned photographic trailer tucked away in a small clearing close to an airfield on the Burma border, an average of 16,000 prints are turned out each month by a photographic section of the Indian Air Force. The section is part of a squadron of the Third Tactical Air Force commanded by S/Ldr. Mehar Singh, D.S.O., the first officer of the I.A.F., to be so decorated.

Vertical and oblique photographs of enemy occupied territory are taken by the Squadron's pilots with specially fitted cameras installed in their aircraft. Photographic reconnaissance is one of the most difficult and hazardous of all flying operations which often goes unsung. Pilots go out in all kinds of weather, flying over valleys and jungle-clad mountains to obtain records of enemy activity and bring back exposed film to the waiting photographers. Speed is all essential and processing begins within a few minutes of the aircraft's landing.

Describing his work, Corporal M. Rashi, who has been in the I.A.F. for three and a half years and who comes from Rawalpindi, said "My section works on a watch basis and we have turned out as many as 1,500 prints in 24 hours. Our job starts right from the unloading of the cameras, the developing and rapid drying of the film to the making of hundreds of contact prints for urgent delivery to Army and R.A.F. units."

W.A.R.P.C.

HER EXCELLENCY THE HON'BLE LADY HOPE inspected a rally of the Women's A.R.P. Corps in Madras on Tuesday (April 18), at the Island Grounds, and presented the Corps Flag to them.

The following general account of the W.A.R.P.C. in Madras will be read with interest :—

In 1941, it was felt that a women's branch of the A.R.P. was necessary in order to acquaint the womenfolk about the simple protective measures—what they should do in the event of air raids. Mrs. C. J. Nicolls was the first Commandant of the newly-formed Corps She did much towards organizing it on a sound basis. This was ably continued by Mrs. A. A. Hayles. When Mrs. Hayles was suddenly called away on other duty, Mrs. P. Parijatham Naidu was appointed in her place.

The organization has its branches in several mofussil towns. There are at present 16 centres. In most of these places, the A.R.P. has closed down, but Government felt that these branches of the W.A.R.P.C. were carrying on work of some special importance and desired to utilize the fellowship they brought about for better and more useful purposes in times of peace—somewhat on the lines of the Women's Institutes in England. So they decided to utilize this Corps as a measure of post-war reconstruction and have permitted its continuance on a permanent basis, after the hostilities cease.

At present in the City and in such of the places where the A.R.P. continues, the usual propaganda about black-out, refuge room, lighting restrictions, etc., is being carried on, but in addition to this other useful work has been undertaken in some centres. For instance, in one centre, adult education work is being done) in another, members co-operate with the municipal authorities in tackling the beggar problems ; in yet another, members help Health department officials in combating epidemics.

It is hoped more voluntary women workers would join the Corps and help the important work it is doing.

The Corps' motto is *STRIVE AND SERVE.*

VETERINARY OFFICERS' TRAINING CENTRE

The first training course for officers of the Indian Army Veterinary Corps has begun at a centre somewhere in India. During a two months' stay at this well-equipped training establishment these officers will receive basic military training from experienced instructors and sufficient technical knowledge to deal with conditions and diseases of animals on the Burma front.

The Indian officers are graduates of the Punjab and the Madras Veterinary Colleges who have undergone a minimum four years' course in veterinary surgery. There are also a number of British officers who arrived in India recently.

In addition to training officers for the I.A.V.C. this centre also provides a four months' course for sowar dressers who look after the Army's horses, mules, donkeys, camels, buffaloes and cattle. These men draw tradesmen's pay. They are taught to ride and to become animal orderlies. There are also combatant animal attendants—sowars trained to groom, feed and exercise animal patients at veterinary hospitals and convalescent depots.

At the same centre there is a one-month animal first-aid course which is largely attended by non-veterinary men of all ranks and a 12-week course for the training of British and Indian other ranks as farriers.

R.A.F. MAN'S JUNGLE CINEMA

Mobile cinema units are bringing the latest films to servicemen on the Burma border. Tightly-packed crowds of soldiers and airmen gather to watch them in the jungle clearings, the small silver screen making a stabbing white blob in the tropic darkness.

Among those who operate the mobile film units are a R.A.F. warrant officer who is a cinema manager in civil life.

The units are run mainly by the army. They trek to forward areas to entertain troops and airmen. Each has a personnel of seven, who are in charge of two self-contained trucks which often average nearly 2,000 miles a month, the operators enduring much the same hardships as the troops they set out to entertain.

WAR DIARY

BRITAIN AND GERMANY

12TH APR.—Almost 2,000 American planes were over Germany in daylight yesterday and attacked Oschersleben, Bernburg, Rostock, Siettin and Arnimswalde. One hundred and twenty-six German planes were shot down. Last night aircraft of the Bomber Command attacked Aachen and Hanover.

Since the war began 49,876 people have been killed in air raids on Britain and 64,000 injured.

An air-raid alert was sounded in to-night in the London area.

13TH APR.—Last night there was a little enemy air activity over south-east England, the Home counties and the Greater London area.

Lieutenant-General A. F. Harding, who has been appointed Chief of General Staff to General Alexander.

Allied bombers heavily bombed Augsburg, Oberhausen, Lechfeld, Schweinfurt and Osnabruck in Germany.

The Under Secretary of War, Mr. Henry Stimson, stated that a new phase of intensive air campaign over Germany had begun. "The last two weeks have seen the full use of American and British air power. From 1,500 to 2,000 aircraft at a time have been battering Nazi centres of aircraft factories and installations," he said.

14TH APR.—An air raid alert was sounded in London area on Thursday.

Mosquito bombers last night attacked objectives in Berlin and western Germany.

15TH APR.—Airfields in Germany were attacked by Allied bombers.

16TH APR.—Sir Stafford Cripps, Minister for Aircraft Production appealed for industrial discipline "for that final assault upon our enemy in Europe."

17TH APR.—After nearly five years of war, Germany still has 5,500,000 front-line troops and had increased her total strength from five million men at the beginning of the war to 7,3,34,000 according to the latest Allied intelligence reports.

17TH APR.—From midnight to-night foreign diplomats and couriers are banned from leaving Britain and their official "bags" are subject to censorship. This restriction was announced by the Foreign Office.

18TH APR.—Nearly 2,000 American aircraft attacked targets in Berlin and other areas in Germany.

Mr. Churchill answered questions in the Commons about the world organization for peace and the League of Nations.

• •

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE ATLANTIC

12TH APR.—The largest Naval Appropriation Bill in the American history was introduced in the House of Representatives. It carried 32,647,000,000 dollar appropriation for the Navy for the year beginning July 1st next.

It is stated that President Roosevelt has decided to send Mr. Henry Wallace, Vice-President, to China on an important work.

13TH APR.—Mr. Henry L. Stimson, the United States Secretary for War, disclosed that American army casualties up to March 23, totalled 134,632 including the killed, wounded, missing and prisoners.

The U. S. Secretary of State, Mr. Cordell Hull denounced as infamous any propaganda urging Britain and the United States to join with Hitler against Russia.

14TH APR.—The House of Representatives to-day unanimously passed the second Navy Appropriation Bill.

15TH APR.—It is reported that the U.S. Vice-President, Mr. Henry L. Wallace, may confer with Mr. Churchill and Marshal Stalin during his projected trip to China.

17TH APR.—The Bureau of Mines of the United States announced that U.S. production of primary aluminium in 1943 totalled 920,179 tons, exceeding the previous peak reached in 1942 by nearly 17 per cent.

INDIAN HOSPITAL IN CYPRUS.—The well-equipped Indian hospital in Cyprus, is situated on the seashore where patients rapidly regain their health.

L/Nk. Joginder Singh is wheeled in an invalid chair by Sister Ammal.

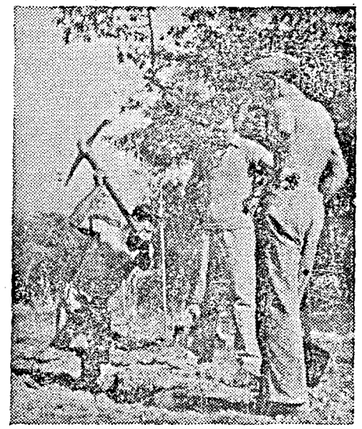
INDIA, BURMA AND CEYLON

12TH APR.—Fighting is intensifying in the arc from the immediate north to northeast of Imphal within a radius of 8 miles.

"This war is not over yet and it may be a long time before we can win that complete victory which we must have" observed His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief Sir Claude Auchinleck in Lahore.

The Maharaja of Kashmir, India's representative on the War Cabinet reached London.

13TH APR.—A position was captured by the Allied troops in Imphal plain and the Chinese advance continues in the Mogaung Valley. Deputy Chief of Staff, South-East Asia Command, gave a broadcast talk on Assam-Burma Front.



FIRST AIRBORNE LANDINGS IN BURMA.—Columns of General Slim's 14th Army were flown in and landed 200 miles behind the Japanese lines by Troop Carrier Command, South-East Asia. American, British and Dominion pilots took part in this operation. Not a single transport aircraft was lost.

One of the advance party of Royal Air Force ground and crown at our newly established airfield inside Burma, watched by Commanding Officer and an L.A.C., as he digs a slit trench.

Mr. Henry L. Stimson, Under Secretary of War, made a statement on the Jap entry into the Manipur State. It is revealed that Lord Louis Mountbatten has visited the Imphal front.

14TH APR.—There was some increase in enemy activity on the Arakan front during April 12. During the night of April 12–13 the Japanese made a determined attack on one of the Allied positions southwest of Buthudaung.

O.T.S. PARADE

The caption of the picture (bottom left) of the O.T.S. Passing out Parade, Bangalore, appearing on page 13 of the *Madras War Review* of April 7, 1944, should read as "Col. Felton and Comdt. of School inspecting 'A' Company on parade," and not as printed.

15TH APR.—Fighting is now taking place in the Imphal plain itself and the enemy is within 8 miles from Imphal says to-day's *South-east Asia Command Communiqué*.

16TH APR.—North-east of Imphal plain Allied troops captured an important hill feature. The Imphal plain is entirely in Allied hands and fighting is confined to the neighbouring hills.

Admiral Lord Louis Mountbatten, Supreme Allied Commander, South-east Asia, has transferred his Headquarters from New Delhi to Ceylon.

17TH APR.—North-east of Imphal plain Allied positions improved. Allied operations to clear the Kohima-Dimapur road have continued effectively with the capture of further important positions from the Japanese.

The 14th Session of the National Defence Council opened this morning at the Viceroy's House, New Delhi. His Excellency the Viceroy presided.

The British Air Ministry has announced the following new appointments: Air Vice-Marshal Alan Lees to be Air Officer-in-charge of the Administration Air Command, South-east Asia and to be Air Marshall, Air Vice-Marshall Albert Durston to be Air Officer Commanding a group in South-east Asia Air Command.

18TH APR.—Major-General W. D. C. Lentaigne has been appointed to succeed the late Major-General Wingate as leader of the Chindits now operating behind the Japanese lines in Burma.

Major-General George E. Stratemeyers, Eastern Air Command and U.S.A.A.F. Headquarters have been transferred from New Delhi to the Calcutta area.

To-day's South-east Asia Command Communiqué reveals among other facts that Andamans were attacked by the Allied aircraft.

* * *

RUSSIA AND FINLAND

12TH APR.—The Russians have captured Sem-Kolodezey, Akmanay, Maracha-Kangil, Falliceni, Grigoriopol, Tiraspol and hundreds of other localities.

It is stated that the Finnish Parliament which meets to-day is expected to reject the Soviet armistice terms.

13TH APR.—The Soviet troops have occupied the capital of the Crimea *Simferopol*, Feodosia, Eupatoria and Ovidiopol.

14TH APR.—The Russian forces have captured Tarnopol, Bakhchisarai, Alushta, Alma, Sudak, Akmechet, Karasubazar, Sakhi, Zuya and hundreds of other places.

15TH APR.—General Nicolai Federovilch Vatutin is dead.

The Russian forces have captured over 60 places in Crimea including Albot. The Red Army has almost finished the war on Russian soil.

16TH APR.—The Red Army captured *Yalta*, Alupka, Livadia and several other localities.

17TH APR.—The battle of Sebastopol has entered its second day against intensified German resistance.

18TH APR.—The Russians have captured Balaclava and other places.

ITALY, AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

13TH APR.—The Anzio Bridgehead was generally quiet. There was Allied patrol activity on all the fronts.

King Victor Emmanuel has decided to retire when Rome is captured.

13TH APR.—Patrol clashes occurred on all fronts. Small-scale attacks against troops of the Eighth Army were repulsed.

14TH APR.—Germans shelled Anzio beachhead. All the battle areas were quiet with no changes in positions.

15TH APR.—Patrols were active on all fronts. Allied artillery inflicted casualties on the enemy.

16TH APR.—On all fronts Allied patrols were active engaging the enemy, inflicting casualties and taking prisoners.

17TH APR.—Cassino remains quiet. Allied artillery heavily shelled German positions in Milo.

17TH APR.—Marshal Badoglio tendered his Cabinet's resignation to King Victor Emmanuel and the King has asked Badoglio to form a new Ministry representative of all parties.

18TH APR.—Patrol clashes were more frequent on all fronts. Fifth Army troops on the bridgehead re-captured a flank outpost.

* * *

VICHY, FREE FRANCE AND OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

12TH APR.—Allied planes attacked military objectives at Weiner Newstadt, in Austria, Courtral, Coxyde and Hain St. Pierre in Belgium, Hirsu and other places in France.

General Emile Marie Bethonard has been appointed French Chief of Staff for National Defence.

13TH APR.—Allied planes bombed military objectives on the coast of northern France and Budapest, the capital of Hungary.

14TH APR.—Military targets in France and Denmark were attacked by the Allied planes.

15TH APR.—Allied bombers attacked Bucharest, the Hungarian capital, and Ploesti, in Rumania.

General Giraud called on the French troops to remain united.

16TH APR.—Allied aircraft bombed Belgrade, the Yugoslav capital, and continued bombing of Bucharest and Ploesti.

17TH APR.—Military installations in Pas De Calais area were attacked by United States bombers.

Allied bombers heavily attacked Sofia and Belgrade.

* *

THE NEUTRAL COUNTRIES

13TH APR.—The United States Secretary of State, Mr. Cordell Hull, said conversations were proceeding between the Allies regarding the supply by neutrals of vital war commodities to the Axis.

An Anglo-American note was presented to the Swedish Foreign Office protesting against the export from Sweden to Germany of ball-bearings.

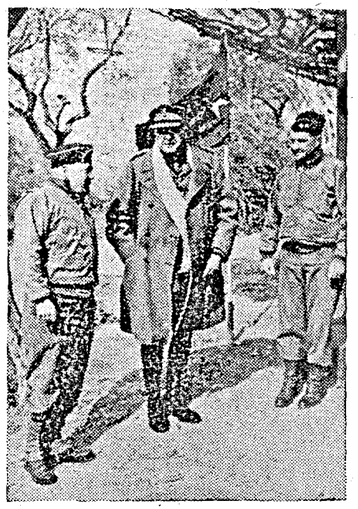
A German Trade Mission has arrived in Lisbon.

14TH APR.—The Swedish Parliament will discuss the Anglo-American note to Sweden on the export of ball-bearings to Germany at a secret session said the Swedish Foreign Minister, M. Gunther.

* * *

THE FAR EAST

12TH APR.—Nothing short of the destruction of the Japanese Empire would suffice, declared the United States Navy Commander-in-Chief.



General Sir Maitland Wilson, Supreme Commander of the Allied Forces in the Mediterranean, visited the Fifth Army, where he witnessed the heavy fighting on the Cassino front.

Truk, Ponape and Paramushiro were attacked by Allied bombers.

13TH APR.—Rabaul, Wewak and Bougainville were bombed by the Allied aircraft.

The United States Secretary of War, Mr. Henry Stimson, said that more than 26,000 Japanese dead had been counted in recent months in the south-west and central Pacific.

14TH APR.—American bombers bombed Kurile islands. Places attacked were Paramushiro, Shunizu, Shiahkotan and Matua.

15TH APR.—Australian troops have captured Bogadjim in New Guinea and are advancing on Madang.

16TH APR.—United States aircraft attacked Matua Island in the Kurile group and Ponape and other islands in the Eastern Carolines and objectives in Marshall Islands.

17TH APR.—Supply areas at Soe, in Timour, objectives in Rabaul in New Britain, Attape in New Guinea and islands in Truk area were attacked by the Allied aircraft.

18TH APR.—Hollandia in New Guinea, Dublon, Fefan, Tmoen islands in Truk Atoll, Ponape, Kolpang, etc., were attacked by the Allied bombers.

The article on "China's Contribution" published on page 18 in the last issue of the *Madras War Review* was a talk broadcast from A.I.R., Madras.

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MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. V · FRIDAY, APRIL 28, 1944 · No. 34

Admiral Sir JAMES SOMERVILLE

IMPORTANCE OF ATTACK ON SABANG

THE importance of last week's Sumatra strike lay only in the fact that this was the first action of its kind and the Japanese possibly now know that they will have to keep a sharp look-out eastwards also. The Japanese did not have a chance to see the Allied Fleet—three Japanese torpedo bombers which approached the Fleet, were destroyed before they got anywhere near

IT was a powerful fleet. One of the ships manned by New Zealanders, Americans, French, Dutch and United Kingdom men made up a really mixed party

THE Allied Fleet in these waters was powerful enough to sweep the Indian Ocean for blockade-runners and it was one such sweep which resulted in the destruction recently of two blockade-runners, both of which were German

WHILE the destruction of the oil tank at Sabang immediately meant only the loss of a quantity of oil, in the long run, this would prove a serious handicap in so far as the Japanese tanker position was quite serious and without storage tanks tankers would have to be used frequently for clearing oil from Sabang

APART from being a submarine base Sabang was a Japanese strong-point protecting the approaches to Singapore

Admiral Sir JAMES SOMERVILLE in a statement at Colombo, on Monday

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[NOTE.—*The summary of news and comments contained in the* MADRAS WAR REVIEW *generally relate to events and statements published till Wednesday, every week.*]

DISASTER FOR GERMANY

"I think Germans will never permit fighting on their own soil. When the British and the Americans reach the western German frontier and the Russians reach the eastern frontier, Germany will crack and refuse to fight. But this is only possible if the British and American troops liberate a substantial part of occupied territory and press the initial offensive with overwhelming weight. Although the invasion will not be a promenade, I am confident it will be disastrous for the Germans. There are already signs that Germany is day by day approaching an internal collapse and interior disintegration is proceeding rapidly. We know definitely that between 15 and 30 German civilians are being executed for anti-Hitlerian views."

DR. EDWARD BENES, *President of Czechoslovakia, in London, on Sunday, April 22.*

❖

THE DAY MAY BE NEARER

"To-day the American Navy is capable of striking with 1,000 carrier-based aircraft, and over 1,000 aircraft if necessary, at almost any spot in the Pacific Ocean. As our Task Forces grow bigger and bigger, it is reasonable to assume that eventually even the shores of Japan itself will not be safe from our sudden strikes and destructive raids. It is possible also that this day may be somewhat nearer than the Japanese think."

REAR ADMIRAL ARTHUR W. RADFORD, *in Washington, on Sunday, April 23.*

❖

MASTERED THE TECHNIQUE

"Through experience we have mastered and improved the technique of the amphibious operations in which the Japanese were so proficient in the early days of the war. Our Army and Navy forces have learned how to fight as one team. We have learned how to make the most of what we have, but it is no longer necessary to ask our commanders to get along as best they can on inadequate means. The numerical inferiorities which were so pronounced in the Java Sea campaign and in subsequent actions in the Solomons have been reversed. Our submarines and planes are cutting deeper and deeper into vital Japanese shipping, and our fleets move in the Central Pacific unchallenged.

Both in Europe and in the Pacific long roads still lie ahead. But we are now fully entered on those roads fortified with unity, power and experience, imbued with confidence and determined to travel far east to victory."

ADMIRAL ERNEST J. KING, *Commander-in-Chief of the United States Fleet and Chief of Naval Operations, in a report submitted on Sunday.*

MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. V FRIDAY, APRIL 28, 1944 No. 34

KOHIMA AND SABANG

THE Japanese Prime Minister Tojo claimed on April 15 that "as you know, the Japanese forces having cleared the frontier and entered India, are achieving an unbroken series of brilliant successes." His claim was made before the "Japan-Germany-Italy Joint Technical Commission" and was intended to comfort and console Germany. Japanese broadcast propaganda in general has also been harping on imaginary successes. Tokyo and its satellite radios have, at different times, claimed the capture of Kohima, from which they have been driven back, and of Imphal which they have not yet really been able to attack. It is obvious that their object in putting out such false claims is to produce a degree of confusion and pessimism sufficient to slow down India's war effort and weaken the fighting vigour of our troops. Further, they want to deceive our commanders into modifying their coolly laid plans, as it would be of military advantage to the Japanese. Their claims of successes may be taken as reflecting their military intentions, the carrying out of which has already been seriously interrupted and delayed and eventually likely to be completely confounded.

Jap Plans Foiled

THE Japanese are not making any headway in the northern sector of the Imphal front where it is reported the initiative has passed into the hands of the 14th Army. As regards Kohima, the Japanese forward positions on the Kohima road have been overrun by Indian troops, and two Japanese counter-attacks have been repelled. Allied troops in the Kohima area are consolidating the positions captured by them. Thus the relief of the original garrison of Kohima which prevented all enemy attempts to capture the town, has been completed. Now that their plans have been foiled the Japanese are trying to by-pass Kohima and reach the Assam railway directly at Dimapur. Their object is to establish a firm base from which they could operate against our Assam communications. This they cannot do unless and until they dispose of the Allied forces which are now strongly established in positions of their own choosing.

NOW the broad position on the Manipur front is something like this: The Japanese are still at liberty to infiltrate behind our defensive positions and obtain temporary lodgement astride our communications in the rear. But it is fundamentally impracticable for them to gain anything substantial until they meet our forces and destroy them in battle. Though the Japanese have the initial advantage of freedom of manœuvre, the Allies have the advantage in numbers, in equipment, in morale, and in air-power. So far, no opportunity has been offered for a spectacular exhibition of these advantages, but what has happened already is enough to show the confidence of our troops and their commanders in their strength and in the ultimate outcome of the operations.

AS for the Japanese, they seem to be in a fix as to what to do before the notorious Assam monsoon sets in. They have to choose between playing a waiting game on the mountains surrounding the Imphal plain till the five wet monsoon months pass, and carrying out a frontal attack on our forces entrenched in the Imphal plain, which they know is not at all an easy matter. Still they may not perhaps be able to resist the temptation of launching an all-out attack now, at least to justify the propaganda claims of Tokyo. But if they choose to wait till after the monsoon, the time factor is definitely helpful to us.

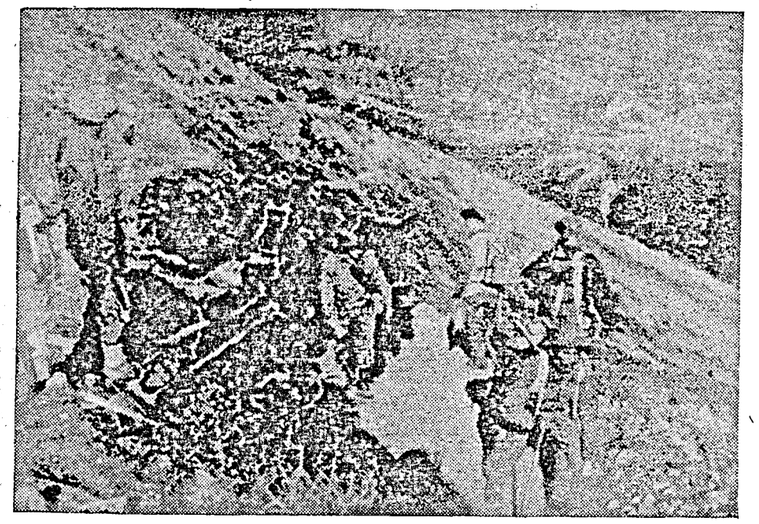
Raid on Sabang, Part of Allied Strategy

WITH the position in Kohima and Imphal favourable to us, the Allied attack on Sabang, the important Japanese naval and air base off the northern tip of Sumatra, seems to show that it is part of a grand strategy for the eventual annihilation of Japan. Commenting on the Sabang raid the *Evening News* of London says, "Time will show to what extent this fits into the Allied strategy by which Japan is to be beaten down from the west, south and east. British sea and air power is being established in the west in scale with American strength to the east and south of Japan." The importance of the raid on Sabang lies in the fact that it is a sharp reminder to the Japanese that they would have to fight a big naval battle in the future, which they have till now been evading. It may be recalled that a month ago (March 26) Mr. Churchill referred to the fact that a powerful battle-fleet was placed in the Indian waters under the leadership of Admiral Sir James Somerville, Commander of the Allied Eastern Fleet, "in order to face the main part of the Japanese fleet, should it turn westwards after having declined battle with the Americans." The necessity for such a move was due to the importance of the Indian Ocean as a naval highway in the war against Japan. It was to guard the

south-western flank of the Indian Ocean that in 1942 the Allies took under control the Vichy-controlled island of Madagascar. Tokyo boasted then (May 1942) that Japan controlled the whole Indian Ocean. It was more a wish than a fact.

Allied Naval Strength

THE Allied attack on Sabang which was made last week (April 19), 24 days after Churchill made his statement about Admiral Somerville's fleet, is a daring move which shows the confidence of Allied naval power against the so-called Japanese supremacy in this area. The operation was preceded by a bombing attack on Port Blair (Andamans) by the American Air Force. The crossing of the Indian Ocean by Admiral Somerville's fleet which consisted of battleships, aircraft-carriers, cruisers, destroyers and submarines, without opposition from the enemy, is a clear indication of Allied strength in waters which are threatened by Japanese positions in Andamans and the Nicobar.



Carrying supplies up the steep sides of Monastery Hill in Cassino.

RUNNING COMMENTARY

No Chrome Exports to Germany—Turkey's Decision

The decision of the Turkish Government to stop exports of chrome to Germany from Friday last (April 21) is yet another indication of the friendly attitude of Turkey towards the Allies. In a statement to the Turkish National Assembly, M. MENEMENCIOGLU, the Foreign Minister, pointed out that according to the Anglo-Turkish Pact of 1939, Turkey was not a neutral country, but an ally of the British and their allies. Therefore, the recent request by the British and American Governments that Turkey should stop her chrome exports to Germany was to be treated as an Allied note, not to a neutral Power, but to an ally.

This decision is the result of a representation made by the British Ambassador in Ankara drawing the attention of the Turkish Government to the fact that they were giving "increased assistance to our enemies." The Ambassador expressed the hope that Turkey will either prohibit export of chrome, or limit it to the barest minimum.

This gesture of goodwill recalls the past history of Anglo-Turkish relations. It was on October 19, 1939, that Turkey signed a treaty for reciprocal aid with Britain and France. Even after the fall of France, the alliance with Britain was continued. This was further strengthened last year when Mr. CHURCHILL met President INONU at Adana in February 1943. The Adana Agreement stipulated "the manner wherein Great Britain and the United States would be able to help Turkey materially to consolidate her own defensive security." The relations between Turkey and her Allies were further widened and strengthened by the Cairo Conference, at which Mr. CHURCHILL and President ROOSEVELT met President INONU.

As regards Turkey's relations with Germany, they were governed by a commercial agreement concluded in April 1941 and a ten-year treaty of friendship contracted two months later "within the limits of the present commitments of both countries." This treaty did not conflict with Turkey's obligations to Britain, and was rendered inevitable on account of the weakening of Turkey's strategic position due to the overthrow of the Balkan Powers.

* * *

IMPHAL AREA BATTLES.—Bitter battles are being waged in the Imphal area for possession of the newly constructed roads twisting over the steep hills into Burma. A British N.C.O. with Jap light machine guns and other captured equipment.

The Royal Party in a scout car during inspection of the Royal Artillery. This was the first full length tour of inspection made by Princess Elizabeth.

Turkey's Obligations to the Allies—Adana Conference Decisions

It was all right for Turkey to play the part of a neutral and gain advantages from both sides up to a certain period. She undertook to supply Britain with chrome till January 1942, which was extended by another year in October 1941. This was done in spite of the German pressure to get 150,000 tons of chrome annually from Turkey. Germany succeeded in getting an agreement for supply of only 90,000 tons of chrome a year—this too after the expiry of the Anglo-Turkish agreement in 1943. Further, Turkey agreed to supply chrome to Germany on condition that Germany supplied her with war material ordered for to the value of £ T. 18,000,000 before the end of 1942. Germany kept only one-ninth part of her agreement, and carried over the balance in her agreement concluded with Turkey last year.

But this kind of dual relationship could not continue when the exigencies of war demanded that Turkey should carry out her pledges. In pursuance of the decisions of the Adana Conference, Britain expedited delivery of armaments to Turkey and made her participate in important military discussions, but the time came for Turkey to play a helpful role when Fascist Italy collapsed and the Germans failed to resist the Allied advance in the Mediterranean. But Turkey would not agree. For like others in the past, Turkey has a mistaken estimate of German strength. In spite of substantial Allied aid in military supplies, she still seems to feel that she is not strong enough to fight against a possible German—Bulgarian combination, and that was the reason why she refused to give necessary military facilities to the Allies. What was required of her was only the fulfilment of a bare minimum of her obligations under the Anglo-Turkish Treaty of Alliance.

Turkey's Policy of running with the Hare and hunting with the Hounds

Turkey wanted to arm herself with as much equipment as possible from both sides but her policy of running with the hare and hunting with the hounds could not justifiably be countenanced by the Allies further. If the Allies stopped sending military equipment to Turkey, it was not because they wanted to retaliate but because they thought it was highly necessary to divert the supply of war material to more important operational fronts where they could be better utilised. At a time when global strategy requires the undertaking of operations on a vast scale both in the East and in the West, it would not be a wise policy to allow the supply of arms and equipment to Turkey where they would be lying idle.

Now the decision of Turkey to stop exporting chrome to Germany is good so far as it goes, but it does not resolve the situation created by the withdrawal of the British Military Delegation from Ankara on February, 4. It can be resolved only by the giving of the necessary military facilities asked for by the Allies. As yet, Turkey has not realised that Germany is not strong enough to retaliate effectively if Turkey actively threw herself into the war. When that realisation comes, the present tangle will automatically resolve itself.

THE BRIDGE BUILDER

(*By* R.G.)

I've seen a bridge across the Golden Gate
Curved like a mathematic dream
Or perpetual arrow's flight.
Such bridges men have built! such weight
Have hung on clouds or laid on light
Free-floating spans across the stream
Hurtling against the straddling piers in hate,
Or as in Sydney Harbour made to spring
The rainbow's rival, though in steel.
Such bridges men have built!
In arches sinewy as the eagle's wing
Or poised like lances at a tilt
Or shaped as sweetly as a keel
And sweeping onwards smoothly as a swing.
Man's a great builder: and will not be stayed
By river, estuary or ravine.
Where Zambesi dives in lace
Or strong Niagara in huge cascade
Leaping foot-foremost with laughing face
Has cut a dizzy gash between
The shore and neighbour shore, there see displayed
Man's lordly signature and master-stroke.—
But on a greater journey bound
Than ever traveller went,
History's pilgrim, to whom Justice spoke
And on an endless errand sent,
Man, in war's eddy spun around,
Not steel for bridges takes, nor lasting oak.
While waves of blood and sprays of fire increase
All through the roaring day and night
This sapper ties his planks,
Plying numb patient fingers without cease
To throw between the distant banks
Pontoons of his own flesh and might,
A bridge of body and soul from peace to peace.

MORAL AND MILITARY DISASTER FOR GERMANY

By WICKHAM STEED

NOT the final but, I believe, a decisive phase of the war has now been reached in South-west Russia and South-eastern Europe. It is decisive because Russian victory over Germany was essential to any complete Allied victory. Had the Germans been able to keep their hold on Southern Russia and the Ukraine, no Allied triumph in the west could have ensured the liberation of Central Europe and the Balkans.

But the stupendous achievements of the Russian armies on the rivers Bug and Dniester and their invasion of Rumania and the repercussions of their victories in Yugoslavia, Hungary, Czechoslovakia, Poland and Eastern Germany are creating a situation in which the final blow of the Western Allies should fall upon Germany with a shattering and an irresistible force.

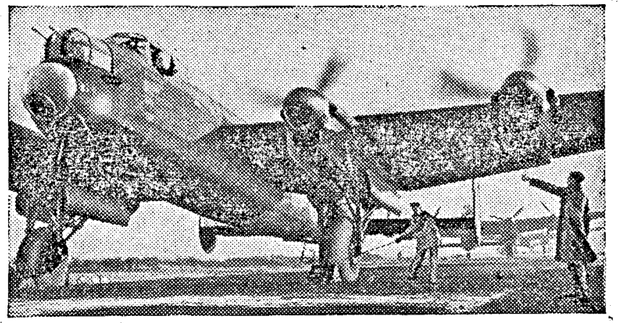
Hitler's military occupation of Hungary, Rumania and Bulgaria is a desperate attempt to avert the worst and the most immediate consequences of the German debacle on the Dniester front.

Debacle is not too strong a word. Until this blow German armies had seldom abandoned their tanks, artillery and the means of transport or thrown away their arms in a panic-stricken flight. This they have done now and are doing. The northern and eastern banks of the rivers Dniester and Pruth are heaped with undamaged weapons and supplies left behind by the routed German troops. It is a true debacle. At one stage, the German position was at some points highly critical. So serious was the threat to Manstein's armies when the Russian advance cut the main railway from Odessa to Lvov that all available German forces were concentrated in an effort to clear a line. With strong garrisons and the defences at Tarnopol and Proskurov as twin supports for their counter-offensive, the Germans did clear a line and re-established themselves north of it and sent in groups of 80 or 100 tanks in close formation to force the Russians farther back. German shock troops followed the tanks so vigorously that the Russians were often hard pressed. Yet these shock troops faltered when the Russian artillery destroyed their tanks.

GERMAN LINE THROWN INTO CHAOS

Meanwhile Marshal Zhukov had concentrated masses of men, guns and tanks behind his fighting line and launched them against the Germans in an overwhelming force on a front of 50 miles between Proskurov and Tarnopol. The entire German line was broken and thrown into chaos.

In two days, Zhukov's men went forward 60 miles to the Dniester cutting German communications and destroying all German and Rumanian troops in their path. Thousands of Germans fleeing southward to the Dniester were caught by the Russian cavalry. Officers could no longer control their men. Motorised German regiments abandoned their vehicles and sought safety in the forests. Finally, the Proskurov garrison stampeded only to be caught and cut to pieces by Russian mobile detachments. No moral and military disaster on this scale has yet been seen in the present war. Nor it is likely to be neutralized by successful resistance west or south-west of the Pruth.



Picture shows *a line of Lancasters about to leave their dispersal points before taking off for a raid on the enemy.*

The sight of fugitive German soldiers escaping across the river will not hearten the German, Rumanian or Bulgarian forces who may seek to defend it.

In whatever way the next scenes in this terrific drama may unfold themselves, a decisive victory in South-eastern Europe is already won by the Russian armies.

BRITAIN KEYED UP FOR SECOND FRONT

By A. J. CUMMINGS

HERE in Britain we await as patiently as we can the coming climax of the European war. Because so many people had convinced themselves that the Allied assault in the west would be launched before the end of the last year or at the latest before the end of January that certain cynicism had developed about the second front. It had become a popular theme of sceptical jests; it had become a common form in drawing rooms and bar parlours to talk about 1945 as the zero hour. Cynicism in time gave way to forms of nervous tension which expressed itself in restlessness, irritability and lack of concentration on the job in hand.

People in general would do well to have a proper appreciation of the fact that the timing of the second front is fixed and that the fixture is dated solely on the basis of military strategy. The secret has been well kept. It is within knowledge of only a handful of trustworthy persons.

In spite of his frantic efforts to gain a hint of the truth, the enemy remains in complete ignorance of the essential data. He does not know where or when the attacks will be opened, their weight, their number or the methods to be employed; on that account he dare not move a single platoon of infantry from the western defences to bolster up his battered forces in Eastern Europe.

RUSSIAN PATIENCE

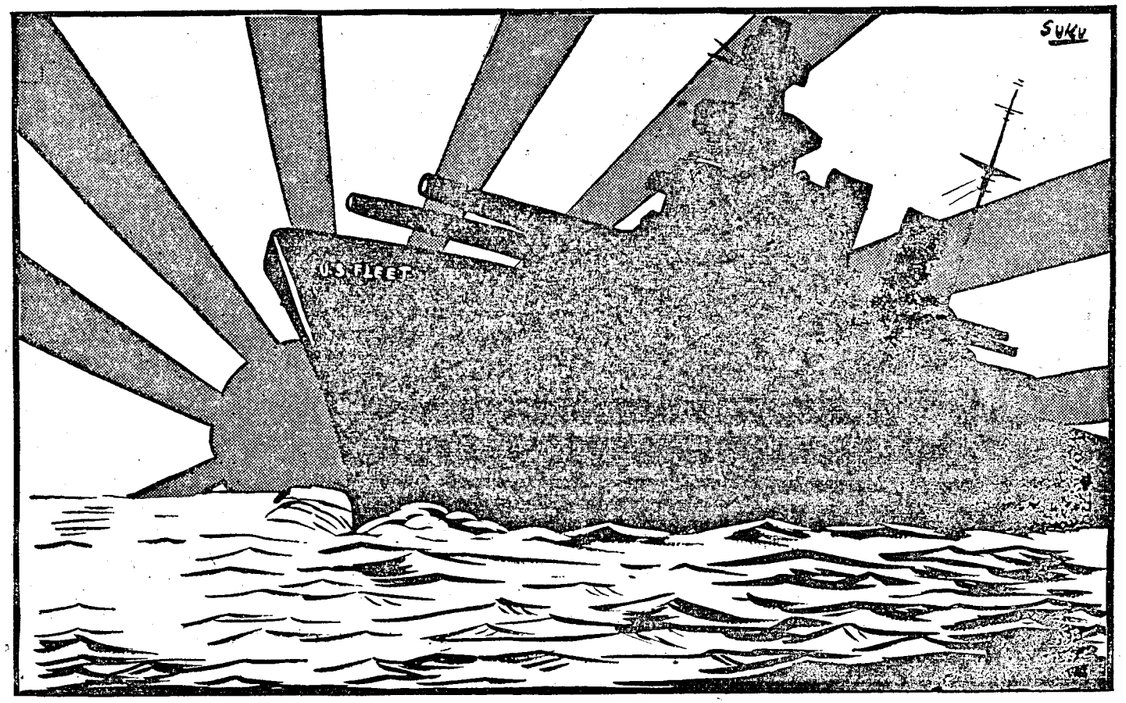
Marshal Stalin, of course, knows: that is, in part, why there have been so few signs of impatience in the Soviet Press which might have been excused if it had drawn a sharp attention to the contrast between the mighty advances of the Red Army and the protracted interval before the opening of the western offensive coupled with a stalemate in Italy.

One of the avoidable mistakes made by political and military spokesmen on both sides of the Atlantic in discussing the second front has been to harp on the "gigantic" casualties that must be expected before landings are finally secured.

The British and Americans alike are prepared for heavy casualties, just as to the best of their ability they are preparing the means to reduce the casualties to the lowest possible point. But too much talk from the leaders about casualties seems to me a wrong approach to great battles. The best kind of talk about the imminent events continues to come from Montgomery on whose leadership the people of Britain, no less than the fighting men, set so great a store.

A few days ago I saw him and heard him for the first time on a news reel when in his pleasant resonant voice he addressed a large and enthusiastic crowd of men and women in one of our factories. I thought it was an admirable little speech—easy, simple, confident and impromptu. There was nothing beastful or exaggerated in what he had to say. It was a firm utterance of a professional soldier of proved competence who wanted his hearers to know that they had a magnificent army trained to the minute with belief in themselves that would carry them under wise direction to the last objective. With their American comrades they are ready now for action.

ECLIPSE IN THE PACIFIC



Current and prospective circumstances in the Pacific must be as dark and threatening to Japan as they are full of promise to us"—ADMIRAL KING.

—*Specially drawn for the* MADRAS WAR REVIEW

FACTORS GOVERNING DURATION OF PACIFIC WAR

By N. C. BRAIDWOOD.

THE speed with which the Japanese in Central and South-West Pacific are rolled back in the next six months will determine the length of the war in the Far East. The Japanese homeland may be under attack by land-based aircraft within eight months, although some observers put the time at 18 months.

It can be seen that the Allied objective is the China coast for it is only from there—by co-ordinated attacks from the Philippines—that a large-scale offensive aimed at the annihilation of Japan's military might can be mounted.

Strategic islands will be seized by the Allies in their onward march. Established airfields and new airstrips will be used to enable them to leap to the next objective—more airfields.

The easiest approach will be from Northern New Guinea, using the chain of islands extending to the Asiatic mainland as stepping stones. Movements of troops across the Central Pacific will be most hazardous—vast stretches of the sea separate the island groups. But co-ordination of Allied efforts, which has already paid dividends at Truk and the Palau Islands in the Carolines, will permit a combined drive to the China coast.

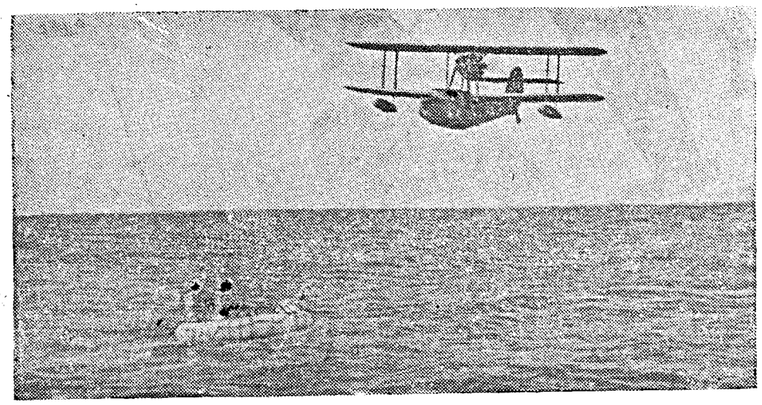
This much is clear—the combined Chief of Staff have perfected the machinery of co-ordination. There are no longer three distinct Allied battle areas—South, South-West and Central Pacific. The Pacific is one Allied battle front with mobility of forces which one front implies.

As General MacArthur advances up to New Guinea and beyond, he will remove the cushion protecting Japan's Central Pacific islands. Thrusts by the American fleet across the Central Pacific will make his task easier. The powerful British fleet in the Indian Ocean has aggravated Tokyo's troubles by hampering the dispositions of enemy naval forces and their already overtaxed air arm. Pressure by the Allies against the Japanese in Burma will help both the American navy and General MacArthur. For although the Japanese are now staging an offensive against Admiral Mountbatten, they must dispose their air and ground forces to meet the drives from the south-east and the east. To ignore these major threats would be to repudiate one of the cardinal rules of war.

The Allied air strength will play a decisive part in the months ahead and it will break the Japanese back. There are already Japanese-occupied islands and garrisons behind our forward positions. When the Asiatic coast is reached, there will be many more. These islands in enemy hands will not be any real impediments to our advance.

Meanwhile, Japan's necessity for defending her homeland with big air forces is spelling her undoing. She has to disperse the rest of her aircraft over a wide area of the Pacific. Events are proving that, even with the inevitable shortening of the Japanese line, the enemy has not enough aircraft to go round.

AIR SEA RESCUE: THE R.A.F. HAS ITS OWN "NAVY" TOO



In the early hours of the morning the ditched crew of four in dinghy are first seen by a seaplane.

IT is not generally known that the R.A.F., in addition to its thousands of 'planes operating over lands in all parts of the world, has also its own 'navy' in the form of numerous high-speed launches, several of which are now operating from bases in India and Ceylon. These R.A.F. boats, manned by R.A.F. crews, have been instrumental in saving the lives of hundreds of pilots and other members of air crews forced to land in the 'drink,' as the sea is called in modern Air Force parlance.

The rise of the launches for rescue work was, of course, a pre-war measure, and many will recall how aircraftman Shaw (as Lawrence of Arabia preferred to be known in the years preceding his all-too-early death—years which he stated to be the happiest of his strangely brilliant career) worked hard towards the improvement of these craft. It was in 1929 that he agitated with Air Ministry for a faster type of R.A.F. all-weather speed-boat to act as tender to flying boats, and as the result of this he was put to work on the production of marine craft.

Unfortunately, Lawrence never lived to see the result of his labours, but a close friend of his, who collaborated with him in designing and experimenting with these launches, is now a Flight Lieutenant in the Air Sea Rescue Service in Ceylon.

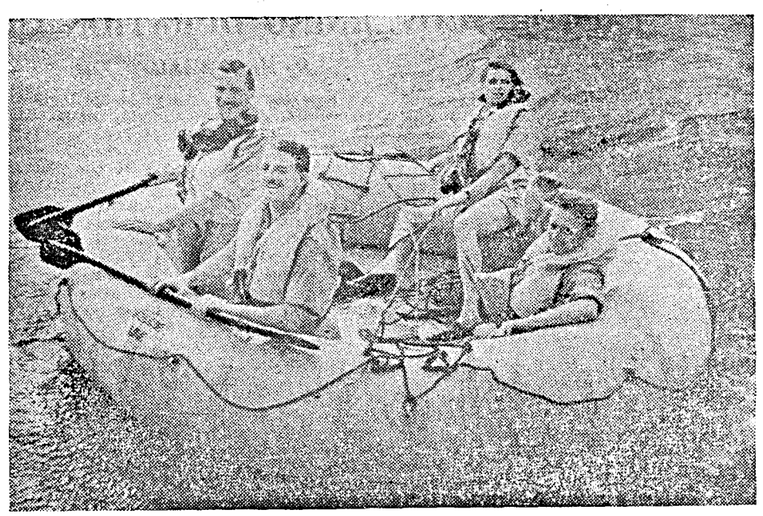
As soon as war broke out, the launches, the majority of which belonged to Coastal Command, were earmarked for rescue purposes and during the opening months of the war many lives were saved by the timely use of these boats.

May, 1940, saw the extension of the range of British bombers and when the Battle of Britain, with which the summer of that momentous year was brought to a close, was developing, it became obvious that a speedy extension of rescue facilities was necessary, and so successfully has it been developed in Great Britain that over 1,300 rescues have been effected by crews serving there.

As the war spread east to Egypt and to Burma and the Far East, so did the Air Sea Rescue Service extend its range and soon the high speed launches were operating in the Mediterranean Sea and Indian Ocean, as well as the waters nearer home.

Although actual constructional details of the launches must, for the time being at any rate, remain a closely guarded secret, it might be mentioned that they are capable of exceptionally fast travelling. At one time their decks were painted yellow—the colour which is most easily seen at sea—they presented too easy a target for a foe willing to defy all rules of humanity and to-day battleship grey is the colour employed. They plough through the often mountainous seas at a breath-taking speed; for, split seconds are of the utmost value in sea rescue work and a very-light or a weak wireless signal means 'flat-out' to those who man the launches. The R.A.F. Navy has certainly earned its proud motto: "WE Bring 'Em Back Alive."

Naturally, the task of putting the rescue services into operation is intricate, but very thorough. As soon as an S.O.S. message is received, steps are taken to check the exact position of the aircraft in distress and a search aircraft is sent out. At the same time the launches are got ready for action. The search aircraft has to locate the dinghy—no easy matter when one remembers the smallness of the craft compared with the vastness of the ocean—and, this done, a signal is sent to base. Sometimes the stranded airman has been unable to open the dinghy and is held afloat by the "Mae West" alone. In that case a dinghy can be dropped from the search plane. Food can also be dropped. Until the rescue launch arrives a constant patrol is maintained by aircraft.

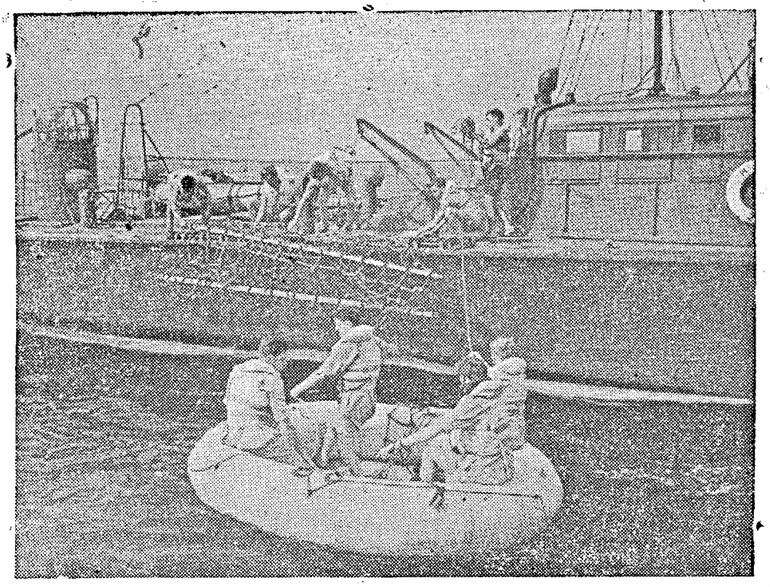


Although only afloat a few hours the crew of the dinghy look very pleased when the launch comes alongside.

Sometimes men have been rescued within a few minutes of their aircraft being 'ditched,' but in others the rescue is only effected after the survivors have been subjected to a long spell of drifting about in the dinghy. Every effort is made to deal with exhausted or wounded men. Each boat carries four stretchers in the ambulance cabin, or sick bay, but eight more can be fitted in the crew's quarters and two more in each of the master's and cox's cabins if required.

PLANS FOR DEVELOPMENT

Launches of the R.A.F. Air Sea Rescue Service are now operating in the Bay of Bengal and off the Arakan Coast and although the number of craft employed is but small, already it has proved its value in rescuing airmen who have made forced landings in the sea. As the air offensive against the Japs grows in intensity, so will the rescue service increase; and at the present time plans for further development are being put into operation.



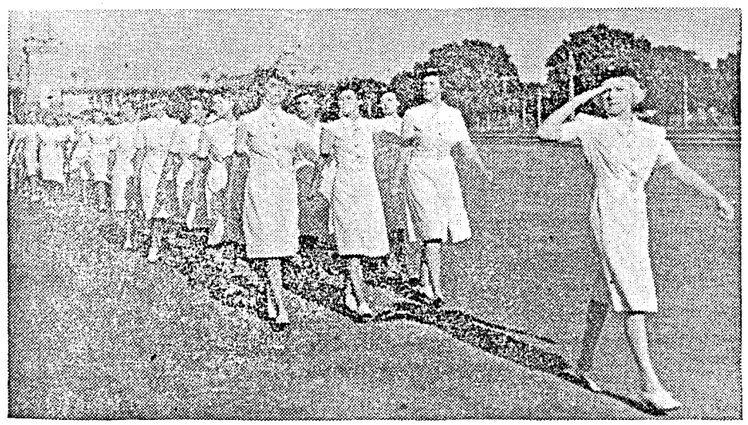
A rope is thrown to the dinghy crew and they are pulled alongside and M.B.C. lowers climbing ladder.

Adventure is all part of the day's routine in air sea rescue work. "There's no such thing as a routine day," said the skipper of one of the launches. "Currents here are strange and what is quite a good course one day may be rendered impossible by sand-banks the next. Navigation becomes a tricky business in these waters."

Quite a large proportion of the trips of the launches are in uncharted waters, and at the moment extensive survey work in the Bay of Bengal is part of the programme being carried out. Charts soon become out of date. One recently studied showed the presence of a large island near the mouth of the Ganges. "That disappeared after the last monsoon season," one of the skippers remarked: "and three new ones appeared in the vicinity. That's an example of the type of thing we are always being confronted with."

The launches often journey to places off hostile shores and one of the most exciting trips was to Foul Island, some distance south of Akyab, which another skipper and his crew undertook some little time back. At a critical moment both engines failed and the launch drifted close to the shores. Just when visions of being taken prisoner were uppermost in the minds of the crew, one engine was coaxed into action again and the launch succeeded in effecting a get-away.

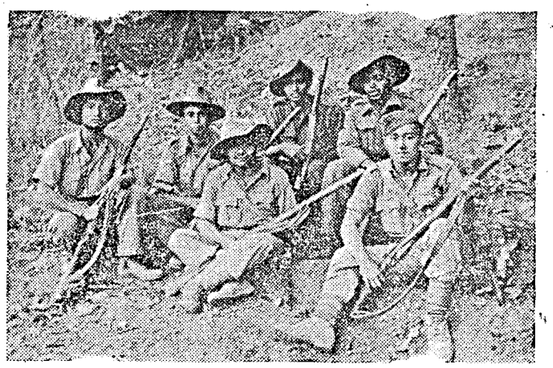
(*Continued on page* 12.)



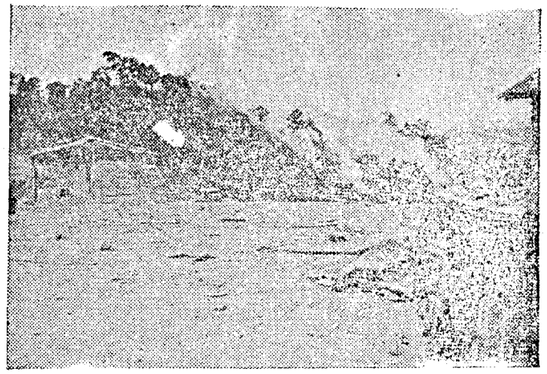
R.I.N. WOMEN WORKERS ON PARADE.—On duty at Naval Headquarters, New Delhi, are officers and other ranks (known as auxiliaries) of the newly formed Naval Wing of the W.A.C. (I). They do secretarial work, and assist in cyphering and transmission of Naval signals. Four times a week they parade in the forecourt of the Viceroy's House, where they drill under the eye of a gunnery officer, thus keeping themselves up to the Navy's standard of smartness in marching, saluting, etc.

"Eyes right"—Led by Second Officer Mrs. Dorothy Cambridge, officers and auxiliaries march past the saluting point.

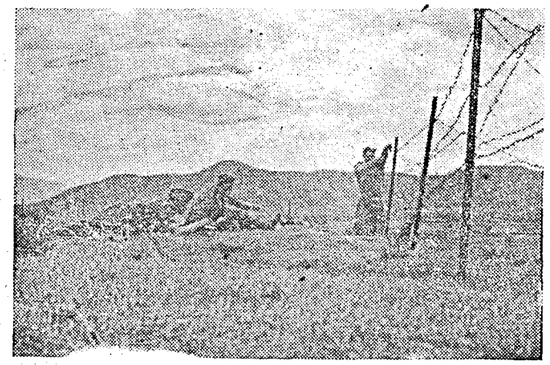
IMPHAL FRONT SCENES



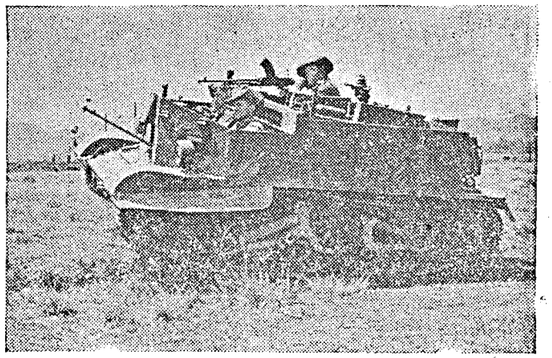
Burma Intelligence Corps personnel, who fought as infantry with the 17th Indian Division.



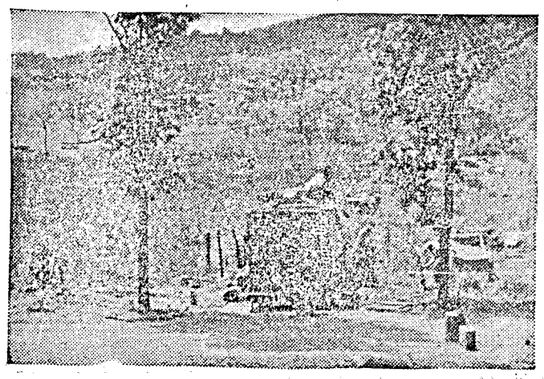
Smoke from bursting shells envelopes a Japanese position on the Tamu Road.



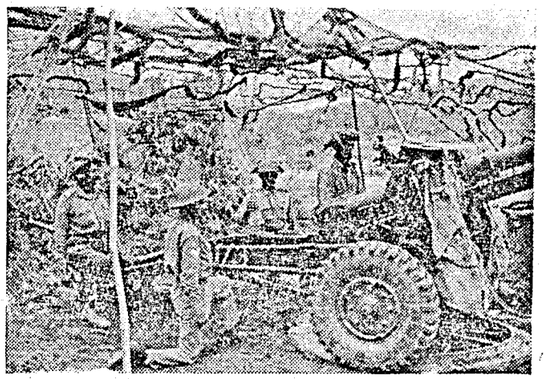
Men of an East Anglian regiment wire themselves in on the Imphal plain, in preparation for the Japs,



Manned by men of an East Anglian regiment, a carrier moves across the Imphal plain on a "recce" expedition.

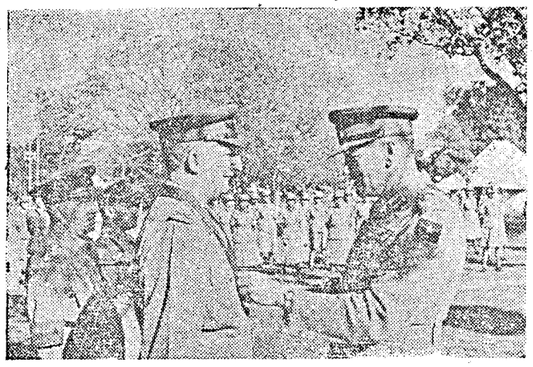


Seventeenth Headquarters divisional signals carry on in the 17th Division box.



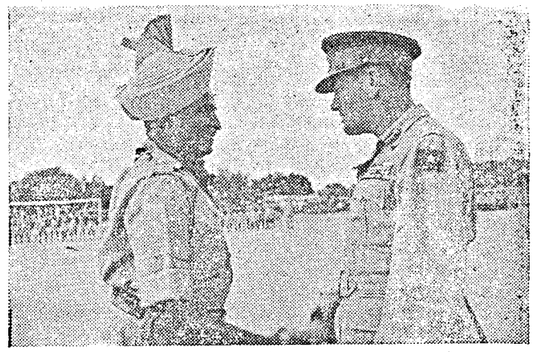
Punjabi gunners about to fire on Jap positions in the Imphal area.

C.-IN-C. VISITS SOUTHERN ARMY

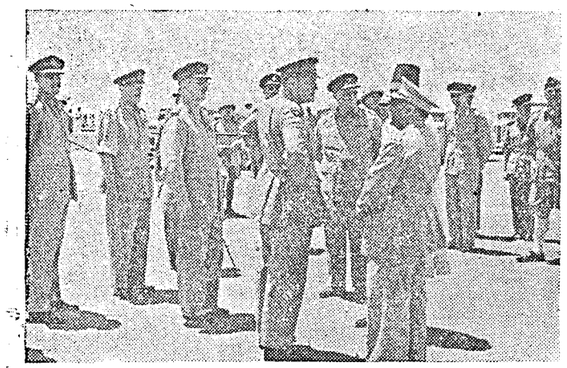


The Commander-in-Chief in India, General Sir Claude Auchinleck, recently spent nine days visiting the Southern Army, where he watched units of all three services undergoing intensive training.

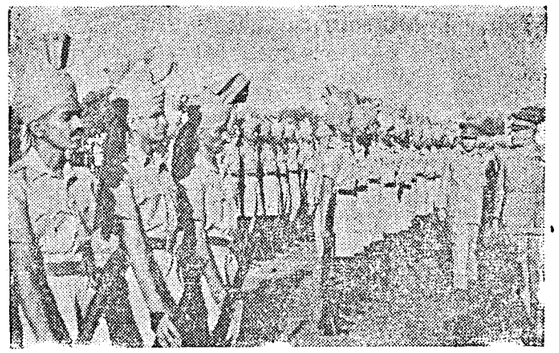
General Sir Beresford Peirse, G.O.C. Southern Army, is decorated with the C.B. by the Commander-in-Chief.



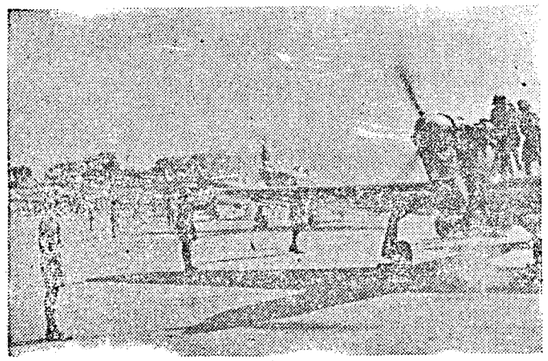
The Commander-in-Chief congratulates Subedar-Major Mohd. Abdul Manuaf Bahadur, of Manuaf Street, Adivarapet, Ellore, after presenting him with the O.B.I., at Bangalore Recruits Reception Camp.



Arriving at Hakimpet, the Commander-in-Chief was met by the Prince of Berar, Lieutenant-General Sir Noel Beresford-Peirse, G.O. Commander-in-Chief, Southern Army, Brig. Beenland, Commander, Secunderabad Area, and other senior officers.



The Commander-in-Chief inspects the Hyderabad State Forces' Guard-of-Honour.



The Commander-in-Chief watches Indian Air Force ground crew handle a modern fighter.

Watched by the Commander-in-Chief, Madras Sappers and Miners, negotiate obstacles during their Assault Course.

(*Continued from page* 9.)

On another occasion a Jap 'recce' plane was shot down near the mouth of a river and the Air Sea Rescue folk were sent to search for the pilot. Unfortunately, they were not told the nature of their quest and on arriving at the place where the 'plane had crashed into the sea they cruised round a while before making a gruesome find—a pair of legs still encased in flying boots. Spirits sank to zero. For once it seemed that their motto had not been obeyed. They searched round and then found pieces of wreckage with Japanese markings plainly visible. Spirits rose quickly. The motto of "Bring 'Em Back Alive" could scarcely be held to apply to the enemy!

On arrival at base a message was waiting from a nearby Intelligence Officer asking for any 'trophies' to be sent for investigation. What that officer said when he undid a neat paper parcel and found a pair of boots still containing the legs of their unfortunate owner cannot be disclosed!

IN CEYLON AND SOUTH INDIA

In Ceylon and South India, Air Sea Rescue Units have taken part in some exciting rescues off the coasts of the island and sometimes their journeys have taken them far out into the Indian Ocean. On one occasion a Catalina made a forced landing some five hundred miles south of Colombo and one of the launches made a twenty hours trip in search of survivors. At length it returned to base with petrol for only a further twenty minutes remaining in her tanks.

What is certainly a new innovation so far as high speed launches is concerned is their use in Ceylon for rescuing the occupants of planes which have crashed in the jungle! Often enough it is quicker to go by launch to the nearest point than to attempt to cut a way through the forests and wastes.

Not so long ago a bomber crashed in one of the island's jungles and after the crew had been brought away safely it was decided that a guard should be mounted over the plane. The Air Sea Rescue people were given the job of taking these guards and a whole squadron of the R.A.F. regiment was transported in this way.

Unfortunately a rough sea was running and the regiment lads were not very good sailors. A solitary dinghy was the only landing craft. Each man had to be loaned a "Mae West" as a precautionary measure, while to get the rifles and ammunition ashore without mishap was no easy task.

The boats usually carry a complement of eleven and one can say with conviction that they are a really happy family. "After all, why shouldn't we be cheerful?" asked a member of the crew of one of the boats. We've got a fine healthy job, plenty of adventure and thrills—and there's not so much danger of being bitten by mosquitoes at sea.

Col. J. R. D. Teague, O.B.E., Sub-Area Commander, inspecting the Auxiliaries drawn up in parade.

COIMBATORE CELEBRATES W.A.C. (I) SECOND ANNIVERSARY.

Members of the Women's Auxiliary Corps, Coimbatore, held a Parade and March-past in Coronation Park, Coimbatore, on Sunday, 9th April, morning.

Col. R. J. D. Teague, O.B.E., the Sub-Area Commander, inspected the Auxiliaries and was greatly impressed by the smartness of their turnout.

Addressing the Auxiliaries before the march-past, Colonel Teague said this was the first command in which he had women working under him; his previous commands being in operational areas. A few months ago, he added, he was not in a position to pass an opinion but now he had no doubt of their capability and keenness to work.

The Sub-Area Commander then took the Salute and was so impressed by the marching and the bearing of the Auxiliaries during the march-past that he again commented on their keen sense of discipline.

The D.T.R.O. ably assisted the Parade by putting on display recruiting papers, pamphlets, etc., which in addition to the special posters prepared by C.R.E. (S) for this Anniversary greatly enhanced the popularity of the Commemoration Parade.

MAHRATTA NAIKS RESOURCE

Naik Tukaram Chauchan, of Chiplun village, Ratnagiri district, showed great resource in escaping from the Japs by whom he had been captured in the Sangshak battle.

It was near dusk and the Jap sentry was feeling very hungry. Suddenly a village chicken ran out of the long grass. Carefully he took aim but missed; tried again and once more failed. He handed his rifle to his prisoner, Naik Tukaram Chauchan obviously indicating that he should join in the shooting contest.

The Naik took aim and did not miss—the sentry. Both the Naik and the chicken got away.

RICH DEATH

(*By* M. KRISHNAMURTHI.)

If man could die as richly as a flower
He would not crave for immortality . . .
I plucked the bud of a magnolia tree
And kept it by me in a shaded bower.
I loved its virgin grace: the hidden dower
Of scent was yet a miracle to be;
Till on the morrow, opening wide to me
Its jewelled heart, it poured a golden shower

Of pollen on the floor, and all that day
Bled gorgeously into the swooning air
And with a heavenly fragrance filled my room.

Beside that flower man seems but common clay,
Except when some high purpose makes him dare
And die as richly as that splendid bloom.

PARABLE IN STONE

By DOUGLAS WOODRUFF.

LIKE many another boy, these four-hundred years, I was at school under the Benedictines, and among my early memories are the comings and goings of the younger monks, when they went to finish their studies in Rome, and brought back descriptions of the great Abbey of Monte Cassino, south of Rome. Some years ago I went there myself, travelling to the top of the mountain by the cable railway.

That high inaccessibility which made it attractive to St. Benedict has also, alas, made it all too attractive to the German commanders. They have made of it a very effective strong point, and the forces of the United Nations, after hoping for many weeks that they could pass it by, have had in the end to attack it.

I do not know how much destruction has been involved in dislodging the Germans, but I am glad that for over six weeks the Allies held their hands, and I think it would be difficult for any man to say they could or should have done more.

HEART AND SHRINE OF EUROPEAN TRADITION

Was there malice mixed with the military considerations that made the Germans fortify Monte Cassino? Certainly the Nazis have good reason to see in it the very heart and shrine of the European tradition they seek to destroy.

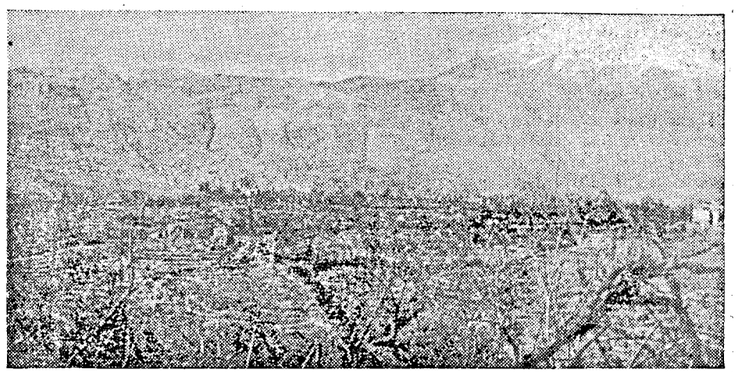
The Benedictine Order itself is to-day, as it has been for centuries, one of the great educational forces of Europe. But it does not approach education as the modern totalitarian State desires it to be approached. The Order knows no frontiers, no racial superiorities. It played a leading part in bringing the Church to the Germans, as it did to the English; the apostle of Germany was an English monk, St. Boniface.

THE COURSE OF MODERN GERMANY

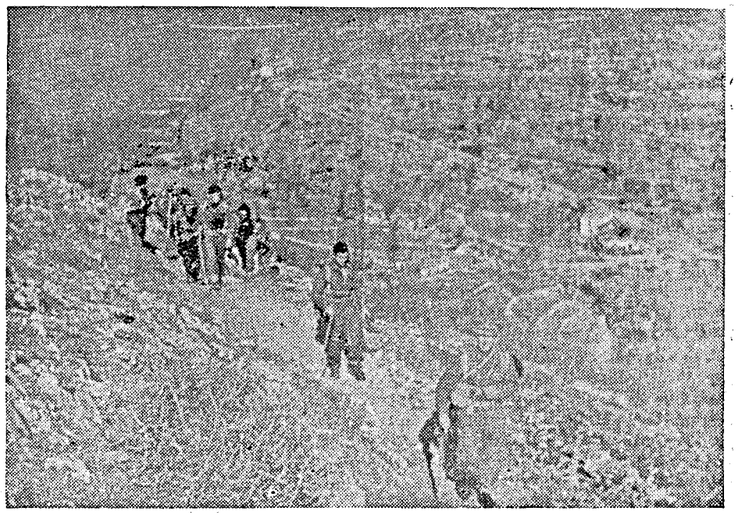
For in Germany the formation of men as Christians is permitted in so far as it is thought useful to the State, just as buildings are taken and used if they give good cover for guns. No claim on behalf of the Christian idea of education is allowed to weigh against State policy, any more than the immense history and consecrated character of the Abbey of Monte Cassino itself was allowed to weigh against its use as a German fort. It is this complete subordination of religion to power politics, of the life and activities of the Church to those of the State, which has been the great curse of modern Germany, of the Hohenzollerns in their lesser, and of Hitler in his greater, degree.

To my mind, Monte Cassino is as perfect a symbol as men could look for of the tradition the world needs to recover, by which scholarship and education and all the life of the mind is not thought of as coming under the heading of politics, to be organized and controlled by Governments. Governments should be the patrons of learning, not the arbiters of what is to be learnt. All over Italy, as throughout Germany there has been a progressive denial of the Benedictine ideal, and the imposition of Fascist party oaths on Professors in the Universities; so that to-day the Allies find Italian academic life tainted by the false principle that learned men, too, can—and should—be harnessed to the political progress of a party.

Monte Cassino will recover. No building in Europe proves more strongly the continuity and resilience of the Catholic faith. The Lombards destroyed it almost as soon as St. Benedict, its founder was dead and the monks were away over a century. Many other armed destroyers have tried to reduce it, age by age. Two terrible earthquakes, the second in 1649, left not a stone standing of the upper fabric. If the great Baroque Church, built to repair that disaster, has now perished, the lasting foundations, deep in the strong walls of what was first of all a Roman fort, endure and will support a new superstructure; for the building, like the Benedictine Order, rests on deep and unshakable foundations, a Church founded upon a rock.



Panoramic view of Monastery Hill and Mount Cairo showing the kind of country that Indian formations have been fighting in. Against the sky line at the left can be seen the Benedictine Monastery, bitterly defended German strong point.



INDIAN TROOPS IN MONTE CASSINO AREA.—Despite difficult country and appalling weather conditions, Indian Units have more than held their own against the Germans in the recent heavy fighting around Monte Cassino.

The Commanding Officer and Company officers of an Indian battalion climbing Monastery Hill to reinforce an Indian Brigade.

AIRCRAFT ASSEMBLY IN INDIA

CHALKED on the wall of an assembly hangar in a large R.A.F. maintenance depot in India is the slogan :—" Our section's got 45 aircraft to produce this month. Let's get stuck into it lads ! "

These words crystalize the spirit of thousands of officers and airmen who are keeping R.A.F. bomber and fighter squadrons at full strength on the Burma front.

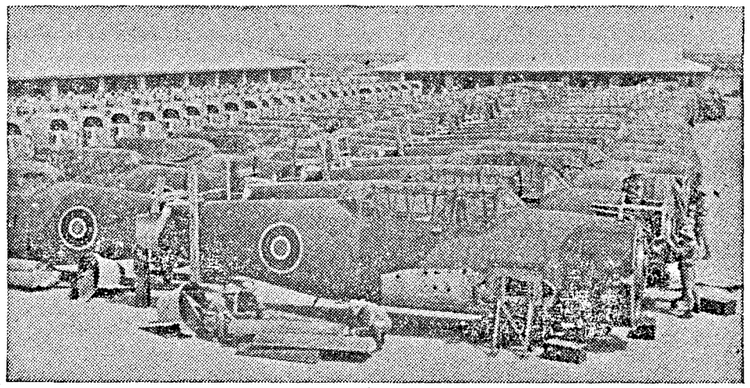
At this depot, which covers the area of a small town and is far beyond the reach of enemy bombers, hundreds of aircraft technicians are working day and night, assembling in ever-growing numbers and tempo fighters, dive bombers and training planes to defend India and carry Britain's air might to the Japanese and their satellites. And this is just one of similar units now located in India.

From seaport and from the air comes a steady stream of aircraft out of the war factories of Britain and the United States. Giant articulated carriers—affectionately known as Queen Marys' because of their length and carrying capacity—speed crated aircraft from the dockside to the assembly lines. Here skilful hands re-build the latest products of the United Nations' aircraft plants, check, test and service them, and send them on their way ready for the battles ahead. Bombers are ferried 'hop by hop' to India and arrive to be overhauled and tested before joining the surfacewise aircraft on their journey eastwards.

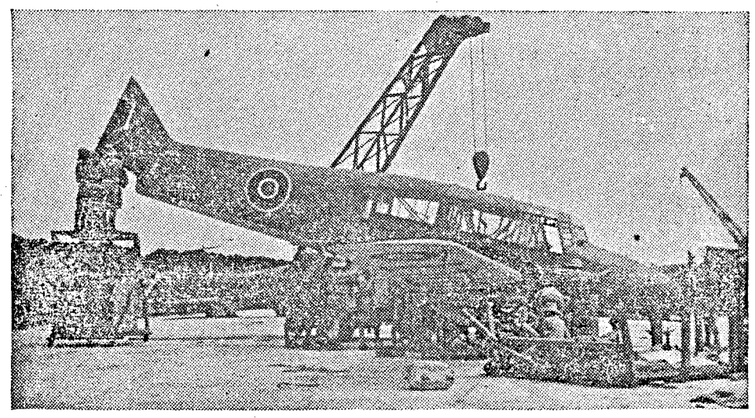
The adventure of bombing and fighting, the thrilling escapes of pilots and their crews are always news. But behind the glamour and fury of air warfare are these unsung backline boys doing an unromantic, out-of-the-limelight and often deadly dull task in supplying their frontline comrades with the wherewithal to carry on the fight.

They are known officially as members of maintenance units because besides assembly work they are the aircraft 'surgeons' or 'physicians' of the Service, fighting the ravages of wear and tear, accident and enemy action which are beyond the scope of operational repair facilities. They care for an aircraft from its cradle to its grave.

The British mechanics coping with the maintenance problems of the constantly expanding air forces in India are passing on their knowledge and experience to the technicians of the Indian Air Force. Britons, Indians and Burmese are to-day working side by side in the Service workshops of India stripping, re-conditioning and re-assembling engines, repairing propellers, grafting 'new skin' on smashed and bettered fuselages, restoring to serviceability the delicate instruments which give an aircraft its mechanical brain.



Scores of Vultes Vengeance Dive Bomber fuselages awaiting assembly.



The fuselage is unpacked and the wings fitted into place.

Salvage squads take care of badly damaged aircraft. If it is impossible to restore a 'casualty', every salvageable item, even the smallest nut, bolt or screw, is recovered while it is lying in the unit's 'graveyard'—a scrap heap of crumpled wings, and crushed fuselages, mangled engines and shattered instruments.

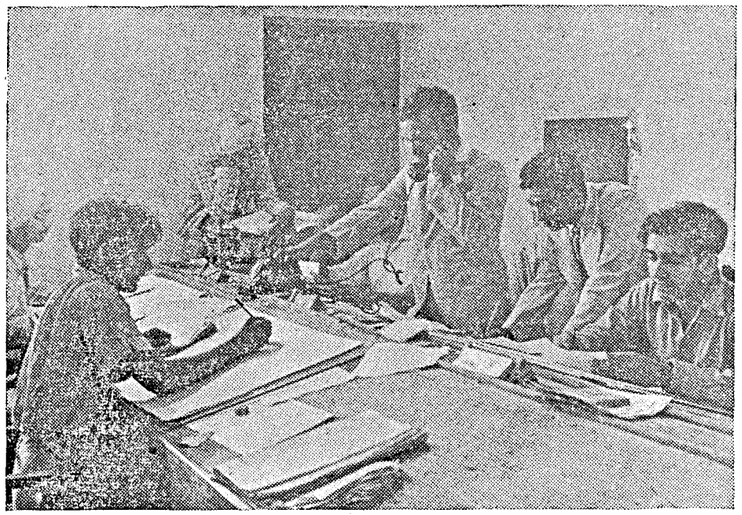
" Forty-five aircraft to produce. Let's get on with it, lads ! " Yes, that is the spirit which energises the workers in the assembly and maintenance hangars throughout India, which multiplies that number into a formidable monthly aircraft production figure and which foretells the ultimate setting of the Rising Sun.

Old Lady: " I've lost my canary."

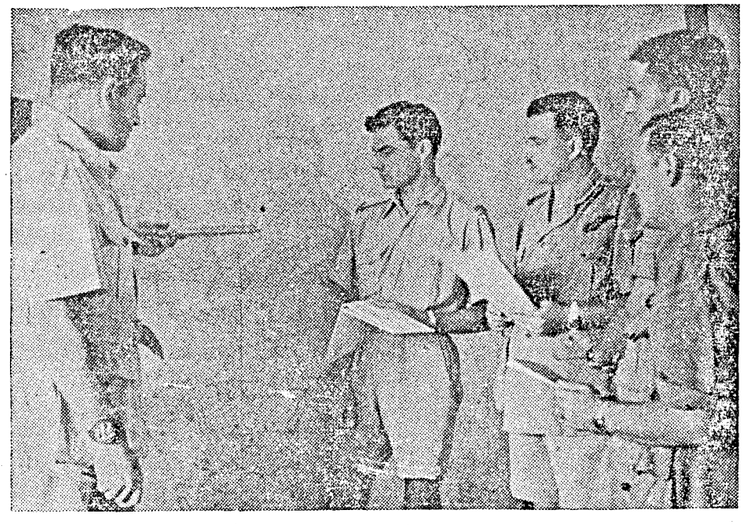
Constable: " You'd better notify the flying squad."

Notice in one of the departments of Ministry of Aircraft Production: The Impossible We Do At Once. Miracles Take a Little Longer.

NEW GATEWAY OF INDIA



Weather forecasts make the journey safe for these long distance flyers. Members of the Indian Meteorological Service receive information from all over the country to prepare weather charts for the guidance of aircrews.



Aircrew being briefed before starting on their long journey across India.

A new Gateway of India has come into being during the past year—a gateway of the air through which flows a constant stream of war planes ferried from Great Britain, America and the Middle East.

Located somewhere near the frontier of Western India, this 'gateway' is the ferry terminus of all aircraft flown from the United Nations' factories by British Empire and American pilots. Here heavy and medium bombers, transport aircraft and even fighter planes land after flying thousands of miles across ocean and continent. Here they are inspected, serviced, and then despatched eastwards ready for the battle zones.

Bombers flown from America and many from Britain are delivered by special ferry pilots. They leave their charges and return by plane as passengers for more. Other aircraft are flown to India by crews who later take their planes onward to join operational squadrons. And no space is wasted in this oneway service. The incoming bombers are well laden with urgently needed war supplies and official mail.

FERRY ROUTES

Ferry routes fan out to the north, east and south-east from the terminus like a monster spider's web across India to the Burma front and Ceylon. These are vital arteries which feed the squadrons bombing and fighting the eastern end of the Axis. On these routes are storage units where aircraft await their call to service against the enemy.

A special pool of ferry pilots fly newly delivered planes to all parts of India. They also collect and deliver the scores of fighter and trainer aircraft which arrive by sea and are uncrated and assembled in India.

Before setting out to 'deliver the goods' they are carefully briefed, just as pilots and crews are who fly over Burma. They are given their tracks and bearings, details of landmarks, airfields, emergency landing grounds, refuelling and servicing stations, signals and meteorological information.

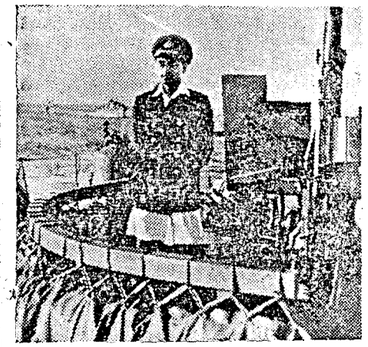
METEOROLOGICAL SERVICE

The Indian meteorological service is playing invaluable role in the ferry organization. Daily, from all over India, weather reports pour in by telegraph and wireless to meteorological stations. Many of these reports are sent by part-time observers—usually Government servants—living in remote and lonely spots of India. This weather news is collated by weather experts, who draw up charts from which forecasters produce readings of the conditions likely to be encountered by ferry pilots on their flights across India.

Pilots keep in wireless touch with R.A.F. ground stations for up-to-the-minute news on weather changes ahead.

(*Continued on page* 17.)

RAJA IN ACTION OFF ARAKAN



Lieutenant Raja Shrimant Vijayasinh Rao Dafle, R.I.N., Raja of Jath.

THE Raja of Jath (Western India) has recently been in action against the Japanese on the Arakan front. He was aboard one of H.M.I. ships that bombarded enemy-occupied localities in the Mayu Peninsula.

Lieutenant Shrimant Vijayasinh Rao Ramrao Dafle, R.I.N., Raja of Jath, has held an honorary commission in the Royal Indian Navy since 1934, when he was gazetted Sub-Lieutenant on completion of his Naval training at Bombay. In 1937 he was promoted to his present rank.

In the spring of 1940 he joined for duty afloat and was on active service at sea for the next four months. More recently he has been serving in a sloop and at his own request has been temporarily attached to the Arakan Coastal Forces.

"There are a number of soldiers from Jath now fighting the Japanese in the Arakan," the Raja told an R.I.N. Observer, "and I was happy to know that our ships were affording them direct support in their southward advance by bombarding the enemy's coastal supply line."

"A number of men from Jath State are in the Royal Indian Navy. Some of them served in H.M.I. ships in the Mediterranean during the Sicilian operations last July. They have done very well, gaining rapid promotion. I am sure there would be many more Jath recruits for the Navy if our young men knew what I do about the activities of the Royal Indian Navy off the Arakan coast. I intend to tell them what I have seen when I return to Jath."

Duties connected with his State prevent the Raja from serving continuously at sea, but he is keen to spend several months every year in India's warships.

I've just heard a group of lawyers discussing war criminals and what we can do with them. "Of course," said one, "no Court would ever punish Hitler. He's so obviously a psychopathic case."

The best answer to that, I think, is in a fable written by a man who'd never heard of Hitler—Robert Louis Stevenson.

An innkeeper had made the devil a prisoner. "Now I am going to thrash you," he said.

The devil objected. "You have no right to be angry with me. I am only the devil and it is my nature to do wrong."

"You really cannot help doing ill?" asked the innkeeper.

"Not in the smallest," said the devil; "it would be useless cruelty to thrash a thing like me."

"It would indeed," said the innkeeper.

And he made a noose and hanged the devil.

"There!" said the innkeeper.

BARRACUDAS

By A. J. McWHINNIE

WHILE Allied bombers and fighters in their thousands range over the whole of Hitler's Europe in a non-stop air offensive which is linked up with the great Russian land drive, the part of the air forces in the war at sea has appeared less spectacular. Now Barracudas have struck to remind Germany that air power at sea has not been neglected; that in tactics, technique, production and imagination it has been making impressive progress.

The continued destruction of U-boats with improved protection of Allied convoys has, it is true, brought evidence of steady development in air cover for Allied shipping. There have been constant revelations of new strength and improved methods of fighter protection at sea with growing output of new carrier vessels. All those developments, however, have tended to strike a defensive note, even if it was clear that the increased air protection both by Royal Air Force Coastal Command and by attacking fighters from escort carriers had long since brought about a situation by which U-boats were being forced in the role of the hunted rather than hunters.

EQUIPPED FOR LARGE-SCALE ACTION

But now Barracudas indicate that offensive preparations in sea-air activity have been steadily going ahead throughout the long months, and that Britain, pioneer in naval air operations, has been as effectively developing a newer technique of the use of sea-air power.

The brilliantly executed bombing assault that put the 50,000-ton German battleship *Tirpitz* out of action for more long months showed not only the efficiency of the new dive-bomber but the success of its employment.

It becomes plain that the Fleet Air Arm are not only equipped with novel aircraft but also that with the employment of a heavy fighter cover, the Navy are now in a position to stage large-scale operations of a most telling kind. The *Tirpitz* action revealed the hitherto unsuspected examples of the mobility of sea-air power. The Germans may well be wondering where the next blow will fall.

The advent of Barracuda reveals that the problems of improved naval aircraft were being studied and mastered at the same time.

WAITED THEIR CHANCE

The new torpedo-bomber is now in full-scale production in Britain. It was not without its teething troubles for it was expected to make its first appearance in the action against the battleships of the Italian fleet. Certain alterations were then ordered. Barracuda was made the best in its class. Just when all was ready for operations to be launched, Mussolini's fleet steamed peacefully to join the Allies.

Barracudas had to wait. The fate of the *Tirpitz* showed that nothing was lost by waiting. The Germans had never reckoned with this form of air attack on their ill-fated battleship. They were surprised once again by the shrewdness of the Allied tactics and by the invention of new equipment.

CHANGE OF PLACE—NOT OF FACE

From Keren to Imphal is a long pull but many of the Indian troops who contributed to the African victories are to-day fighting the Japs on the Burma front.

At Keren in Abyssinia in the middle of March 1941, an officer bearded and grimy walked into the brigade headquarters and reported the state of battle on the Mahratta front to the brigade major. Three years after, in the middle of March 1944, at Imphal the same officer, still bearded and grimy, walked into brigade headquarters and reported most of his Mahrattas home from the Sangshak battle to the brigadier, the brigade major of the Keren days.

"Hello, Jackie, you're looking the same as when I saw you last," said the brigadier. But that wasn't all. The second officer, this Colonel of the Mahratta battalion, met was a Colonel of the Dogra battalion whom he had last seen in Eritrea and the third was the General under whom he had served in the Western Desert.

"Had I been clean, I don't think that the brigadier would have recognized me," said the Colonel to an Indian Army Observer.

NEW GERMAN MOVES IN THE BALKANS

By LEONARD KIRSCHEN

A few days ago I was commenting on the advance of the Russian troops towards the Balkans. I had speculated a good deal about all possibilities. I said that the Germans were not sitting pretty just content to look on and see the front crumble.

You will remember that at the same time, I had also some comment to make on a particular event; news agencies were reporting friction between the Rumanians and the Hungarians. I foretold that the Germans were up to something, that they could not have allowed this scrambling between partners with the front only a few hundred kilometres away, without going after something precise.

Well, it has happened, Germany has occupied Hungary. It was the obvious move because Germany could not allow her communications with the Balkans to remain impaired at this critical stage of the eastern campaign. At that time troop movements had been reported around Hungary and even in Rumania; the Germans were hurriedly sending all their available troops towards the Northern Bukowina and the Dniester. But Hungary controlled not only vital communication lines, it also held a morsel of former Czechoslovakia, known as Carpatho-Ruthenia which is a wedge driven straight into the German defence positions on the Carpathians, if not held by German troops. Now we hear that German troops have occupied all the important passes in the Carpathians. This means that German troops have moved all the way along Hungary to the extreme southern tip.

NAZI TROOPS IN HUNGARY

This also means that the Germans have put some troops into Hungary. Let us first examine what this means to the Germans. Hungary cannot be occupied unless Germany puts in at least 10 divisions, or about 100,000 men which is sufficient to keep the 300,000 Hungarians, quiet. The fact that the Chief of the Hungarian Staff had gone to Hitler's headquarters meant that the Hungarian army was left without command and that there was nobody in the country who could take a decision.

Ten divisions is now quite a lot for Germany, especially as she is trying to concentrate all her manpower in order to face the danger of invasion from the west. We all know that Germany proceeded to mobilize all her available resources after the resounding defeat suffered at Stalingrad. But in the past year, besides her commitments on the eastern front, Germany had acquired a series of new ones. She had to send divisions to the Italian front and into the Balkans. She had to reinforce her troops in Finland, Norway, Denmark and above all she had to reinforce her garrisons in France. A large number of selected troops had to stay in Germany and keep order. Her anti-aircraft defences have taken up nearly 3,000,000 men if not more.

GERMAN RESERVES IN CENTRAL GERMANY

In fact, therefore, her great mobilization only served to keep the home front going whilst helping to replenish her forces on the Russian fighting front which have been repeatedly severely mauled and continue to be mauled with every day that passes. Competent observers have placed the German reserves in Central Germany—where they are ready to strike out in any direction required by the High Command and eventually to come to the help of the defending troops—at not under 50 divisions and not more than 70. It is from these divisions that Hitler had to draw in order to occupy Hungary and consolidate his shaken position on the eastern front. What this means to the German army will be fully known in about two months from now.

Now to revert to the political situation in Hungary. Why was Hitler's move necessary? Hungary had lost on the Voronez front something like 140,000 men and had had enough. Hungary was content to stay by Germany's side as long as Germany was the winner and Germany was content to leave Hungary alone as long as nothing was going wrong with the German armies. But as these armies retreated, Hungarians felt discontent and we had, as a first result, peace feelers. The Hungarian Government was also sending out people who were to try and convince the neutrals that Hungary went to war because she was forced to by circumstances and not of her own free will. This the Germans could not tolerate, now that they are fighting with their backs to a crumbling wall. This is the political aspect of the problem.

RELATIONS BETWEEN TURKEY AND HUNGARY

The occupation of Hungary has been followed with great interest in Turkey. In the first place, there is a racial relationship between the Turks and the Hungarians. Although for years relations between Turkey and Hungary were of the usual correct type, since about two years ago, they became extremely friendly. The present Turkish Ambassador to Britain, Rushen Eshrev Unaydin, who will shortly leave for Britain, was then Minister in Hungary and had contributed a good deal towards the improvement of relations between Hungary and Turkey.

Hungary was always interested in Turkey in the last two years, because it was always thought possible in Budapest that Turkey could serve as an eventual intermediary between the Allies and Hungary, should the latter be able to throw up the sponge and make good her gateway. Turkey was interested because it would have helped her to extend her sphere of influence over Rumania, another country with which she was improving her relations towards the Central European Danubian plains and thus follow Kemal Ataturk's advice to look to the West rather than to the East.

HUNGARY'S PEACE FEELERS

Things were, of course, made difficult by the unconditional surrender clause, but in the last few months the Hungarians had new hopes that they might be able to use the good offices of the Turks in order to mediate a separate peace. But Hitler forestalled all this and now the Turks have nothing more to say about the matter.

The Turkish radio says that now Hungary will suffer the same fate as any of the other occupied countries and finds great similarity between Hungary's position and that of Denmark. The press echoes this belief and underlines the fact that now we see what Hitler's New Order means when things go against the Germans.

Etem Izet Benidje writing in *Son Telegraf* says that if the Germans pretend that the latest measures will help to cement relations between Germany and Hungary, occupation of the country is not enough. One must also win the hearts of the population. And this is about right because the Germans cannot any more count on the Hungarian people.

(*Continued from page* 15.)

If they are flying fighter planes, they fly in convoy led by a 'mother craft' usually a bomber, because they lack the navigational aids of bomber aircraft.

FERRY PILOT'S LIFE

The ferry pilot's life is no bed of roses. He cheerfully shares the discomforts of those stalwarts who, encamped in the wilds of India, service and care for his plane en route to its destination. He must put the safe delivery of a new and valuable aircraft before speed. Any desire to beat records and so add to the hazards of his flight must be suppressed. His job is unspectacular, with no chance of battle honours. His reward is that he knows that every plane he delivers is just that amount more power to the Allied air arm.

A flying control school has recently been established to train ground staff to control incoming and outgoing aircraft. These controllers instruct pilots when and where to land or take off by radio or visual signal and help to ensure their safety in unfamiliar surroundings.

A record of all ferry flights across India is kept. Thus a great mass of information is being collected which will be of much value when plans come to be made for post-war commercial air routes over the length and breadth of India.

BRITAIN'S BUSINESS PROFITS ANALYSED

By DONALD TYERMAN

AN analysis of business profits in Britain during 1943 shows that the ceiling set by the 100 per cent Excess Profits Tax continues to be effective.

After deducting Excess Profits Tax, the gross profits of 1,108 companies in 1943 amounted to £128,600,000, compared with £123,800,000 in 1942. The small improvement is due, first, not to any change in the application of the Excess Profits Tax, but to the provision whereby companies are allowed a percentage of profit on any additional capital that they employ. A number of companies whose turnover has been expanding have, in fact, increased their capital, and their pre-war profit standard, on which the Excess Profits Tax is based, has therefore been raised by the percentage of profit allowed.

Secondly, a number of companies whose profits remained below their pre-war standard in 1942, and, therefore, were not subject to Excess Profits Tax, probably earned more in 1943.

TREND OF DIVIDENDS

The rate of dividend paid on the nominal equity capital of the 1,108 firms has been slightly raised from 10 per cent gross in 1942 to 10·6 per cent in 1943. But as the *nominal* capital is not equivalent to the capital actually employed and is, in fact, generally smaller, these figures are indicative of the trend of dividends rather than of the rate of earnings on the capital employed. The slight increase in dividends has been effected largely at the expense of a reduction in the proportion of profits put to free reserves; this has declined from 22·3 per cent in 1942 to 21·7 per cent in 1943.

These figures of profits and of the rate of dividend paid on the nominal equity capital of the 1,108 companies are, of course, gross that is to say, they are subject to income-tax at 50 per cent.

The Excess Profits Tax, undoubtedly, has been an effective instrument in avoiding a profits inflation, and the raising of the income-tax to 50 per cent of the remainder has reduced net profits below the pre-war level. These impositions have been widely accepted as necessary in wartime. There is no expectation of relaxation of taxation during the war, but there has lately been a good deal of discussion of the Excess Profits Tax in relation to the finance of industry *after the war.*

POST-WAR INDUSTRY AND E.P.T.

There is fairly widespread feeling in industrial circles that the Excess Profits Tax, while fully justified during the war, should be reconsidered as soon as possible after the war, in order to give full scope to private initiative and enterprise. But the mere removal of the Tax would not automatically and completely solve the financial problem of British industry after the war.

First, many of the industries, such as the manufacture of motor cars, which were active in peace, have also been active in war, because they could switch over from the production of civilian goods to that of munitions. To these industries, the removal of the Excess Profits Tax will undoubtedly be of advantage for two reasons. They expect to be able to switch back to peacetime production without much delay and to maintain a level of earnings above the pre-war standard taken as the basis for the calculating of Excess Profits Tax (in other words, the removal of the Tax would mean higher net profits to them); and, secondly since a fifth of the Excess Profits Tax actually paid is due to be refunded after the war, these industries would be provided with a substantial fund of liquid resources that could be used for the extension and modernization of equipment and as working capital for the replenishment of stocks.

There is a second category of industries—mainly those which, like the aircraft manufacturing industry, specialize in the production of war equipment—whose activity and profits are likely to contract after the war because they will neither receive anything like the volume of wartime orders, nor be able to adopt all their equipment to peacetime uses.

REMOVAL A MIXED BLESSING

Removal of the Excess Profits Tax immediately after the war for the second category of industries would be a mixed blessing. True, they would benefit from the refund of Tax in that this should assist them in adapting their equipment to peacetime uses, but they would also feel immediately the full brunt of the curtailment of business and profits. To them the maintenance of the Tax for a few years would provide protection from a fall in profits, because, unlike Income Tax, which is a yearly tax, Excess Profits Tax is calculated on the basis of the excess profits earned during the period of its currency.

In other words, companies whose earnings fall below the pre-war standard or who suffer actual losses, would be able to set off against the tax paid in the war years the amounts by which their future earning fall below the pre-war standard. Concerns, in effect, that suffer substantial falls in profits would be able to claim, not merely one-fifth of the Excess Profits Tax paid, but an amount up to the whole of the tax paid during the war. They could claim the whole of it when the cumulative amount by which their profits fall below the pre-war standard is equivalent to the tax paid during the years of excess profits during the war.

PROBLEMS STILL AHEAD

The third category of industries are those whose activity was substantially curtailed by the war—these include a number of consumers' goods trades—whose profits never reached the pre-war standard and which, therefore, did not pay Excess Profits Tax. Since they have not paid Excess Profits Tax, these industries will not have the benefit of the refund of a fifth of the tax. Yet, they must expand their activity rapidly after the war and may be short of capital for re-equipment and the replenishment of stocks.

These post-war problems are, of course, capable of solution, but the mere removal of the Excess Profits Tax immediately after the war would not solve them all.

DUTCH DECORATION PRESENTED TO AIR COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF.—Her Majesty Queen Wilhelmina of the Netherlands, conferred the Knight Grand Cross of the Order of Orange-Nassau on Air Chief Marshal Sir Richard Peirse, Air Commander-in-Chief, South east Asia, in recognition of the excellent co-operation of the R.A.F. with Her Majesty's Forces in defence of the Netherlands East Indies against the Japanese. A. C. M. Sir Richard Peirse recently received the insignia from the hands of Monsieur A. Merens, Netherlands Consul-General, at New Delhi. A. C. M. Sir Richard Peirse photographed wearing the Cross and the Ribbon of the Insignia.

"Valli Tirumanam" is the name of a Tamil play which the unit of a Madras Regiment in South India have next on their production programme.

The man to whom most of the credit goes for putting this charming story on the stage is Sep. Sriramulu Naidu of Trichinopoly who was a dance teacher for 18 years before he joined the army 2½ years ago. He is the story writer, the dance instructor, the stage director, the make-up expert and that is enough for anyone man.

WAR DIARY

BRITAIN AND GERMANY

19TH APR.—Major-General Vandenburg has been appointed as Deputy-Commander-in-Chief of the Allied Expeditionary Air Force.

Mosquitoes attacked Berlin and objectives in Western Germany last night. U.S. aircraft attacked Kassel, Eschwege, Paderborn, Gutersloh, Sippstadt, Werl, etc.

Thirteen German aircraft were destroyed in raids on Britain last night.

20TH APR.—London had an alert last night. The raid was comparatively short.

Goering has made an appeal to the army.

Mr. Henry Stimson, U.S. Secretary of War at his Press Conference to-day said: "Our aerial invasion of Germany is continuing. Pressure is increasing and enemy resistance on the whole is decreasing."

21ST APR.—The House of Commons to-day discussed future relations between Great Britain and the Dominions.

Princess Elizabeth celebrates her 18th birth-day to-day.

Two German aircrafts were destroyed last night over North-eastern and Eastern England in raids on England.

The British Ambassador in U.S. Viscount Halifax made a statement on the war and the peace to come.

Cologne and Berlin were heavily bombed by the Allied bombers. One thousand six hundred pounds of bombs were dropped.

22ND APR.—The debate in the Commons about the future relations of Britain and the Dominions concluded to-day.

Invasion before the end of April was forecast by a German military spokesman. The German Command expects a new Allied offensive in Italy when they invade Western Europe.

Haman was hard hit by Allied bombers.

23RD APR.—There was slight enemy air activity over parts of East England last night.

R.A.F. bombers last night attacked Dusseldorf and Brunswick.

24TH APR.—Very strong forces of U.S. aircraft attacked Friedrichshaven and Munich to-day.

Five German aircrafts were destroyed over Britain during the night when bombs were dropped at several places in Southern and Western England.

Travel anywhere overseas from Britain is being suspended from Thursday, by an order issued to-day.

25TH APR.—Sir John Anderson, Chancellor of the Exchequer, introduced Britain's seventh wartime budget in the House of Commons to-day.

Mr. Attlee, Deputy Prime Minister, told the Commons that it is the intention to invite Dominion Prime Minister during their stay in Britain to attend meetings of the War Cabinet not concerned purely with United Kingdom affairs.

Royal Air Force bombers attacked last night Munich, Karlsruhe and other places in Germany.

The German News Agency announces a meeting between Hitler and Mussolini on Saturday and Sunday.

STUDENTS DAY AT COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF'S WAR EXHIBITION.—Students' from Delhi Schools and Colleges were the guest of the Commander-in-Chief, General Sir Claude Auchinleck, at the War Exhibition held in the grounds of his New Delhi residence.

Charming Indian girls try for themselves a "jungle basha" built of bamboo and grass.

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE ATLANTIC

19TH APR.—The House of Representatives voted to extend President Roosevelt's authority to make Lend-Lease Contracts for another year after June 30.

20TH APR.—An assurance that the Allies will continue scrupulously to spare religious and cultural monuments is given in President Roosevelt's reply to the recent appeal to the chief belligerent governments by Mr. De Valera on behalf of the City of Rome.

The House Naval Sub-Committee to-day recommended immediate steps to be taken to acquire permanent possession of the Western Hemisphere bases leased to them by the British on a 99-year basis in exchange for 50 over-age U.S. destroyers.

The U.S. Senate Appropriations Committee approved the 32,645 million dollar Navy Supply Bill.

An additional 1,400,000 men will be needed by the American Armed Forces before the end of the year according to a statement issued by the U.S. Secretary of War and the Secretary of the Navy. The U.S. has summoned 11 million men to the colours.

21ST APR.—The U.S. Secretary of War Mr. Henry Stimson said that out of a total of 145,082 American war casualties in all war theatres up to April 7th, 25,013 had been killed.

22ND APR.—The Chairman of the U.S. War Production Board Mr. Donald M. Nelson declared. "No nation or combination of nations in history has assembled an invasion armada equal to ours, either in size or in engineering and construction."

24TH APR.—The Chief of Staff of the U.S. 10th Fleet Rear Admiral Francis S. Low revealed that "The Germans are now losing at a ratio of more than one U-boat for each Allied vessel they sink."

• • •

INDIA, BURMA AND CEYLON

19TH APR.—In the Arakan during 18th April Allied offensive patrol continued south of the Maungdaw-Buthidaung road. South of Imphal plain on the Tiddim road there was little activity on 17th April.

The National Defence Council met again. His Excellency the Viceroy presided. His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief presented a general review of war situation.

20TH APR.—Allied troops advancing from Dimapur have made contact with those defending the Kohima area. North-east of Imphal plain Allied troops have made further progress. In Northern Burma, the Chinese troops have entered Warazup, a Japanese key-point.

21ST APR.—North-east of Imphal plain the Allies have occupied positions 30 miles from Imphal town and the Allied advance continues. On the Palel road a Japanese attack was repulsed.

22ND APR.—In the Kohima area Allied troops are consolidating the positions captured in the past few days and the situation continues to develop favourably. The Allies have also improved their positions north-east of Imphal where the Japanese have sustained heavy losses.

23RD APR.—During April 22 Allies continued the consolidation of their positions around Kohima. The Japs are grouping their forces after heavy losses. There is hard fighting in the Bishenpur neighbourhood, where the enemy advance is being held.

24TH APR.—The road from Kohima to Dimapur is at present open and the relief of the original garrison at Kohima has been completed. Allied troops are operating on the Ukhrul road 30 miles from Imphal. Fighting continues in the Bishenpur area.

25TH APR.—There is no material change in the Kohima area where mopping up continues. Allied advance continues along the Ukhrul road.

* * *

RUSSIA AND FINLAND

19TH APR.—Soviet troops have entered the outer defences of Sebastapol. Fighting has shifted into the town. The city is in flames.

20TH APR.—Russian troops have broken through to the gates of Sebastapol. They now occupy the Makenzia heights overlooking the Black Sea port.

21ST APR.—The Soviet forces repelled the German attack on Narva. South and east of Stanislaov Allied troops repulsed attacks by strong forces of enemy tanks and infantry.

22ND APR.—Wave after wave—one every hour—of German tanks have been battering against Marshal Zhukov's lines in the Stanislaov area. Bitter fighting is taking place all round Sebastopol and the final assault is being prepared.

A statement on the breakdown of Soviet-Finnish peace talks is published to-day.

23RD APR.—Regrouping movements on an unprecedented scale are now going on on both sides of the front.

24TH APR.—There was no material change at the fronts. Soviet air attacks on enemy positions continue.

* * *

ITALY, AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

20TH APR.—Gun duels are reported in Cassino. Infantry activity slightly increased along the lower Garigliano.

21ST APR.—Mortor and artillery duels occurred in many places and the Allied patrols operated along the entire front.

Marshal Badoglio announced the formation of a new Italian Cabinet, representative of all the six Italian parties.

22ND APR.—Patrols were active all along the front. There were small clashes with the enemy.

23RD APR.—A quiet day generally on all fronts. Patrols of both sides were active. Allied troops improved their position in one sector of the Allied bridgehead.

24TH APR.—Generally quiet prevails on all front. Patrol activity continues.

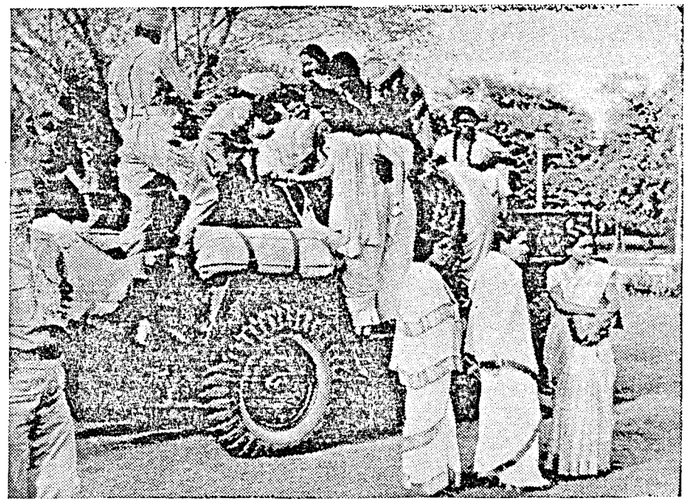
25TH APR.—American troops on the Anzio beachhead have improved their positions.

* * *

VICHY, FREE FRANCE AND THE OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

19TH APR.—About 1,000 Allied bombers attacked heavily last night Paris, Roven, Tergnier in Franch. A record weight of over 4,000 tons of bombs were dropped.

20TH APR.—R.A.F. bombers attacked last night the Bulgarian rail centre of Plovdiv.



A group of student visitors to the War Services Exhibition.

German military installations in France were attacked by over 1,000 heavy bombers and 750 fighters.

21ST APR.—Over 1,000 R.A.F. aircraft bombed military objectives in La Chapelle, Lense and other places in Franch, Bucharest, Ploseti and Turnu-Severin in Rumania and targets in Belgium.

22ND APR.—Allied bombers attacked military objectives in Northern France in strength this afternoon.

23RD APR.—Allied bombers attacked aircraft factories at Wiener Neustadt, Schwe Chat and Bad Voslau in Austria.

25TH APR.—Allied bombers attacked Nancy, Metz, Dijou and Pas DeCalais in France.

* * *

THE NEUTRAL COUNTRIES

19TH APR.—The Turkish reply to the British and American noto on the subject of Turkish supplies to Germany is believed to be very favourable to the British and American request.

20TH APR.—Turkey is to stop chrome exports to Germany from to-morrow, it is officially announced.

21ST APR.—The Turkish Foreign Minister, M. Menemencioglu made a statement to the Turkish National Assembly on the stoppage of chrome supply to Germany.

22ND APR.—The Swedish reply to the Anglo-American demand to stop export of ball-bearing to Germany was sent to-day. The reply is said to be negative but "moderate".

24TH APR.—The Spanish Foreign office has announced that the whole of the legion of Spanish volunteers fighting on the Russian front has now been withdrawn.

* * *

THE FAR EAST

19TH APR.—The Allied Air Force under the Command of Admiral Sir James Somerville made a successful attack on Sabang and Lhorga at the northern end of Sumatra to-day. Heavy damages were inflicted.

20TH APR.—Moen and Dublon Islands in the Truk atoll were attacked by United States bombers. Ponape Island and Jap positions in the Marshall Islands were also raided. It is revealed that the United States have a fine new N. Pacific Navay base on the island of Adak in the Aleutian Islands.

21ST APR.—Wake Island in the Central Pacific, Jap bases in the Corolines, Jap positions in the Marshalls, Pakin and Ujeland Islands were attacked by the Allied planes.

22ND APR.—Allied air patrols sank a 1,000-ton enemy cargo vessel west of Hollandia, in New Guinea. Allied bombers raided Rabaul, Madang and Buka.

23RD APR.—Allied aircraft bombed Tabar Islands in New Ireland, Lakunai, Vunakanu and Keravat aerodromes in New Guinea and Jap installations in Wewak. Targets at Mojiga, Alia and Jaba were also hit.

24TH APR.—Allied troops have captured Hollandia, a big Jap base in the Dutch New Guinea. American troops have made a landing at Tanah Mehrat Bay.

To-day's communiqué from General MacArthur reports that the 18th Jap army along the coast of New Guinea is new completely isolated, like the Japanese armies in the Bismarck and Solomon Archipelagoes. A Jap 20,000-ton ship in Saigon area has been sunk.

25TH APR.—It is announced that United States forces have occupied Uzelang atoll in the Marshall Islands.

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MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

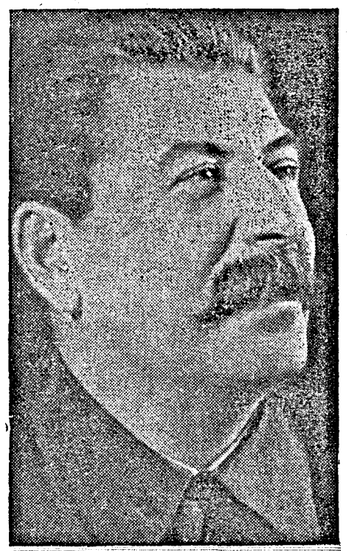
VOL. V FRIDAY, MAY 5, 1944 No. 35

Only a SYNCHRONISED BLOW can crush Hitlerite Germany

OUR great Allies the United States of America and Great Britain are making considerable contributions to the Red Army's successes by holding the front in Italy against the German troops from us. The Allies are supplying us with very valuable strategic raw material and armaments and are subjecting military objectives in Germany to systematic bombing, thus undermining Germany's military might

AS a result of its successful offensive the Red Army has emerged at our State frontiers over a distance of more than 400 kilometers (250 miles) having liberated from the German-Fascist yoke more than three-quarters of occupied Soviet territory The task before us now is to clear our entire land from Fascist invaders, and restore the State frontiers of the Soviet Union along all lines from the Black Sea to the Barents Sea

THE German Army can now be likened to a wounded beast, which is forced to crawl away to its lair—Germany—there to heal its wounds But the wounded beast in its lair does not cease to be dangerous



Marshal STALIN

IN order to eliminate the menace of enslavement from our country and the countries allied to us, it is imperative that the wounded German beast be hotly pursued and finished off in its own lair

WHILE pursuing the enemy we must liberate from German bondage our brother Poles and Czechoslovaks and other people of Western Europe allied to us who are under the heel of Hitlerite Germany. It is obvious that this task is more difficult than the expulsion of German troops from the boundaries of the Soviet Union

IT can only be accomplished by a joint approach by the Soviet Union, Great Britain and the United States of America, by combined blows from the east by our armies, and from the west by the armies of our Allies

THERE can be no doubt that only by such a synchronised blow can Hitlerite Germany be completely crushed

Marshal STALIN, in a message on the eve of May Day celebrations

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[NOTE.—*The summary of news and comments contained in the* MADRAS WAR REVIEW *generally relate to events and statements published till Wednesday, every week.*]

GREATEST MILITARY OPERATION AHEAD

"We have in front of us the greatest military operation upon which either of our countries, or perhaps any country in all history was ever engaged. Although the Germans have to protect a coast line stretching from the north of Norway to the Pyrenees, and can only guess where our blow is most likely to fall, they know it is coming somewhere. They have had many months to put up formidable fortifications. They have garrisoned them with many divisions of well-trained men.

"We can be sure they have neglected nothing human ingenuity can suggest to strengthen their defence. They will certainly not let us land or advance after we have landed without hard and bitter fighting."

LORD HALIFAX, *British Ambassador in the United States of America, in his address to Charleston Chamber of Commerce, on Tuesday.*

❖

JAPAN'S WAR POWER CRIPPLED

"The Japanese Air Force and above all Japanese merchant shipping is being destroyed at a rate which by itself will cripple Japan's ability to continue the war and she has had to witness the co-prosperity sphere turning into a sphere of collapse.

"When Germany is beaten, few in Britain will not feel a holiday spirit. If it lasts for more than two years, that holiday spirit is treachery to our Empire and to our Allies. I know that we have the stability, firmness, foresight and vision to avoid any slackening when the war with Germany is won."

—CAPTAIN OLIVER LYTTELTON, *Minister of Production, in a speech at Aldershot, on Saturday.*

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THEY ARE NOT SUPERMEN

"The Japanese fighting spirit seems to be unimpaired, but they are not supermen. They are more formidable if they are allowed to develop their own plans unimpeded, but if you throw the spanner into the works, they are not good at getting the works going again."

LIEUT.-GENERAL EDWARD PUTTICK, *the Chief of General Staff of the New Zealand Military Forces, in a statement in London, on Monday.*

MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. V FRIDAY, MAY 5, 1944 No. 35

INVASION: INTERLOCKED STRATEGY

TWO notable pronouncements have been made this week, both on May Day—one by Mr. Churchill at the Conference of Dominion Prime Ministers, and the other by M. Stalin in an Order of the Day. Mr. Churchill in his speech referred to the solidarity of the British Commonwealth and Empire and said that they had, fighting on their side, very powerful Allies—"the mighty forces of the Soviet Union and the great republic of the United States." M. Stalin, in a May Day message, acknowledged the valuable help given by "our great Allies, the United States of America and Great Britain" and said that they were "making considerable contributions to the Red Army's successes by holding the front in Italy against the Germans and by diverting a considerable part of German troops from us," as well as by "supplying us with very valuable strategic raw material and armaments" and "subjecting military objectives in Germany to systematic bombing, thus undermining Germany's military might." These statements from two of the leaders of the United Nations once again underline and emphasize the essential unity of the Allies in regard to their common objective and the means to be employed to achieve that objective.

Air Invasion of Europe

ONE of them is the bombing of military targets in Germany and occupied Europe. This has been systematically and persistently going on by day and by night. During the last two weeks and more, particularly, these bombing raids have greatly intensified: they are the great pre-invasion air bombardment of Axis Europe. Vital rail centres and important factories in France and Belgium and war industries in Germany have been the main targets. What is considered to be the most furious night and day air bombardment of the war took place last week (April 27), when about 5,000 bombers and fighters carried out a grand assault on Europe and dropped about 8,000 tons of bombs. For the first time, United States Air Forces in Western Europe launched two major attacks in a single day. Two days afterwards (April 29), United States heavy bombers attacked in very great strength industrial and military targets in Berlin shortly before noon. This assault is described as the greatest daylight blow of the war at the German Capital.

THE air invasion of Hitler's European fortress is a prelude to the land invasion. "If you want to forecast the progress of the war," said Air Chief Marshal Sir Arthur Tedder sometime ago, "watch the bombing pattern." If we closely study the "bombing pattern" of the last few weeks, we find that in addition to attacking industrial targets in Germany, particularly factories producing aircraft and aircraft component parts, Allied bombers are devoting special attention to airfields, communication centres and unspecified military objectives on the Channel coast—in Northern France, Belgium and Western Germany. These attacks on communication centres show that the ground is being prepared for the great Battle of Europe—the Invasion, or the Second Front. That the Second Front is not a new thing but one already in being was well stressed by the great Soviet leader six months ago (November 8, 1943), M. Stalin said: "Now the Allies are determined to deal decisive blows against the enemy; German industrial centres are being bombed. Thus our efforts are being facilitated. This is something like a Second Front.

The Wounded Beast

IN his May Day message, M. Stalin refers to the manner in which the final blow against Germany should be struck. He compares the German Army to a wounded beast which is crawling away to its lair to lick its wounds, and says, "in order to eliminate the menace of enslavement from our country and the countries allied to us, it is imperative that the wounded German beast be hotly pursued and finished off in its own lair." M. Stalin emphasizes the fact that this "can only be accomplished by a joint approach by the Soviet Union, Great Britain and the United States of America, by combined blows from the east by our armies and from the west by the armies of our Allies," and that "only by such a synchronized blow can Hitlerite Germany be completely crushed." From the east, the Soviet forces advanced with great rapidity and pursued the enemy far beyond the frontiers of Russia. After the capture of Tiraspol and Odessa, Red Army forces have crossed the lower Dniester at several points. Marshal Koniev's troops have swept across the middle Pruth, crossed the Sereth and are in the foothills of the Carpathian mountains.

THE position of the forces under the German General, von Kleist, is very uncomfortable indeed. He is faced with the difficult task of extricating the German Sixth Army and the Rumanian satellite troops and get behind the prepared Galatz line. He has to prevent Marshal Koniev's double-thrust between the Carpathian foothills and the Sereth river and between the Pruth and the Dniester, and at the same time ward off General Halinovsky who is pursuing the German and Rumanian divisions closely from the Odessa area. He must, at any cost, prevent the Russians from breaking the Galatz line, for on it depends the security of Bucharest, the Ploesti oil fields and Central Rumania.

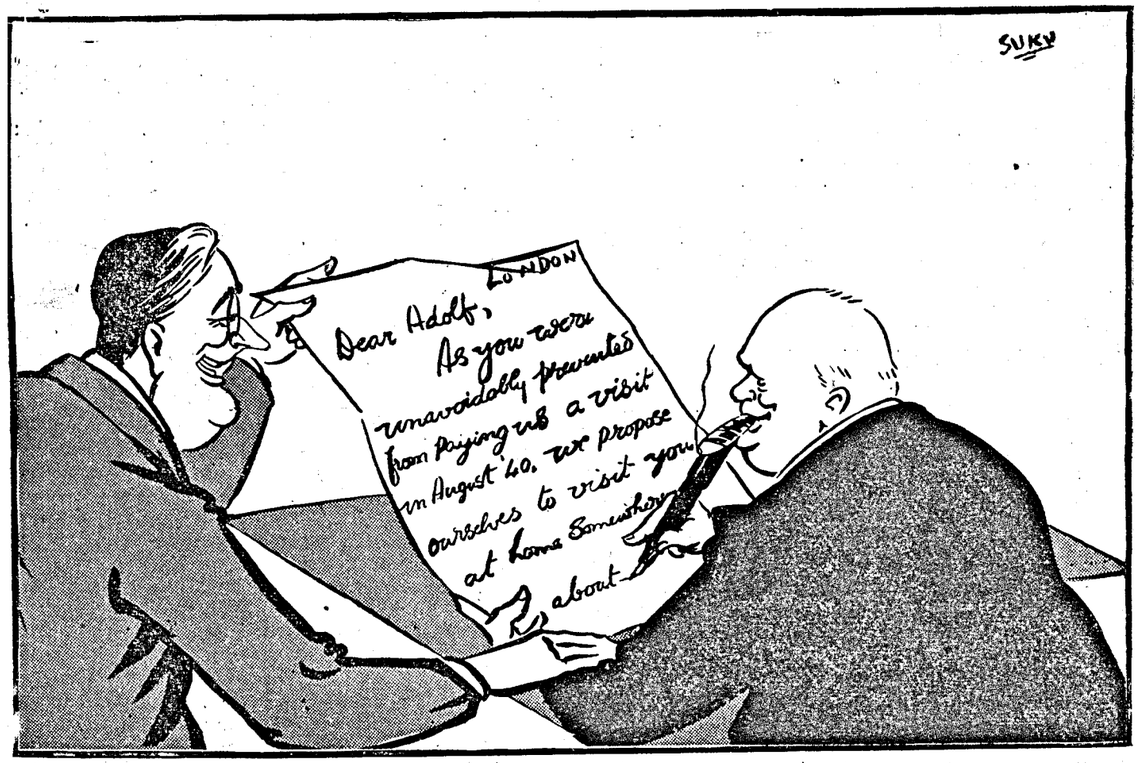
AS for von Manstein, the Russian capture of Tarnopol promises to bring trouble, but he has the advantage of good communications in the rear and has been reinforced by fresh troops. His counter-attacks at Stanislawow did not come as a surprise; it was expected that he would do it when the advancing Red Army paused to get its second wind. Now the area around Stanislawow is the most sensitive spot. If the Russians break through this to Lwow, they are on the direct road to Germany.

The Lull before the Storm

NOW there is a lull—as usual the lull before the storm. Europe is on its toes expecting the "synchronized blow" both from the east and the west. The plan, the time, and the place for the assault from the west were discussed at the Teheran Conference, accepted by M. Stalin and co-ordinated with the Russian offensive.

THAT interlocking strategy is about to unfold itself as part of one great global plan to annihilate and destroy the colossal Fascist beast in the completest manner possible.

"WE ARE COMING"!



—Specially drawn for the MADRAS WAR REVIEW

RUNNING COMMENTARY

Indo-Burma Front—Battle for Communications

The first round in the battle for communications on the Indo-Burma front may be stated to be almost over. Hard fighting has been going on for more than a month, and the honours of the round go to the 14th Army, which has prevented all attempts of the enemy to capture Imphal and Kohima. In a review of the situation given on Saturday last, Lord LOUIS MOUNTBATTEN, Supreme Commander of South-East Asia, has indicated the trend of Allied operations which are taking the form of initially locating and pinning down the Japanese and preventing them from gaining full use of the roads. The Admiral draws attention to the fact that in considering the Allied campaign we must remember that the front stretches 800 miles from Arakan through the Chindwin and Hukawng valleys to Yunnan. In the dense jungle country the enemy has the advantage of interior lines of communications, and it is not easy to prevent him from undertaking deep penetrations with the troops available to us at present.

As regards the Japanese penetration on the Imphal front, it was not unexpected, and Lord LOUIS observes that "its aim was, partly, for the value of political propaganda." Tokyo wanted to stimulate Japanese morale by token successes, and it has failed. The Tokyo Radio which was regaling its listeners with boasts of "victories," "annihilations" and the "march to Delhi" has now come down to adopt an apologetic tone. In a broadcast on April 22, it reflected the failure of the Japanese to attain their objectives when it said, "The enemy are offering the most effective resistance against the Japanese forces." Lord LOUIS referred to political propaganda as part of the Japanese objective. The other part of their aim in driving into Manipur was to cut the main Allied communication lines which carry supplies to General STILWELL'S troops which are advancing into northern Burma.

* * *

Assam Fighting Part of Large Scheme of Operations

The fighting that is going on in Assam should be viewed in its proper perspective, for it is not an isolated front, but a part and parcel of the greater war that is going on in East Asia as a whole. This may be broadly surveyed as follows: In Burma itself the enemy has not succeeded in interrupting our main supply lines half as much as our troops have done against the Japanese communications leading to their hard-pressed forces defending Myitkyna. Here on the Assam front, as the Japanese troops advance further into the thick jungles, they have to depend more and more on supplies which have to reach them at great hazards, as the areas through which they have to be carried are open to our attacks on land and from the sea. As regards the sea, the attack on Sabang shows that we have other plans of adding to the worries of the enemy. The transfer of Admiral MOUNTBATTEN'S Headquarters to Ceylon and the presence of a large naval force in Indian waters clearly point to the fact that some plan of amphibious operations is under active consideration to supplement the fighting on land. As regards the Pacific the Allied forces are drawing closer and closer to the Philippines. Thus the fighting in the Imphal-Kohima area fits into a pattern of a large scheme of operations against Japan.

A BALLADE AGAINST EXTRAVAGANT EXPECTATIONS

(*By* R.G.)

To throw a ray of light athwart the gloom
  Of Armageddon and the dire mellay
In which so many brave men face their doom
  In stopping Hitler and his little way
  Of grabbing what he wants—I sing, or say,
A hopeful piece, and write it down in ink.
  We'll win the war— But not, I fear, to-day.
It will not be so easy as you think.

Above our heads the Lightnings dive and zoom,
  And Japanese seem very far away.
Much nearer home increasing taxes loom
  Exceeding high, and deuced hard to pay.*
  But even if Sir Jeremy should flay
Your money-bags and wallets, do not shrink
  But save what you have left, and love Sir J.
(It will not be so easy as you think).

In India's land the great words buzz and boom
  And make the issues cloudier every day.
If, masters, you had time enough and room
  (As Marvell might have put it), you might play
  Securely with your Everlasting Nay.
But if the horse you water will not drink,
  Will you persuade him with a donkey's bray?—
It will not be so easy as you think.

ENVOY

Dear Sir, you had an offer yesterday
  Which you refused with something like a wink.
You thought you could do better — and you may;
  But will it be so easy as you think?

POSTSCRIPT

When war is ended, even by the Cooum
  (Where bureaucrats are seldom known to stray
In flowery lands of Make-believe, or groom
  A Pegasus of fancies wild and gay)
  There will be plans of reconstruction—yea
There will be bright ideas to make you blink.
  But ere you prophets go galumphing—hey,
It will not be so easy as you think.

* *Note.*—

I hope my bank will overdrafts O.K.
And not insist that overdrafts should shrink.

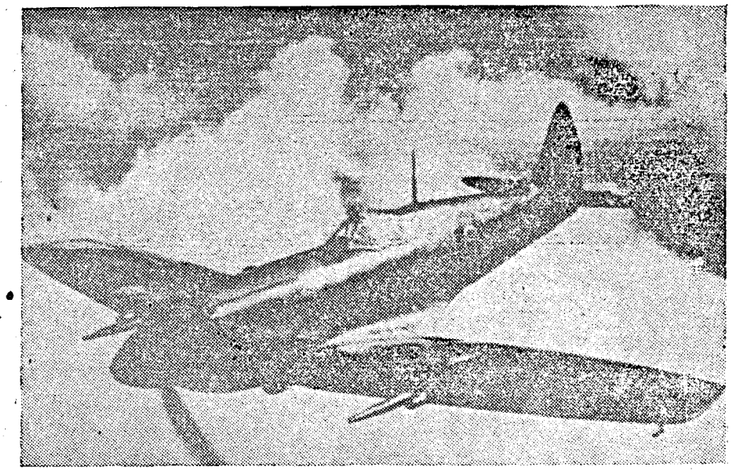
BRITAIN PREPARES TO STRIKE AT HITLER'S EUROPEAN FORTRESS

By A. J. McWHINNIE

AFTER the Dunkirk evacuation of the British Army in 1940, Britain was woefully short of naval resources to resist any German attempt at landing on Britain's southern shores. No fewer than 70 British destroyers were damaged in the Dunkirk operations and were in the shipyards for repairs for several months. That must have left fewer than 100 destroyers to be stretched across the world for safeguarding the main trade routes.

In the English Channel itself fishing trawlers, hastily requisitioned from fishing ports, had to make up for the naval deficiency in the narrow waters across which invasion by German forces was expected hourly. While the official facts about Britain's naval disposition at that time have never been released I estimate that in that vital stretch of water there were fewer than a score of front-line destroyers and sloops helped out by armed trawlers available to meet a German invasion armada if it came.

Yet, the German navy was very much more powerful then than it is to-day. It was known that preparations for invasion of Britain were almost complete. Large numbers of Rhine barges and big Dutch canal boats were ready on the opposite shores to be loaded with troops and escorted by the German navy across to the British Isles.



ALLIES' NEW INVASION PLANE.—One of the first photographs of the new specialized fighter, Spitfire *XII. This aircraft is designed to give the best performance at low altitudes. Its fuselage has been strengthened to accommodate the heavy Rolls-Royce Griffon engine. Note the clipped wings and the modified tail unit.*

NAZIS WERE KEPT AT WATER'S EDGE

British naval men who took part in those anxious night patrols in the English Channel are now scattered around the world's oceans. But wherever they are they still talk, marvel and speculate about the way in which the German invaders were kept at the water's edge by a score of destroyers and sloops, armed fishing trawlers and a handful of motor torpedo boats.

In Britain to-day nobody questions that the Navy is well able, with its new strength and its old fighting traditions, to deliver assault craft, guns, tanks, trucks, food and supplies at the right place—or places—at the right times. All realize the dangers of making a landing. But they do not doubt that landings will be made.

The landings of Allied armies on Sicily, Italy, in North Africa, in India and Ceylon were accepted generally as the "Navy does it again."

THE "BIG SHOW"

Even the term "invasion" is rarely used in Britain to describe the coming biggest amphibious operation the world has ever known. Some talk about the "liberation of Europe", others about the "big attack on Hitler's Europe" and most about the "big show."

The dangers facing thousands of ships which will be involved in the operation are very real. Hitler will have bombers, shells from big shore batteries, torpedoes, shells and bullets from naval guns, minefields and even, it is now rumoured, Midget submarines to oppose the passage of the greatest armadas the world has ever known.

Yet despite the knowledge that the operations will cost fine ships and the lives of gallant men no one in Britain to-day has the slightest doubt that a big scale Dunkirk in reverse will succeed.

HUGE FOOD STORES READY

In addition to the vast armies and war materials brought into Britain in readiness Britain, too, has become the larder of the United Nations. Eight thousand food dumps at strategic parts of the country guarantee that the liberating armies and the men behind them, civilian war workers of Britain and the liberated peoples will have enough food to enable supply ships to be diverted to the Second Front operations.

In addition to warships and vast numbers of merchantmen no fewer than 50 different types of British landing craft will take part in the biggest naval exploit of all time. Those 50 different types of landing craft are in themselves a symbol of the way Britain with her back to the wall is prepared for the big offensive. They were designed as offensive craft at the very time Hitler was preparing to invade Britain.

Within six months of Dunkirk those first major landing craft were undergoing trials on the River Mersey. Soon, they were being built in their thousands all round the British coast and even in factories and garages miles away from the sea. Blue-prints were flown across the Atlantic for production to be started in America.

There have been many developments since those days. Landing craft have lost many of their former discomforts and disadvantages. But they still symbolize the traditional British outlook towards ladings in Europe.

PROGRESS IN AIRCRAFT DESIGN

By S. E. VEALE

A survey of aircraft design over the past 20 years discloses that many of the technical improvements in aircraft had their birth in Britain. Before the war British fighters and bombers in the more important categories were the standard by which those of other countries were judged, and at the outbreak of war in September 1939, the Royal Air Force was equipped with types having characteristics which both the Germans and Britain's allies have since adopted.

In fighters, emphasis was laid on fire power, armour for the pilot, protected fuel tanks, maximum operating height, and a high degree of manœuvrability. The successful pursuit of these objectives paid a handsome dividend in the Battle of Britain in 1940, and exposed the errors into which the Luftwaffe had fallen in its resolve to rely on quantity rather than quality in its equipment.

Similarly, Britain favoured the large, well-armed and well-armoured bomber, capable of carrying a great weight of the heaviest bombs over great distances. Other countries, notably Germany, believed in the small, lightly armed and lightly armoured bomber, and those which built big machines failed to protect them adequately or to make provision for big loads of big bombs. To-day, Britain's allies and her enemies have turned increasingly towards larger size and more extensive armour and armament.

PRINCIPLES OF PROGRESS

Progress in aircraft design comes from three main sources—

(1) a steady and gradual refinement of tried and proved methods;

(2) bold departures from common practices, and

(3) close attention to details, internal and external.

Examples from the range of British warplanes illustrating these methods of progress are (1) the Typhoon fighter, (2) the Mosquito fighter and bomber and (3) the Lancaster and Halifax heavy bombers. Sometimes all three methods are combined, as in the Supermarine Spitfire fighter.

Few technical advances have led to a reduction in the weight of the aircraft. The majority have raised it. As a result, the modern aircraft, size for size, is far heavier than its predecessor of a few years ago. The extra weight, of course, is not a dead loss. The clever designer makes it give a good return in the form of higher speed, better take-off, improved performance, or in some other desirable quality. Even a coat of paint adds weight, but this may be necessary to protect the outer covering of the aircraft from corrosion and rust or to make detection by the enemy more difficult.

The introduction of the retracting undercarriage added to the structure weight, but increased speed. The variable pitch airscrew is many times heavier than the fixed-pitch airscrew but so increases efficiency that few aircraft now use fixed-pitch types. Flaps add something to the total weight but they assist the take-off and steepen the glide for landing, and are almost indispensable on the faster types. Batteries of cannon and machine-guns in fighters and gun turrets in bombers all mean additional loads, as does heavy armour plating; but hitting power is necessary to win air battles and armour for the safety of the crew.

MECHANIZATION, EFFICIENCY AND WEIGHT

Parallel trends have been seen in aero engineering. In the quest for ever-increasing height, superchargers weighing many pounds have become necessary. As their efficiency increased so a further fitment had to be added—a device to cool the air which the supercharger had heated during compression. With the growing "mechanization" of aircraft the engine was called upon to supply electric, hydraulic and pneumatic power to work the many moving parts, in addition to meeting its own needs. Generators and pumps were therefore necessary. In some aircraft the demand for these additional services is so great that a separate engine has had to be installed to provide them, thus adding still more weight, but again raising efficiency.

The science of aeronautics holds fewer mysteries to-day than it did 20 years ago, but those best qualified to judge believe that many discoveries have yet to be made. Recent investigations into the behaviour of air as it passes over and round an aircraft has established the fact that even the smallest projections can take away speed and spoil performance.

SUCCESS OF POLISHED SPITFIRE

To get the highest efficiency, the air must be made to flow smoothly over every part. Even rivet heads, which are seldom deeper than one-thirty-second part of an inch, act as a brake. Where the greatest speed is sought, rivet heads run flush with the skin so that the flow shall not be disturbed. The value of a smooth surface was recently demonstrated in Italy. In a bid to get a few more miles an hour, the wings of a Spitfire were waxed and polished; the extra speed so obtained enabled the Spitfire to catch fast, high-flying German reconnaissance aircraft which, earlier, had not been easy to intercept.

MADRASSI GUNNERS BLAST THE JAPS IN ARAKAN

Post-war maps of the Arakan are going to show big reductions in the heights of some of the hills of the Mayu range, thanks largely to the activities of a certain battery of Madrassi gunners who are daily blasting Jap positions dug in around the summits. I stood by the command post of this Madrassi battery, writes an Indian Army Observer, and watched their shells lop the top off a distant hill-feature like a knife taking the top of a tender coconut. Day and night these gunners in company with those of Mahratta and Punjabi batteries in the same regiment, are blasting the Japs out of their hill hide-outs just put as quickly as they can be located.

So far this regiment has pumped 4,000 shells into enemy positions in five weeks —they support Infantry attacks with the same accuracy with which they bring fire to bear on odd pockets of Japs.

An officer of the Unit told me gleefully of the day when from his observation post, overlooking Jap positions, he saw a column of the enemy moving across open country carrying a gun in pieces. The fire which he brought down on them reduced the party to much the same condition as their guns.

These Indian gunners have mastered the intricacies of their job with immense enthusiasm. Many of their shoots are now carried out in co-operation with "air observation post"—the man who flies above the target in a light plane and indicates necessary corrections to the gunners by radio direct from his cock-pit.

PIONEERS SAVE AMMUNITION AND STORES

If the Japs in the Imphal area expected to gain ammunition, food and supplies from dumps they had hoped we would be forced to abandon, they must have been bitterly disappointed, writes an Indian Army Observer. Due to the strenuous efforts of pioneers from Bengal and Bihar, ordnance dumps were cleared and ammunition loaded on to trucks in preparation for its transportation back to Imphal.

Little Mundas, aborigines from Bihar, and Mussalmans from Eastern Bengal worked side by side, sometimes under enemy fire. Once they watched two of our Hurricanes shoot down a Jap Zero, watched the incendiary bullets rip into the enemy plane's fuselage as it skimmed over them and then watched it crash in flames.

As they moved away from their camp, towards Imphal, the Japs moved in and started mortaring them, but a jungle battery was in position and a few shells from it soon silenced the infiltrating enemy.

On reaching Imphal they were flown out to a destination in Eastern Bengal. They were so tired that they were asleep within five minutes of leaving the ground. Within a few hours they were at their new destination, and after a few days rest, ready to tackle their next job.

R.A.F. MOBILE FIELD HOSPITALS

ROYAL Air Force Mobile field hospitals based close to the Burma Border are equipped to deal with any emergency from a sore throat to a major operation. They come to India from England entirely staffed by R.A.F. personnel and sisters from the Princess Mary's R.A.F. Nursing Service and are now playing an important part in the welfare of Service Personnel in the front-line.

A complete dental clinic is part of each unit. So are bacteriological and radiological sections, which are portable and self-contained. The whole hospital can be packed up in a matter of hours and moved to any area in which it is urgently required by its own permanent transport system.

Since they have arrived in India, locations up and down the border have been chosen for them where they be of the most strategic importance. Tents are usually struck but if no other buildings are available on the site they are preferred.

"I came across one of these mobile hospitals tucked away in a valley surrounded by some of the most beautifully tinted hills in the world," writes an R.A.F. Public Relations Officer. "It is an ideal place for recuperation with crisp mountain air and loads of unclouded sunlight. I thought that if I had to be ill, this is where I should like to be.

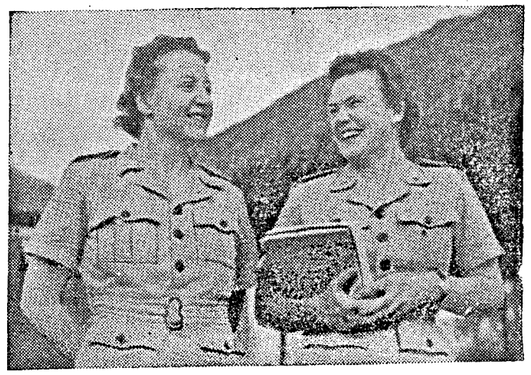
"The commanding officer, formerly a leading surgeon in Wigan, Lancashire, said his hospital had just moved there after having been on a tented site. A squadron leader was found digging for victory and stated that before joining the R.A.F. he had been Resident Casualty Officer at the Royal Manchester Infirmary. Later he performed a minor operation on an ex-motor driver from Gray's End, Kent.

"The dental officer, a 37 years old flight-lieutenant from Ely, Cambridgeshire, supervises the dental clinic. When I visited him he was attending to the teeth of his own dental mechanic, a leading aircraftman from Uxbridge.

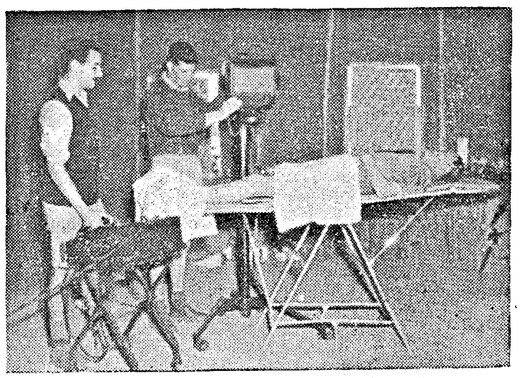
"The bacteriological section is supervised by a 43 years old flight-lieutenant, a former consulting physician from Cardiff. The Radio-therapy and X-ray room is well equipped, considering that all the apparatus has to be mobile. The officer-in-charge is a flight-lieutenant from Blackheath, London, and is ably assisted by a sergeant from Wroxton, Swindon, Wiltshire.

"The hospital was fairly full and there were other patients who were on the recuperation list and were enjoying games, reading, and just lazing about in the open air. The unit includes two sisters of the P.M.R.A.F. N.S. of whom one comes from Forest hill, London, and the other from Leighton-sea, Essex. They had both volunteered for service abroad.

A good book or a letter from home keeps the convalescents in jovial spirits.



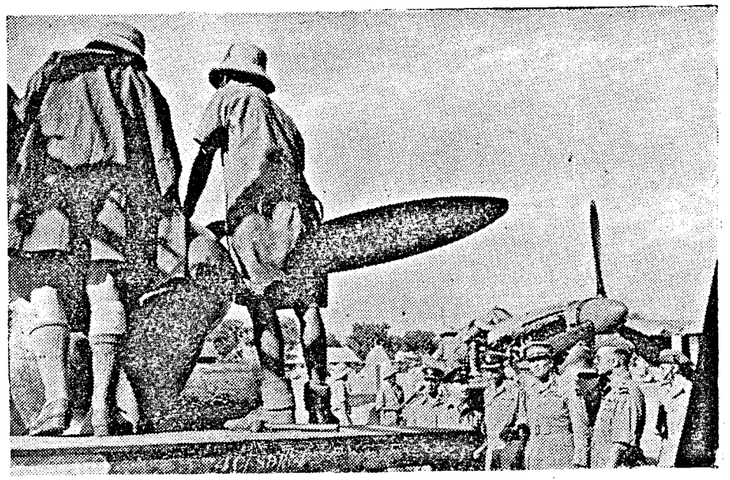
Two sisters of the P.M.R.A.F.N.S. enjoy a spot of humour as they come off duty.



Portable radiological apparatus is used. Radio-therapy treatment can be given and the unit is completely self-contained. In the photo are seen 519411. Sgt. R.M.L. Hayward, aged 27, of Church village Near Pontypridd. S. Wales. 66476 F/L M.J. Hackett, aged 26, of 54c, Shooters Hill Road, Blackheath, Kent.

C.-IN-C. AT BANGALORE

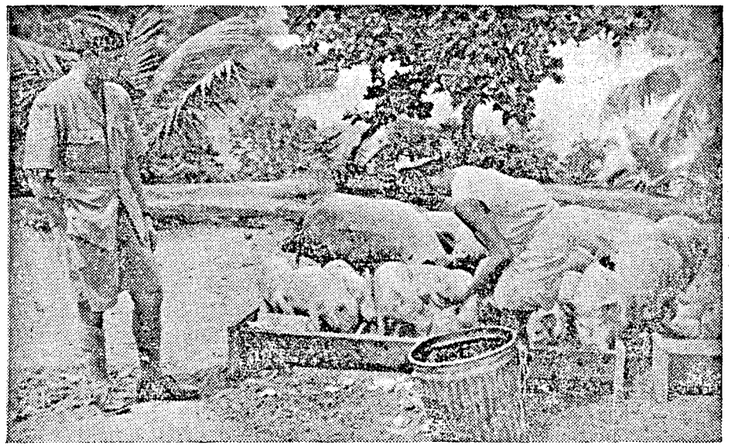
At Bangalore Commander-in-Chief inspects I.A.F. recruits, accompanied by Air Commodore P. H. Mackworth and W/Co. W. Berwick.



Commander-in-Chief watches I.A.F. ground crew at work.

Commander-in-Chief watches I.A.F. ground crew servicing aircraft.

AIR-MINDED PIGS OF CEYLON



"AIR-MINDED PIGS OF CEYLON."—Sergeant C. G. Whitmee (No. 508734) of Longwick, Bucks, is seen watching the feeding of the pigs.

EVERY time an aircraft takes off from certain R.A.F. base in Ceylon, there is a considerable squeaking and scuffling inside a wooden stockade in the camp. It is a piggery and sergeant pig-keeper, G. C. Whitmee swears his fine boars and sows are air-minded.

Whitmee hails from Longwick, Bucks (about 3 miles from the famous Chequers). Farming is in his blood. His father is a farmer-butcher at Moreston Pinkney, Northants, and so was his grandfather and great grandfather before that.

Whitmee got his commanding officer's permission to start a piggery and launched it last May with two sows in farrow, two more about three months old and a young boar. The initial outlay was about 35 pounds. Eleven young boars made the supreme sacrifice at Christmas and provided a magnificent dinner for hundreds of appreciative airmen.

To-day Whitmee has a herd of 36. He reckons that the cost of a 200-pounder works out to about 2 pounds and 5 shillings.

His porkers feed on swill and camp refuse. Their home is on a hill amidst dense jungle and they are all well protected from the rainstorms. A pig likes water on its belly but not on its back, and sometimes develops a sort of whooping cough which can become fatal.

He has two Ceylonese assistant pig-keepers and they like the work.

Many queer creatures prowl in the dense growth but the only loss through depredation has been one tiny pig which was pilfered by a 8 ft. Kabaragoya—those giant monitors of prehistoric appearance in which the Island abounds.

After two years in Ceylon, Whitmee wants his wife to join him and make a home here after the war.

Capt. Povayya.

C.-IN-C. VISITS PIONEER BATTALION IN SOUTH INDIA

When His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief in India, General Sir Claude Auchinleck visited a Pioneer Battalion during his recent tour of South India he met one officer who had served in the same unit as himself nearly 30 years ago.

He is Captain C. G. Povayya whose home is in Mercara, Coorg. In 1914–16 he was with the 88th Carnatic Infantry and the unit was at that time stationed in Madras. Captain Povayya recalls General Auchinleck as a Company Commander in the same battalion in those days and he says it was a great day for him to be visited by the Commander-in-Chief after this 30 years interval.

SIKHS' DASH AT FALL OF BUTHIDAUNG

Men of the 11th Sikh regiment were among the first troops to enter Buthidaung in the drive eastwards by the seventh Indian Division. They rode in on tanks, grenade in hand ready to sweep the town of the enemy.

They had captured the last Jap-held position on East Finger, west of Buthidaung. They had driven them off at the point of the bayonet and could hardly be restrained from dashing down the slopes into the open ground beyond to pursue the fleeing enemy, writes an Indian Army Observer.

The Sikhs' dash and bravery in this drive crowned a record of striking service in the field.

One company was "out in the blue" for two months, on the Arakan Yomas, watching a front of 50 miles. Supplies had to be brought 15 miles by river and then humped by coolies through the jungle to the forward troops. Nine-day patrols through scores of miles of thick jungle were the order of the day and apart from the rations the patrol could carry, it had to live on the country.

The opening of the seventh Division's offensive towards Buthidaung found the battalion operating as a single fighting force.

They attacked first of all "Poland" and "Rabbit," two enemy positions east of the Letwedet Chaung, and one company moved right up under the artillery barrage and, as soon as it ceased, swept in on the enemy, obtaining complete surprise. Fierce counter-attacks the following night were driven off, and a few days later the battalion moved forward to its final objective "East Finger," and the entry into Buthidaung.

SAGA OF THE BULLDOZER

By LIEUTENANT-GENERAL H. G. MARTIN

AS one surveys the multifarious activities of the Engineers in Italy—activities all-important to the Allied cause—one is apt to conclude that this war is above all an Engineers' war. Then one remembers the infantry and the winter warfare in the mountains which they have endured so triumphantly; one remembers, too, the never-failing guns. Among peers there is properly no pride of place.

It is undoubtedly true, however, that in no prior campaign have the Engineers made so large a contribution to victory—if for no other reason than that in no prior campaign have we fought an enemy who has indulged in demolition on so vast a scale and in a terrain so perfectly adapted to it.

It is interesting to look at a large-scale map of Southern Italy on which are marked these German demolitions. In the extreme south—in Calabria, that is, and in Lucania and Apulia—demolitions were few and far between. As the front moved northward, however, Jerry's appetite evidently improved with eating; demolitions increased accordingly till, about the line Foggia-Naples, he began his crowning orgy of destruction.

In this area immediately behind the present front, the extent of these demolitions has to be seen to be believed. Throughout this land of mountain, gorge, and river, the enemy has blown almost every bridge and every culvert—on roads and railways both.

Again, there were whole sections of the railway along which his wrecker-train had passed; there mile on mile, every sleeper had been unrooted and smashed; every rail first cut and then tossed aside.

THE BAILEY BRIDGE

Before our armies could move—before even they could be supplied—the Engineers had to repair a sufficiency of routes through this maze of destruction. And here we may thank our stars for one of the really great inventions of the war, to wit, the Bailey bridge. Standardized and adaptable to almost any load, it is the product of the Royal Engineers' Experimental Bridging School, after one of whose professors it has been named.

Thus it is a home-made product, reckoned greatly superior to any military bridge as yet produced by any other army.

The Bailey bridge can take loads as heavy as a Churchill tank on a transporter. As in all field-bridging jobs, the preparation of the approaches is usually the longest part of the business.

So much, then, for bridging behind the line. There remains that other aspect of field bridging—the construction of assault crossings in battle, over the river obstacles which have been almost invariable features of all enemy defensive positions.

Up to a point the problem of assault crossings has been the same on both the Eighth and the Fifth Army front; on both, the nature of the river banks, together with the presence of trees and other obstacles, has precluded a detailed inspection of possible crossing places from a distance, so the choice of these crossing places has involved a great deal of Engineer patrolling and reconnaissance, under close enemy fire, to supplement the information obtainable from air photographs and other sources; and everywhere, of course, Jerry has plentifully larded all crossing places, probable and improbable, with land mines.

While units of every arm are now provided with mine detectors, in order that they may sweep their own bivouac areas and the like, the Engineers remain responsible for all vitally important jobs of this nature, such as the sweeping of the approaches to assault-crossings. Since the enemy is ever adding to his arsenal of mines—to the "S" and the Teller mines he has now added the "Shoe"—this sweeping business is a never-ending battle of wits and cold-blooded courage.

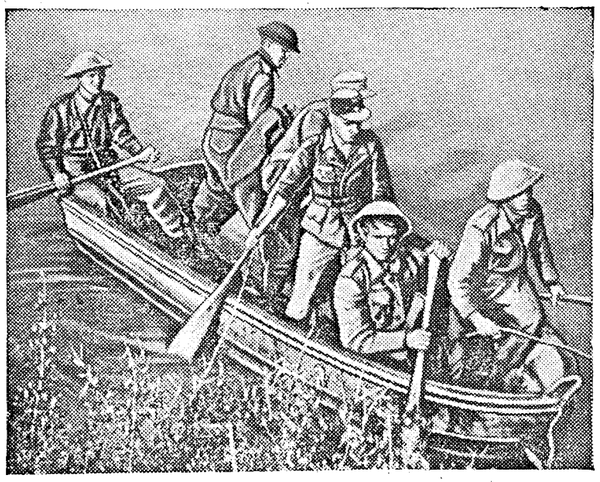
BULLDOZERS IN THE FOREFRONT

Moreover, in order to achieve surprise and to avoid the strongest enemy defences, it has been our practice to choose the less obvious crossing places. This practice has meant, of course, that the approaches to, and exits from, these unlikely crossing places have often called for very extensive improvements. And this demand in its turn has placed Engineer mechanical equipment generally, and the bulldozer in particular, right in the forefront of the battle.

By this, I mean quite literally in the forefront; for here on the Italian battlefield a bulldozer has led tanks into battle, carving a path for them under heavy fire; another has worked on in a fog with Germans all around it, its crew withdrawing only when the fog lifted—to leave their bulldozer itself temporarily in German hands; yet another has returned to resume under a storm of shell-fire, an interrupted but vitally important task, and—bearing a charmed life—survived to complete it.

Some day the saga of the bulldozer will be written; it will tell of deeds of gallantry across the world; and of desperate situations saved, from the Central Pacific to the West Wall.

Apart from these general similarities, however, the assault-bridging problems on the Eighth and Fifth Army fronts have differed widely in their more technical aspects. On the Eighth Army front it has been a question of crossing a succession of streams, normally shallow of which the Biferno, the Trigno and the Sangro are the principal examples. Here the making of assault crossings has been a comparatively simple matter of low-level bridging. On the Fifth Army front, on the other hand, two major water obstacles have barred the way—the Volturno and the Garigliano. The crossings of these major obstacles have been carried out in successive phases—the infantry have made



AS FIFTH CROSS THE VOLTURNO—GERMAN PRISONERS ROW THEMSELVES BACK.—During the hours of darkness the Fifth Army launched its big attack on the Volturno River. Soon several bridgeheads were in Allied hands and armour began to make the river crossing. Picture made in the early morning light just after the launching of the attack on the Volturno shows: "*Paddling their own canoe.*" *First German prisoners captured helping to ferry themselves to the southern bank of the river, where they were interrogated.*

their initial battle crossings by assault boat, while their equipment has followed them by raft, both light and heavy. The Engineers, meanwhile, have worked like beavers to substitute bridges at the earliest possible moment, and so to pass a continuous stream of traffic. The first bridges have been light, floating affairs, carried on folding boats. These have soon been supplemented by Bailey bridges.

ROAD AND RAILWAY REPAIRS

Of the bridging activities of the Engineers, that about completes the story so far as I am qualified to tell it. The repair and maintenance of roads and railways, however, have many implications other than those of straight bridge-building.

In redeemed Italy, the Engineer services have already re-opened no less than 2,500 miles of road. Since, however, much of this road system—particularly in the Eighth Army area, which is of small economic importance—is low-grade, its subsequent maintenance under heavy military traffic is a vast undertaking.

As for the railways, repairs have involved the wholesale reconditioning or replacement of damaged rails, besides the restoration of signal and traffic equipment, and of the whole machinery of traffic control. Italian railways, moreover, are largely electrified, and at first there was a total absence of power owing to widespread destruction of transformer stations and transmission lines.

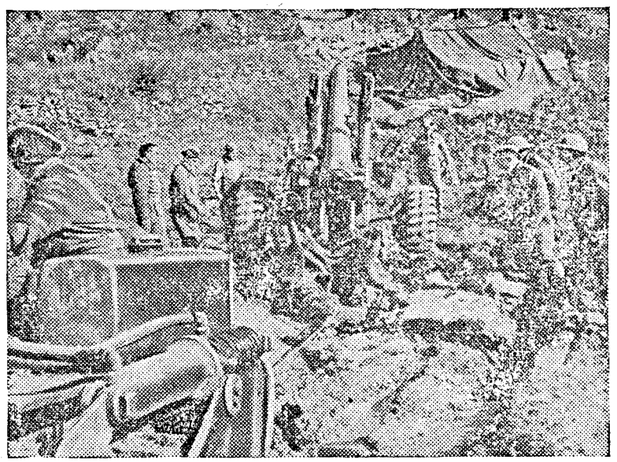
That, overcoming these difficulties, the Engineers have succeeded in putting the essential railways in working order is an achievement of which they may well be proud.

Another remarkable engineering achievement has been the completion of a system of petrol pipe lines between the base ports and the front. The laying of these pipe lines is the work of engineer personnel from the United States who do the same work in private life. They can lay the pipe itself and instal the chain of boosting stations extraordinarily quickly. The construction of the storage tanks, however—a matter of very nice adjustment—is a more ticklish job.

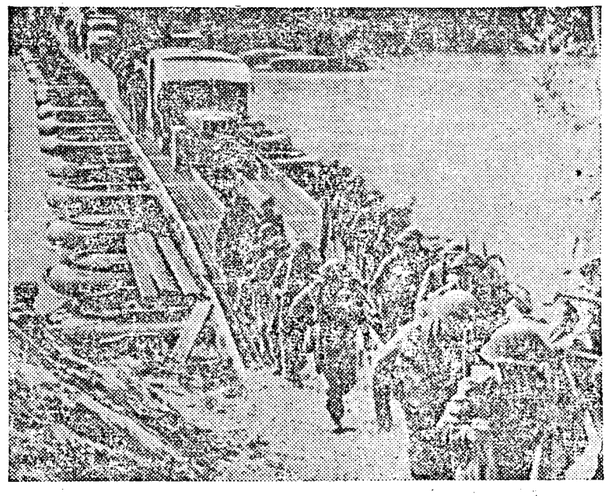
Finally, like almost every other new military activity, the operation of these pipe lines means a fresh demand on Signals to man their accompanying telephone system—Signals, without whom nothing in the Army would work; but who so often get but scant recognition.

Aerodrome work has been yet another major work of the Engineers; in fact, the British Aerodrome Construction Groups and the American Aviation Engineers have between them built about 30 airfields in Italy, the majority of these round Foggia.

By this their work in Italy, the Engineers—both British and American—are building a lasting monument in their honour.



EIGHTH ARMY GUNNERS BEAT GENERAL WEATHER AND GENERAL KESSELRING.—Picture shows *a D-6 tractor pulling a 5·5-inch gun of the Royal Artillery out of thick mud to a new and more stable position.*



ENTIRE FIFTH ARMY CROSSING THE VOLTURNO.—Picture shows: *British Infantry crosses a pontoon bridge built by United States engineers over the Volturno River.*

R.A.F. SQUADRON'S BUSY MONTH

In support of our ground troops in Arkan last month, a Hurricane squadron of the Third Tactical Air Force fired 76,000 cannon shells into Japanese troops and targets. The weight of this ammunition fired from the Hurricanes' guns totals 21 tons.

An important part of the squadron's duties is close support of the Army—shooting up enemy troops occasionally within 200 yards of our own men. Such warfare calls for constant care of the aircraft cannon. The armament section has often worked throughout the night to service the aircraft's armament and intricate firing equipment. Stoppages last month averaged ½ per cent of all ammunition fired—a credit to the men who look after the guns.

"My lads have to work hard—but they're all keen to help up our efficiency and good reputation," said their 42-year-old N.C.O. in charge, a veteran Flight Sergeant Armourer.

DIPLOMATIC BACKGROUND TO WAR

By W. N. EWER

MR. Cordell Hull's Easter Sunday broadcast links closely with Mr. Edward Stettinius' visit to London. The United States Secretary of State sketched, chiefly for his own people, the main outlines of United States' foreign policy, both "long range" and "short range." Nor is there any point in his speech on which there is material divergence between his views and those of the British Government.

Mr. Stettinius and Mr. Eden, with their experts—and, of course, in close touch with the Soviet Ambassador—are setting to the task of translating general policies into specific plans and proposals. Of the immediate questions, the two which seem to take first place are, (*a*) the Allies' relations with neutral countries and (*b*) arrangements for the administration of the liberated areas of Europe.

On the first point Mr. Hull has enunciated a broad view which is shared by the British Government. "We have scrupulously respected the sovereignty of neutral nations and we have not coerced, nor shall we coerce, any nation to join with us in the fight." But at the same time "we ask them, but with insistence, to cease aiding our enemy."

Just how that general principle is to be translated into practice in the case of each particular neutral is a tactical problem. Much work has already been done in this field.

EDEN-STETTINIUS TALKS

But one may expect, as a consequence of the Eden-Stettinius talks a definite concerted Anglo-American effort—with the approval of other allies—to bring home to the neutral nations the necessity of reviewing and revising their own attitudes in view of the now evident fact that "our strength and that of our allies now makes only one outcome of the war possible."

The other urgent matter of administration of liberated areas is already well in hand. So far as Norway, Holland, Belgium and Czechoslovakia are concerned, arrangements are practically complete. In regard to France the anomalous status of the French National Committee, treated as an Administration but not formally recognized as a Government, has caused some difficulties. The publication in the United States of what purported to be a directive to the Allied High Command provoked rumours of something like a crisis. But Mr. Hull's formula—that in the liberated areas of France the Committee shall "exercise leadership to establish law and order under the supervision of the Allied Commander-in-Chief"—has met with general approval.

Italian affairs, too, after the slight storms of last month, are now running smoothly enough, and there seems every reason to expect the Italian leaders will work out a plan which can be cordially approved by the Allies.

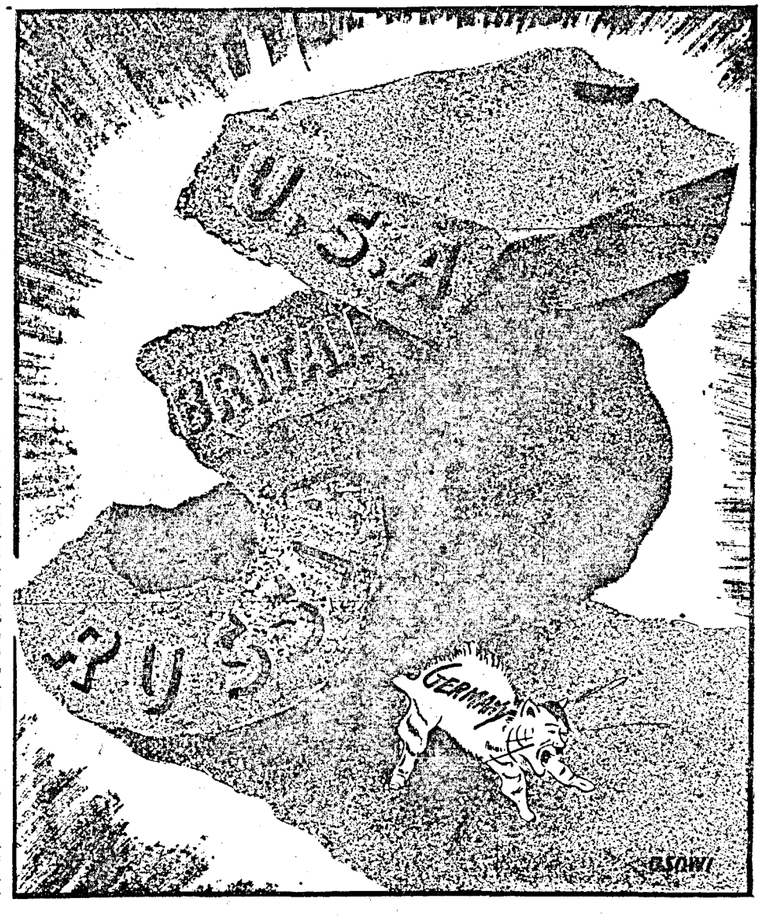
The problems of Greece and Yugoslavia remain. In both the purpose of the Allies is still—and must be—to encourage and assert every effort in either case to bring about maximum national unity, and to do this with a minimum interference in either Greek or Yugoslav domestic affairs.

In regard to long-term plans, perhaps the most interesting passage in Mr. Hull's broadcast was that in which he outlined the United States Government's conception of a post-war "international organization to maintain peace and prevent aggression." He lays down six postulates: (1) Assumption of obligations by member states not to use force against other nation, "except in accordance with arrangements made;" (2) maintenance of adequate forces to preserve peace; (3) provision for institutions and procedures for calling this force into action to preserve peace; (4) creation of an international court for the settlement of international controversies which fall within the realm of the law; (5) development of machinery for adjusting controversies to which the field of law has not yet been extended; (6) other institutions for the development of new rules to keep abreast of the changing world.

Now one interesting thing about these six postulates—with all of which, I think I can say definitely, the British Government concurs—is that they are an almost exact summary of the basic ideas of the Covenant of the League of Nations. So they challenge the almost automatic criticism that precisely something on these lines has been tried before, and has failed. Is there, then, any point or purpose in repeating the experiment? Is it not bound to fail again? I think not. I think such criticism ignores the essential reasons for the failure of the old League. The

(*Continued on page* 18)

A ROLLING STONE GATHERS...DER FUEHRER'S FUR



DEVELOPMENT OF AMERICAN FOREIGN POLICY

By WICKHAM STEED.

HOW many of us, I wonder, have managed to fit the recent address by Cordell Hull into the general picture? It was a notable utterance, which impressed everybody in Britain who either heard it, or read it, as a remarkable statement of American and Allied policy.

Evidently, the policy of the United States must be a very weighty element in any Allied policy. It was so last time, only then there were snags and differences that ought to be avoided this time. The enormous popularity of President Wilson in Europe was chiefly due to a belief that he had a good policy, whereas the European allies who, by the way, were only the associates, not the allies of the United States, had no comprehensive policy at all. Much of the confusion in Europe and the world, that accompanied and followed the Paris Peace Conference, came directly and indirectly, from the fact that President Wilson's policy turned out to be much more hazy even upon the League of Nations than it appeared to be and that the people in the Congress of the United States were not disposed to back it up.

AMERICAN POLICY

But it is quite useless and not altogether just to complain that America let us down, by rejecting the Peace Treaty and refusing to enter the League of Nations. It is useful, on the contrary, to take account of things that bear upon the framing and the carrying out of American policy, so that this time we may know, more or less exactly, where we stand.

This is where Mr. Cordell Hull's broadcast address comes in. It was not, it could not be a hard and fast definition of American or Allied policy. He is Secretary of State in the administration of President Roosevelt, who is the head of the Democratic Party, and this is a presidential year when party feeling runs high and when the next President, whoever he may be, has to be elected in November, together with the greater part of Congress. So we must not suppose that what Mr. Cordell Hull says can bind any future President or Congress. We can, however, note that this very careful, moderate and circumspect American Statesman has made an effort to lay before the American people the principles of a policy on which he believes both parties could substantially agree, and thus to lift the whole matter of electioneering.

No foreigner, and especially no Englishman, ought even to suggest that Mr. Cordell Hull is right or wrong in anything he recommends to his own people. The British and other foreigners, who care for the peace and well-being of the world, can reflect upon the ideas he thinks likely to be acceptable to American opinion. He believes that American opinion has been moving in some definite directions since the present war broke out. He said it has moved away from a strong preference for separate action to the knowledge and conviction that unity of action with other nations can alone achieve results essential to the continuance of freedom in the world, and that it has also moved away from careless tolerance of evil institutions to the conviction that free Governments and Nazi and Fascist Governments cannot exist together.

AMERICANS DETERMINED TO DESTROY NAZIS

"An understanding of these points," Mr. Hull declared, "will help to clarify the policy of the United States Government." Then he made two positive statements. "The American people," he said, "are determined to press forward with their allies to the defeat of their enemies and to the destruction of the Nazi and Fascist systems, and the American people are also determined to go on after victory with their allies and all other nations which desire peace and freedom to establish and maintain in full strength the institutions without which peace and freedom cannot be enduring realities."

To these statements he added something that sounds like a reminder and a warning. "The United States," he went on, "cannot move in and out of international co-operation and in and out of participation in the responsibility of a member of the family of nations." After saying some interesting things about the behaviour of neutrals, the French Committee of National Liberation and the future of Italy, Mr. Cordell Hull rubbed in his argument with a further reminder that the free nations of the world were brought to the brink of destruction by allowing themselves to be separated and divided.

VICTORY AND ENDURING PEACE

"Unless the United States, the British Commonwealth, the Soviet Union and China, harmonize their real interests, and act and agree together," he told them, that there can be no hope of turning victory into an enduring peace. Agreement and co-operation between these four big nations, without prejudice to the rights and interests of less powerful nations, must form the solid framework for the building up of all future policy and international organization, because the very possibility of an enduring peace and of free institutions, depends upon the strength of the framework, otherwise all organizations to preserve peace will be paper creations and the path will be wide open for the rise of another aggressor.

This Mr. Hull believed to be the commonsense of his fellow countrymen, as shown in the non-partisan approval by Congress of the declaration signed at Moscow, on October 30, last year by himself, Mr. Anthony Eden, M. Molotov and the Ambassador of China. So he announced, "the American Government has gone, to work upon the form and substance of an international organization to maintain peace and prevent aggression, and upon the economic and other co-operative arrangements necessary to maintain the British and the United States as a working partner with other free nations. Such an international organization must bind its members not to use force against each other, or against any other nation, except in accordance with the arrangements made. These arrangements will provide for the maintenance of adequate forces to preserve peace, and for an international court to apply law to the settlement of controversy which fall within the realm of law."

UNITED WILL OF AMERICAN PEOPLE

He asked for the help of both Houses of Congress in this work, so that it might express the united will of the American people, who, like their Allies, are determined to make an end of Fascism and Nazism, and of the power behind them. In substance, and with one important addition, Mr. Cordell Hull's plan resembles the outline of a league to enforce peace which was sponsored some 30 years ago by a former Republican President of the United States, the late William Howard Taft. So it is in keeping with older American ideas. An important addition was made by Mr. Hull in an expression of deep faith that a period of great democratic accomplishment will follow the liberation of Europe from the German yoke, and that the liberated nations will have a new and magnificent opportunity to achieve the social and economic democracy upon which political democracy must rest. I personally, interpret this admission as a sign that Mr. Cordell Hull feels the need, not only to enforce, but to create peace.

I have long ceased to believe that peace can be permanently preserved by arrangements merely designed to prevent or to punish aggression. I think the League of Nations broke down mainly because, it was too negative, because it was against war, more than for peace, because it did not understand peace as a go-ahead, constructive, full-blooded business that could make war look like a mean and barbarous thing. To my mind this war is not so much a war as a universal policy operation against greedy and bloodthirsty gangsters. To smash them utterly and then to set about the creation of vigorous peace, should, I am convinced, be the real Allied policy, and if we can get this policy into our minds, we shall find all the aspects of the present fighting fall into their proper places in a comprehensive picture of the whole mighty endeavour.

A PROUD FATHER.

The late Subedar Subramaniam's father Mr. Kannayiram, to whom an Open Letter was addressed in these columns, is an Hon. Lieutenant. He has also won the I.D.S.M.

SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH PAYS LONG-TERM DIVIDENDS

By EDWARD CRISP BULLARD

WHEN considering a particular application of science to explosives, to textiles, to shipbuilding or to some other practical subject, it is easy to see that the things discussed are interesting and important, but it is not so easy to see that they do not come about by chance because someone happens to have a bright idea. I want here to try to show that they come from the application of that great body of knowledge collected in the past three hundred years and called "physical science."

Now, what is physical science? It is the study of the behaviour of inanimate matter. The motion of the planets, the design of a steam engine, the production of petrol, the breaking of a wave on the seashore, the colours of dyes and the interior of an atom are all parts of physical science.

Such things may be studied for two reasons. We may study them because they are interesting, and we like to see the connexions between apparently widely different things without any ulterior motive, or we may study them to achieve some practical end. The first is called "pure" science, and the second "applied" science. Pure science is, I suppose, closely connected with the small boy's desire to take his father's watch to pieces. He does not, unless he is unusually optimistic, expect that the watch will go any better after he has taken it to pieces; he simply wants to see how the wheels go round and to understand how it works.

SMALL BEGINNINGS—BIG RESULTS

The experiments made a hundred years ago by Ampere and Faraday to find out if there is any connexion between electric currents and magnetism are an example of this kind of practical science without practical motive.

Applied science, on the other hand, is based on an interest in solving some practical problem such as how to design a better electric motor for a vacuum cleaner, or how to make sea water drinkable.

It is obvious that you cannot design a new motor without knowing a good deal about electric currents and magnets, and that the designer of the first electric motor could not have started unless he knew a good deal about them. No one could have said a hundred and fifty years ago that magnets had anything to do with providing power for sweeping carpets or making telephones, or indeed, that they were of any practical use at all, except for picking up pins and making ship's compasses.

Ampere and Farady showed that a wire carrying an electric current would move a magnet, and that moving a magnet near a wire would make a current flow in it. It is on these discoveries that the electrical industry is based.

It is at first sight rather odd that a very practical matter like the electrical industry should be built on such unpromising foundations. Such a connexion is, however, very common; in fact almost universal.

If you want to solve some practical problem you can usually only do it if you know where and how to start looking for the solution, and in any but the simplest problems you can only tell where to start looking if someone has done a lot of spade-work first. There are many examples; the wireless valve could not be invented till someone had studied the behaviour of the electrons given off by white-hot metals in a vacuum; but when, forty years ago, J. J. Thomson and his students were making the fundamental experiments on these things, they can have had no knowledge of the direction in which their discoveries would be applied, though they may have felt sure that such advances in pure science would bear practical fruit eventually.

STARS AND WARFARE

I came across another rather typical example recently. I was talking to an astronomer who had become interested in explosives and I said, "Well, anyway you are having a holiday from stars." "Oh, I don't know," he replied. "I find the work I've done on variable stars comes in very useful; after all an explosive just after it has gone off is only a mass of hot gas and so is a star; the theory is very much the same for both."

This solving of a problem by seeing its connexions with more familiar things is at the root of much applied science; but such a connexion is only useful if we know something about the more familiar thing with which our problem is connected. It is not helpful to say that an explosion is in some ways like a star, unless you know a good deal about stars.

I hope I have said enough to show the justification of pure science from a practical point of view. The first essential for a harvest of useful discoveries and inventions is a continual sowing of the seed of pure research.

Pure research has largely stopped now, owing to the war. If it were not restarted there would be little immediate effect, but the practical discoveries of twenty years hence would have been cut off at their source.

TIME-LAG BETWEEN DISCOVERY AND INVENTION

The time required for a discovery in pure science to be applied is longer than one might expect. It is ordinarily twenty to fifty years.

The fundamental electrical discoveries which I mentioned just now were made between 1820 and 1835, but it was not until the 'eighties that the streets of London began to be lit by electricity. Again, Clerk Maxwell—the first Professor of Physics at Cambridge—perfected the theory of electro-magnestism and predicted the existence of wireless waves in 1865 and Horz first produced them in 1888, but practical wireless telegraphy did not come till 1900, or television and radio-location till the late 'thirties. The electron was discovered in 1896 but wireless valves were of no practical importance till 1915.

These time intervals are so long that there is, generally speaking, no possibility of making pure research pay for itself. The practical gains come from the fusing of the work of different men over many years into a coherent picture

MADRAS FLOWER BLOSSOMS ON IMPHAL PLAIN!

SHANMUGAVEL PANDARAM'S HEROIC ACTION.

South Indians manning anti-Aircraft guns in the Imphal area have shot down or seriously damaged at least five Japanese aircraft in the course of four short "tip and run" raids on the Imphal plain area by the enemy, says an Indian Army Observer.

The men have little more than a year's service and their first experience in action has come after months of hard training and more months of watching and waiting.

One of the Jap aircraft was destroyed by a detachment who were about to have breakfast.

The hero of the engagement was Naik Shanmugavel Pandaram, who comes from Shencottah, near Quilon. He was promoted Havildar on the site that same morning by the Colonel. If it were not for the war this handsome, cultured-looking Madrassi would be in his father's flower business outside the big temple near his home.

These Madrassi Anti-Aircraft gunners have marvellous eyesight. "They can spot a Zero for certain with the naked eye, while we are looking through glasses wondering whether it is a Spitfire or a Hurricane," said a British Sergeant.

of how things work, most of the items being of no special value by themselves.

The engineer who designs a ship uses a knowledge of the mechanics of water. This knowledge has been accumulated gradually during two hundred and fifty years from the time of Newton to the present or perhaps I should say during the two thousand years since the time when Archimedes had his bright idea while sitting in his both at Syracuse. Clearly the men who accumulated this knowledge could not have made a living or have paid for their experiments directly by selling such knowledge from year to year as it was acquired.

DIVIDENDS AWAIT PRACTICAL APPLICATION OF IDEAS

We therefore see that pure research, although essential for practical ends, is not self-supporting, and how it is that pure science, although one of the best investments that a country can make, is at the same time perpetually short of money.

The trouble is that it is, as business investments go, a little slow in maturing, and also that the financial benefits cannot usually come directly to those practising or supporting it. Copernicus could not patent the discovery of the motion of the earth round the sun, nor could Newton sell the law of gravitation, yet, in the long run, their work was immensely valuable.

It enabled more accurate predictions to be made of the positions of the sun, moon and stars, and thus made the navigation of ships more certain. Once the motions of the heavenly bodies were understood it became a matter of applied science to make the best use of this knowledge, and this applied knowledge was saleable.

During the eighteenth century a much increased demand for instruments for navigation grew up, based on the new methods and depending on the astronomical discoveries of the two preceding centuries. The Government offered a £ 30,000 prize for a clock that would keep time on board a ship and firms of instrument-makers set up in business to supply this and other wants of sailors. As some of these firms still exist we may suppose that they have found the making of sextants and chronometers profitable.

INCREASING COSTS

From this one would expect that pure science would flourished only in a fairly prosperous country—in a country, that is, that can afford to lay aside a certain proportion of its resources each year and use it for work that will not bear fruit for a number of years, and much of which apparently will never be of any use at all.

Until recently this laying aside was done largely through private benefactions to universities. However, as the simpler parts of science get worked out and attention is directed to more and more deeply-lying parts, the complexity of the equipment required gets greater and the cost increases. The giant telescope that is to be erected on Mount Palomar in California will cost over one million pounds, and the atom-splitting cyclotron at the California Institute of Technology costs several hundred thousand pounds.

These are sums that are, except in occasional instances, beyond the reach of private benefactions, and progress in science has therefore come to depend more and more on assistance from government grants derived from taxation. This raises difficult questions of how to retain the traditional and necessary freedom and independence in the development of science, and at the same time secure efficient administration in the spending of large sums of public money.

I have discussed the contribution of pure science to practical affairs and to industrial development: now I want to deal with the reverse connexion. Most advances in pure science depend on new methods of doing things, and these new methods are provided by advances in applied science. There is thus a kind of alternation between pure and applied science, each depending on the other for its advances.

For example, a hundred years ago the simplest electrical experiments were very difficult to carry out, because of the absence of elementary requirements like insulated wire. Faraday in his diary describes how he wound his magnets with milliner's iron wire which was, and for all I know still is, used for stiffening ladies' hats. The insulation was provided by winding string between the turns of the wire. As I have explained, these experiments of Faraday's led in the course of fifty years to the electrical industry.

With the development of that industry things like insulated wire, magnets, dynamos, motors and accumulators became common places to be bought in a shop. This immeasurably simplified all experiments involving electricity and rendered possible the fundamental researches of J. J. Thomson, and others which led to the discovery of the electron. These experiments of J. J. Thomson in turn led to the invention of the wireless valve which has itself laid the foundations of the great and expanding radio industry.

FROM DISCOVERING TO DISCOVERY

This industry has made valves a common place in the same way that earlier electrical developments provided lamps and motors for all. This plentiful supply of valves has made possible the experiments of the last fifteen years on the structure of the atom and has led to an enormous increase in our knowledge of how atoms work.

It is possible that this knowledge will find some quite unexpected application and be the key to the growth of some industry which will in its turn make easier a new attack on yet more fundamental properties of matter.

A scientific discovery is not a thing in itself which develops separately from the rest of the life of the country; it depends very intimately on the wants and habits of ordinary people, on the kind of government they have, and on the educational and financial system they support or tolerate. We of this generation are no more intelligent than our ancestors, but we have learned more about nature in fifty years than was learnt in the first fifteen hundred years of our era. To state precisely what are the conditions for a healthy development of science is difficult; the conditions that give that combination of curiosity, self-confidence and patience that make a scientist are subtle and elusive, but it is at least certain that practical discoveries do not happen of themselves; they depend on threads running right through the fabric of the country's life.

—*The Listener* (London).

(*Continued from page* 15.)

League failed, not because its design was wrong. It was, to the first approximation, a very possible design for such an organization. Every one of Mr. Hull's six postulates is essential. Taken all together, they are sufficient.

The League—I watched it closely from its foundation to its ultimate failure—failed, not because it was based on wrong postulates, not because there was anything seriously wrong in the drafting of the Covenant. It failed because, from start to finish, the member States did not take it seriously as an instrument for preserving, and indeed compelling, peace. Moreover it lacked the powerful and active support of the United States, which remained outside its membership. Whenever an occasion arose, from the "Corfu incident" onward, the dominant idea was not how to use the machinery of the League but how to avoid using it.

There was only one exception to this—the imposition of sanctions on Italy in 1935. It was an exception which decisively proved the rule. For, from the moment sanctions were decreed in principle, everything possible was done to avoid the final responsibility which that decision involved. Sanctions were carefully limited to the point of inefficacy, and then withdrawn. The machinery was there, but the Governments refused to use it.

If the new machinery is to work, though the old one failed, it will be because there is this time in all member States, great or small, the will to make it work. I think that will now exists.

PRISONERS OF WAR—WANT MORE LETTERS FROM HOME

Many appeals, often numbering hundreds, are received every month from prisoners of war by District Soldiers' Boards in Southern India. Most of these say that the man has not heard from his relations for many months and he asks whether enquiries can be made to ascertain whether his people are still well.

Wherever possible the local Board contacts the family and appeals to them to correspond regularly with the man.

Perhaps some readers of this paper have sons, brothers or fathers who are now prisoners of war in the Far East, Italy or Germany. If so, they are asked to write at least twice a month. The letter must be in English and the local representative of the District Soldiers' Board will transcribe the letter if the man's family cannot write English.

In the case of prisoners of war in Japanese hands not more than twenty five words may be written and the words must be in block capitals or typewritten.

WAR DIARY

BRITAIN AND GERMANY

26TH APR.—His Majesty the King received Mr. Churchill in audience twice to-day.

Mr. Churchill stated in the Commons that "Government have decided to make certain increases in the pay and allowances of members of the forces and their families."

There was slight enemy air activity over England last night. Four German aircraft were destroyed.

Cologne and Brunswick were battered by the Allied planes.

27TH APR.—Allied bombers attacked Essen, Brunswick and other places in Germany.

Von Papen, German Ambassador to Turkey, has arrived in Germany.

The United States War Secretary, Mr. Henry Stimson, stated that the Germans were probably hoarding some of their air reserves for the time when an extreme emergency existed.

There was slight enemy air activity over Britain.

It is revealed that His Majesty the King spent another day with Invasion troops to-day, his second visit to the Second Front forces in Britain in three days.

28TH APR.—About 1,000 R.A.F. bombers attacked Friedrichsafen, Stuttgart and other places in Germany.

A small number of German aircraft attempted to raid south coast of England.

29TH APR.—Berlin was heavily bombed by the Allies.

30TH APR.—A small number of enemy aircraft raided some places in south-west England.

1ST MAY.—Mr. Churchill presided at the first meeting of the Empire Prime Ministers.

It is stated that the Allies are preparing to launch a three-pronged attack on Germany from Russia, Britain and the Mediterranean.

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE ATLANTIC

26TH APR.—Mr. Leo T. Crowley, the United States Foreign Economic Administrator, issued a report on Lease-Lend Aid. The Foreign Relations Committee of the Senate voted to approve the Bill to extend Lend-Lease for another year.

27TH APR.—The United States Secretary for War, Mr. H. Stimson, announced that the total United States army casualties is 148,425 of which 25,582 were killed.

28TH APR.—Colonel Frank Knox, Secretary of the United States Navy, died this afternoon.

1ST MAY.—Construction of additional landing craft for invasion operations costing 585 crores of rupees was authorized on Monday in United States.

INDIA, BURMA AND CEYLON

26TH APR.—To-day's South-East Asia Command Communiqué says that Allied patrols were active around Kohima, and that on April 25th the Allies captured Mapao hill feature north of the Imphal plain.

Admiral Lord Louis Mountbatten has sent a message of thanks to General Auchinleck, Commander-in-Chief, India.

27TH APR.—There was sporadic fighting on the outskirts of Kohima on April 26th says to-day's Allied communiqué.

A statement on the duties of General Auchinleck was made by Mr. Amery in the Commons to-day.

28TH APR.—Around Kohima the Allies captured enemy positions and destroyed their strong points. In North Burma the Chinese forces have occupied Kauri.

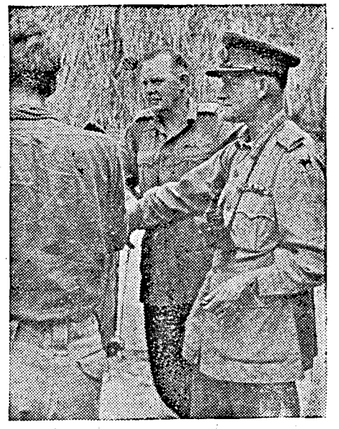
29TH APR.—In Kohima area the liquidation of the remaining enemy strong points continued. A statement of a general nature, regarding the Assam-Burma front is also issued by the South-East Asia Command.

30TH APR.—In Imphal the Allies have advanced and are only five miles from Ukhrul.

1ST MAY.—The British garrison inside Kohima has now expanded its perimeter. The Japanese commander in the face of this threat is trying to concentrate his strength on the town itself.

RUSSIA AND FINLAND

26TH APR.—The Russians have launched an attack along a wide front on the Lower Dniester. South of Tighina and Dubasari violent fighting is in progress.



Major-General D. T. C. Covan, D.S.O., M.C., the Commander of the 17th Indian Division, is wearing cap, seen with some of his staff in Burma.

FOR YOUR RADIO DIARY

MAY 6.—DELHI—8-30 a.m. A Trip into Arakan—By Captain F. C. de Paula.

" 6.—DELHI—9-45 p.m. Famous Indian Regiments: 10th Baluch Regiment—By Lieut.-Col. W. E. Maxwell.

" 6.—BOMBAY—8-15 p.m. War Commentary.

" 7.—LAHORE—9-45 p.m. Any Questions on Japan?

" 7.—LUCKNOW—9-45 p.m. Mile Stones of Victory: Combined Operations in Tunisia.

" 8.—DELHI—9-45 p.m. Problems of the New India: Social Security.

" 8.—MADRAS—9-0 p.m. Radio Blitzkrieg: Analysis of Axis Propaganda—By Achuthan Nair.

" 9.—CALCUTTA—9-0 p.m. Know Thy Enemy: The Japanese Navy.

" 9.—LUCKNOW—9-45 p.m. The Setting Sun: Analysis of Japanese Radio Propaganda—By S. Mahmuduzzafar.

" 10.—DELHI—9-45 p.m. The Voice of America.

" 10.—LAHORE—8-45 p.m. British Democracy at Work: Improvements in Education—By A. E. Foot.

" 11.—LAHORE—9-45 p.m. The Balkan Cauldron: Under the Nazi Heel—By P. N. Kirnal.

" 11.—MADRAS—9 p.m. The Common Cause.

" 12.—DELHI—9-45 p.m. World Affairs—By Wickham Steed.

" 13.—BOMBAY—8-15 p.m. War Commentary.

" 13.—LAHORE—9-45 p.m. To-morrow Always Comes: International Trade—By the Hon'ble Sir Manohar Lal.

27TH APR.—A new Russian offensive north of Jassy is reported.

28TH APR.—Soviet troops have crossed the river Pruth in a new sector below Jassy.

29TH APR.—Widespread air attacks on enemy positions continue.

30TH APR.—The Deputy Commissioner of Foreign Affairs, M. Andre Vyshinsky, made a statement on Soviet-Czeck relations in the event of Red Army troops entering Czech territory.

* * *

ITALY, AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

26TH APR.—The Allies continue to improve their positions on the Fifth Army Allied bridgehead. On other fronts activity was limited to patrolling on both sides, resulting in several minor engagements.

27TH APR.—Rain and mist prevented operations on a large scale.

1ST MAY.—All the Italian battle fronts continue quiet except for active patrolling and artillery exchanges.

It is announced that British submarines continuing to harass German shipping in the Mediterranean and the Aegean, have sunk two supply ships, 20 small ships during recent patrols. Seven other ships and one supply vessel were damaged.

* * *

VICHY, FREE FRANCE AND THE OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

26TH APR.—Allied aircraft attacked military objectives in France including Aachen.

27TH APR.—The Allied planes bombed military objectives in North France.

Marshal Tito's forces captured the large Adriatic island Korcula.

28TH APR.—Allied bombers attacked Avord and other places, in France including Paris. Marshal Petain has issued a warning to his countrymen.

30TH APR.—Lyons and Clermont were bombed by Allied planes.

1ST MAY.—Last night Allied bombers attacked Maintenon, Acheras, Somain and other places in France.

A mission sent by Marshal Tito has reached London.

* * *

THE NEUTRAL COUNTRIES

26TH APR.—The British Military Mission to Turkey has arrived back in Ankara and has resumed conversations with representatives of the Turkish Government.

* * *

THE FAR EAST

26TH APR.—It is announced that Aitape perimeter in north-east New Guinea has been cleared of the Japanese.

27TH APR.—The Allies have occupied *Madang* and captured the airfields of Cyclops and Sentani in the Hollandia area. It is disclosed that General Douglas MacArthur, Commander-in-Chief of the South-west Pacific area and Admiral Chester W. Nimitz, Commander-in-Chief, United States Pacific Fleet and the Pacific Ocean areas recently conferred regarding the future operations in the Pacific of the two Commands.

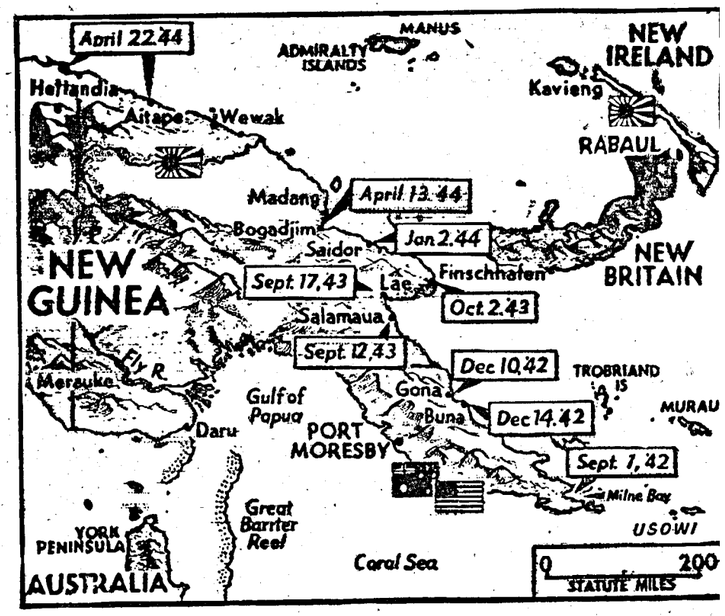
28TH APR.—The main Hollandia airfield and Alexishafen have been captured by the Allies.

"American Air Forces in the Pacific have now reached the point where 1,000-plane raids are possible" said the United States Assistant Secretary of the Navy, Mr. Gates.

29TH APR.—Carolines were bombed by the Allied planes.

30TH APR.—Wewak was heavily raided by United States bombers.

1ST MAY.—Schouten Islands, off the north-eastern New Guinea, Rabaul, Wewak, Wake Island, Bougainville, Sorong (Dutch New Guinea) were attacked by Allied aircraft.



The above map shows the steady progress which the Allies have made towards the recaptu of New Guinea. Dates in boxes indicate Allied landings on this important island since Septe ber 1942. The most recent assault was April 22. American troops landed on both sides Hollandia and, at last reports, had captured Hollandia Township and were within five miles Hollandia Airfield.

MADRAS HAWK-EYED PILOT

Flying Officer Masilamani, a young I.A.F. fighter reconnaissance pilot from Madras, is credited with powers of seeing miles ahead of and long before any of his fellow-pilots on his Squadron. His keen observation usually enables him to return with invaluable information for the Army. With his large bright eyes, he is quick in detecting camouflaged targets. His Squadron is called the "eyes" of the army; he is, undoubtedly, the "eyes" of his Squadron.

LAST MONTH. . .

2ND APR.—Russian forces enter Rumania.

6TH APR.—The Red Army captures Skala.

10TH APR.—Soviet troops capture Odessa.

11TH APR.—The Russian Army captures Kerch.

14TH APR.—The Russian forces capture Tarnopol.

15TH APR.—General Vatutin is dead.

15TH APR.—Americans capture Bogadjim in New Guinea.

16TH APR.—Lord Mountbatten changes his headquarters to Ceylon.

20TH APR.—Defenders of Kohima get relief.

25TH APR.—Allies capture Mapao hill feature, north of Imphal.

27TH APR.—Allies occupy Madang in New Guinea.

28TH APR.—Colonel Knox, United States Navy Secretary, is dead.

28TH APR.—Around Kohima Allies capture enemy positions.

30TH APR.—Allies are five miles from Ukhrul.

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MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. V FRIDAY, MAY 12, 1944 No. 36

NO DANGER *of* INVASION *of* INDIA

SIR SULTAN AHMED

I have come back with the fullest confidence that the Japs will be defeated completely and that there is really no danger of an invasion of India

FIVE impressions stand out in my mind:

FIRST AND FOREMOST is the confidence courage and determination with which our men look forward to the coming encounter with the enemy

SECOND, the overwhelming supplies of weapons and armoured transport in evidence everywhere

THIRD, our unquestioned superiority in the air, disturbed only by occasional sneak raids by the enemy

FOURTH, that the Japanese have been trapped, and must either withdraw before the rains set in or be annihilated, and

FINALLY, the duty of us all to our men at the front

WHAT impressed me most of all was the high morale of our Indian troops, who repeatedly assured me that they would not return to their homes until they had driven away and inflicted a crushing defeat on the Japanese

THE truth is that our forces are comfortably established at Imphal, and eager to give battle to the Japanese the moment they come out into the open from the jungles in which they are hiding

SIR SULTAN AHMED, *at New Delhi, on Tuesday*

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[NOTE.—*The summary of news and comments contained in the* MADRAS WAR REVIEW *generally relate to events and statements published till Wednesday, every week.*]

BRITISH ASSISTANCE TO RUSSIA

"Between the first of October 1941 and March 31, 1944, we have supplied to the Soviet Union 5,031 tanks, of which 1,223 were from Canada. We have supplied 6,778 aircraft, including 2,672 sent from the United States. These latter were sent on United States Lend-Lease to the Soviet Union as part of British commitment in exchange for the supply of British aircraft to United States forces in the European theatre.

We have also sent over 80 million sterling worth of raw material, foodstuffs, machinery, industrial plants, medical supplies and comforts. A considerable proportion of these supplies have been fought through to Russia along Arctic routes under the general direction of the Commander-in-Chief of the Home Fleet."

MR. CHURCHILL, *in London, on Wednesday.*

❖

CRITICAL STAGE OF WAR

"This critical stage of the war demands that in the coming months we must make the fullest use of all our trained men to ensure that there is the greatest possible weight behind our blows and that the impetus of our attack is maintained."

SIR JAMES GRIGG, *British Secretary of War, in the Commons, on Friday.*

❖

ALLIED EFFORT MUST BE MAINTAINED

Australia lays stress on the importance of a combined Allied military effort against Japan and while recognizing and accepting the strategy of 'Beat Hitler First' points out that because that will mean a prolonged war in the Pacific, it is essential that a certain minimum effort must be maintained in the Pacific so that prolongation will not become a stalemate. This point of view has been completely accepted by the Prime Ministers' Conference.

The British Commonwealth must recognize that the interests of all its members are involved in the ability of Australia to maintain and expand British institutions in the Pacific. In particular Australia wants her partners in the Commonwealth to understand the vital position Australia occupied in Commonwealth affairs.

MR. JOHN CURTIN, *Prime Minister of Australia, in a B.B.C. Broadcast from London, on Monday.*

MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. V FRIDAY, MAY 12, 1944 No. 36

THE FAMILY OF NATIONS

THE Conference of Dominion Prime Ministers, which was opened by Mr. Churchill on May Day, marks yet another step in the direction of closer co-operation within the British Commonwealth of Nations. It is, as the British Premier remarked, undoubtedly one of the most important events that have taken place since the outbreak of the war. And it has taken place on the eve of one of the great military turning points. Representatives of all the self-governing Dominions have gathered together in London with their military and civil advisers to take stock of the situation. "It is right," said Mr. Churchill, "that the British Empire, in its collective and united aspect, should put itself solidly on the map and make all the watching world realise that it stands together woven into one family of nations capable of solving our common problems in full loyalty to the supreme cause, for which we have drawn the sword, and which we shall not cease to pursue until complete victory has been won." Such a conference is an effective reply to enemy propaganda which has been trying to sow seeds of dissension, not only among the Allies themselves, but also among the members of the Commonwealth. The representatives of the Dominions and India who are all imbued with the one purpose of ending the Axis domination in as complete a manner as possible, would have been acquainted with the details of the gigantic Second Front preparations now in hand and the broad outline of the strategic plans chalked out by Allied leaders, both for war and for peace.

Significance of the Conference

THE significance of this great meeting lies in the fact that the institution of the Imperial Conference has stood the impact of two great wars and still stands as an object-lesson in international co-operation. It was in 1887 that a meeting of this kind called the Colonial Conference was first held. Queen Victoria celebrated her Golden Jubilee that year, and a number of Prime Ministers were invited to London to attend the function. Advantage was taken of the presence of the Premiers and a Colonial Conference was held to discuss matters of common interest. Very few then thought that this Conference would later blossom into an important feature in Commonwealth relations, though, at the time, the British Colonial Secretary expressed the hope that "results may grow out of it affecting in a degree which it is at present impossible to appreciate, the interests of the Empire and of the civilized world." The next session of the Conference took place after 20 years—in 1907. At this Conference it was decided to drop the word "Colony" and adopt the phrase the "Self-governing Dominions beyond the Seas." The Imperial Conference of 1926 referring to the Dominions declared that the nations associated in the British Commonwealth were, "self-governing communities within the British Empire, equal in status, in no way subordinate to the other." In 1931 the Statute of Westminster gave formal legal approval to this development.

India and the Commonwealth

NOW, for the first time since 1937, the Prime Ministers of the Dominions have met in London. India is represented at the Conference by Sir Firoz Khan Noon and His Highness the Maharajah of Kashmir; they have met the Premiers of the Commonwealth countries as equals, not only because India's political status is assured, but also because India's contribution to the war effort of the British Commonwealth is as great as that of most of its other members. Referring to this, *Fortune*, an American magazine, says, "India's once-so-small army of volunteers now numbers two million and is growing every day. The Indian Government has established its own, but not unimportant, Navy and Air Force. In the past five years India's steel production has doubled. Perhaps most significant of all, India, so long Britain's debtor is now Britain's creditor in the amount of over two million dollars, with her British bank balance now growing at the rate of about 700 million dollars per year." The magazine adds that, as a result of these circumstances, India may emerge from the war as a huge power within the British Commonwealth. India which has been closely following the development of Commonwealth relations well understands that she has a big part to play in Commonwealth co-operation and collaboration which will be continued and strengthened after the war. She knows deep in her heart of hearts that only in the strength and solidarity of the Commonwealth lies the well-being of every component part.

RUNNING COMMENTARY

Manipur Hill Front—A Retrospect—Kohima and Imphal

It has been announced from Admiral MOUNTBATTEN's Headquarters that on all sectors of the Manipur Hill Front there is now a general Japanese offensive and that the Japanese are strongly counter-attacking to regain the forward positions they have lost recently. Fierce fighting is going on for Kohima, where our troops have captured positions north and south of the town. Some idea of the progress of our troops may be gathered from the statement of a war correspondent that whereas on the eve of the present battle the Japanese held three-fourths of the Kohima area, to-day our forces are holding more than half. In the Imphal area, where there have been isolated clashes, our patrols have penetrated to 28 miles north of Imphal on the Kohima road. The general position is that in both these areas our troops have wrested the initiative from the enemy.

Looking back on the trend of operations of the past two weeks, it seems probable that we may have underestimated the Japanese capacity to bring reinforcements and get supplies along the perilous Naga Hill tracts. It was evidently this underestimate that was responsible for the enemy cutting the arterial road on which the 14th Army Group was depending for supplies. This road runs parallel to the front from Tiddim in the south through Imphal to Kohima, and then on to Dimapur in the Assam-Bengal Railway.

The Japanese three-pronged thrust was intended to cut this road, break it into isolated sections, and disrupt the entire front. At one time, the situation seemed dangerous, for the enemy encircled the 17th Indian Division north of Tiddim and controlled the Tiddim-Imphal section of the road northward to within 25 miles of Imphal. It was at this time that Tokyo began to talk loud of the "annihilation" of the 17th Indian Division but our troops broke the encirclement and fought their way through to the Imphal plain almost intact. The third move of the enemy pushed our defences along the Tamu-Imphal road to within 45 miles of Imphal. Further north, the enemy established road blocks between Imphal and Kohima and between Kohima and Dimapur. Then the tide turned. Kohima has been relieved and operations have been launched from Imphal to clear the Manipur road. As for the Imphal plain itself which is a bowl of about 30 miles wide and 45 miles long it is held by a very strong force and it is not likely that the enemy who failed at Kohima would succeed at Imphal.

BRITISH SUBMARINES PREPARE FOR PATROL.—Picture shows: *Members of a British submarine crew carrying shells on board in preparation for a patrol.*

* * *

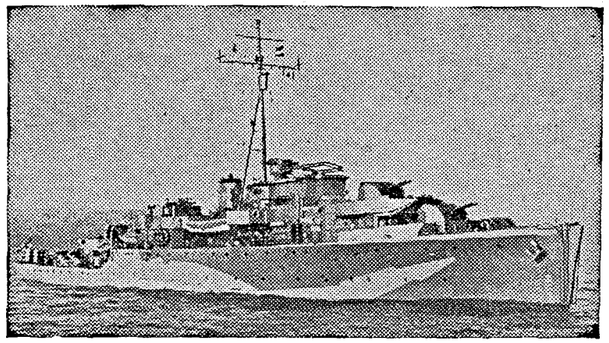
North Burma Front—Stilwell's Progress

As regards North Burma, though activity in this area has been limited by bad weather, General STILWELL's Chinese and American Army is making more progress. This consists of two American-trained Chinese divisions, an American column and a number of Chinese guerilla formations. Their task is that of clearing the first stretch of the country for the new Burma Road. They advanced from Ledo through Pangsau Pass and moved south-east across the Hukawng Valley towards Myitkyina and Mogaung, building a metal road as they advanced. When this road reaches Myitkyina, it is likely that it may be continued south to Bhamo, from where there is a good road which joins the old Burma Road at Wanting in the Yunnan province.

But before this happens the climax of the war in Europe would have been reached and passed. Meanwhile the task facing General Stilwell is to reach Myitkyina and consolidate his position there.

Another aspect of the war in Burma relates to the work of the famous air-borne expedition of the late General WINGATE, which has established itself deep in enemy territory over 150 miles behind the Japanese positions. The story of their landing in a jungle clearing in pitch darkness will be among the most thrilling episodes in the history of this war. It is stated that American aircraft released their gliders which were filled with British soldiers and parties of American engineers and that, within 12 hours, the engineers constructed landing strips which enabled the transport aircraft carrying the main body of British troops, to land safely. Eight days later the Japanese discovered what had happened. But by that time an airfield protected by R.A.F. Spitfires and British anti-air-craft batteries had already come into being. A similar attempt was repeated on a greater scale at another site which was later discovered by an infiltrating column of the 14th Army Group.

The result of these air-borne expeditions is that in a wide area between Katha on the one side and Bhamo and Mogaung on the other, our air power has been strongly established. That there is definite and complete air superiority on the Burma front is clear from the fact that there is a continual air traffic bringing in supplies and evacuating the wounded, which the enemy is not able to interrupt.



H.M.S. CYGNET.—*A British Sloop.*

UNWITTING TRAITORS

By LIEUT.-COL. S. J. LEMIN

I am going to ask you to do a few things at the end of this short talk, but here is one thing I ask you to do now. And that is, don't switch off. Please listen to me. It won't take long.

I'll come to the point straight away. It is this careless talk business. No, no, don't switch off. Thanks.

Unwitting Traitors. Quite a dramatic title and perhaps a bit theatrical, eh? Is that what you think? Oh, but if I could only make each one of you understand—but I am jumping ahead.

I want to talk to all of you, those in uniform and those out of it, because my experience has shown me that there are almost as many unwitting traitors in the armed forces as there are in what we call Civvy-Street.

SECURITY POSTERS

Do you remember those first few months of the war when the first set of security posters were issued? They were from the pen of that famous artist, Fougasse, and they made us smile. Hitler was in telephone boxes, in railway carriages, in picture frames, often badly disguised as a painter, candlestick maker or as a maggot in a lump of cheese. He was listening . . . always listening. Even in those early days it was realized that men and women with eyes and ears could, and would talk. They would use their freedom of speech birthright to such an extent that the Intelligence Staffs of Hitler and Mussolini would learn of our doings in our tight little island and so supply them with scraps of information which when pieced together would make sense.

You remember those posters. And you remember that they were fun. And then suddenly another poster was seen on the hoardings in trams, bube restaurants, railway stations—wherever you went. You'll remember this one too. It is still going strong and I think it is the best poster of its kind yet produced. It shows one of our ships going down, hundreds of little black specks in the water, and underneath is written "CARELESS TALK COSTS LIVES." Those hundreds of little black specks in the water . . . men, loyal citizens, husbands, fathers, sons, sweethearts of other loyal citizens whom they loved, tried to work and fight for. Poor devils, they din't have a chance. Now, that poster came into being because we had clear proof that information picked up by enemy agents and informers from the mouths of loyal citizens was getting out in time for the enemy to act. The propaganda (I dislike the word, but there it is), the propaganda was overhauled and it was found that, clever as the first set posters were, they did not bring home to the public the ghastly tragedy of loose talk. As time went on so the general trend was to make the posters more tragic if possible, for the idea was that every family had someone in the services, and that the average citizen was a reasonably intelligent sort of person who would appreciate the force of the argument. The majority of people certainly did make an effort and when a few highly placed officials got sacked for breaches of security and members of the public went to jail, they began to pull their socks up, especially when reports appeared in the newspapers of officers and men being court-martialled for the same thing.

I said the majority were more careful, but there will always be that type who want to make themselves interesting for a few moments—to become more important. These people, these unwitting traitors, want to show how much they know, and as they have eyes and ears, and must in these days live somewhere in an area which is either of army, navy or airforce importance, they were naturally in the position to know something. More than likely what they did know and did chatter about was already known to the enemy, but our loyal citizens were not to know that. Oh, it's a small mean mind that practices that sort of thing—like the type of woman who spends her day looking through the curtains at the house opposite to see who calls and then passes the news over the garden wall. But, unfortunately, it is not *reputations* that the careless talker kills.

But don't misunderstand me. I am not inferring that women are the chief offenders. Any man who knows women (and they are not so frightfully difficult to understand) knows only too well that if anybody can keep a secret, it is a woman. And how!

So, I think I am right in saying that CARELESS TALK education was moderately successful, but was made far more so by getting hold of somebody and letting him or her get it good and proper. And then when a voice within them said, "There: but for the grace of God and a hell of a lot of lick goes I."

So that is one point I have tried to make clear. That those who direct the war know how essential it is that people should not be allowed to talk on matters likely to assist the enemy. The Finance authorities have paid away millions for "Keep your mouth shut" campaign because they *know*. Those of you (I should say us), who have had to fill up countless forms for submission through the usual channels in order to get a few official expenses paid, will appreciate that point

Now, I have said, "Information likely to assist the enemy." That is not as vague a term as many people think it to be.

ENEMY AGENTS

From the outset you must realize that enemy agents *do exist*. Now, who are these enemy agents? Would you recognize one if you saw one? If you were on the staff of enemy Intelligence would you plant agents who looked like agents, or would you plant someone who would pass in a crowd and never be noticed? Somebody who fits right into the picture? Again, if you were enemy intelligence would you leave a part of the country uncovered by your agents where troops, ships, aerodromes, factories or ordnance depots exist? Be reasonable: of course, you would not. So you must accept that fact . . . That enemy agents *do* exist.

Mr. and Mrs. Clever Person will now ask: "Well, what are the Police doing about it?" I am in a position to know what the Police are doing about it, and you can take it from me that they *have* done and *are doing* plenty. So, if Mr. and Mrs. Clever Person or any of their nasty little children think that their curiosity is going to be satisfied —*the've* had it. Enemy agents, Mr. and Mrs. Clever Person, have been known to possess radios for listening as well as transmitting; and, would it surprise you to know that enemy agents are listening to me now at this very moment?

Right. Now, we are back again to "information likely to assist the enemy." I have a list in front of me stating what they want to find out. It is a very lengthy document and almost compiled of just the things we want to know about the enemy. I shall not read it to you. It would waste time anyway. But they want to know anything

about troops movements, their locations, where they have come from, where they are going. Our war materials and supplies, our casualties, the arrival and departure of ship, where troops are training and type of training—in fact there is hardly anything that anyone can say about naval, military or air force matters which the enemy will not be very glad to receive. Don't be afraid of reporting something which may end in smoke. 99·5 of the cases investigated do end in smoke. But ·5 delivers the goods.

Now your duty is quite plain. Don't talk carelessly and don't allow others in your presence to talk carelessly. Think twice before you commit anything to paper and three times before you post the letter, talking down to you. I am sorry about that but if I am talking down to you—talking of elementary safeguards—who's to blame? Certainly not me.

For nearly five years careless talk posters and lantern slides and radio warnings have been thrown at you by advertising experts who, before the war, used to sell their ideas to you by the same methods. Then of course, it was soap, margarine, chocolates. They sold them to you successfully because you went some of the way to meet them. Well, go some of the way to meet an idea designed to safeguard information likely to assist the enemy—and give our lads a sporting chance.

TAKE NO CHANCES

I know how easy it is to say "you mustn't do this, you mustn't do that" and how difficult it is, with the war all around, to keep off military matters. It is difficult—but not impossible. Try to emulate the man who received a letter from a firm of undertakers informing him that his mother-in-law was dead and to telegraph instructions as to disposal. He wired back "Embalm Cremate Bury. Take No Chances."

Well, ladies and gentlemen, there it is. We all used to think that security was something every woman wanted but security means now the discipline of the closed mouth and careful pen.

No use for your defending counsel to plead that you are a loyal citizen. You are all loyal citizens. That doesn't come into it. Your defending counsel will have to prove that when you talked carelessly you did not give information likely to assist the enemy. And in view of what I've said, that's going to be mighty difficult.

If you are found guilty it's almost certain that you will get imprisonment or a heavy fine, or both.

Please believe me when I tell you that my job in this war has confronted me with the most heart-breaking proof of the results of these tit-bits of tittle-tattle. Is a heavy fine and imprisonment too much? If the countless victims of careless talk could speak what would be their opinion?

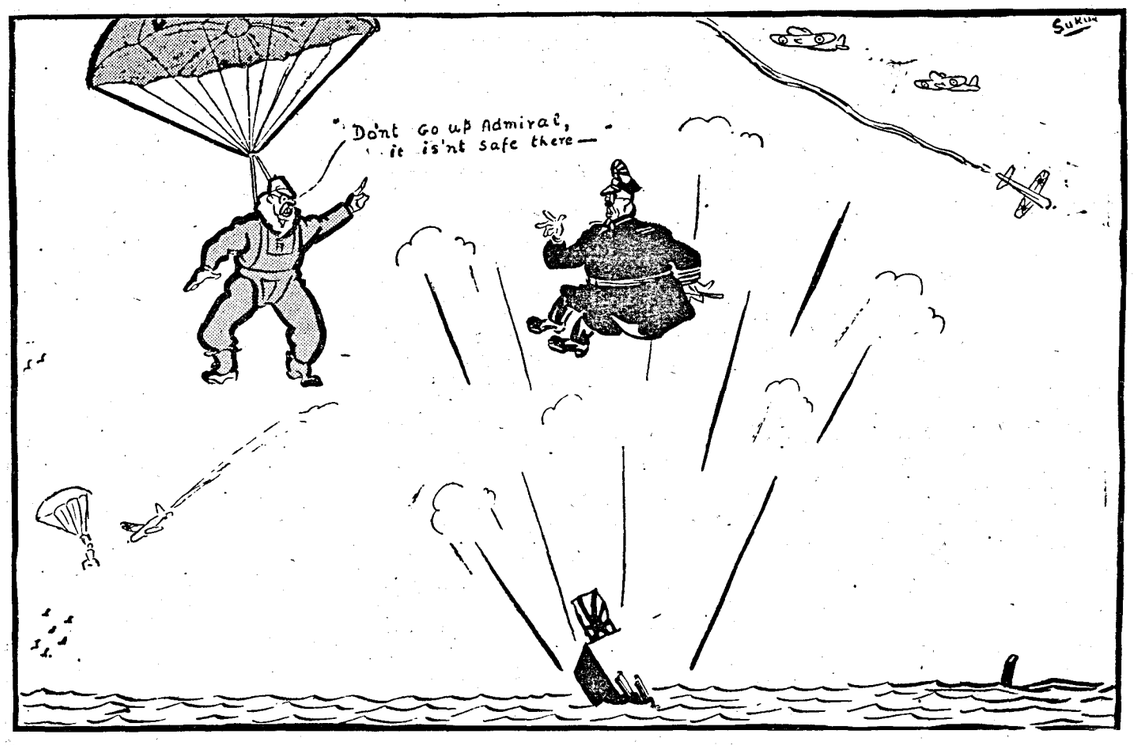
I am sure their spirits would only rest if they could dance the Maypole round a forest of gallows where careless talkers, with their tongues lolling out, dangle at the end of silken ropes. Good-night.

—A recent talk broadcast from A.I.R., Madras.

PICTURES FOR THE FUEHRER

(*By* R.G.)

The faces—the faces will haunt you
and follow you where you lie in luxury
or painfully plot new mischief.
You, the Leader, the dread Dictator,
escape not the faces caught by the camera
and not in mere memory kept
but on unforgetting paper and on film
unperishing to the thousandth horrible repetition.
Even through your vanity
and pride and ambition
sometimes those eyes may pierce
telling of humanity marshalled like machines
but insistently human.
See, there courage is, and there
pity : tears drop down, smiles brighten.
These are men and women, say the faces.
If you saw only their backs
burdened with gear domestic or martial
and bent to bear like pack-animals
you might imagine them chattels
to be used and broken
as indeed you have used and broken
millions that never harmed you.
But you see the faces ; these are men and women
and children ; they know duty and devilry
and will answer kindness or a curse.
Even through your vanity
and pride and ambition blacking out the world
the faces will flare. And to our eyes
(not without their own beams and blots
but seeing clear through clean patches)
they shine as stars or rain
from the clouds beyond the casement,
twitch the curtains like the wind,
dance on the ceiling of the mind as light will
from mirrors or metal. For these are
they who suffer, they who endure,
they who from the infernal confines
(though many are lost) bring back
themselves still human, and sometimes
a flower to promise Spring.
Your own brave you have wantonly squandered
and your virtuous ones thrown carelessly away
or brutally broken. Many have been valorous
and some in your despite honourable.
In your hall of horrors their pictures
hang with the others, the butchers, the hell-hounds :
and besmirched though they be by your cause
preserve the soul of your people
lest they utterly perish in your iniquity.
Remember their faces, under the flail of your torturers
or bearing the battle of your arrogant fraud
in the name of the fatherland.
They reproach you till the day of your death.
But mark yet more the faces on every front
of matchless s ilors, soldiers, airmen, workers,
the world's weapon for your destruction.
Through trial and tribulation and desperate strait
or encounter hazardous and even hopeless, these,
set grim or grinning irrepressibly,
announce for you a determined end,
a doom deserved.



A Japanese destroyer has been sunk by one of His Majesty's submarines in the Bay of Bengal

—Specially drawn for the MADRAS WAR REVIEW.

THE SIXTH COLUMN'S CHANCE

By FRANCIS FIELDING

SHIVERING in the raw air of early morning, ragged, unshaven and hungry, a group of Frenchmen shuffle into line at the order of their guards. Before them is a day's work at a Nazi labour camp.

They have little enough cause to smile, underfed, underpaid, overworked, hundreds of miles from home. But they do smile, a derisory smile, with more malice than mirth in it. It is their guards who look glum. They know the Frenchmen hate them, and those among them who are fanatical Nazis despise the Frenchmen. But over the months a certain rough tolerance has grown up. You cannot shoot everyone who opens his mouth, and it is easier to shoot a Frenchman than to keep him silent.

This morning they have plenty to say. It is the guards who are silent. There is no response when a Frenchman remarks to the air that a man can be quite happy with one leg or half a face. There is a snarl to hurry up when another remembers this is the last day of the old year and wishes the guards a good time in the last year they have to live.

The Frenchmen talk loudly among themselves as they move off. They agree that they must start a fund for the orphans of such admirable messieurs as their soon-to-be-dead guards.

The guards have been combed out for the dreaded Eastern Front.

The Frenchmen are conducting the nerve war, part of the all-comprehending war of sabotage, which the Sixth Column against Hitler the 8,000,000 foreign workers inside Nazi Germany, wage against their oppressors.

Stories of this "nerve war" trickle out continuously with escaped prisoners and workers from Germany. Discipline and the moral of the guards varies, and there are Nazi slave camps where a bullet or a blow would silence the mockers. But as darkness deepens over the Third Reich the labour slaves and the prisoners speak and act more boldly.

One escaped worker described recently how on one farm the French prisoners began the day's work by singing in chorus the "song of the farmer's wife whose husband never came back."

At another, the camp guards wilted under the nerve warfare. The man who brought out the story describes what happened in his own words "We did good business after that with soldiers when the authorities, terrified of a typhus epidemic, were segregating those infested with lice. We had large supplies of these insects, and we used to sell them to the German soldiers for the price of five marks apiece."

Horrible? Of course it is horrible—as horrible as the foul Nazi creed which thus compels man to abandon kindliness and decency and hit back with every weapon their hands and tongues can devise.

Not all the incidents are so grim. In one camp some of the prisoners had a portrait of General de Gaulle in their room. How they got it was a mystery, but, as one sentry said: "Shut a Frenchman up, stark-naked in a cell and the next day you'll find him fully dressed with his pockets stuffed with cigarettes."

The authorities ordered the removal of the portrait. There was a long and heated argument, but eventually the prisoners won.

Hitler's imported slaves are the greatest Sixth Column in the history of the world. I can write most freely of the million and a quarter Frenchmen among them; but there can be no doubt that great numbers of Poles, Russians, Ukrainians, Greeks and others who have been swept up from all the corners of Europe are equally united in their hatred of the Germans and their determination to sabotage even at the risk of life.

Sabotage is no longer individual and un-co-ordinated. It is planned and directed. The resistance movement in France has issued orders to the workers and prisoners in Germany. They are addressed to "a French worker forcibly enrolled for Germany."

WHAT I HAVE DONE IN ITALY

By MARSHAL BADOGLIO, *Head of the Government*

LET us make a rapid review of Italian events from July 25, 1943, until now. On July 25, following His Majesty's order to Mussolini to resign consequent upon the vote of the Fascist Grand Council, I assumed power.

During the month and a half during which it functioned in Rome, the Government presided over by me took the following measures:—

(1) The dissolution of the Fascist Party, Grand Council, the Fascist Chamber and corporations.

(2) Promulgation of the law regarding illicitly acquired fortunes.

(3) The removal of 50 Fascist prefects and their replacement by professionals.

(4) Elimination of Fascists from the principal posts in State and semi-State concerns.

(5) Arrest of the principal and most dangerous Fascist Party leaders.

(6) Absorption of the Fascist militia into the Army.

SOUGHT CONTACT

These measures, which were fiercely resisted by the Germans, immediately occasioned the descent into Italy of numerous German divisions. Against this disposition we had no means to make resistance because Mussolini, as Commander-in-Chief of all our armed forces, had disseminated our divisions outside Italy.

Fully 36 divisions were outside our territory; therefore only 12 shrunken, ill-armed divisions garrisoned the continent.

It being impossible, owing to the lack of supplies and the decided unwillingness of our people, to continue the war, we sought by means of emissaries to make contact with the British and Americans for the conclusion of an armistice.

BLAME "CHILDISH"

We are blamed for having delayed too long the conclusion of an armistice, but this is childish, for it is evident that in order to reach a conclusion it was necessary that the other party also should consent, whereas up to September 3, we never had the approval of the Allied Supreme Command. Simple declaration of an armistice or unilateral surrender would have placed us at the mercy of the Germans without any hope of help from the Anglo-Americans.

Our command had concentrated at least six divisions to defend Rome. But after the proclamation of the armistice on the evening of September 8, German divisions garrisoned in the neighbourhood of the city suddenly moved against Rome.

For reasons which in due course will be ascertained, after a few episodes of strenuous resistance, our defences totally collapsed.

It was impossible to remain in Rome without falling into the hands of the Germans.

STRIKE PLANNED

Therefore, the royal family, I myself, and such Ministers whom I could warn made for Brindisi, passing via Tivoli and Pescara.

During the six weeks of my authority in Rome all the authentic heads of the political parties accorded full support to my Government.

The proof is this. Through German agents' machinations, preparations were made for a general strike on September 1. On August 31, there appeared in the newspapers a declaration by all authentic party leaders summoning the workers to abstain from any strike or action directed against the Government.

Shortly afterwards at Brindisi I received a telegram from America from Count Sforza in which he stated he considered criminal any opposition to my Government so long as I enjoyed the trust of the Allies, and that all our internal questions should be re-solved after the conclusion of the war.

MEN OF GOODWILL

Delighted by this communication, I proceeded along the path already traced and arranged the declaration of war against Germany, obtaining from the Allies co-belligerency.

It is unnecessary to repeat, because everybody knows it, in what manner Sforza's declaration was implemented.

Having reconstructed the Government with men of absolute goodwill, who, like myself, considered what was necessary to make the maximum contribution to the war and initiate the reconstruction of the country, we set to work observing the following principles:—

(1) Resolutely to dismount the complex and intricate Fascist structure which for 22 years had, like an octopus, permeated the whole structure and activities of the State, and simultaneously removed from all posts, control and responsibility all those who had been leaders of the Fascist Party. This principle had been provided for by the decree regarding de-Fascistization and the creation of a commissionership for the purging of which Tito Zaniboni was nominated.

(2) To collaborate with the best will and the most complete loyalty with the United Nations in order to win the war. The activity of the Government and our armed forces in this sense has been fully recognized by the Allied Governments. This is shown by the transference of the administration of the provinces to the Government and by the speech in the House of Commons by Churchill.

(3) To improve as far as possible, considering our financial exhaustion, the situation of wage and salary-earners. This has been implemented by decrees on employees' salaries, industrial and agricultural workers' wages and increase of subsidies to pensioners and clergy.

(4) To organize territory for the quicker and more equitable distribution of foodstuffs. Difficulties in the way are many, seeing the poverty of our means of communication, but we hope to be able sensibly to improve the situation. Truly notable aid in this field has been generously given by the Allies, and I desire once more to express my warm gratitude.

(5) To restore our industries, road communications, railways, telegraphs and telephones. Despite the enormous damage inflicted and the scantiness of the means at our disposal, we have gone forward on the path of reconstruction.

(6) Leave liberty of action to the Press within the strict limits of the exigencies of war. Although this liberty of which we had lost the habit may have produced disorder in every direction, I am convinced good order will prevail and that we shall reach a level of calm, dignified, solidly argued discussion of our most urgent problems.

(7) To put off until the end of the war, that is, until the whole Italian people can freely manifest their own will, all discussions and provisions regarding our future State organisation.

FRIENDLY STATES

So much for our internal problem. As to our external contacts, it has been my care to resume friendly relations with States from which no dispute had ever divided us and renew with those against whom we had become ranged in this disastrous war relations of cordiality and mutual comprehension.

The results of this strenuous work will later be made known.

Criticisms of all sorts may be levelled against us. Only those who act make mistakes. But nobody can cast doubt on our immense love for this tormented Italy or our unshakeable determination to make every effort which may help to raise her again.

ITALIAN BATTLEFRONT

In a broadcast talk from Delhi over All-India Radio, a staff officer of G.H.Q., who has just returned from a tour of the Italian front, gave a vivid discription of the countryside around Cassino which appeared to have a peculiar grimness and bleakness of its own. The olive groves were blasted, he said and the trees were barren skeletons, while the little towns and villages within the battle area were wrecked and totally deserted. In Cassino itself there were Allied troops and Germans in the town; by day you moved cautiously from hidey hole to hidey hole; by night the broken town became a place of swift, silent movement, of slaughter and the taking of prisoners.

He felt strongly that the Italians were paying a terrible penalty for all their ambitious boasts, and that it was a miserable business being one of Germany's allies. Italy offered a pattern of what Europe was going to be like as our armies advanced.

The talk ended with a few examples of bravery of the Indian and Allied soldiers in this theatre of war. The speaker said that the Allied troops had been toughened and that though they had had and were having a long, arduous, winter campaign they were in very good heart and this was especially true of the Indian formations.

BRITISH HEAVY ACK-ACK GUNNERS IN SOUTH INDIA

SINCE early in April two years ago when the entry of a famous regiment of British Heavy Ack-Ack Gunners into the Madras area was to take place with appropriate ceremonial, in the form of a march-past and salute to His Excellency the Governor, only to be changed at the last moment to a midnight occupation, on the warning of a Japanese task force in the Bay;—since that day, the Regiment has manned its guns continuously in the Madras area and there has never been a moment when it could not have fired within a couple of minutes.

And it is to this regiment that Madras area owes the lay-out and organization of its Ack-Ack defences. Officers of the regiment have also assisted in the lay-out of Ack-Ack defences in various other areas in South India.

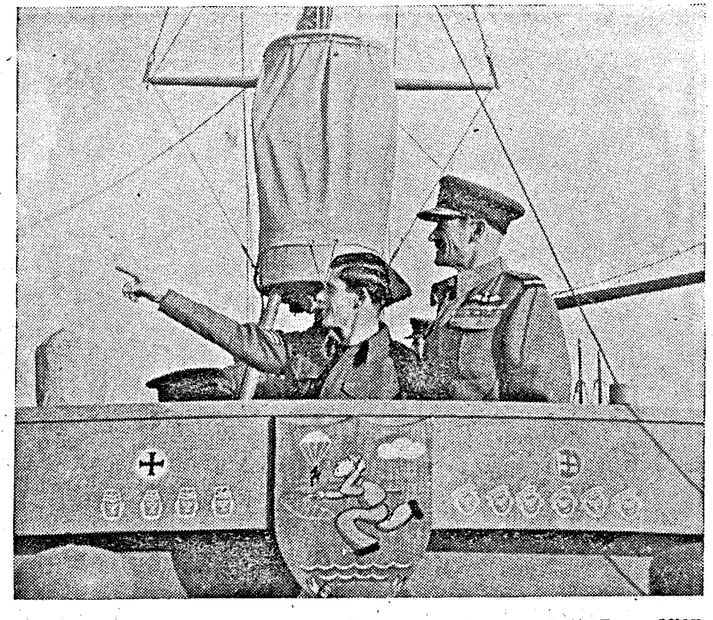
In addition to its normal operational role, the regiment has acted as a virtual training ground for Ack-Ack, losing many of its officers and other ranks to newly raised Indian units and Ack-Ack training centres. Men from all parts of India have been trained by the regiment including a large number of South Indian sepoys and perfect concord and friendship exists between the British and Indian personnel.

Originally raised as a territorial battery in Britain for the defence of London, the regiment went through its baptism of fire during the Blitz of 1940.

Individual exploits of gallantry among the officers and men have been many.

In South India, the regiment has made countless friends. Not only has it got on well with the civilian population, it has also contributed something to the social life of the people, in the form of concert parties and dances.

His Excellency the Governor of Madras, Sir Arthur Hope, who took the salute at a march-past by the regiment recently in the Madras area, complimented the men on their magnificient turn-out. In a reminiscent mood, His Excellency recalled his ten years' experience in the Brigade of Guards and congratulated the men on their turn-out, steadiness and marching, which he said, were very good.



Air Marshal Sir Keith Park, Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Royal Air Force,, Middle East, recently visited a number of stations and units in the Western Desert an Canal Zone, and talked with pilots and ground crews at each place where his aircraft touched down. Picture shows *Sir Keith Park on the Bridge of a High Speed Launch being shown points of interest by Sergeant Ian McLeod of Plymouth, one of the crew.*

His Excellency went on to say that enforced idleness, no doubt, was more boring than work, but he was highly impressed by the high morale, and cheerfulness of the men. "You have gained a fine reputation," His Excellency said, "and I wish you the best of luck in the future."

Referring to the war, His Excellency said every one in Great Britain this time was determined to fight it to the finish and they were determined to see to it that there was no repetition of the war again.

In conclusion the Governor wished the men, every one of them, the best fortune and return eventually to a more peaceful and prosperous England.

The function then came to a close with the men adjourning for tea which was served by the Madras Hospitality Committee, Lady Hope Canteen. Frominent among the guests were Lady Hope, wife of the Governor of Madras herself, Mrs. J. Nuttall, Mrs. B. Barlow, Mrs. Pugh and Mrs. Freland.

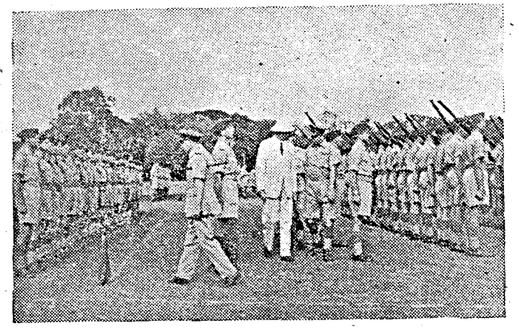
"BLITZ"—MADRAS RADIO FEATURE

The All-India Radio, Madras, and the Public Relations Directorate, Southern Army, deserve to be congratulated on their initiative and enterprise in getting up a feature programme entitled "Blitz" depicting some of the phases of the Battle of Britain, with the help of personnel who had actually been in action in London and Plymouth.

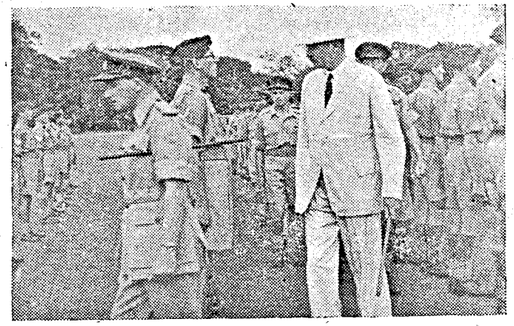
The feature which was electrically recorded, was broadcast from Madras last night (May 11) at 8 p.m.

Pressmen who listened-in at the Studio expressed the opinion that the programme, which lasted for half-an-hour, was quite interesting.

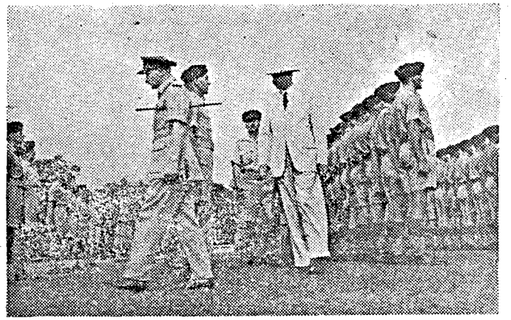
H.E. SIR ARTHUR HOPE INSPECTS



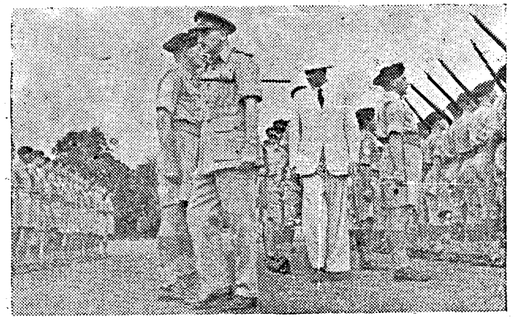
His Excellency the Governor inspecting the men accompanied by Lieutenant-Colonel J. Daniel, T.D., R.A., and B. S. M. Carpenter who comes from London.



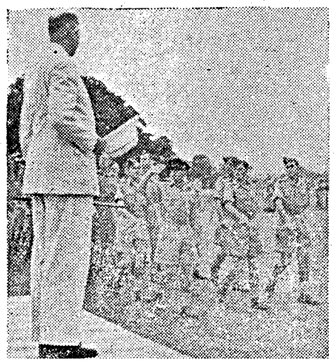
The Governor is seen talking to L/Bdr. Freeman whose home is in Exeter. Behind *His Excellency are Lieutenant-Colonel J. Daniel, T.D., R.A. (Cornwall), Captain S. G. Brokenshire (Cornwall) and Major W.A. Polglaze (also from Cornwall).* Leading *His Excellency is his A.D.C. Captain Coombes.*



His Excellency Sir Arthur Hope, Governor of Madras, inspecting the men. Behind *His Excellency can be seen Major C. C. Rutherford who comes from Montreal, Canada.*

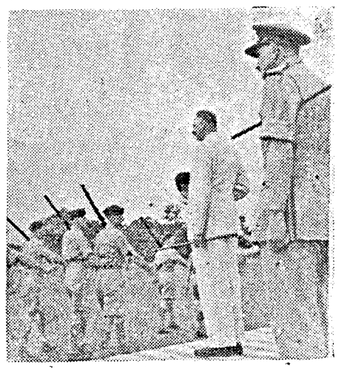


Another view of His Excellency Sir Arthur Hope, Governor of Madras inspecting the troops. Easily identified in the picture are B. S.M. Eplett who hails from Cornwall and Sgt. Stacey, who is from London.

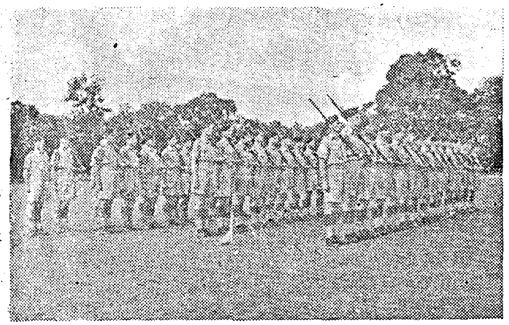


Left—*The men march-past His Excellency Sir Arthur Hope, Governor of Madras who took the salute.* In the picture can be seen, *Sergeant Dark from Padstow, Cornwall; Sergeant Lewis, Aberdare, Glamorgan; Lieutenant Gilbert, Cornwall, Sergeant Loop, London; and Sergeant Stacey, London.*

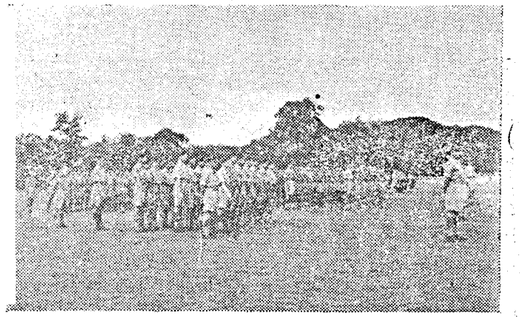
Right—*Another view of the march-past with His Excellency Sir Arthur Hope, Governor of Madras, taking the salute.* In the picture are *Sergeant W. Snook, Bristol; Gnr. Wear from Winscombe, Somerset; Gnr. Lane (Liverpool), and Gnr. Pope, Portsmouth.*



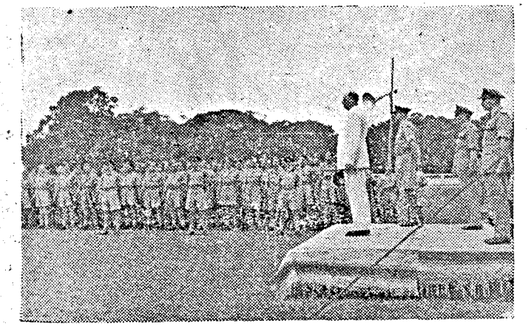
ACK—ACK GUNNERS' PARADE



The men standing to attention. In the group are C. S. M. Williams (Shenfield, Essex); Sgt. Mold, Windsor, Berkshire; Sgt. Partington, Deptford, London; Capt. S. Keeley, Birmingham; Driver Hughes, Bromley, Kent; Capt. Blakeman, Newcastle; and Cpl. Poulton, Southampton.

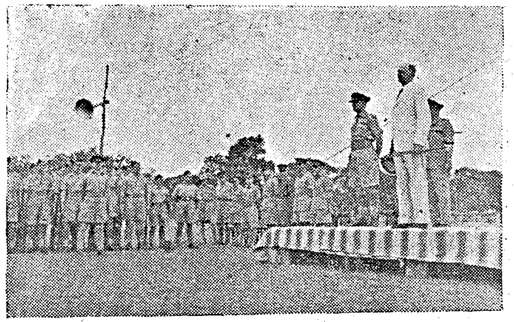


A bird's eye view of the men in parade. Seen in the picture *are Lieut. E. Marchant, Fife, Scotland; Sgt. Humphrey from London; Sgt. Lutterloch, London; Sgt. Snook, Bristol; Gnr. Wear, Cornwall; and Gnr. Lane, Liverpool.*

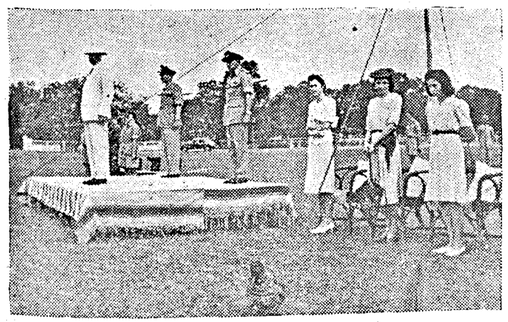


After the March-past and the taking of the salute, H.E. Sir Arthur Hope addressed the men. Standing on the dais *is the Governor and to his right is Lt.-Col. J. Daniel, T.D., R.A.*

Behind *His Excellency is his A.D.C. Capt. Coombes, to whose right is H.E.'s Military Secretary, Col. G. B. Howell.*



Another view. To his right *is Lt.-Col. J. Daniel, T.D., R.A. Others in the group are Major K. K. Rich, Cornwall; Major J.C.B. Daniel, Cornwall; Major T. B. Clarke, Yorkshire; Capt. B. V. Keighley, Yorkshire; Capt. E. Slade. Cornwall; Lieut. D. J. Coulson, Yorkshire; B. S. M. Elett, Cornwall; Sgt. Barnes, Cornwall; Sgt. Ward, Cornwall, Gnr. Higgs, Gloucester, Gnr. Mann, Middlesex, and Gnr. Smith, Durham.*

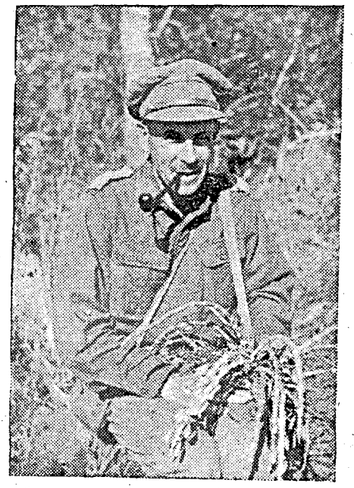


The saluting base with H.E. Sir Arthur Hope, in the foreground. Behind *His Excellency are his Military Secretary and A.D.C.* To the right *of the base some of the officers of the regiment are standing in a row.* To the left *are the Hon. Allison Hope, the Hon. Lady Hope, and the Hon. Barbara Hope.*

After the parade, the men were entertained to tea by a mobile canteen run by the ladies of Madras. The Hon. Lady Hope, who takes an active interest in the welfare of troops, is here seen talking to Gnr. R. J. Pinch, Indian Queen's, Fraddon, Cornwall.

THIRD MADRAS REGIMENT

HEAVY CASUALTIES INFLICTED ON JAPS ON IMPHAL FRONT



A keen botanist, the Colonel commanding the Madrassis, admires one of the many varieties of orchids found on these mountain slopes.

MADRAS REGIMENT ON IMPHAL FRONT.—Men of the Third Madras Regiment have been giving a good account of themselves on the Imphal Front.

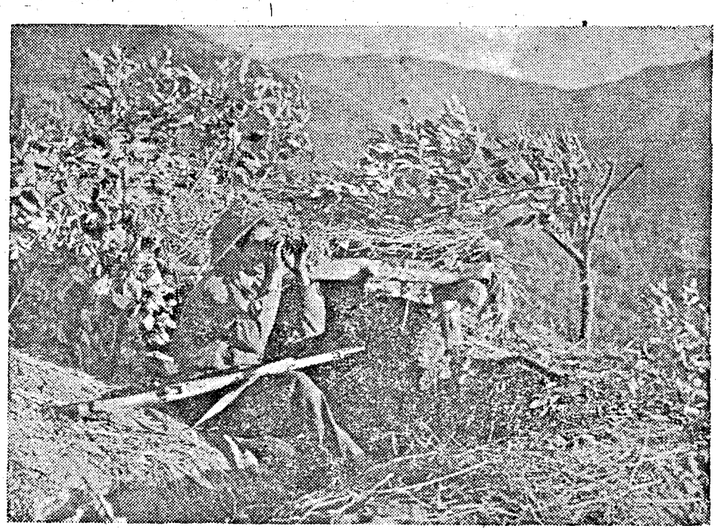
Time off for a game of cards.

HAVING failed for twelve days by mortaring, machine-gunning and sniping to shake a detachment of Indian troops holding Sita Ridge, south-east of Imphal on the Tamu Road, the attacking Japanese tried a verbal barrage.

In this action and in many other clashes with the enemy, these South Indian troops have proved their worth. The battalion of the Third Madras Regiment, to which they belong, claims 150 Japs killed in recent fighting and treasures a number of swords and flags as battle trophies.

It is the first battalion of the Regiment to draw blood from the enemy, writes an Indian Army Observer. Raised in Bangalore in 1940 as a territorial unit, it became part of the regular army in October 1941. It made its first contact with the Japs in December 1943 when, at four hours' notice, a company moved 30 miles to take up a position at Tilaungwya, near the Yu River.

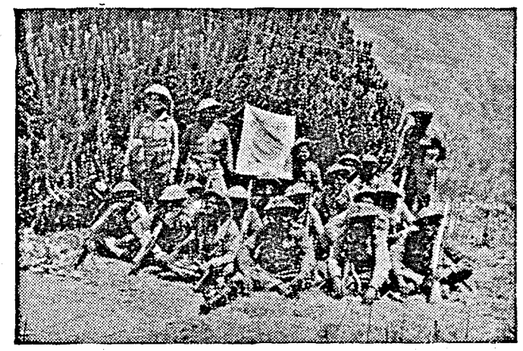
Still on active service with the battalion with fifteen years' territorial and four years' regular service to his credit is Subedar-Major Sudalaimuthu, once a school teacher at the Board High School at Koilpatti, Tinnevelly district, Madras. Of the officers, two-thirds are Madrassis carrying regimental duties performed in most battalions of the Indian Army by a high proportion of British officers.



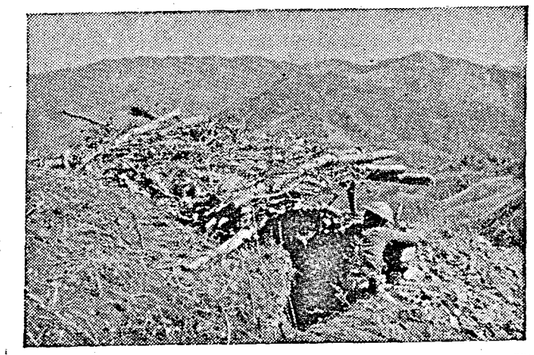
Rifle ready, L/Nk. Raman watches an enemy supply track.

ON IMPHAL FRONT

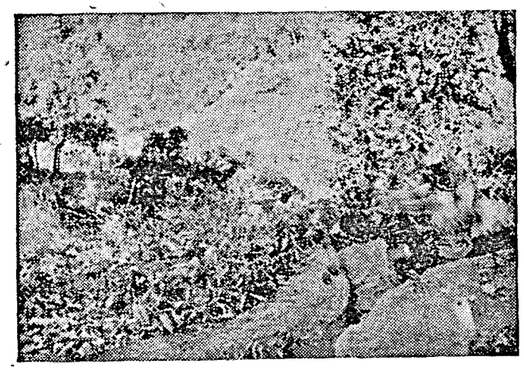
[Men of the Third Madras Regiment have been giving a good account of themselves on the Imphal Front. Here are pictures showing some of the men, and also illustrating the difficult country in which they are operating.]



Victorious Madrassis smile as they exhibit the Jap flag they have just captured.

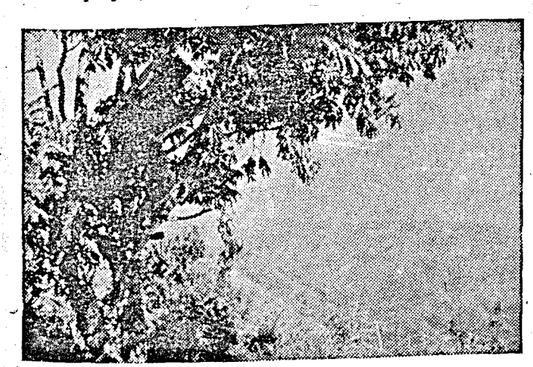


Sepoy Meeramaideen trains his rifle on Jap positions across the valley. In the background is Sita Hill.

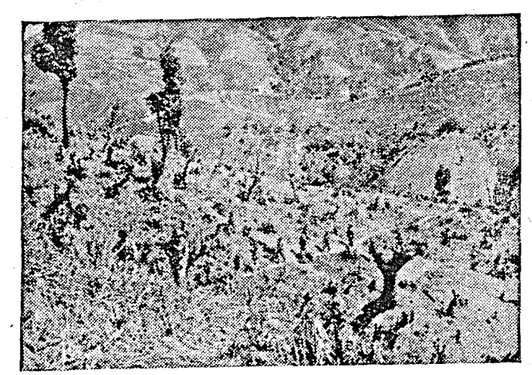


Water is scarce among the hills. In the distance water-laden mules wind up a steep-track. Higher up the water will be poured into bamboo "phagals," and carried on men's backs to the hill-tops.

Carried up the steep hills by the Sepoys, the water going into these two-gallon bamboo "phagals" will remain cool and sweet all day.



Concealed in this tree, crack sniper Chinnasamy Naidu keeps a keen eye on the enemy used-track below.



Men of a fighting patrol return from a sortie.

THE U.S.S.R.

THE Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (U.S.S.R.) occupies one-sixth of the surface of the globe. Over 22,700,000 square kilometres in area, it is the largest continuous state territory in the world and in 1939 had a population of over 193,000,000. Moscow is its capital.

The U.S.S.R. stretches west to east from the Carpathian Mountains and the Baltic Sea to the Pacific Ocean, and north to south from the Arctic Ocean to the Pamirs and the plains of Mongolia. The northern part of the U.S.S.R. is covered by the icy wastes of the Arctic; the southern part is covered by plantations of cotton, tea and citrous fruits.

The U.S.S.R. is rich in all the useful minerals, in all strategic raw materials that our globe contains. It occupies first place in the world for its deposits of iron ore (with quartzifes), oil, coal and peat, and for its hydro-electric energy and timber.

The U.S.S.R. was founded on the initiative of Lenin and Stalin, December 30, 1922, at the First All-Union Congress of Soviets.

At the time it was formed the U.S.S.R. was composed of the Russian Soviet Federative Socialist Republic (R.S.F.S.R.), the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic (Ukrainian S.S.R.), the Byelorussian S.S.R., and the Transcaucasian Soviet Federative Socialist Republic, which consisted of the Georgian, Azerbaijan and Armenian Soviet Socialist Republics.

MAIN REPUBLICS

In 1925, the newly formed Turkmen and Uzbek Soviet Socialist Republics became constituent parts of the U.S.S.R., and in 1929, the Tajik S.S.R. In 1936, the Kazakh and Kirghiz Autonomous Republics, which had formerly belonged to the R.S.F.S.R., became main republics, or Union Republics, as they are called. In the same period after the dissolution of the Transcaucasian Federation, the Georgian, Azerbaijan and Armenian Republics became Union Republics.

In 1939, the peoples of Western Ukraine and Western Byelorussia joined the Ukrainian S.S.R. and the Byelorussian S.S.R., respectively. In the spring of 1940, the Karelian Autonomous Soviet Socialist Republic, and the bulk of the territory that was transferred to the U.S.S.R. in conformity with the peace treaty signed with Finland on March 12, 1940, joined to form the Karelo-Finnish S.S.R.

The summer of the same year a large part of Bessarabia, the bulk of the population of which is Moldavian, was joined to the Moldavian Autonomous Soviet Socialist Republic, which had formerly belonged to the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, and formed the Moldavian S.S.R.

In August 1940, three new Soviet republics affiliated to the U.S.S.R., viz., the Baltic Republics of Latvia, Lithuania and Esthonia.

Thus, the U.S.S.R. now consists of 16 voluntarily federated and equal Soviet Socialist Republics.

The U.S.S.R. is a State of a new type; it is a Socialist State of workers and peasants. Politically, it is based on the Soviets (or Councils) of Working People's Deputies, in which all power in the Union is vested.

Economically, the Soviet Union is based on Socialism, i.e., the social ownership of the means and instruments of production. Small private production by individual peasants and artisans is permitted, provided the owners work themselves and do not exploit the labour of others.

In 1938, socialist economy accounted for 99;9 per cent of the gross industrial output of the Soviet Union.

AN INDUSTRIAL POWER

The U.S.S.R. is an industrial power. From the largely agrarian country it had been in the past, it grew into a land of modern industry. By the end of 1937, the industrial output of the U.S.S.R. had increased more than eight-fold compared with 1913. Gigantic industrial plants like the Magnitogorsk, Kuznetsk and Chelyabinsk iron and steel mills, the Stalingrad Tractor Plant and the Dnieper Hydro-Electric Power Station, were erected. Entirely new industries which had not existed in the country before, were developed, such as the aircraft, automobile, tractor and chemical industries, and many more. The industrialization of the country was the result of the execution of the Five-Year Plans of national economic development, which the peoples of the U.S.S.R. call the Stalin Five-Year Plans, in honour of Stalin, who initiated them and directed their fulfilment.

The U.S.S.R. is also a collective farm-power. From an agrarian country in which small peasant farming predominated, the Soviet Union grew into a country where farming is conducted on a larger and more mechanized scale than in any other country in the world. Before the war in 1937, there were over 240,000 collective (co-operative) farms, conducted on the most up-to-date technical lines.

Thanks to the socialization of the means of production, there is no exploitation of man by man in the U.S.S.R. According to the census of 1939, industrial workers constitute 32;2 per cent of the working population, collective farmers 44;6 per cent and office employees, etc., 17;5 per cent.

Soviet society consists of two friendly classes—the working class and the peasantry. These classes are new social classes which know no exploitation. In the U.S.S.R. the intellectuals are vitally connected with the workers and peasants, and jointly with them wield the power in the country. The working people of the U.S.S.R. work for their own benefit for the benefit of their own state. The more the working man or woman produces for society, the more he receives from it, and the more prosperous the entire society becomes. This gives rise to mass labour heroism; it inspires hundreds and thousands of men and women to put their best into their work. This explains the rise and enormous extent of the Stakhanov movement, i.e., the movement initiated by the Donets Basin coal miner Stakhanov to achieve high rates of output.

Fundamental changes have taken place in the culture of the people of the U.S.S.R. Formerly the bulk of the population of Russia was illiterate and uneducated. The very opposite is the case to-day. According to the census of 1939, 77;7 per thousand of the population have received a secondary education, and 6;4 per thousand have received a higher education. Elementary education is now universal and compulsory.

The U.S.S.R. is a multi-national state. It is inhabited by over 180 different nations, nationalities and tribes, of which 60 are large and fully-formed nations. As a result of the industrialization of the U.S.S.R. and of the national policy pursued at the behest of Lenin and Stalin, the numerous nationalities of the U.S.S.R. have made extraordinarily rapid economic and cultural progress. Thus, in 1937, the industrial output of the Kazakh S.S.R. showed nearly an 18-fold increase compared with 1913, that of the Kirghiz S.S.R. a 160-fold increase and that of the Tajik S.S.R., a 157-fold increase, whereas that of the Soviet Union as a whole showed an eight-fold increase.

FIRMNESS AND DURABILITY

As a result of this policy, the close friendship and co-operation among the nations of the Soviet Union, which enjoy equality of rights in all spheres of life, have greatly strengthened, and is one of the main foundations of the firmness and durability of the Soviet State.

The constitution of the U.S.S.R., which was adopted at the Extraordinary Eighth Congress of Soviets of the U.S.S.R. on December 5, 1936, gave legislative seal and sanction to these fundamental changes in the country.

At the time the U.S.S.R. was formed Stalin prophesied that it would become "a formidable international force."

This forecast has been abundantly confirmed during the present war against Hitler Germany. In this struggle the U.S.S.R. is playing the progressive role of the mighty vanguard of the Anti-Hitler coalition. In the course of this war the prestige and popularity of the U.S.S.R. have grown immensely among all freedom-loving nations of the world.

CONSTITUTION

The constitution of the U.S.S.R. is the fundamental law of the country. It determines the organization of society and of the state in the Soviet Union, the structure of the local and higher governmental and administrative organs, as well as of the organs of the court and procurator's offices, and establishes the electoral system and the procedure for amending the constitution itself.

It furthermore contains a description of the arms and the flag of the U.S.S.R. and fixed the capital of the country.

"The declaration of Rights of the Toiling and Exploited People," written by Lenin and approved by the Third All-Russian Congress of Soviets in January 1918, was actually Russia's first constitution. In July 1918, the Fifth All-Russian Congress of Soviets adopted the Constitution of the Russian Soviet Federative Socialist Republic. This instrument served as the basic law for all peoples of Russia until the formation of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

The first Constitution of the U.S.S.R. was ratified by the Second All-Union Congress of Soviets on Jan. 31, 1924. On the basis of this constitution the people built a Socialist Society.

The radical, economic and social changes in the country between 1924 and 1936 necessitated the framing of a new constitution which would reflect actual conditions in the new Soviet society.

With this end in view a Constitutional Commission presided over by Stalin was created on Feb. 7, 1935. It submitted the draft of a new constitution to the presidium of the Central Executive Committee of the U.S.S.R. for its approval, which done the draft was published for nation-wide discussion. This discussion lasted for more than 5 months and showed that the draft had virtually the unanimous endorsement of the Soviet people. On Dec. 5, 1936, the Extraordinary Eighth Congress of Soviets adopted the new Constitution of the U.S.S.R., popularly named the Stalin Constitution after its author.

POLITICAL FOUNDATION

The Soviets of Working People's Deputies constitute the political foundation of the U.S.S.R. In the U.S.S.R. all power belongs to the working people of town and country as represented by the Soviets of Working People's Deputies. The Constitution reflects the basic principles of Socialism, which have already been won and achieved in the U.S.S.R., and vests them with legislative authority, viz., the socialist ownership of land, forests, factories, mills and other means and instruments of production; the abolition of exploitation, poverty and unemployment; the designation of work as a duty and a matter of honour of every able-bodied citizen. The Constitution is premised on the fact that in Soviet society power is wielded by classes friendly to each other—the working class and the farmer. The Constitution proclaims the complete equality of all nations and races inhabiting the Soviet Union and the complete equality before the law of all citizens of the U.S.S.R.

The Stalin Constitution introduced universal, direct and equal suffrage by secret ballot; all citizens, irrespective of race or nationality, sex, religion, educational and residential qualifications, social origin, property status or past activities, enjoy equal political rights. They all have an equal right to work, to rest and leisure, to education, to maintenance in old age, to material and medical assistance in case of permanent or temporary loss of capacity to work, to inviolability of the person and of the home, etc.

The Soviet Constitution guarantees freedom of conscience, of speech, of the press, of assembly, including the holding of mass meetings, and of street processions and demonstrations.

DUTIES OF CITIZENS

The Constitution also sets forth as inviolable law the duties of citizens of the U.S.S.R., to abide by the Constitution, observe the laws, maintain labour discipline, honestly perform public duties, and respect the rules of socialist intercourse. It sets forth that it is the sacred duty of every citizen of the U.S.S.R. to defend his native land and that universal military service is law.

It is the duty of every citizen of the U.S.S.R. to safeguard and strengthen public property as the foundation of the Soviet system. At the same time the right of citizens to personal ownership of their incomes from work and of their savings, of their dwelling houses and of their subsidiary household economy, their household furniture and utensils and articles of personal use and convenience, as well as the right of inheritance of personal property of citizens, are protected by law.

Moreover, the Constitution of the U.S.S.R. does not confine itself to a declaration of rights and liberties but guarantees their exercise.

Thus, freedom of conscience is guaranteed by the separation of the church from the state and of the school from the church. Freedom of the press is guaranteed by placing at the disposal of the working people and their organizations, printing presses and stocks of paper; freedom of assembly, including the right to hold mass meetings is guaranteed by providing the necessary premises in public buildings. The right to rest and leisure is guaranteed by the granting of vacations with pay and the provision of rest homes, sanatoria and clubs. The right to medical assistance is guaranteed by free dispensaries, clinics and hospitals.

By decision of the Extraordinary Eighth Congress of Soviets of the U.S.S.R., the day on which the Stalin Constitution was adopted, December 5, was declared a national holiday.

ELECTORAL SYSTEM

According to the U.S.S.R. Constitution, all Soviets (or Councils), from Soviets of Working People's Deputies to the Supreme Soviet of the U.S.S.R., are elected by universal, direct and equal suffrage, and secret ballot. All citizens of both sexes, who have reached the age of 18, have the right to elect and be elected, irrespective of nationality or race, religion, education, social origin, property status, or past activities. Citizens serving in the Red Army also have the right to vote and be elected like all other citizens.

There is no residential qualification under the Soviet electoral system. Every elector has the right to vote irrespective of the period he has resided in a given constituency. Facilities for voting are provided for patients at hospitals and even for citizens travelling on the day of national elections.

The law also removes all other obstacles that might hinder electors in exercising their rights (election ballots are printed in all the languages of the peoples of the U.S.S.R.; illiterates have the right to obtain assistance in filling out their ballot papers, etc.).

A citizen of the U.S.S.R., regardless of the position he may occupy, has one vote, and participates in the elections on an equal basis with every other citizen.

Voting is direct, i.e., the electors vote direct for the candidate for public office: there is no such thing as voting for electors or an electoral college. This establishes direct contact between the elected person and his constituents and enhances his responsibility to the latter.

In elections to the Soviet of the Union—one of the two Chambers of the Supreme Soviet—all election districts, whether urban or rural, are of equal size. For election purposes the country is divided up into electoral districts of 300,000 population, each electing one member. This guarantees the equality of all citizens in voting for the Soviet of the Union, which thus represents the common interests of all the working people.

For the elections to the other Chamber of the Supreme Soviet—the Soviet of Nationalities, which protects the special interests of the various nationalities of the country—each Union Republic regardless of its population, is entitled to 25 deputies, each Autonomous Republic to 11 deputies, each Autonomous Region to 5 deputies, and each National Area to 1 deputy. Thus all nationalities of the U.S.S.R., big or small, enjoy equal political rights under the Soviet Constitution.

SECRET BALLOT

The ballot is secret. The voter marks his ballot paper in a private compartment or booth.

The election system also makes provision for the recall of deputies upon decision of a majority of the electors, who thus exercise constant control over the work of their deputies, inasmuch as an elected person is regarded as a servant of the people.

Candidates for the elections may be nominated by public bodies and meetings of workers, peasants, intellectuals, and Red Army men, who are given every facility to promote the candidature of their nominees.

If an elector is not satisfied with any of the candidates in the field, he has the right, during voting, to inscribe on his ballot the name of the person he desires to have elected, this being legally accepted as both a nomination and a vote.

During elections, the high interest in politics shown by the people of the Soviet Union is demonstrated by their extreme activity at thousands of meetings attended by millions, and by the heavy vote that is usually polled—from 96 per cent to over 99 per cent of the total electors.

During elections, committees are formed in each constituency consisting of men and women of high repute and representatives of public organizations, to supervise the proper conduct of the elections and the fulfilment of all the requirements of the law. During the last elections to the Supreme Soviet of the U.S.S.R., for example the members of the electoral committees which had charge of the elections in Moscow included 62 factory workers, 29 factory

managers and engineers, 10 Red Army men and officers, 9 teachers and 5 professors.

Violation of the electoral laws and tampering with the ballots are severely punished by law.

STATE STRUCTURE

The State Structure of the U.S.S.R. in accordance with the Stalin Constitution ensures to all citizens, irrespective of sex, nationality, race, education, social origin, etc., equal rights in all spheres of state, economic, cultural, social and political life. All organs of state power and administration are constructed so as to guarantee these rights to the citizens. The slightest direct or indirect restriction of these rights of citizens, or any advocacy of racial or nation exclusiveness in the U.S.S.R., is punishable by law.

The U.S.S.R. is a federal state consisting of 16 Soviet Republics, called Union Republics, which have united voluntarily and enjoy equal rights. To every Union Republic is reserved the right freely to secede from the U.S.S.R. The territory of a Union Republic may not be altered without its consent.

The Russian Soviet Federative Socialist Republic (R.S.F.S.R.) and several other Union Republics in their turn include Autonomous Republics.

Each Union or Autonomous Republic has its own Constitution, which is the basis of the activity of the state organs of the republic and of the manifold development and flourishing of its economy, culture and art, in correspondence with the specific features and interests of each nationality.

THE SUPREME SOVIET

The highest organ of state authority of the U.S.S.R. is the Supreme Soviet of the U.S.S.R. The Supreme Soviet of the U.S.S.R. consists of two Chambers, the Soviet of the Union and the Soviet of Nationalities. Both Chambers of the Supreme Soviet of the U.S.S.R. have equal rights; each of them has the right to initiate legislation, and a law is considered adopted if passed by both Chambers of the Supreme Soviet of the U.S.S.R. by a simple majority vote in each.

At the last elections to the Supreme Soviet of the U.S.S.R. in December 1937, more than 91,000,000 out of 94,000,000 voters took part in the elections, or 96·8 per cent. Nearly 90,000,000 ballots, or 98·6 per cent of the total vote, were cast for the Communist and non-Party bloc.

A total of 1,143 deputies were elected to the Supreme Soviet of the U.S.S.R. —954 men and 189 women. In the Supereme Soviet of the U.S.S.R. there are 480 workers (42 per cent of the total number of deputies), 337 peasants (29·5 per cent) and 326 intellectuals (28·5 per cent).

The proportion of social groups is approximately the same in the Supreme Soviets of the Union Republics and Autonomous Republic.

The legislative power of the U.S.S.R. is exercised exclusively by the Supreme Soviet of the U.S.S.R. The Presidium of the Supereme Soviet of the U.S.S.R. has the right to interpret the laws of the U.S.S.R. and to annual decisions and orders of the Councils of People's Commissars of the U.S.S.R. and of the Union Republics in case they do not conform to law. In the interval between sessions of the Supreme Soviet, the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the U.S.S.R. appoints and relieves of their posts People's Commissars of the U.S.S.R. and ambassadors, proclaims a state of war in case of necessity, ratifies international treaties, receives the credentials and letters of recall of diplomatic representatives of foreign states, etc.

The Council of People's Commissars of the U.S.S.R., and the Councils of People's Commissars of the Union and Autonomous Republics are the highest executive and administrative organs of states authority. They are responsible to the Supreme Soviet of the U.S.S.R., and the Supreme Soviets of the Union and Autonomous Republics, respectively.

The local organs of state authority are the Soviets of Working People's Deputies.

The social composition of the deputies to the local Soviets (City and Rural) is characterized by the following data: workers—135,000; peasants—749,000; employees—393,000. Intellectuals occupy an important place among the deputies to the Soviets of the working people—63,000 teachers, 7,000 doctors, more than 1,000 artists and writers, 13,000 agronomists, 11,000 engineers and technicians.

The number of women elected to the local Soviets of Working People's Deputies is 422,000, approximately 33 per cent of the total. The youth also take an active part in the administration of the state. Among the deputies to the local Soviets there are 193,000 between the ages of 18 and 24, which is 15 per cent of the total number; 40·4 per cent of the total number of deputies to the local Soviets are between the ages of 30 and 40.

BASIC GROUP

The basic group of deputies to the village Soviets are collective formers—623,000, or 65 per cent.

The system of state administration also provides for a court and procurator. Soviet Courts are elected either directly by the people (People's Courts) or by the Soviets of Working People's Deputies and the Supreme Soviets. The law ensures the independence of the judges. In all courts the accused is guaranteed the right to be defended by Counsel, and the right to use his own language in court, etc. The General state interests are secured by a single, strictly centralized and independent Procurator's Office which is not subordinate to the local Soviets and exercises supervisory power over the strict execution of the laws.

The electoral system of the Soviet Union is thus completely democratic, and attests the genuine democracy of the organs of state power in the U.S.S.R.

A UNITED MILITARY CAMP

On June 22, 1941, the peaceful life of the U.S.S.R. was suddenly interrupted by the attack of an insidious enemy. At the call of the Government, at the call of Stalin, the Soviet people rose in defence of their country, transforming it into a single military camp. Reorganization of the whole life and the entire national economy on a war footing was effected according to plan and with unusual rapidity.

During the four years of World War 1, Tsarist Russia was unable to gear its industry to war. The Soviet Union solved this task within three to four months, under the direction of the State Committee of Defence with Stalin at its head. Great difficulties were overcome: enterprises which, before the war, put out articles for general consumption, had to change over to the manufacture of armaments and munitions, to the mastering of new technological processes.

Enormous in themselves, these difficulties were aggravated by the fact that many enterprises had to be evacuated under enemy fire from threatened areas and regions—to the east, to the Urals, to Siberia, to Central Asia. By their heroic labour, workers, engineers and railwaymen swiftly dismantled and evacuated equipment, plants and enterprises to new sites. Within 1½ to 2 months after arrival at the new locations, which were often nothing but remote waste land, plants were working again at full blast. As a result of this energetic work, in the very first year of the war, in spite of the loss of important industrial centres and mobilization of many workers for service at the front, Soviet industrial output was higher than before the war.

Profound love of country and the realization of the rightness of their cause inspire the Soviet people. The whole people, fighters at the front, workers in industry, are giving their all to defeat the enemy. In response to the feats of valour performed by the Red Army, the workers have been sending the front ever more tanks, cannon, tommy guns, trench mortars, munitions. At the initiative of the workers there arose a widespread movement for topping production plan, in order to pile up a reserve for the Supreme Command of the Red Army. A movement of "1,000'ers" arose, initiated and joined by production frontliners who fulfilled their output quotas by 1,000 per cent and more. When urgent Army orders are on hand, workers do not leave their posts for several days at a time.

Nor do the collective farmers lag behind the workers. They increased the sown area of the U.S.S.R. in 1942 by more than 2,000,000 hectares, as compared with 1941, and in 1943 cultivated almost 6,500,000 hectares more than in 1941. In order to supply the front with sugar and other products, the collective farmers of the North and East cultivated on a large scale crops which formerly had been considered a monopoly of the South. Sugar beet, for example, is now cultivated in Vologda and Kalinin Regions, in Bashkiria, Krasnoyarsk Territory, Siberia. Thousands of Scientists, engineers, inventors and designers exercise every effort to create new, improved types of armaments. Soviet doctors, artists, writers, and cinema workers are labouring with unselfish devotion at their jobs, giving all their energy and strength to the common task of forging victory over the enemy. The Academy of Sciences of the U.S.S.R. has become the general headquarters for the victory drive on the scientific front.

Soviet people manifest their patriotism in many ways. They render help to the front by contributing money to the Defence Fund; they build numerous tank columns, air squadrons, armoured trains as gifts to the Red Army from their personal savings. The enthusiasm with which the working masses have oversubscribed the state war loans is another example. In 1943, the second War Loan was floated at 12,000,000,000 roubles; the entire sum was covered in a single day; within a few days the population subscribed to 20,323,000,000 roubles!

Besides this, collective farmers in a very brief space of time donated more than 7,000,000,000 roubles from their personal savings for armaments for the Red Army.

There are more than 250,000 donors—workers, farmers, intellectuals, men and women—who give their blood to the wounded men and commanders of the Red Army, to save their lives and restore their health.

A constant stream of hundreds of thousands of gifts for the Red Army, from villages and town, goes to the front. Wounded and invalided Red Army men as well as the families and children of men called to the colours are constant object of warm concern and attention.

In the rear of the enemy the Soviet people have risen to help the Red Army. These guerilla fighters make conditions unbearable for the German invaders, they disorganize the fascist rear, derail scores of enemy trains, destroy hundreds of thousands of Nazi invaders.

Their patriotism is reflected most strikingly in the warm helping hand which Soviet people stretch out to the liberated cities, villages, factories, plants, state farms and cultural institutions, to aid in speediest restoration. The entire country is helping heroic Stalingrad, the Donets basin, and other towns and areas, to return to normal life.

At the same time, despite all difficulties new construction in the U.S.S.R. does not cease for a single day. While driving the German fascist invaders from Soviet soil, the Soviet peoples are simultaneously building new metallurgical coke and chemical and machine-building plants, new mines and railways, which considerably raise the defence might of the country.

The danger which has threatened the Soviet Union has strengthened even more the ties which bind all the peoples of all the nationalities in the Soviet Union into a single, indestructible family. They are united by one common purpose, one lofty aim—the destruction and expulsion of the foreign enslavers from the Land of Soviets.

INDUSTRIALIZATION

Tsarist Russia's economy was backward. Industrial output constituted in 1913 only 42·1 per cent of the total output of the national economy. The country imported machinery and equipment from abroad and its war industry was of small account.

World War I strongly undermined the insufficient productive forces of the country. The subsequent blockade and the military intervention of 1918–21 reduced Soviet Russia to a state of utter prostration. In 1920, production was 14 per cent of the pre-war output.

Having restored the national economy to the pre-war level in a few years of peacetime work, in 1925 the Soviet Government embarked on its historical task of industrializing the country, of converting agrarian Russia in a minimum of time into an advanced industrial power independent economically and technically of other states.

The Soviet people reconstructed their old and created new industry according to plans drawn up by Lenin and Stalin. It 1926, the construction of huge tractor plant was begun in Stalingrad, the first of its kind in the Soviet Union. At the same time the building of a big railroad trunk line uniting Siberia with the Soviet republics of Central Asia was also undertaken. The course of the Dnieper River was diverted to provide for the gigantic Dnieper Hydro-Electric Power Station. The whole country enthusiastically participated in the construction of such giants of industry as the Magnitogorsk metallurgical plant in the Urals and the Kuznetsk metallurgical plant in Siberia, and of hundreds of other new factories, mines, power stations, grain elevators, huge city structures and many thousand kilometres of railway line. New schools, clubs, theatres, hospitals and dwellings were erected. This stupendous construction programme was provided for by the five-year plans for the economic development of the U.S.S.R., popularly known as the Stalin Five-Year Plans.

New industrial cities sprang up, new factories and mills were erected on waste land in the Steppes and Vast deserts. The face of the country was changed. The former acute backwardness of the non-Russian border nationalities of the U.S.S.R. vanished. By the end of 1937 the industrial index of the Soviet Union was 429, taking 1929 as 100, and its output was more than eight times as great as in 1913.

The industrialization of the U.S.S.R. was accomplished solely through the country's own internal resources: profits from state-owned enterprises, such as factories, mills transportation systems, banks, internal loans, trade, etc. With industrialization came a sharp rise in the standard of living of the masses. Unemployment was abolished completely and for ever in the cities, while the poverty of the countryside disappeared, never to return. Hundreds of thousands of technically skilled workers were trained, and a new army of professional workers, Soviet intellectuals, arose.

As a result of industrialization, the U.S.S.R. ceased to be a machine-importing country, and became a machine-building country capable of satisfying all its needs for defence.

In its eastern regions the Soviet Union has established a vast raw-material base for industry which ensures the country the necessary supply of strategic materials and fuel. Many branches of industry that virtually did not exist under the tsarist regime have been firmly established under the Soviets and to-day operate on a large scale. This includes the machine-building, chemical, automobile and aviation industries.

The successes achieved in industrialization, particularly the establishment of a powerful base for the manufacture of agricultural machinery, also made it possible to reorganize farming and to effect a radical change in the conditions of farm labour. This led to improvement in the well-being of the entire population, both in town and countryside. The farmers were supplied with over 500,000 tractors, about 200,000 harvester combines and hundreds of thousands of other agricultural machines. All these successfully operated on the big collective farms that the peasants voluntarily organized. Rationally employed, according to carefully worked out plans, these machines have brought bumper crops.

A SINGLE PLAN

As soon as the present Great Patriotic War broke out, the entire national economy of the U.S.S.R., governed by a single plan, was reorganized to serve the needs of the front. Thousands of factories which formerly turned out a variety of products for the peacetime needs of the population, switched over to manufacturing armaments for the Red Army. With the war going on, many factories were evacuated from the West to the East to evade seizure by the invading fascist hordes. The world had never witnessed such wholesale migration of industries accompanied by their personnel. This evacuated industry, coupled with the powerful plants that already existed before the war in the East, in the Urals, in Siberia, to-day play a decisive role in supplying the Red Army with armaments.

Thanks to its policy of industrialization, the Land of Soviets was able to throw into the scales against the Nazis a grand and still-growing array of giant modern well-equipped plants which are producing the wherewithal in terms of economic and military force to smash the fascist hordes.

SOVIET TRADE UNIONS

In Russia the trade unions as mass organizations began to develop during the Revolution of 1905. When the revolution was crushed the tsarist Government drove them underground.

After the fall of tsarism in 1917 the trade unions developed their activity in all cities and industrial regions. From the outset they rejected the principle based on narrow trade union interests; they organized the workers by entire industries rather than along narrow craft lines. "One Big Industrial Union" was their motto, with all the workers of the given enterprise in the same union.

The trade unions of the U.S.S.R. unite in voluntary organizations the

workers and employees engaged in any profession, trade or branch of production. They accept workers and employees irrespective of their nationality, race or religion. They are neither party nor state organizations; membership dues in all unions amount to 1 per cent of the wages or salary earned, and are payable each month.

Each trade union is headed by an elected central committee, while the work of all the unions is under the general direction of the elected All-Union Central Council of Trade Unions. At each factory, mill, office, etc., there is a local trade union committee, elected at stated intervals by all the trade union members employed there.

Soviet trade unions pay profound attention to the everyday needs of their members and also give them legal aid and advice, and so on. They organize competitions among the workers for the highest overfulfilment of production plans in each enterprise. In accordance with the Soviet Constitution, the trade unions nominate their candidates for the various Soviets of Working People's Deputies. Generally, they foster Soviet consciousness and patriotism among their members.

MAIN OBJECT

The main object of the trade unions is to organize the masses for the most rapid development of the national economy and the greatest improvement in the material conditions of everyday life and cultural level of the working people. Wages and salaries are regulated by the conclusion of a collective agreement between the management of an enterprise and its workers. The trade unions ensure the observance by the management of all labour legislation and safety regulations. They also have control over social insurance. They possess their own resorts, sanatoria, rest-homes and convalescent homes where their members may spend their annual two to four weeks' vacations. The funds accumulated from membership dues are used to build clubs, palaces and parks of culture and rest, and to maintain trade schools, study courses and other cultural and educational institutions in which millions of working people can spend their leisure time to raise their cultural and professional level. The trade unions have enormous cultural and educational facilities at their disposal; 6,000 palaces of culture and clubs, 15,000 libraries, 10,000 cinema theatres, etc.

Trade union members, particularly Stakhanovites and shock workers, are accorded first consideration in the enjoyment of all these privileges. The comparatively few non-union members receive secondary consideration. Non-union members receive only 50 per cent of the sick benefits paid to trade union members.

The development of the national economy following the industrialization of the country led to a tremendous numerical increase in the working class and made it necessary for the trade unions to bring their leadership in closer contact with the enterprises and to exercise greater solicitude for the well-being of the workers.

In 1934, therefore, the All-Union Central Council of Trade Unions passed a decision to divide up the unwieldy unions, and at the same time move the central committees to the centres of their respective industries (Baku, Sverdlovsk, etc.). This facilitated the handling of questions dealing with the everyday needs of the vast bulk of the workers as well as those concerning production and cultural matters.

Instead of the 22 trade unions which in 1924 had a total membership of 6,000,000, there were in 1935, after the division of the unions, 154 of them whose aggregate membership had grown to 20,000,000. The trade unions were empowered to exercise governmental control over the observance of the provisions of labour legislation, so that the People's Commissariat of Labour became superfluous and was abolished. All the functions of the Social Insurance Bureau as well as its funds were turned over to them. In addition they had the exercise of public control over the work of shops, their supply bases, etc.

The trade union membership has been increasing constantly. In 1938 the total membership was 24,000,000; in 1940 25,500,000.

The Red Army has also been receiving much direct aid from the trade unions in the form of a vast network of hospitals which the unions have created from their sanatoria, rest-homes, clubs, etc. Thousands of ailing and recuperating Soviet officers and men are now accommodated there. Besides this the trade unions pay special attention to the needs of their families in the rear.

In the autumn of 1941 an Anglo-Soviet Trade Union Committee was formed for the purpose of uniting the efforts of the workers of both countries in their joint struggle against Hitler Germany. The trade unions in the Soviet Union are aiming at the intensification of this committee's activities, particularly for the purpose of uniting the working class of the anti-Hitler coalition countries in their struggle to bring about the quickest possible defeat of the common enemy.

COLLECTIVE FARMS

Conditions were unbearable for the peasants in Tsarist Russia. Most of them had no land of their own, or possessed extremely small holding worked with primitive implements. After the October Revolution the peasants were given the free use of the land that had formerly belonged to the Tsarist family and other big landlords, totalling 150,000,000 hectares of arable land, meadows and forests. With the aid of the Soviet Government the peasants considerably improved their material conditions. But as long as they continued to till their small holdings separately, they were not in a position to make proper use of complex modern agricultural machinery or employ scientific farming methods.

Lenin pointed out to the peasants the road to prosperity and a life of culture. He told them that unless they united, pooled their resources and formed co-operative artels, unless they worked their land collectively, they would never get out of the old rut and would always remain poor and ignorant. He recommended that they form big collective farms on which scientific methods and modern machinery could be used to advantage. From the example of the big Soviet state-owned farms where modern methods and machinery were employed with great success, the peasants realized that large-scale farming paid.

In 1928 almost four times as much Soviet farm machinery was made as before World War 1, and a number of huge tractor plants was under construction. This meant that the material basis would be provided for the peasantry to pass over from small-scale individual tillage to large-scale social farming. Beginning with 1929 the peasants, despite the opposition of big farmers (Kulaks), entered the collective farms in a solid mass. They formed farming co-operatives or artels, voluntarily associating to carry on large-scale collective farming with socialized means of production, that is, all the machines, implements, barns, etc., were to be owned in common by the members of a collective farm.

In the U.S.S.R. the land belongs to the state. By special acts the land is secured to the collective farms for permanent use and free of charge.

RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF MEMBERS

The rights and duties of the members of a collective farm, the division of collective work, and the distribution of the collective income, are all regulated by the Collective Farm Rules which follow a given model and are adopted by a general meeting of the collective farmers. These rules provide for the socialization of only the principle means of production, such as draft animals, agricultural implements, seed reserves, and farm buildings. A plot of land adjoining each household remains at the disposal of that private household. Besides, each collective farm family has its own property: dwellings, private livestock (cow, sheep and goats), poultry, etc.

The collective farms receive state aid through the numerous Government-owned machine and tractor stations organized in all districts of the country; their agricultural machinery together with their operating crews are employed by the collective farms.

The rules require that the farm set aside part of its income in kind to meet obligatory deliveries to the state, to pay the machine and tractor stations and to provide for collective farm funds, such as seed reserves, social insurance and insurance against poor harvests. Part of the farm's monetary income is used for paying state taxes and insurance, for repairs of implements, and for business expenses and cultural purposes, etc.

The balance of the farm's income in kind and money is distributed among the collective farm members according to the quantity and quality of work each person has put in. This is calculated in so-called work-day units.

The work-day unit is the measure of the quantity and quality of output of a collective farmer. It is a standard measure based on the average amount and quality of work that should be done at a given job in one work-day, depending on the conditions of the job, the draft animals and soil, the degree of mechanization, etc. The work-day unit for every single type of farm work is determined by the administration and has to be endorsed and accepted by a general meeting of the members of the collective farm.

The rate of pay for each work-day unit in kind and cash is also determined by the collective farm administration and endorsed by a general meeting of the collective farmers.

The more and the better a collective farmer has worked, the more work-day units he will have earned and the greater his share of the general collective income will be.

* * *

In this way the rules ensure the development of the collective economy as constituting the basis of the prosperity of the collective farmers, and correctly combines this with their personal interests.

In 1932, 61·5 per cent and in 1938, 93·5 per cent of all farms in the U.S.S.R. were collectivized. In 1938 they comprised 99·3 per cent of the country's entire sown area. Instead of the former 18,800,000 individual small farms, millions of which were only patches, there were 242,400 large-sized rapidly developing collective farms organized, with a total of over 117,000,000 hectares of arable land. Thus in a short time an end was put to poverty in the countryside and a system of farming established that operates on the largest scale in the world with modern machinery and scientific methods.

The invasion of the Fascist hordes has put the collective farms to a serious test. They have had the difficult task of making good the temporary loss of enemy-occupied agricultural areas, particularly the Ukraine.

The Soviet farmer has spared no effort to strengthen the Soviet State. He sends his sons to the front, supplies the fighting men with bread, meat, butter and other produce, and industry with raw materials. He contributes his savings for the manufacture of additional armaments, and this he has done on a large scale. There is, for instance, Ferapont Golovati, a member of the Stakhanovets Collective Farm in Saratov Region, who contributed 100,000 rubles out of his personal savings to build a fighter plane which he turned over to the Red Navy air arm. Hundreds and thousands of collective farmers have followed his example, donating 7,000,000,000 rubles for the Red Army Fund from their personal savings.

When they launched their attack against the U.S.S.R., the leaders of Hitler Germany expected the collective farms to fall to pieces as soon as the Nazi forces struck their first blow, this disintegration to be inevitably followed by the collapse of Soviet power. But it was a gross miscalculation. The collective-farm system not only did not fall to pieces, but actually grew stronger. Millions of collective farmers are ready to give their lives in defence of their country and of their system of farming which has made it possible for them to lead a life of culture and prosperity.

WAR DIARY

BRITAIN AND GERMANY

2ND MAY.—Allied military preparations for a mass assault on Europe and comparable plans to knock Japan out of the Pacific formed the basis of the talks that took place between Dominion Prime Ministers.

Allied aircraft bombed Ludwigshafen.

3RD MAY.—The Commonwealth Prime Ministers to-day concluded their three-day examination of the military situation and reached complete agreement on all aspects of the coming assault on the Continent. The Prime Ministers have also concluded their consideration of the prosecution of the war against Japan and here too there has been absolute agreement on decisions to hasten the end of the war in the Pacific.

British aircraft bombed Leverkusen.

4TH MAY.—The Admiralty announces that the submarine H.M.S. "Stonehenge" must be presumed lost.

Allied armistice plans to be presented to Germany after surrender were among the subjects disposed of by the resumed conference of British Commonwealth Prime Ministers.

5TH MAY.—In to-day's meeting of the Dominion Premiers Conference political side of the plans the great Powers have for the occupation of Germany and the organization being prepared for the administration of the occupied States of Europe as they are liberated, were discussed.

His Majesty the King to-day visited the secret R.A.F. Invasion Headquarters.

Mosquitoes of the Bomber Command attacked objectives in western Germany last night.

6TH MAY.—Rommel in a speech to his Commanders said "The enemy whose attack must be reckoned as imminent, will come up against many surprises."

7TH MAY.—Royal Navy forces torpedoed a German destroyer. Allied aircraft attacked Berlin and other places in Germany.

8TH MAY.—Allied bombers heavily bombed Berlin and Brunswick.

The Commonwealth Prime Ministers have met again to-day. They have now begun to consider problems of post-war reconstruction.

A few German raiders were over the coastal districts in southern England last night.

* * *

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE ATLANTIC

3RD MAY.—A State Department statement says "Preliminary exploratory discussions on petroleum between a group of experts representing the Governments of the United States and the United Kingdom which begun in Washington on April 16 concluded to-day."

5TH MAY.—Mr. Edward R. Stettinius, United States Under-Secretary of State, has returned to Washington after his visit to London. He said that his discussions were "most successful."

6TH MAY.—Mr. Stettinius made another statement to pressmen on Anglo-American talks.

The United States Ambassador to Russia, Mr. Averell Harriman, arrived at Washington for consultations.

7TH MAY.—President Roosevelt returned to Washington after a month's vacation in the south.

8TH MAY.—The United States War Department announced to-day that prisoners of war in United States totalled 183,613.

* * *

INDIA, BURMA AND CEYLON

2ND MAY.—In North Burma, a unit of the Chinese 22nd division, has captured a Japanese strong point. There has been increase of activity in Palel area.

During recent patrols in Far Eastern waters His Majesty's submarines sank one Japanese destroyer in the Bay of Bengal, south of Andaman Islands. Another destroyer and two supply vessels were hit and damaged. Jap shore batteries in Port Blair area were shelled.

The Maharaja of Kashmir and Sir F. K. Noon addressed the Empire Parliamentary Association at London.

3RD MAY.—In North Burma more enemy strong points have been destroyed. North of Kohima Allied troops continued to capture enemy positions. North and north-east of Imphal Allied advance has progressed. Chinese troops captured Inkangahtawng.

4TH MAY.—A Jap U-boat was destroyed south-west of Socotra in the Indian Ocean. North and south of Kohima there was patrol activity. Round the Imphal plain there has been no important change.

5TH MAY.—Allied troops are attacking at all points on the Kohima front and are making satisfactory progress. There are minor clashes north of Imphal plain.

Marshal Thomas Melling Williams has been appointed Deputy Commander, Headquarters, Eastern Air Command. Air Vice-Marshal Gerald Ernest Gibbs has been appointed Senior Air Staff Officer, Headquarters, Third Tactical Air Force.

6TH MAY.—On the Kohima front the Allies have cleared the enemy from a number of important positions and the Allied advance continues.

7TH MAY.—Allied troops withdrew from Buthidaung. North and south of Kohima Allied troops are consolidating their recently captured positions.

8TH MAY.—On all sectors of the Manipur Hill front there is now a general Japanese offensive. From Imphal plain, Allied patrols have penetrated to 28 miles north of Imphal on the Kohima Road. In the hills north-east of Palel, Allied troops have captured two villages.

* * *

RUSSIA AND FINLAND

2ND MAY.—Soviet aircraft heavily bombed Lvov. The Russians launched an attack on both sides of the Middle Sereth.

3RD MAY.—Soviet troops continued attacks south-west of Kovel.

4TH MAY.—The Soviet Air Force has now worked up to a new climax in the series of pre-offensive softening-up blows against the Germans all along the southern Russian battle front. Sharp battles are taking place in the foot-hills of the Carpathian Mountains.

5TH MAY.—The Russians have won possession of a sector on the Sereth front.

6TH MAY.—Russians re-opened their attack on Sebastapol. German attacks on Stanislovov were thrown back.

7TH MAY.—The Soviet stranglehold on Sebastapol is tightening.

8TH MAY.—Russian troops have broken through the main defences at Sebastapol and are pushing forward to the immediate approaches of the city.

* * *

ITALY, AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

3RD MAY.—The Germans have flooded large areas of the Pontine Marshes. Patrols continued active and there were some small clashes.

4TH MAY.—Indian troops of the Eighth Army repulsed a small enemy attack. Allied patrols and artillery were active on all fronts.

5TH MAY.—The Central and Cassino sectors remained quiet but lively patrol activity was reported both on the bridgehead and along the Upper Garigliono.

Rommel is on a tour of inspection of the Mediterranean coastal defences.

6TH MAY.—Several small engagements took place at scattered points along the fronts.

7TH MAY.—Enemy raids on the Fifth Army bridgehead and the upper Garigliono valley were repulsed. Normal patrolling and artillery activity took place in other fronts.

* * *

VICHY, FREE FRANCE AND THE OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

2ND MAY.—British bombers attacked Toulouse, Lyons and Paris. Two places in Belgium were also bombed.

3RD MAY.—United States bombers attacked targets in Pas de Calais area.

4TH MAY.—The R.A.F. attacked last night Rheims, Nailly, Montdidier and Chateudum in France. German airfields in Holland were attacked to-day. Bucharest was bombed.

5TH MAY.—Allied aircraft bombed Pas de Calais area. Budapest was bombed last night by Anglo-American bombers.

6TH MAY.—Allies bombed Pas de Calais area in France and Ploeste in Rumania.

7TH MAY.—Allied bombers attacked military targets in Mantes; Aubigne-Racan and Sable-Swa-Sarthe in France and Bucharest in Rumania.

8TH MAY.—The Paris radio said this morning that north of France has been bombed almost without interruption for the last 36 hours.

* * *

THE NEUTRAL COUNTRIES

2ND MAY.—Mr. Anthony Eden announced in the Commons that an agreement has been signed between Britain, the United States and Spain.

3RD MAY.—The British Minister of Economic Warfare made a statement on the assistance of Neutrals to the Axis.

4TH MAY.—The Turkish Foreign Minister M. Menemencioglu said that Turkey must continue to be prepared and watchful.

* * *

THE FAR EAST

2ND MAY.—American planes bombed Truk.

United States submarines have sunk 12 Japanese ships including three warships in the Pacific and Far East, says the United States Navy Department's communiqué issued to-day. The latest sinkings bring to 695 the number of Jap ships of all types sunk, probably sunk or damaged by United States submarines.

During recent patrols in Far Eastern waters H.M.'s submarines sunk three enemy vessels in the Malacca Straits.

3RD MAY.—It is estimated that since April 1942, the Allies have sunk 1,727 vessels and damaged 3,548.

The Australians have pushed five miles beyond Alexishafen airbase.

4TH MAY.—Allied bombers attacked military objectives in Hansa Bay, Uligan, Hatzfeldt, Vunakambi and Rakada.

5TH MAY.—Allied forces have made landings at Torare Bay and at Demta in Dutch New Guinea.

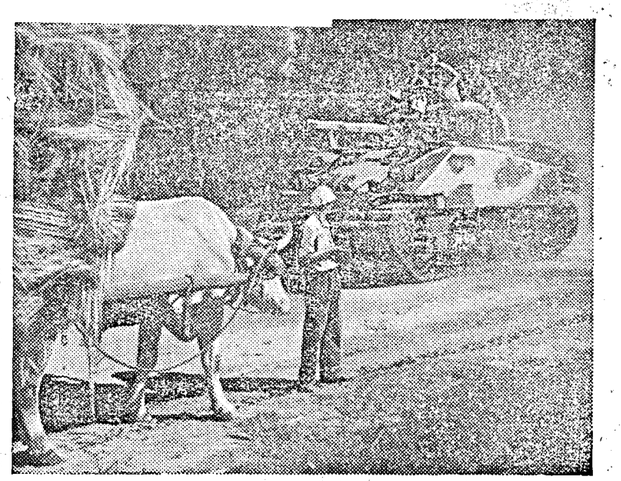
It is revealed that Commander-in-Chief of the Japanese Combined Fleet Admiral Miniechi Koga had been killed in action.

6TH MAY.—Ponape and Truk were bombed.

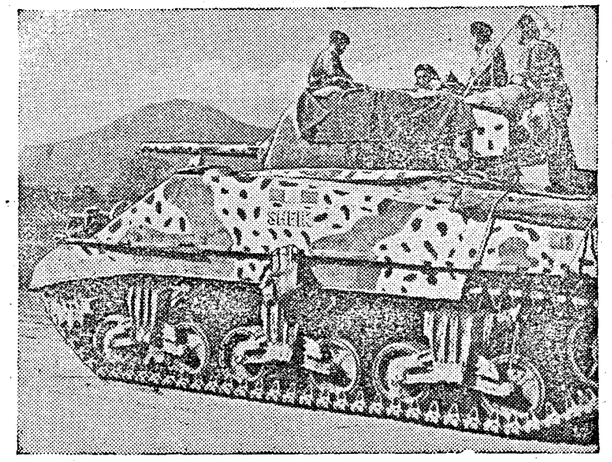
In China, the Jap troops have come within sight of Loyang, six times the Capital of China.

7TH MAY.—Jap positions in Wewak and Hansa Bay areas in New Guinea, Kavieng and Borpop in New Ireland, Rabaul in New Britain were bombed by Allied bombers.

8TH MAY.—It is revealed that United States bombers from China attacked Saigon in Indo-China last Friday. Allied planes hit eight ships in a Jap convoy, east of Celebes. Allied bombers bombed Schouten Island.



Italian farmer cheers British tankmen.



A Sherman Tank.

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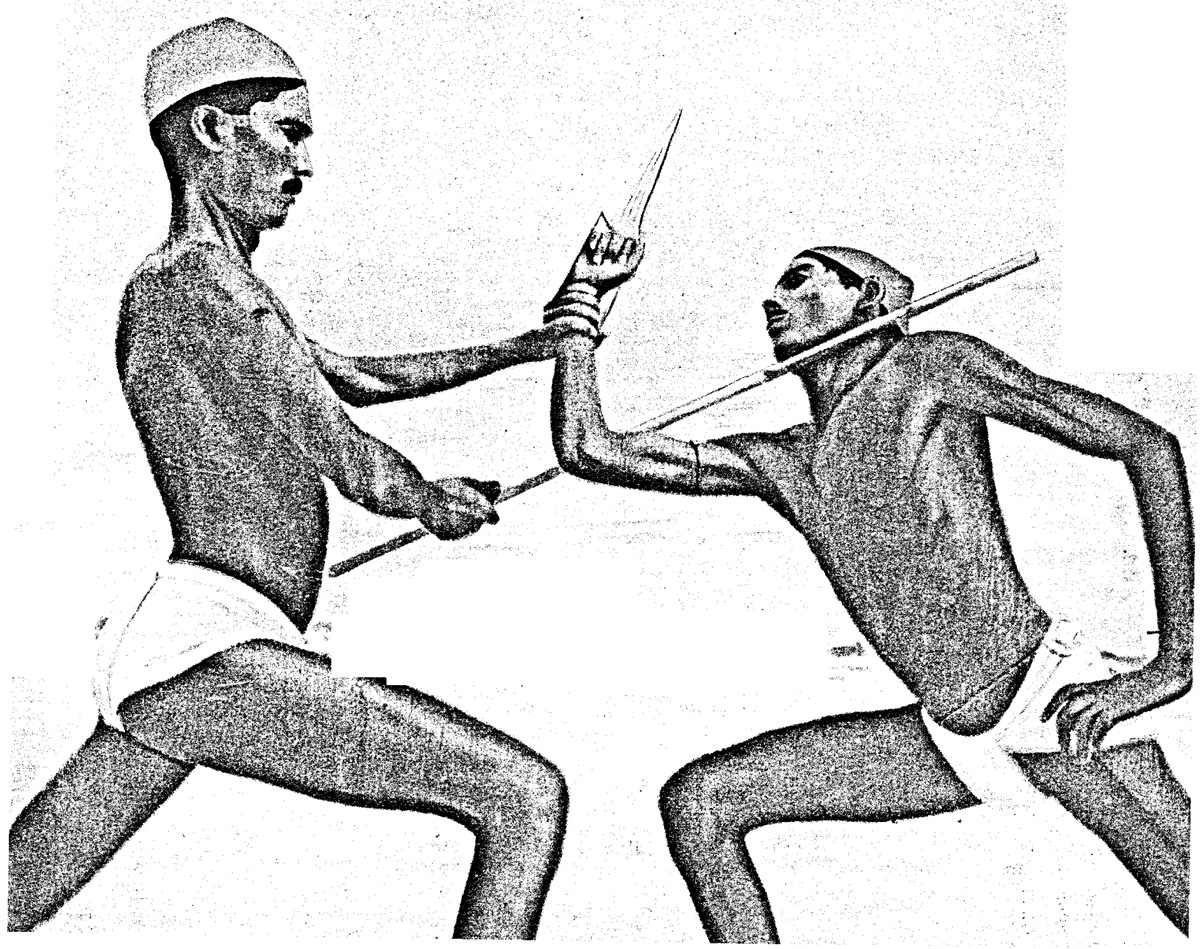
MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. V FRIDAY, MAY 19, 1944 No. 37

VILLAGE GUARDS OF THE N.W.F.



MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

FRIDAY, MAY 19, 1944 No. 37

N.W.F.—H.E. THE GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE

His Excellency Sir Arthur Hope, Governor of Madras, has been pleased to send us the following message in connection with the Second Anniversary of the inauguration of the National War Front in Madras :—

The National War Front is now entering on its third year. Starting as it did in the dark days of 1942, when the Japanese were almost at our gates, the Front had a hard task. But by ergy, perseverance and faith in the final victory of the lies, it has triumphed and it is no less due to its efforts an to the success of the Allied Armies, that defeatism has rgely been eradicated in this Presidency.

Now that Victory is in sight I know that the Front will double its efforts till the last enemy has been routed and sting peace won.

Arthur Hope.

GOVERNOR OF MADRAS.

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THE SECOND ANNIVERSARY OF THE NATIONAL WAR FRONT

A MADRAS newspaper recently devoted a somewhat churlish leader to the National War Front in Madras. That it did not speak very kindly of the Movement is neither here nor there. The point is that it discussed it at length and gave the article prominence. It may therefore be assumed that the Front which to-day enters on its third year has public significance—and that is more than many schemes and causes thrown up by the stress of war either acquire or deserve. Quite recently representatives of the National War Front in the Provinces and States of India met in conference. There were several additions to the delegate-list of the year before, and hardly any absentees; the Agenda sheet was strikingly comprehensive, covering not only the technical aspects of the science of propaganda, but many of the constitutional and economic issues of the day; and despite the varying impact of these on the local issues which each delegate represented, there was an atmosphere of sympathy, cohesion and purpose which would have done credit to older and more renowned parliaments.

BY what right, the sceptic might ask, and to what end do a couple of dozen men from all over India, in the large majority non-official, and uninteresting to the press photographer or social scribe, record opinion and frame policy about national and extra national affairs? Is the *raison d'etre* of the National War Front anything more than the devising of the semi-official publicity, and the accounting for tax-payers' money allocated to that end?

A Movement

WE tender the reply that the National War Front has shown itself to be a Movement, and not merely an artificial propaganda machine (of which, by the same token, there are several others such as those at the service of the Railway Board, the Ministry of Food, the Army Recruiting Directorate, or the Director of Military Intelligence). The National War Front is a Movement, in that it was formed by and for men of a crusading turn of mind who, at a time of peculiar stress, observed how untended was the spirit of a sub-continent in peril. They set out to motivate and release, in a million minds inhabited by ignorance, anxiety or misrepresentation, all the national pride and courage and faith that might make for Victory. They had two weapons with which to stir and maintain morale, personal example and propaganda, and since the latter demands expensive production and distribution machinery, the Movement suffered from being suspect among those who resent being made to think by any *ad hoc* agency; or by canny souls who like to measure value by the yardstick of cash returns.

THUS there were those who said that there was no need for the National War Front; there were those who said that it was born far too late to be of use; there were those who mistrusted its composition, and there were those who merely feared and therefore disliked it. But in two years of strenuous existence the National War Front appears to have outlived most of these objections; it helped powerfully to outface the haunting fear of defeat from abroad and, in 1942, an inflammatory internal disease in the body politic. It throve on its own merit. It has begun to become a link between the Government and the governed, interpreting the one to the other in the various rapid and bewildering departures forced on both by Military necessity. If it does not sway policy, it at least presents a picture upon which policy may be founded —the grievance of the ryot here, the trend of rumour there; the reactions of the regimented; and the anxieties and hopes of the patriotic. Amorphous and untried two years ago, the Front has become an acknowledged feature in India's war existence.

Future of the N.W.F.

THE critic however, even if thus far persuaded, may ask whether, now that the tide of war has turned and Allied victory is certain, now that morale in this country is conscious and confident, and knowledge of, and interest in, the concept of India at war is no longer a monopoly of the educated few, there is any further need for a National War Front. We dub this suggestion as not merely pawky parsimony but a propaganda-present to the Japanese. The European war may be nearing its end, but India's war may have hardly more than begun.

COMPLACENCY or temperamental reaction to military reverses, growling impatience or the apathy of war weariness, wastage of effort through fissiparous politics or selfish concentration on profit-making—these, and many another obstacle to Victory, all remain to be fought. The total of India's war effort may not yet qualify her to sit on equal terms at the Peace Conference with those powers whose contribution has been 100 per cent of their capacity. The National War Front can and must facilitate that qualification.

AND beyond that nearing horizon lies the unknown of the first difficult years of peace. Then, surely, there will be need for rulers and ruled to be interpreted to one another. A Front will indeed be needed, and a National Front at that, and we hazard the opinion that His Excellency the Leader of the Front in Madras will not worry overmuch, if the word 'War' be dropped from the designation of the Movement, as long as the Movement follows its own creed and his own example.

SALUTE

(On the Occasion of the Second Anniversary of the National War Front.)

(*By* R.G.)

Who now disdains to be enrolled,
In India's need, beside the rest,
To be in common danger bold
And in the common action blest
And with the nation's fire possessed?

Him shall the full-grown nation spurn
And deem unworthy of a place
In ranks that after victory turn
To wipe from her ennobled face
Past tear and terror and disgrace.

The churl, the traitor and the knave,
The smooth-tongued fool, the glossy cheat,
The petty tyrant and his slave,
Sowers of sorrow and defeat—
These shall not sit in honour's seat.

But these who front the venomous foe
In arms, where arms alone will serve,
Or in their place both high and low
Their duty with delight observe
Nor from their true allegiance swerve,

These whom their threatened motherland
Has called to aid, and not in vain,
Who rallied shaken ranks to stand
And made the ways of victory plain
Till ancient glories glowed again,

Shall march together to the last,
A league by links unrusting bound,
A nation sloughing off all past
Division and dissension, sound
In heart and head and fit to found

A new Dominion of the Free,
A State magnanimous and just
Where men shall flourish humanly
And none shall grovel in the dust
But each man in his brother trust.

"A PROPHET IS NOT WITHOUT HONOUR. . ."

[A copy of this note from a well-known literary man to a very high official of his Province has been sent to us.]

YOU might recall the oral report I gave you on my return from Madras about the excellent work done in that Province by the National War Front there. I suggested that we might usefully borrow the plan for our own benefit. You were good enough to suggest that I might send you a note on the subject. I do so with great pleasure.

My task is now made easier. At the recent meeting in Delhi of the Publicity Advisory Committee of the Information and Broadcasting Department of the Central Government, which was attended by many leaders of the National War Front besides prominent journalists and editors, Begum Shah Nawaz took the wind out of my sails by paying a very flattering tribute to the Madras work done by the National War Front. When my turn came, I could only endorse her observations.

While I had visited only one or two centres, her tour was more complete than mine could be. But she reached the same conclusions as mine. I was afraid that an Englishman at the head of the National War Front would spell disaster. My experience proved the baselessness of my fears. The Organization leaves nothing to be desired: and, as Begum Shaw Nawaz very pertinently remarked, the publicity campaign in Madras was about the best one could think of. To those I shall advert presently.

One very impressive aspect of the Madras work appears to me to be due to the concentrated enthusiasm. Here our work is generally diffused. We have our war exhibition in the Military District Headquarters far away from the scene of normal activity in the City. Our National War Front posters and other pictures are exhibited in the Secretariat. This place is also outside the other organizations work all right but unlike in Madras we have no co-ordination. In short, the City of Madras is the centre of all activity and radiates throughout the Province. Here, we have left even the city almost unorganized.

In the busiest thoroughfare in the City of Madras—Mount Road—the National War Front occupy the whole of a big building which houses all offices connected directly with war and war work. The Governor's War Purposes Fund, the War Loan Committee, the National Savings Committee, the National War Front, the War Exhibition, Women's work, the Grow More Food Campaign and other diverse organizations are housed in this building. The exhibition itself is such as to attract the passer by. My interest was aroused by the outside posters.

I might say that I selected one or two centres in the districts to study the kind of work they were doing. I was amazed to find that, while the food situation in Madras was as bad as in Bengal the people were taking things coolly and co-operating with the National War Front in respect of proper distribution and also Grow More Campaign. Thus, for instance, in Dindigul, the National War Front has its own cheap grain shop which sells to the poor people so much of rice needed by them at the bearest cost price. The sense of co-operation and orderliness was simply astonishing, even Congress-minded people helping in the matter. Not a village is left untouched. Their meetings to popularise the "Grow More Food" Slogan attracts thousands of people who respond willingly to appeal made to them. I had asked the Provincial Organizer to let have a few photographs of the wonderful work done by his organizations. When they come, I intend to publish them in *The Daily Gazette*.

When I was mentioning this matter to an English friend the other day before my departure for Delhi, he said that it was probably because Madrasis tasted a few Japanese bombs. I ventured to differ from him and I asked him what of Bengal which tasted quite a few hundreds of such bombs. I would attribute the National War Front success in Madras, to good organization and sincere effort.

There is no reason why we should not borrow the Madras example. We might collaborate all our activities and house their offices in a central place. We might even think of commandeering one wing of the Corporation building for the purpose and attract people to visit our offices. This City might be made the real Headquarters of such work. Our publicity too might be more regular. We might even issue a weekly bulletin full of news. This bulletin would pay its own way by advertisements. It seems to me that the city should lead the rest of the Province.

In view of the attempted invasion of India by Japan, I take the liberty of emphasising the urgency of giving effect to my suggestion. Begum Shah Nawaz was surprised to know that even the women and children of Madras were genuinely anti-Japanese and sang songs not in a dull manner but full of expressiveness which showed itself in their features while they spoke or sang.

ARMY TO REWARD VIGILANCE

The Indian Army is to make monetary rewards to those deserving of some recognition for certain outstanding public acts.

According to a new regulation payments of rewards may now be made for any specially prompt and meritorious action in connexion with fires, or information leading to the conviction of personnel accused of bribery and corruption.

Amounts up to Rs. 500 in any individual case will be sanctioned by the competent financial authority concerned, but rewards exceeding that sum up to Rs. 1,000 will be sanctioned by General Officer Commanding-in-Chief of Armies and Commands. Payments of rewards exceeding Rs. 1,000 will be submitted for the sanction of the Adjutant General in India.

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ONE TO BACK

(From Our Sporting Correspondent.)

NEARLY mature enough to run in the classics (to-day is its third birthday and, after all, the Victory Cup is not very far away) the history of a colt called National War Front makes an interesting study.

Consider first its pedigree. It is by Courage out of Emergency, and a line through the sire, which shows such staunch performers as British Connexion and Good Faith, invites confidence in its staying powers. It's dam, however, has a less consistent history. The progeny of Surprise by that tear-away Aggression, Emergency was half-sister to that flighty filly Morale, whose brother Golden Opportunity more recently attracted the notice of a big Japanese stable. Minor inconsistencies can therefore be expected of National War Front, yet its actual performances merit recapitulation and justify the growing public confidence.

Foaled in a raging storm at the Government stud, National War Front took a little time to find its legs, specially as it was brought on rather fast while the going was hard. It's trainer however had to run something in the "C.D." stakes of that year, and so sent National War Front for some trial outings in mofussil meetings. At Bombay something went wrong, although National War Front got off well enough there; it ran gamely in the Punjab; the handicapper was unkind to it in Bihar, and the going in the United Provinces has never suited it. In the Central Provinces it had to carry a lot of weight but was well ridden into a respectable position.

In Madras, National War Front's first big test came when he ran against a couple of red-hot entries from the All-India Congress Committee stud, Quit-India and Arson. These two made the running for a short time, but faded out when National War Front came at them, and are most unlikely to challenge him again on level terms; at any rate they are not classics, and quite rightly so! Running in the Governor's colours National War Front is now a popular favourite in the South, though even its best friends know that it will not be able to give much weight to that old-stager Apathy. There is also a danger down here from an animal certainly not in the stud-book, another three year old called Get-Rich-Quick. A sleek, top-heavy colt resulting from a mis-mating of that disappointing mare Public Conscience with Wirepuller, it has a lot of followers, but I fancy National War Front will train on to gallop it off its legs next time out.

The year's prospects for the Madras stable are rosy. Just ahead we have the Food-and-Fuel Handicap and the Burma Plate, followed by the more remunerative Great Eastern Sweepstake, and National War Front's performance during this period will have considerable effect on its showing in the famous Victory Cup. The colt's stable is unlikely to make any changes in its Jockeys, and so National War Front's working campanions are likely to be that good littl'un Loyalty, the aged gelding Commonsense (which by the same token, makes too infrequent appearances) and Hope leading. A glance at the provincial Courses shows that they have been pretty well-tended but are still unresilient in parts, and will benefit from the attentions of those well-known provisioners—Victory Houses, Limited.

As we go to press there is a strong rumour that National War Front has already been entered in the Reconstruction Stakes. Weights and conditions for this important event will necessarily depend on the nearer results, but National War Front's appearance can be confidently expected.

TRICHUR NAIK WORKS IN ARAKAN REPAIR SHOP

Nine grease-smeared young Indian motor mechanics spend nearly every minute of daylight amid the noise and petrol charged atmosphere of a front-line M.T. repair shop in the Arakan.

Among them is the "second in command", Naik P. J. Peter from Trichur, South India. He is chief assistant to Warrant Officer W. T. Cruse from Hereford, England.

After serving in the Middle East, Cyprus, Iraq and Iran going together through thick and thin they are now in Burma, giving first aid to vehicles ranging from "a general's caravan to a red cap's motor-bike." Since arriving in the Arakan six months ago the men have finished over a thousand jobs.

"What these boys cannot do in a given time has got to be sopeless," says W./O. Cruse.

FOUGHT OFF JAPS WITH BARE HANDS

MADRAS SUBEDAR'S EXPLOIT ON IMPHAL FRONT

A Subedar of the Madras Regiment, challenging at three yards range a platoon of Japanese which he could not distinguish in the dark from our own troops, fought off with his bare hands the bayonet attacks of three of the enemy and escaped slightly wounded, writes an Indian Army Observer on the Imphal front.

Subedar Chidambaram, of Arani Jagir, North Arcot, Madras Province, was accompanied only by his orderly, Sepoy Vananayya, of Vadiannannad, Kistna District, Madras Province, who also had a miraculous escape. The incident occurred when a party of the enemy tried to penetrate our perimeter defences near Palel.

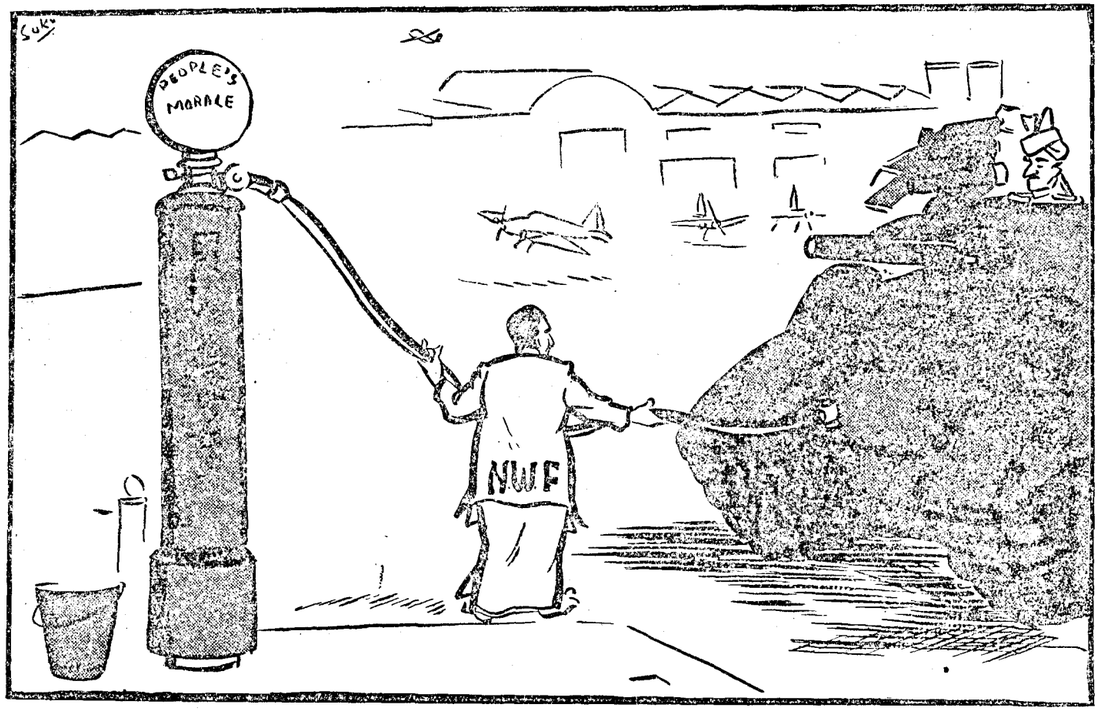
A small body of Japanese who lay hidden in the undergrowth at daybreak were hunted out by Gurkha troops who surrounded them and set fire to the scrub. A Japanese Captain and his orderly were trapped in the blaze and committed suicide by blowing themselves up with hand grenades.

Subedar Chidambaram, roused by shouting at about three o'clock in the morning, went off on a tour of his posts. Ten yards beyond his forward post on a saddle between a crest held by his men and positions manned by Gurkhas he saw a body of men forming up in threes. He challenged them and asked for the password but received the answer "Thik hai, Sahib."

A second afterwards three figures rushed towards him with bayonets. He fended off their thrusts with his hands and was then wounded and fell to the ground. His orderly was seized round the neck, his rifle snatched from him, gagged by a hand over his mouth and dragged away. But our posts were alert and opened fire. The Japanese broke and the Subedar was able to get back to his own lines.

Sepoy Vananayya said, "When the firing began the Japs who were trying to drag me away loosened their hold. I struggled free and threw myself sideways to get out of their reach. I fell off the footpath down the side of a ridge to the road below where Gurkhas picked me up and looked after me. I only had a twisted ankle."

THE SPIRIT THAT SUSTAINS



—*Specially drawn for the* MADRAS WAR REVIEW.

NATIONAL WAR FRONT QUICKSTEP

(By *R.G.*)

O I'm in debt
And You're in debt
And we're in debt
And they're in debt
We're all in debt
(Let's not forget)

To the Russians
And the British
And the Greeks
And the Poles
And the Dutch
And the stout Chinese

Who held the fort
For days and weeks
And months and years
And even on their knees

Fought a good fight
With toil and tears
Till the tyrants' plans
Fell around their ears.

We're all in debt,
Let's not forget,
And the debt's not paid
But mounting yet
With interest too,
No limit set,

For the British
And the Russians
And the Yanks
Are making
And using
Shining planes

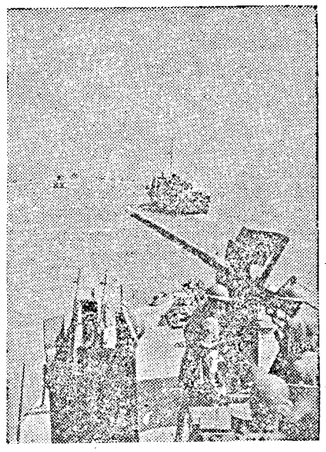
And fighting to death
In ships and tanks.
Let's help with our cash
And our hands too and brains

Till the South Sea Bubble
Breaks with a splash
And Hitler Unlimited
Fails with a crash.

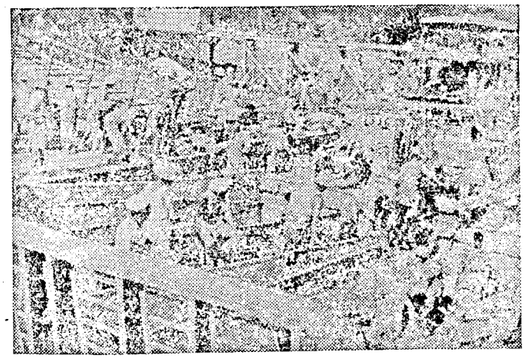
SEABORNE LANDINGS IN THE ARAKAN

It was recently revealed that Allied forces had carried out a series of successful seaborne raids on Japanese positions on the Mayu Peninsula. The landings were covered by ships of the Royal Indian Navy's Arakan Coastal Forces. This page contains photos describing the landings.

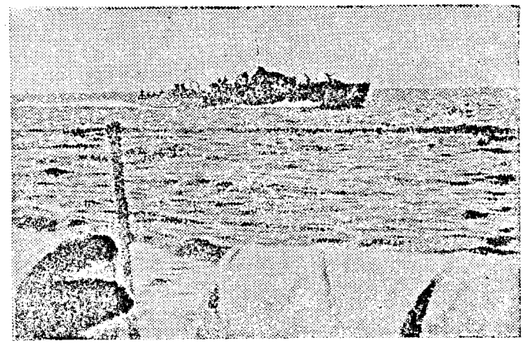
Capt. J. Ryland, R.I.N., Captain, Arakan Coastal Forces, watches the landings.



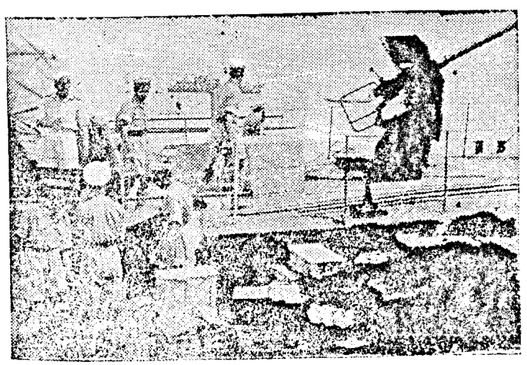
H.M.I. ships escort the landing craft to the objective.



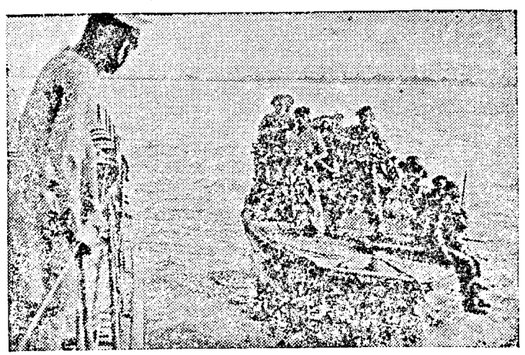
Gurkhas put their equipment in the landing craft.



One of H.M.I. ships approaching enemy waters.



Ammunition is taken aboard at a forward base.



British troops returning from a raid, come alongside one of H.M.I. ships.

RUNNING COMMENTARY

Prelude to Second Front—Gustav Line Breached

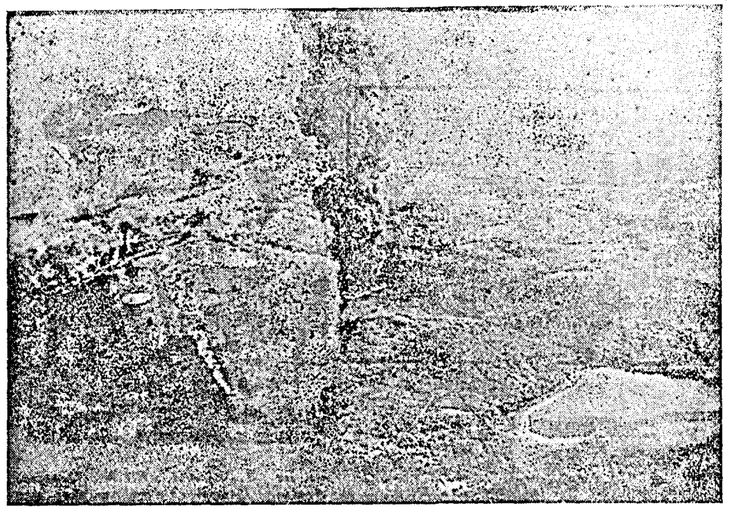
A great offensive has been launched in Italy. It seems to be a prelude to the Second Front. In an Order of the Day issued to his troops on the opening of this offensive, General SIR HAROLD ALEXANDER says: "Under the over-increasing blows of the air forces of the United Nations, which are mounting every day in intensity, the German war machine is beginning to crumble. The Allied armed forces are now assembling for the final battles on sea, on land and in the air to crush the enemy once and for all. From the east and west, from the north and south, blows are about to fall, which will result in the final destruction of the Nazis and bring freedom once again to Europe and hasten peace for us all. To us, in Italy, has been given the honour to strike the first blow." The first blow has already brought about appreciable results. Great breaches have been made in Marshal KESSELRING'S Gustav Line, most of which has now been destroyed.

The bigger blow from the west is awaited. The final stages in the preparations for an Allied campaign from Britain for the liberation of Europe seem to have been reached. Though critics in different parts of the world have at times shown considerable impatience in regard to the opening of the Second Front, the fact remains that the British people have all along been showing eagerness to strike at the enemy whatever the peril and the sacrifice involved.

* * *

The Second Front Idea—Britain's Resolve after Dunkirk

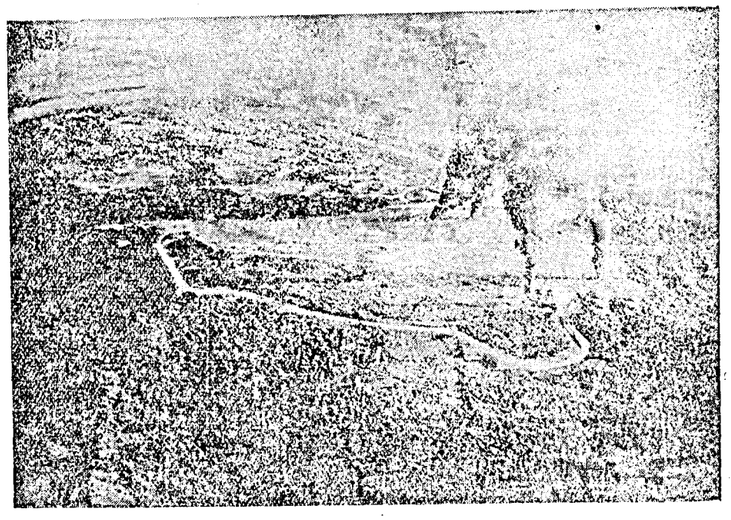
It may be recalled that, as early as 1940, the British people resolved to return to beat the Axis in Europe. The first British landings on the enemy-held coast of France, later called Commando raids, were made within a week or two of the evacuation from Dunkirk. The aggressive spirit of the British made manifest so early and in so dark an hour has now resulted in the assembly of great fleets and armies and air forces for a great offensive against the enemy who in 1940 seemed to have everything at his feet. The hard kernel of eventual attack lay within the shell of Britain's amazing defence of her own island. In the summer of 1940 tanks were shipped to WAVELL in Egypt. Bombers were built when fighter resources were strained to the utmost. Such were the proofs of the faith and determination which could plan ahead, in the words of Mr. CHURCHILL, "if necessary for years, and if necessary alone" (June 4, 1940). A fortnight later (June 18), Mr. CHURCHILL said, "HITLER knows that he will have to break us in this island or lose the



AIR ATTACK ON SABANG, SUMATRA.—Aerial picture taken by an American pilot during the raid by British and American carrier borne planes on Sabang on 19th April 1944.

The aircraft-carriers were escorted by a powerful Allied Naval Force under the command of Admiral Sir James Somerville, Commander-in-Chief, Eastern Fleet.

Photo shows: *burning oil tank with oil spreading out over the harbour, burning docks, warehouses and ships, and in the foreground a Japanese destroyer set on fire by fighters.*



Japanese planes burning fiercely on the aerodrome.

If we can stand up to him, all may be free and the life of the may move forward into broad uplands." And Britain stood HITLER! Now the enslaved s of Europe are eagerly awaiting *ero Hour* when the long night- of expectation will end in the lare of the battle for liberation.

n the beginning, it was clear the key-note to the British 's resistance to bombing and ade was a far bigger one than efence of their own island and own lives. A month before any let loose her full power of blitz, Mr. CHURCHILL said in what sidered to be one of his finest hes, "We are fighting by ourselves alone, but we are not fighting for ourselves alone" (July 14, 1940).

A year later, on June 12, 1941, representatives of the Governments of conquered Belgium, Czechoslovakia, Greece, Luxemburg, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Yugoslavia and General de Gaulle's Free French Organization met British and Dominion representatives in London and resolved to "continue this struggle against German or Italian oppression until victory is won."

* * *

Invasion Idea A year Older than Russian War

A new ally came in ten days later: Russia was attacked by HITLER on June 22 as a preliminary to a second attempt to invade Britain. Though this created a diversion of German strength, Britain did not heave a sigh of relief. MR. CHURCHILL said, "It is our danger and the danger of the United States." The British people welcomed the new ally, whose entry into the conflict gave it a new and more intense meaning. The Nazis who had hoped that Britain would welcome the attack on Bolshevik Russia and come to terms with them were disappointed. Mr. CHURCHILL said, "We will never parley. We will never negotiate with HITLER or any of his gang. We shall fight him by land, we shall fight him by sea, we shall fight him in the air until, with God's help, we will rid the earth of all those who have shadowed it and liberate the peoples from his yoke."

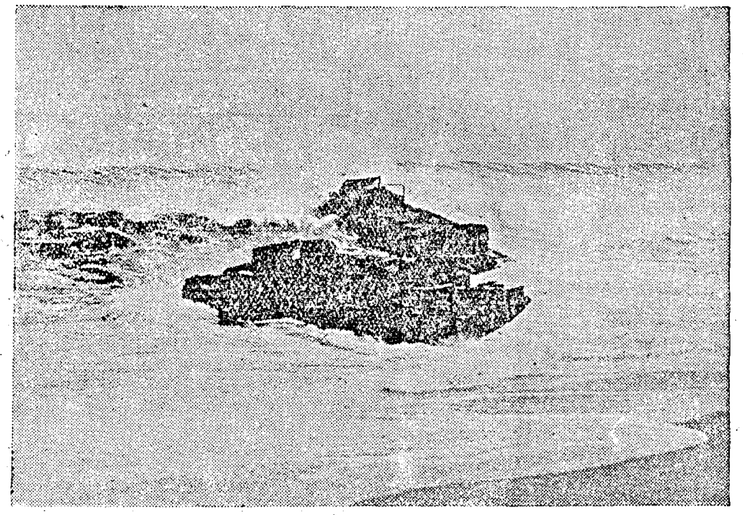
The idea of a return to the Continental battle-grounds was firmly embedded in the minds of British strategists and the British public for a whole year before the German attack on Russia. The course of events in Russia in 1941 and after intensified in Britain the popular clamour for a Second Front. The spirit of spontaneous comradeship with the Russian people quickly developed. There was sympathy for the terrible sufferings of the Russians at the hands of the invader, and there was great and undisguised admiration for the spirit and strategy of the great defensive fight put up by the Russians. The British also felt grateful for the falling off in the scale of German air raids on Britain and considered it as a war-gift from Russia. "The Russian danger is our danger," they said, and many felt that after HITLER succeeded in the East he would return to the West and invade Britain. Therefore they argued that Britain must immediately launch an attack on the continent while HITLER'S forces were "fully engaged" in Russia. They cited the theory that the Germans were traditionally afraid of a war on two fronts and referred to GOERING'S declaration in September 1939 that, "This time there is only one front and that is the salient point of this war." Right from the beginning the arguments about the Second Front were never on the point of "whether," but always on "when" and "where."

* * *

Arguments Against Continental Invasion

MR. CHURCHILL referred on September 30, 1941, to the question "whether we should invade the Continent of Europe in order to lift some weight off Russia."

(*Continued on page* 15.)



Revolutionary to modern warfare, the DUKW, a 2½ ton truck that is equally at home in water and on land, has greatly helped amphibious operations in the Pacific and Mediterranean theatres of war. Its advent has meant ship to inland dump operations without unloading and reloading at beaches. In company, two DUKWs head out to sea from the beach, breaking through the powerful waves of the surf.

In the recent air attack on SABANG by British and American carrier-borne aircraft an American pilot was shot down into the sea and rescued by a British submarine which happened to be off shore. The rescue was made under intense gunfire from shore batteries. Lieut. DALE C. KLAHN of Laramie, Wyoming, the American pilot (Centre), *Lieut. Commander A.F. COLLETT, D.S.C., R.N.; the Commanding officer of the submarine* (right); *with Captain H.M.C. IONIDES, R.N., after the submarine had returned safely to base.*

INDIVIDUAL FREEDOM*

By R. GALLETTI, I.C.S.

I have said in my first talk that freedom is not a mere word and not an abstract entity but a system of actual rights which men exercise by thinking and doing things in their personal, social and political life. Since the construction of societies is rather like the construction of tribal lays, which can be done "in five and fifty different ways, and every single one of them is right," there are numerous possible combinations of rights that will constitute a satisfactory liberty; but not many of them will suit a particular society.

A system of rights can be said to be satisfactory either because it has the assent of the individuals in the society or because it is found to be rational. That is, men are free if they feel free, though they may accept from tradition a notion of freedom very imperfect to an outside observer; or they are free if they can act as they ought to, according to a concept of duty going beyond custom and tradition. Both the precepts of Tradition and the concept of duty vary widely from country to country, and freedom therefore does not and cannot mean exactly the same thing to the American, the German, the Russian, the Chinese, the Indian and the Englishman. It is not only Hitler's lies—so much more monstrous than Matilda's in Belloc's rhyme—that "make one gasp and stretch one's eyes," but also the notions developed by the German people of what constitutes perfect freedom. The contrast between the Englishman's and the German's feeling about the Nazi creed is brilliantly stated by E. C. Bentley in the preface to "Those Days."

NAZI CLAIM

"Credit is claimed by the Nazi regime for the material advantages conferred upon the people; attention is not directed to the price that has been and is being paid for them. Apart from such advantages, it has always been the correct cant among apologists for the terror to say that Hitler restored to the Germans their self-respect . . . I may add here a brief imaginary sketch of myself as a self-respecting Englishman, in the Hitlerite acceptance of that term. I am so heartily grateful for the benefits showered upon me by an all-wise dictator that I hardly know where to begin enumerating them. I live in a state of self-respecting fear of the most highly organized system of police espionage in the world. If I am writing to a correspondent abroad, I think it only decent and self-respecting to include a few expressions of my pride in being governed as I am, because I know that my letters are, very properly, liable to be opened and read in the Black Cabinet. I shudder with self-respect when I recollect that at one time I was friendly with Bill Thompson, who a few years ago was dragged out of bed and murdered in the presence of the head of our glorious Government, being one of some hundreds who, on the same night, were deservedly slaughtered in cold blood by the orders of that statesman. It revolts me to think of those miserable days when I was allowed to know all that was happening in the world, instead of being told by our gracious Government what I am ordered to believe. I am devoted to my two sons, and it delights me to know that they are having a much better education preparation for life than I had myself. Our schools in my boyhood were well enough, but the curriculum nowadays is not so over-loaded; my Tommie and Frankie are encouraged to look upon books and all intellectual activity with contempt, and are taught very little beyond the essential things—that is to say, a frenzied hatred of Jews, and the contents of speeches made by members of our noble Government, which are studied as lessons in the class-room. My boys, I am proud to say, are so much in tune with the spirit of this wonderful time that they have learnt to regard me as a nonentity and an outsider, because I am, unfortunately, a peaceable sort of man, and am totally incapable of leaping at any moment upon a soap-box and tearing a political passion to tatters. I had looked forward to their going to the university where I studied in my youth; but my confidence in that institution was founded upon the reputation of its teaching staff, and now that unknown men have taken the places of those professors who mysteriously disappeared at one time or another, or went mad, or committed suicide, I am inclined to think that I over-rated the advantages of a university training. I do not, of course, complain of any of these things; on contrary they fill me with satisfaction; and I respect myself too much to incur the risk of being called upon some night and taken off to be tortured in a concentration camp."

Quite obviously the freedom that the Germans aspire to would not satisfy the English. Nor for that matter would the freedom designed for themselves by the Russians, the Chinese, or the peoples of India. The American notion of freedom is so much based on the English in the first instance that Englishmen understand it fairly well. But as Phyllis Bentley points out in her book "Here is America," there are marked differences.

IDEA DIFFERS

. . . Now this idea of freedom differs from the British notion. It is not that we like being ordered about; we don't; but what we absolutely demand and insist on and cannot do without is fair play, justice, in the order. If the order is necessary and just, we may grumble about it incessantly but we obey it carefully. Not so the American; and because of his distaste for orders he has a secret admiration for those who disobey them and get away with it, which the British entirely lack.

The English notion of freedom is one suited to a nation that has been called a nation of shop-keepers and has been alleged to be governed by the old school tie—a nation in which equality before the law, enterprise and leadership have all been cultivated.

A complete statement of the rights which go to an Englishman's freedom, how they came to be recognized and how they were asserted, established and revised, would be matter for several volumes. It is my purpose to mention those which I think most important and to add such brief comment as is appropriate in this place. In the present talk I shall cover two aspects of personal freedom and in the next the other points of liberty of the individual as distinct from liberty enjoyed by groups.

LIBERTY OF THE BODY

First there are the rights constituting the liberty of the body. When Englishmen sing that "they never never shall be slaves" they refer to a metaphorical slavery. But the English were perhaps the very first people to say definitely that within their territory no man should be in physical bondage. Not only did chattel slavery of Englishmen disappear early in England compared with many parts of Europe; but serfdom also went earlier in England than in other parts of feudal Europe, which may have been accidental and due to the Black Death coming at a time of economic change; but was nevertheless a fact and important. Thereafter one Englishman could not command the bodily labour of another except by paying something for it, even if this something was too often inadequate and in times of stress the press-gang and the unjust judge might restore some of the features of slavery.

Not only was serfdom done away with. The arbitrary violence used by Governments in former times against men supposedly free was gradually abolished. King John was made in 1215 to guarantee that "no freeman shall be taken, imprisoned, dis-seized, outlawed, banished or in any way destroyed;" and though the promise was often enough violated, and in the Grand Remonstrance of 1841 the Commons alleged that even in the 17th century His Majesty's subjects were "oppressed by grievous fines, imprisonments, stigmatising, mutilations, whippings, pillories, gags, confinements, banishments" yet the English people did secure, and from the time of the Habeas Corpus Act of 1679 have maintained without interruption, the right of having no violence applied to them except according to the direction of law, which does not of course mean that law is impeccable, especially when legislatures become active. A. P. Herbert makes one of his Uncommon Law Judges say, in discussing whether Magna Carta is still law:

> "Again, it was argued before me that at least that portion of Chapter 29 still has effect which reads:
>
> Nor will we proceed against a freeman, nor condemn him, but by lawful judgment of his peers or by the law of the land.
>
> But it was proved in evidence that in fact this method of condemning the freeman is the exception rather than the rule, and it was suggested that this portion of Magna Carta must be interpreted in the light of recent statutes, so that it reads:
>
> Nor will we proceed against a freeman, nor condemn him, but by lawful judgment of his peers or by the law of the land, or Government departments, or Marketing Boards, or Impregnable Mono polies, or Trade Unions, or fussy Societies, or Licensing Magistrates, or officious policeman, or foolish regulations by a Clerk in the Home Office made and provided."

LORD MANSFIELD'S JUDGMENT

In 1777, Lord Mansfield in a great judgment extended to all, of whatever race or colour, who might be in England the right of physical freedom. In declaring the Negro James Somersett a free man, he said:

> "I am quite clear that the act of detaining a man as a slave can only be justified by the law of the country where the act is done . . . Then what ground is there for saying that the status of slavery is now recognized by the law of England? that trover will lie for a slave? that a slave market may be established in Smithfield? I care not for the supposed dicta of judges, however eminent, if they be contrary to all principle. The dicta cited were probably misunderstood; and at all events they are to be disregarded. Villainage, when it did exist in this country, differed in many particulars from West Indian slavery. The lord never could have thrown his villain into chains, sent him to the West Indies, and sold him there to work in a mine or in a cane-field. At any rate villainage has ceased in England, and it cannot be revived. The air of England has long been pure, too pure for a slave, and every man is free who breathes it. Every man who comes into England is entitled to the protection of English Law, whatever oppression he may heretofore have suffered and whatever may be the colour of his skin."

It was not very long—as time goes in national histories—before the same protection was extended to all the inhabitants of all the dominions of the British Crown. And to this day the English will not reckon as a free country one where men are exposed to arbitrary violence or can be disposed of at will by private or public masters. Physical freedom is perhaps only a small part of freedom, but it is what the mathematicians call "necessary though not a sufficient condition."

ANOTHER ELEMENT

There is another element of physical freedom, and a very important one. In fact some of the greatest struggles in English history have been over the assertion of this right—a man's right to his physical property, to do what he will with his own, and to be free from the danger of arbitrary confiscation and from taxation without his consent as well as from the risk of ordinary robbery and theft. It is to be remembered that England under Norman and Angevin kings settled down before her neighbours to orderly life and to a security which gave property some value in the eyes of its possessor. It is unlikely that the English are by nature greater lovers of property than other peoples. But they have had longer practice than others in cherishing and guarding under a satisfactory legal and police system their property in lands, houses, and moveables. The barons were able to assert the right of the people against the king even in the days of John; and from the time of the Parliament of 1254 till the time of the Long Parliament which defeated Charles I, the people themselves continued to fight unremittingly for freedom from anything like illegal exaction. The development of the common law and of equity, a sufficiency of statute law, a police efficient though not numerous, a judiciary trustworthy if not swift, have made the Englishman more secure in the possession of his property and more free in its disposal than most who live elsewhere.

But concerning this right, which is cardinal in the English system and thought by many to be essential for freedom of enterprise, there is a great and growing controversy; and the modern Englishman is by no means as clear as his great-grandfather about freedom from the intervention of the government in the use and abuse of property. The right was in many ways more restricted in the Middle Ages; and charters might be required of them to grant liberties and immunities that 19th century took for granted. Now again it is being recognized that the power of property, especially of intangible and incorporeal property, is a power to cause misery as well as to create prosperity, and the English are pretty well convinced that the right to cause misery is not among those included in the elements of freedom.

The next talk by Mr. R. Galletti in this series will be broadcast from the Madras Station of the All-India Radio on Saturday, June 9, 1944, at 9 p.m.

* This is the second talk broadcast from A.I.R., Madras, on 12th May 1944 by MR. R. GALLETTI, I.C.S., in the series "The Concept of Freedom." The first talk was published in the *Madras War Review*, dated 21st April 1944.

THE ARAKAN COASTAL FORCES

By AN R.I.N. OBSERVER

THERE was a paragraph in the paper the other day which said that in the past four months the Arakan Coastal Forces of the Royal Indian Navy had steamed more than 30,000 miles on 43 separate missions in enemy waters.

Statistics have a way of being impressive and yet at the same time uninformative. So I'm going to have a shot at "illuminating" those figures about the Arakan Coastal Forces with some of my own experiences. I was present at half a dozen of those operations and was able to learn something of the job Coastal Forces are doing on the Burma front and the spirit in which they are tackling it.

CONTINUOUSLY ON THE OFFENSIVE

The first thing I want to emphasize is that these little ships—they're not much more than a hundred feet in length—have been continuously on the offensive and, although they have stung the enemy into retaliating from the air, the Japanese have as yet made no attempt to bring their own Coastal Forces into action. Whatever the reason, they have allowed India's ships and sailors to establish complete moral ascendancy in Burma waters and to acquire experience and confidence which will serve them well when the fight gets tougher.

Ammunition and stores are taken aboard.

In four recent months units of the Royal Indian Navy's Arakan Coastal Forces steamed more than 30,000 operational miles on 43 separate missions in enemy waters. Twenty-six thousand shells were fired at Japanese-held localities along 250 miles of the Burma coast.

A bombardment is planned. Commander R. R. W. Ashby, D.S.O., R.N.V.R., drafts the operational orders.

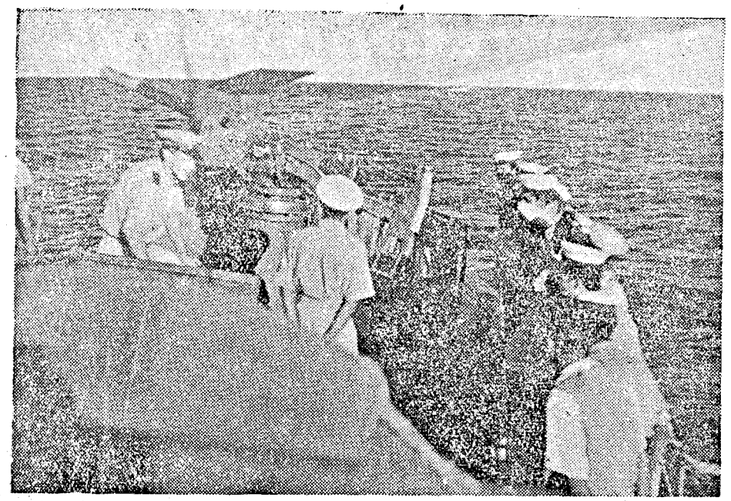
My first visit to enemy waters did not provide much excitement, but it helped me to get the "atmosphere" of Coastal Forces operations. Two ships were to carry out a reconnaissance in one of the many bays on the Burma coast and intercept any supply sampans the Japs might try to send northward under cover of darkness.

IN THE LION'S MOUTH

When we were well out to sea the captain called me into the wheelhouse to look at the chart. A pencil line showed the course we were following and it led right up to an island in the middle of the bay. There was no moon that night and the stars were our only guide. The captain took a "fix" on three stars. A tiny equilateral triangle appeared on the chart. The point of the pencil touched the middle of the triangle. "That's where we are now," he said quietly. I did not know which to admire more—his navigational skill, or his coolness. Here we were, practically in the lion's mouth. To north and south of us were two important enemy bases. And we were still sailing eastward.

The water was getting shallower. The coxswain started taking soundings, swinging a lead-line over the side and shouting out the depth every minute or so. The captain decided to reduce speed. A dark shadow straight ahead was the island we were making for.

At nine o'clock we dropped the anchor and stopped engines. We were very close to the shore, so close that we could hear the surf hissing on the beach and distinguish individual trees with the naked eye. It was very quiet. We talked in whispers. All the guns were manned. The officers carried loaded revolvers in their holsters. A mile away we could see a couple of Burmese fishing canoes, but we did not interfere with them. A dark shadow lying off the island attracted our attention. We stared at it through binoculars for a long time. It might be a ship, but we could not be sure. A midshipman volunteered to take two ratings with Bren guns in a dinghy to investigate. That young middy had no illusions about the Jap. He had been at school in Rangoon when Burma was invaded. He and his family were refugees two years ago. He joined the Navy when he got to India, his sister joined the Auxiliary Nursing Service, his mother is now in the W.A.C.(I.) and his younger brother is still at school, in Lucknow. Anyway, it turned out to be a false alarm. What we thought might be a ship was actually a clump of trees standing on a sand spit. At three o'clock in the morning we weighed anchor and shaped course for the base. For six hours we had lain in wait, hoping that the Japs would send a sampan or two in our direction. We had drawn a blank. But it's not always like that. Another night, further down the coast, our ships rammed and sank half a dozen country craft that the Japs were using to carry supplies to the garrison of a nearby island.



Gunners are "briefed" on the foc's'le of one of the ships.

MUD VOLCANOES

On our return to base I transferred to another ship, the leader of a force that was going to bombard Jap positions on Ramree Island. The approaches to the objective were not exactly easy from the navigator's point of view. Mud volcanoes in this area frequently raise small islands which are liable to disappear suddenly, leaving dangerous uncharted shoals.

We did scrape the bottom once as we were approaching the target, but the bombardment began dead on time. I've seen a few Diwali celebrations in India, but the fireworks display that filled the next twenty minutes eclipsed them all. It was an impressive sight. The dim shapes moving steadily in line ahead, broadside on to the shore, their guns roaring and flashing; and the red stars of tracer shells sweeping out in graceful curves across the water.

The Japs sent a large formation of aircraft to look for us next morning. A Spitfire squadron was soon on their tails, however, and at least thirteen of the Jap planes failed to return to their base. None of our ships was hit, though bomb splinters from near misses wounded one of our crew, Petty Officer Allayar Khan. Although wounded, Allayar Khan kept his anti-aircraft gun blazing away until the enemy had broken off the attack. His gallantry was rewarded with the Distinguished Service Medal.

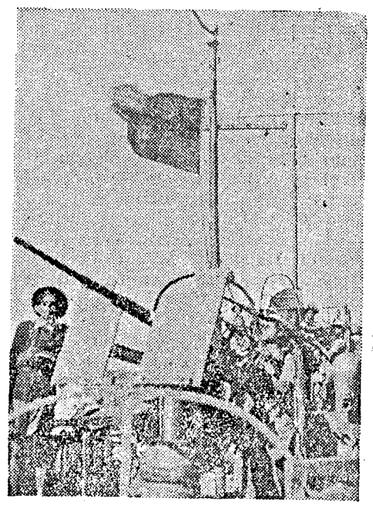
I've seen other bombardments since then. In one of them Japanese basha huts and storehouses along five miles of the Mayu Peninsula were set ablaze. Some of these bombardments have been carried out at the request of the Army: others have been undertaken on the strength of R.A.F. reconnaissance reports. All have been carefully planned and skilfully executed. Sometimes shore batteries open up and shells whistle overhead. Not once has a ship been hit in this way and the only direct hit the Japs scored in several air attacks was with a small bomb that bounced off the armour plate and exploded in the sea. No one was hurt.

A GREAT ORDEAL

The other day one of our ships was operating about 300 miles south of Akyab. For three hours she was attacked by bombers and then for half an hour a mixed force of bombers and fighter-bombers kept up a concerted attack from low level. Many bomb splinters and part of a bomb tail fell on the deck. Some of the crew received minor wounds, but the ship was so well handled that she escaped damage and came through her three-and-a-half hours' ordeal unscathed. These air attacks are an indication that the enemy doesn't like the nightly visitations of the little ships with a big punch.

There isn't time to give you a detailed account of all the operations, but I would like to add that Indian naval officers and ratings have more than once demonstrated that they are just as tough and courageous under fire as their brothers in the fighting line ashore. And that goes for all of them, whether they come from the Punjab or Madras, Bengal or Travancore, Bombay or the U.P. Muslims, Hindus, Sikhs, Christians and Parsees live and fight side by side.

—*A talk broadcast from A.I.R., Delhi.*



Action station as Japanese bombers try to retaliate next morning.

(*Continued from page* 11.)

But, it was not possible or feasible to contemplate a Continental Invasion at that time for a number of reasons. First of all, it was highly necessary to hold Britain at any cost as the war's most vital base. Secondly, it was important that the Suez Canal and the Middle East should be held in Allied hands in the interests of both Britain and Russia. A third reason was that Britain's shipping resources were inadequate to cope with the responsibilities of a large-scale offensive. Lastly, it was clear that unless Britain had decisive air superiority over Germany it would be foolish to undertake an invasion.

Over and above all this was the realisation that a Continental Invasion, if attempted, should succeed. For failure would be more disastrous both to Britain and Russia than postponement of the invasion. Further, preparation for it would involve the discontinuance of much valuable equipment and supplies which were being sent to Russia, and which were put to such excellent use against HITLER's hordes.

There were also two fallacious assumptions in the demand for a Second Front. Whatever may be the traditional German idea of fighting on two fronts, the fact remains that HITLER had not shrunk from opening new fronts in more than one direction. The other assumption that deserved to be corrected was that HITLER was fully engaged in Russia, and all that was necessary was to attack him in the rear from the west.

* * *

Another Ally—Mr. Churchill's Prophecy Comes True

In December 1941, a new and potentially powerful ally entered the field. Japan's attack on Pearl Harbour brought the United States into the war. After the evacuation of Dunkirk, Mr. CHURCHILL prophetically announced (June 4, 1940) that Britain and the Commonwealth would "carry on the struggle until, in God's good time, a new world with all its power and might steps forth to the liberation and rescue of the old." In April 1942, General MARSHALL arrived in Britain, and an Anglo-American fighting combination began. The R.A.F. raids over Western Europe began to assume the dimensions of a big offensive. Again, the advocates of the Second Front idea came to the fore and began brisk canvassing. But

SKILLED INDIAN ELECTRICIAN AIDS AMERICAN AIRMEN.—Thirty years' experience as an electrician for industrial firms in India has enabled Mr. E. J. Charles, shown explaining a testing device to a United States Army Corporal, to speed up the winding of essential wire coils as much as ten times a day.

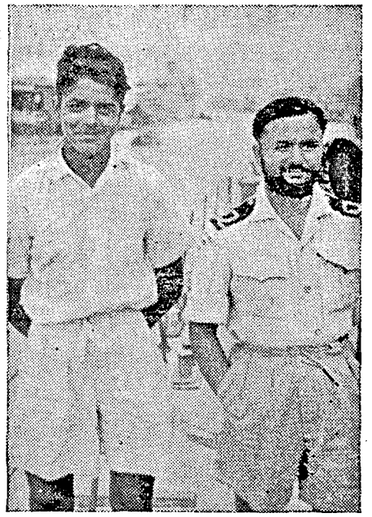
the arguments against opening a Second Front were even stronger then than they were six months before. The time was not ripe. For essential supplies had to go to Russia and Egypt, and in the Far East the Allies followed the policy of a "holding war." America's great strength was not yet fully developed on a war basis.

* * *

Tobruk to Teheran—Zero Hour Approaching

Tobruk fell in June 1942. Mr. CHURCHILL was then in America, conferring with President ROOSEVELT on the question of Second Front and other matters. The plan to drive out the Axis from Africa was chalked out at this conference. GOEBBELS continued to ridicule the Second Front, but August was the last month of Axis rejoicings. For from then on the Allies began to move on all fronts. In June the Anglo-Soviet Treaty was signed, and a full understanding was reached between Britain, United States and Russia "with regard to the urgent tasks of creating a Second Front in Europe in 1942." Stalingrad and the Caucasus were saved. The joint Anglo-American landings in North Africa from the Atlantic and the Mediterranean were the necessary preludes to the landings on European soil, in Sicily and then in Italy. The next step was the Teheran Conference at the end of 1943, at which the Second Front plan was fully resolved upon.

The German-controlled Paris Radio quoted a "high ranking German officer" as saying that the Zero Hour in the west is approaching and that Allied invasion preparations are almost completed. The Officer observed, "There is a likelihood that the outcome of the war will be decided in the west this summer."



PERSONALITIES IN THE ARAKAN COASTAL FORCES.—Midshipman M. G. Deodhar, R.I.N.V.R. (Central Provinces) and Sub-Lieut. R. R. M. Rao, R.I.N.V.R. (Madras), two Indian officers serving in one of H. M. I. ships in the Arakan.

Three Indian ratings on active service on the Arakan Front. Left to right *Officer's Cook P. Ramaswami (Madras), Chief Petty Officer R. S. Mathieu (Singapore) and Leading Seaman K. Hussain (Punjabi).*

This realisation has created greater uneasiness in Axis quarters than anything that has happened so far.

WAR DIARY

BRITAIN AND GERMANY

9TH MAY.—Fifteen fast German and Japanese blockade runners have been sunk declared Lord Selbourne, Minister for Economic Warfare, in the Lords today.

Leverkusen, Osnabruck were attacked by Allied bombers. Two thousand aircraft Partook in the days' offensive.

The Dominion Prime Ministers continued a thorough study of the economic structure of the British Commonwealth of Nations, with special emphasis upon immediate post-war demands.

10TH MAY.—Mr. Churchill gave the Commons details of the aid given by Britain and the Empire to the Soviet Union.

Allied aircraft bombed Berlin and Luxtemburg.

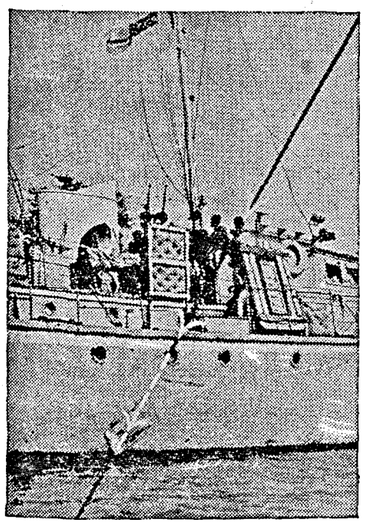
11TH MAY.—British bombers last night attacked Ludwigshafen.

British light naval forces torpedoed an Axis armed trawler and damaged two other trawlers.

The Canadian Premier, Mr. Mackenzie King, addressed the members of the Parliament on Britain and the Empire.

General Eisenhower has reached agreements with the Allied Governments in exile for the speediest possible handing over of authority to the liberated nations of Western Europe.

12TH MAY.—The number of German and Italian aircraft destroyed in the air by Britain, American and other Allied forces since the beginning of the war is about 26,000 declared the Air Minister, Sir Archibald Sinclair, in the Commons. This excluded aircraft destroyed by the Soviet and on the ground.



A LUCKY ESCAPE.—When one of H.M.I. ships was operating off the Burma coast recently she was attacked by Japanese aircraft. A small bomb struck the armour plate on the starboard side of the bridge and was deflected through the upper deck, via the engine room and through the hull, to burst harmlessly in the sea. No one was hurt. Arrows show track of the bomb.

German oilplants at Merseburg, Lutzkendorf and other places were bombed by Allied aircraft.

The United States, Britain and Russia have issued a virtual ultimatum to Hungary, Rumania, Bulgaria and Finland that they must decide now whether they intend to go down in utter defeat with Germany.

13TH MAY.—Mr. Winston Churchill with Field Marshal Smuts, Mr. Mackenzie King and the Prime Minister of Southern Rhodesia, Sir Godfrey Huggins, paid a lightning visit to British Invasion Units yesterday.

14TH MAY.—Allied bombers attacked yesterday Tutow, Osnabruck, Stettin and other places in Germany.

It is revealed that His Majesty the King has inspected the Home Fleet. In four crowded days he has visited 14 different ships.

15TH MAY.—There was considerable enemy air activity over Britain last night and this morning. Thirteen German aircrafts were destroyed.

It is reported that there is disagreement between Marshal Rommel and General Von Rundstedt, Commander-in-Chief of Western Europe.

Last night Mosquitoes bombed Cologne.

16TH MAY.—The Conference of Dominion Prime Ministers has ended. The last meeting was held to-day.

United Nations Information Organization known as *Unio* has been set up in London.

Nearly 14,000 churches, monasteries, convents, and other ecclesiastical buildings have suffered varying degrees of damage in German raids on Britain and North Ireland according to official figures published yesterday.

Bombs were dropped at five south coast towns last night.

Last night R.A.F. Mosquitoes attacked Ludwigschafen and targets in North-west Germany.

Field Marshal Karl Von Runstedt has been appointed Chief of the German Anti-Invasion Forces. Field Marshals Rommel and Blaskowitz will be made Chiefs of Army Groups and Field Marshal Hugo Sperrie, Commander of the Air Force. Among the leaders are Admiral Ranke and Panzer General Von Schweppenburg.

* * *

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE ATLANTIC

9TH MAY.—"The Allies continued to hold the upperhand in U-boat warfare during April" says the joint statement issued by President Roosevelt and Mr. Churchill.

10TH MAY.—President Roosevelt has nominated Mr. James Forrestal to be Navy Secretary following the death of Colonel Frank Knox.

President Roosevelt to-day asked Congress for a new appropriation for the U.S. army totalling 15,676,652,700 dollars.

11TH MAY.—Two U-boats were destroyed by the frigate H.M.S. Spey in North Atlantic recently, it is revealed.

12TH MAY.—It is learnt that General Mark Clark, Commander of the Fifth Army in Italy, recently came secretly to United States and conferred with President Roosevelt, General George Marshall, U.S. Chief of Staff, and other high army officials.

More than two million women in United States have been trained by special courses for essential war jobs, announced the United States War Manpower Commission.

The United States House of Representatives to-day agreed to the Senate's version of Lease-Lend Extension Bill.

14TH MAY.—The United States Manpower Commission announced that more than 74,000 veterans of this war were placed in civilian jobs in February and March through the United States Employment Service.

16TH MAY.—The United States Ambassador in Britain, Mr. John G. Winant has returned to Washington for consultation with Mr. Cordell Hull and President Roosevelt. Mr. Averoll Harriman, United States Ambassador at Moscow, is also in Washington for consultations.

* * *

INDIA, BURMA AND CEYLON

9TH MAY.—Allied operations to clear the enemy from the vicinity of Kohima continued. In all sectors around the Imphal Plain Allies have obtained local successes.

10TH MAY.—In the Kohima area, Allied troops have continued their operations against Japanese posts in the outskirts of Kohima. North of Imphal Allied advance made some headway.

11TH MAY.—East of Mogaung Valley, Chinese troops have occupied two more villages. In the neighbourhood of Kohima there was no major activity. North of Imphal, in the Iril Valley Allied troops captured a position.

12TH MAY.—Operations to clear the enemy from strong positions in the hills on the southern outskirts of Kohima have made initial progress.

13TH MAY.—The Allies have maintained a continuous offensive around Kohima. North of Imphal Plain Allied patrols inflicted casualties on the enemy. Allied troops penetrated the enemy's perimeter defences at Tiangzup.

14TH MAY.—Allied forces continued their advance on both sides of the Mogaung river.

15TH MAY.—East of the Mogaung river Chinese troops have captured Tarongyang. South-west of Kohima mopping up operations continued. North of Imphal Allied patrols maintained their pressure.

16TH MAY.—In the Kohima area Allied troops advancing from the Deputy Commissioner's bungalow, reached the Treasury Hill. Battle of Kohima Ridge has ended. North of Imphal, in the neighbourhood of Kanglatongbi Allied operations are proceeding.

* * *

RUSSIA AND FINLAND

9TH MAY.—The battle of Sebastapol has developed into a hand-to-hand struggle at the gates of the city.

10TH MAY.—The Russians have captured Sebastapol. The whole of Crimea has been completely liberated.

11TH MAY.—On the bridgehead of the right bank of the Dniester, south-west of Tiraspol Russian troops were engaged in repelling enemy attacks.

12TH MAY.—Twenty thousand Germans were killed in the area of Sebastapol and over 24,000 prisoners were taken. On the bridgehead on the right bank of Dniester, north-west of Tiraspol, Soviet troops repulsed repeated enemy attacks.

13TH MAY.—The Germans lost heavily in their new Spoiling attack against the Red Army's Lower Dniester bridgehead.

14TH MAY.—Lull on land front continues; there was Soviet air activity over enemy positions.

15TH MAY.—Soviet aircraft attacked the railway junctions of Rawa-Russkaya, Styj and Donitzs.

16TH MAY.—Soviet planes bombed Polotsk.

* * *

ITALY, AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

9TH MAY.—In the mountains sector of the main front, Allied troops followed up withdrawal of the enemy south of Monte Maiella. Other sectors of the front were generally quiet.

10TH MAY.—The entire front was generally quiet. Allied troops have occupied Palena. The Italian military Commander of Rome, General Rollo, was shot dead yesterday.

11TH MAY.—Patrols were active on all fronts.

12TH MAY.—The Allies have launched a major new offensive in Italy by starting an attack against the Gustav Line at 23·00 hours on May 11. The Allies have advanced one mile and taken several enemy positions.

13TH MAY.—Allied heavy bombers today cut the Brenner Pass Railway line. Allied troops have captured the village of San Angelo on Gari river. In the Liri valley Allied troops have crossed the Rapido river on a 6,000 to 7,000 yard front. San Sebastino and the dominating hill have been occupied by the Allied forces.

14TH MAY.—The attack of the Fifth and Eighth Armies against Gustav line is making progress. The town of Castel Forte has been captured.

15TH MAY.—More progress has been made by the Allied armies in Italy in their attack on the Gustav line. Eighth Army troops in the Liri valley have penetrated deeper into the enemy defences. French troops of the Fifth Army captured the hill features Monte Mayo, San Ambrogio, Valle Maio and Ausomia. American troops have also advanced. Hard fighting continues along the whole front.

16TH MAY.—Allied armies in Italy have maintained the impetus of their attacks against the southern sector of the Gustav line. American troops captured Spigno town.

* * *

VICHY, FREE FRANCE AND THE OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

9TH MAY.—Nantes, Rennes, Tours, Salbris and other places in France were attacked by the Allied bombers. Military objectives in Belgium were also hit.

10TH MAY.—More than 4,000 Allied planes yesterday made the greatest pre-invasion assault on Cross-Channel objectives. Major assaults were made on over a score of targets in France, Belgium and Holland.

Bucharest was bombed this morning.

11TH MAY.—Last night Allied planes attacked Lens and Lille in France and Ghent and Courtrai in Belgium. Budapest was heavily bombed.

12TH MAY.—Allied aircraft attacked key-points in France and Belgium, Boulogne and Louvain.

13TH MAY.—Tourcoing in North France was bombed.

14TH MAY.—Allied bombers military objectives in France and low countries.

15TH MAY.—The French Consultative Assembly by unanimous vote to-day moved that the French Committee of National Liberation assume the title of "Provisional Government of the French Republic."

* * *

THE NEUTRAL COUNTRIES

9TH MAY.—Mr. Dingle Foot, Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Economic Warfare, declared that representations to the Turkish Government to cease exports of valuable materials to Germany have been made and that the Turkish Government's reply was favourable.

11TH MAY.—German News Agency says: "In view of the Turkish Government's stoppage of chrome delivery to Germany, the German Ambassador, Von Papen, has handed over to the Turkish Government a statement issued by his Government."

* * *

THE FAR EAST

9TH MAY.—Cape Hoskins aerodrome in New Britain has been occupied by the Americans.

It is announced that Admirals Nimitz, Halsey and King met in San Francisco last week-end for a conference offering full opportunity for planning still heavier blows against the Japanese.

Japs captured Tengfeng in China.

10TH MAY.—Allies destroyers attacked Japanese positions on the Shortland Islands.

11TH MAY.—It is announced that the Americans bombed Ponape and remaining Jap positions in the Marshall Islands.

12TH MAY.—It is reported that Allied planes attacked Kusaie Island and Murrilo Harbour on Wednesday.

A Navy Communiqué says that American submarines have sunk 14 more Jap ships in the Pacific. This brings the total of Jap ships sunk in these waters to 558.

13TH MAY.—Allied bombers bombed Kehili and Bonis airfields in Bougainville.

14TH MAY.—Allied bombers raided Ponfoie airfield in Timor. American bombers attacked Nauru Island on May 12. Enemy held position in Marshall Islands were also bombed.

The Japanese have broken into the city of Loyang in China, at three points.

The Jap Premier General Hideki Tojo in a broadcast talk reviewed the war situation.

15TH MAY.—Allied bombers raided Jap bases on the northern coast of New Guinea.

The Chinese have broken the Jap hold on the Peiping-Hankow Railway, recapturing Suipang.

Three soldiers were returning to camp after a very good evening in the local town.

From the darkness came the challenge.

"Halt! Who goes there?"

"Friends," said the three.

"Advance, No. 1, and be recognized," ordered the guard. No. 1 did so. Then the guard spoke again:—

"Advance, No. 2 and be recognized."

"Shorry, chum," came the reply with a loud hiccough. "If I advance—hic—No. 3 will fall down."

FOR YOUR RADIO DIARY

MAY 19.	MADRAS—9-00 p.m.	"Britain to-day: People at War: Mobilization of Man Power"—By an Army Officer.
,, 19.	MADRAS—9-45 p.m.	World Affairs—By Wickham Steed: B.B.C. Relay.
,, 20.	MADRAS—9-00 p.m.	Fighting Forces.
,, 22.	MADRAS—9-00 p.m.	"The Shadow of the Rising Sun: North East Indies"—By Dr. Hamid Ali.
,, 22.	MADRAS—9-45 p.m.	Problems of the New India: Relayed from Delhi.
,, 24.	MADRAS—9-45 p.m.	The Voice of America: Relayed from Delhi.
,, 25.	MADRAS—9-00 p.m.	The Common Cause—By Dr. C. Achutha Menon.
,, 26.	MADRAS—9-45 p.m.	World Affairs—By Wickham Steed: B.B.C. Relay.
,, 27.	MADRAS—9-00 p.m.	Fighting Forces.
,, 29.	MADRAS—9-00 p.m.	"Prelude to Peace: Demobilization."
,, 31.	MADRAS—9-45 p.m.	The Voice of America: Relayed from Delhi.

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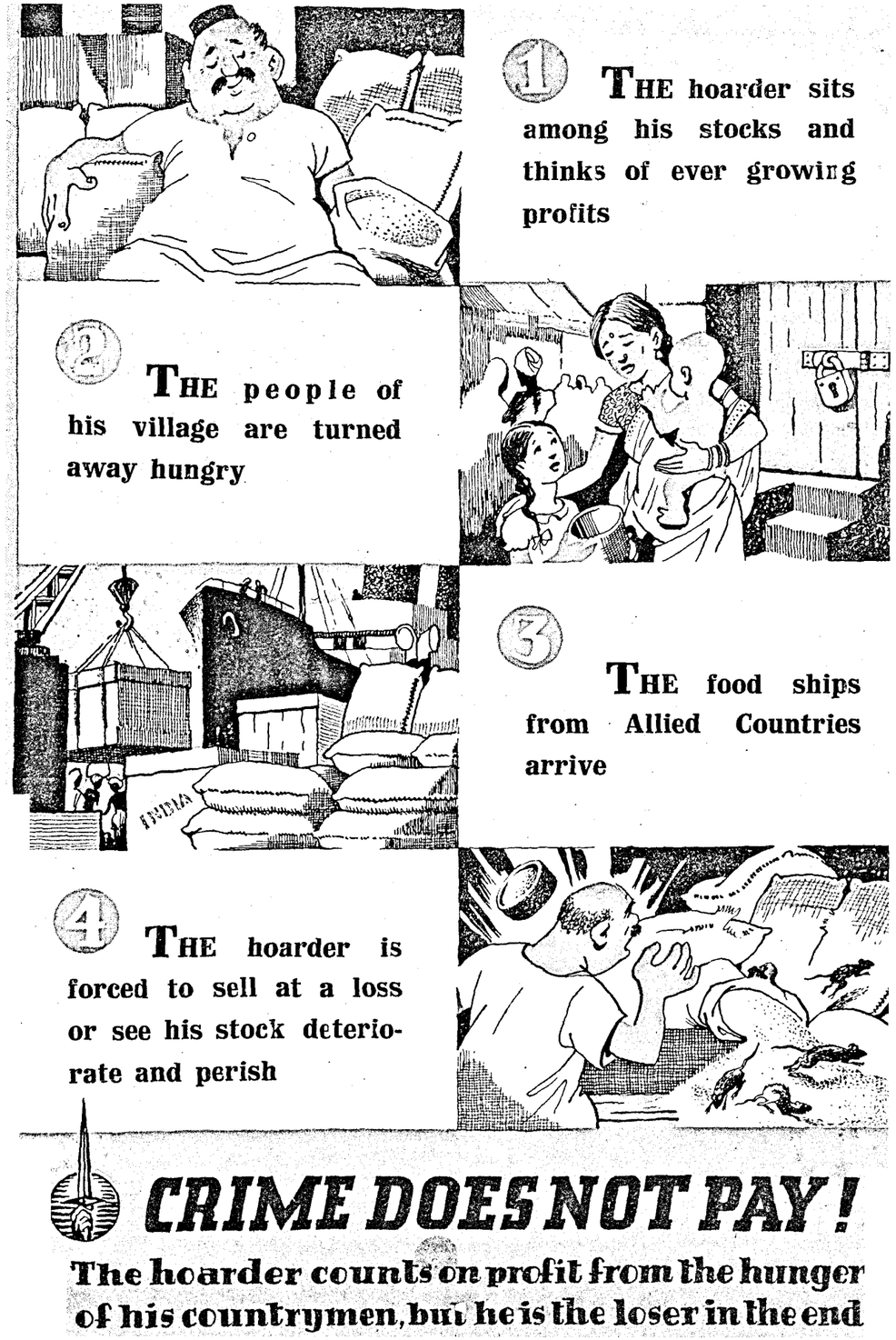

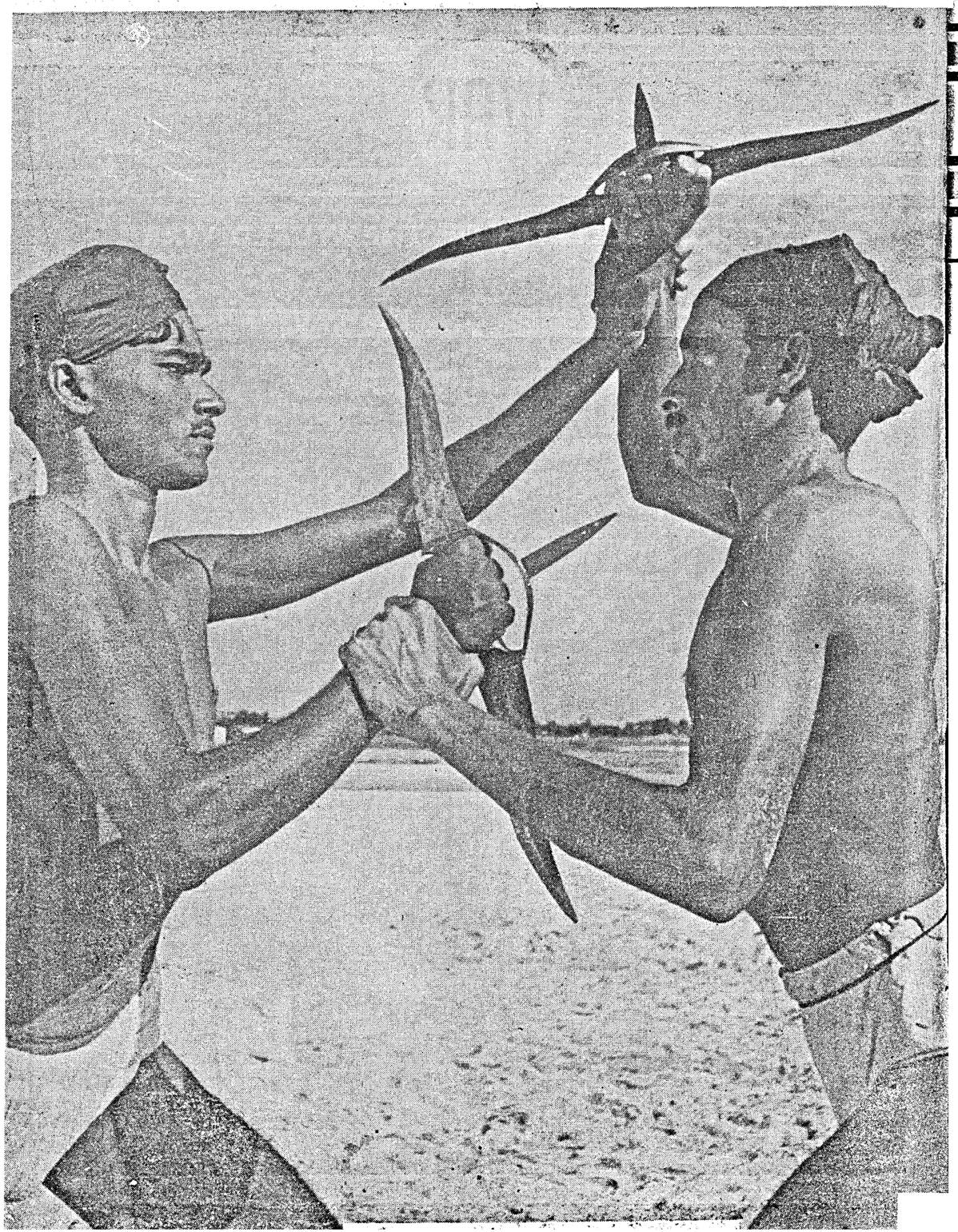

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MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. V FRIDAY, MAY 26, 1944 No. 38

NEW AND MIGHTIER BLOWS

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT

The **United Nations are now about to strike new and mightier blows at Nazi-occupied Europe from offensive bases in the west, south and east**

Only **by uniting our full strength with the full strength of other free peoples of the world have we moved from the defensive to the offensive. By maintaining our unity, we will certainly achieve final victory. By continuing our unity after the war, we can assure peace in which mankind can live, work and worship in peace freedom and security**

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT
in his 15th Lease-Lend Report to the U.S. Congress, on Monday

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[NOTE.—*The summary of news and comments contained in the* MADRAS WAR REVIEW *generally relate to events and statements published till Wednesday, every week.*]

WE ARE IN GOOD HEART

"We are in good heart, for we can justly say that whatever dangers may still threaten the Commonwealth and the Empire, we have at this moment to our hand the men, weapons, resources and mastery of situation which make the final issue certain. Throughout this bitter terrible conflict, I have never doubted that the response of my colonial peoples to all the calls made upon them would be swift, wholehearted and complete. It is a wonderful thing for me to reflect that the promises of loyalty and support which so many of you sent to me in dark days of our history have been redeemed many times over."

HIS MAJESTY THE KING, *in an Empire Day Message, on Tuesday.*

❖

HELP THE FIGHTING MEN

"The duties of all persons responsible for the conduct of foreign affairs in a world war of this deadly character, and of all who, in different ways, exercise influence, is to help the fighting men to perform the heavy task entrusted to them by ensuring them of all possible ease in the execution and advantage in the victory. Everyone who is in a position to guide public opinion . . . and others should keep this very clear duty before their eyes. They should always think of the soldier in battle and ask themselves whether what they say or write will make his task easier. We long for the day to come when this slaughter will be over and when this additional restraint which imposes itself upon every conscientious man in war time can be relaxed or will vanish entirely."

MR. CHURCHILL, *in initiating the debate on foreign affairs in the House of Commons, on Wednesday.*

❖

MESSAGE TO CHINA

"I carry to China a message that neither the swamps of Burma, nor the Himalaya Mountains, nor the Japanese warships shall stop America from bringing all possible and prompt aid to this great and enduring people. The President's message to China is just that.

The Great Chinese leader, Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek has heard from the President directly. My visit is merely one of emphasis so that hundreds of millions of Chinese people may know that the American will to aid China is permanent and continuous until victory has been achieved."

HENRY A. WALLACE, *United States' Vice-President, in Washington, on Saturday.*

MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. V FRIDAY, MAY 26, 1944 No

A SPLENDID PERFORMANCE

HIS EXCELLENCY LORD WAVELL

His Excellency the Viceroy on being informed of the fact that the Madras Governor's War Fund has reached a total of Rupees Three Crores has sent the following telegram to His Excellency the Governor of Madras:

"I am delighted to hear that your War Fund has now reached a total of Rupees Three Crores. This is a splendid performance and I send my warmest congratulations to Madras and my best wishes for the continued success of the Fund."

MAGNIFICENT TOTAL

WAR FUND REACHES RS. 3 CRORES

His Excellency Sir Arthur Hope, Governor of Madras, has issued the following message:—

GOVERNMENT HOUSE,
OOTACAMUND,
May 18th, 1944.

The War Fund has to-day reached the magnificent total of Rs. 3 crores.

All classes of people, rich and poor, have continued their contributions with the same unstinted generosity. I am proud that this Presidency not only leads all other Provinces in its voluntary contributions but has in addition subscribed Rs. 31 crores to defence loans.

Your gifts are a fitting tribute to the supreme gallantry of our soldiers. They were an inspiration in the dark days when we were fighting desperately for our very existence. I know that I can count on all of you to continue them in the brighter times that lie before until final victory is won.

Arthur Hope.

GOVERNOR OF MADRAS.

CHEERFUL GIVERS

By SIR ROBERT DENNISTON, *Kt.*

FROM time to time the Press regales us with figures which purport to indicate the magnitude of somebody's war effort, be it Great Britain's, the U.S.A.'s, Canada's or India's, in terms of pounds, shillings and pence, dollars, or rupees, annas and pies, as the case may be. I have long passed the stage at which the accountancy side of the war ceased to be comprehensible and the addition of a nought or two to the lease-lend figures, or to the budget of one of the warring countries merely induces in me the same sense of bewilderment which afflicted Mr. Churchill's father (was it not) who was unable to cope with "those damn dots." But if these astronomical figures, figures beyond the realms of fantasy, leave us rather breathless, we have a very clear comprehension of the significance of more modest figures which may directly concern us.

And so the figure of three crores, a sum which epitomises the generosity of the people of this Presidency, conveys quite a lot to us, and we are able to view, in its proper perspective, the attainment of one more landmark by the Madras Governor's War Fund. Estimates of the cost of the war vary, but at the highest estimate we of the Madras Presidency have paid for the war for 3½ hours, and at the lowest for 3 hours.

There are various ways of combating sleeplessness and one's mind ranges over the whole gamut of one's everyday affairs—that crushing repartee which came to us too late; those intricate business negotiations; that cinema show which we saw last night; that off drive which whistled to the boundary; how tiresome X was at that meeting this morning; that holiday, in anticipation or retrospect; that grand slam in spades which eluded us.

BETTER SOPORIFIC

I can prescribe a better soporific than all these. In these 4½ years of war we of this Province have paid for 3 to 3½ hours' total warfare against the enemy. Which 3 hours of the war would you soonest have paid for? You pay your money (note this prerequisite) and you take your choice, and you go to sleep bombing Berlin with planes paid for by Madras, sinking the Bismarck (with Madras torpedoes) and, in these fateful days inaugurating second fronts all round the map.

In actual practice our money has been spent otherwise, and less spectacularly, in ways which are familiar to the readers of these pages, but nothing can deprive the people of this Presidency of the knowledge that for something over 3 hours the war is ours, and much may happen in 3 hours. The Madras Governor's War Fund is concentrating at the moment on the comfort of the serving soldier, sailor, airman and merchant seaman, and on the alleviation of the lot of prisoners of war. Subscribers will agree that their money could hardly be better spent, but if their inclinations are in other directions they can earmark their subscriptions in any way which seems good to them. There was a time when the objects of the Madras Governor's War Fund and the National Defence Loans Committee seemed in danger of clashing, but happily there is no limit to the generosity of the people of the Madras Presidency and the constant flow of subscriptions to both funds must be a source of keen satisfaction to those to whom the prosecution of the war transcends all other considerations.

THE BATTLE OF ITALY

GENERAL ALEXANDER'S great offensive in Italy is going on well—very well indeed. It is the opening of a campaign in which the full punching power of the Allied Armies in Italy is going to make itself felt. The importance of the campaign lies in the fact that it is a precursor of the all-out Allied attack on the Fortress of Europe and will merge into the grand strategy which is likely to take definite shape both from the West and the East.

THE offensive was launched on May 11 at 11 o'clock in the night by a thunderous barrage from a concentration of artillery which rivalled or surpassed that of the historic battle of El Alamein. British, Indian, Dominion and Polish troops of the regrouped Eighth Army dealt a terriffic blow at the Gustav Line with the object of opening up the Liri Valley. General Clark's Fifth Army which was on their left flank synchronized its attack with that of the Eighth Army. Before this the Eighth Army had crossed its first major barrier, the Rapido river. Opportunity to move itself and its equipment across the river was given by an hour-long barrage of shells from the Fifth Army. Then the Eighth Army moved towards Cassino against bitter resistance from the German First Parachute Division who successfully defended Cassino in February. Indian troops who have played a magnificent role in the fighting in Italy captured San Angelo which is a small-scale Cassino, 2½ miles below the Monastery Hill. There was house-to-house fighting in which Indian soldiers with drawn knives rushed at the Germans in corners and basements. They then mopped up small pockets of resistance within the bridgehead across the Rapido river. Indian Engineers working under great hazards erected within a few hours two steel bridges, which enabled squadrons of tanks supporting the Indians, to cross the river. Attempts were made by the enemy to destroy the bridges and damage was caused, but it was quickly repaired by Indian Sappers. Along with British troops Indians broke into the main Gustav Line defences in the Liri Valley.

THE advance of Allied troops forced Marshal Kesselring to retreat on a 10-mile curved front extending from a few miles from the sea right up to the Liri Valley. He has fallen back on the advance defence works of the Hitler Line. It is now significant that German propaganda is fighting shy of calling the line by the name of their leader.

THE capture of Cassino has ended one of the grimmest battles of the Italian campaign. The enemy held on to Cassino and the Monastery Hill area for over three months, in spite of terriffic artillery and air bombardment. *Reuter's* Special Correspondent stated that Kesselring was completely out-manoeuvred in the Italian battle and with more than half of its crack parachutists lost at Cassino was faced with an out-flanking threat in the Hitler Line.

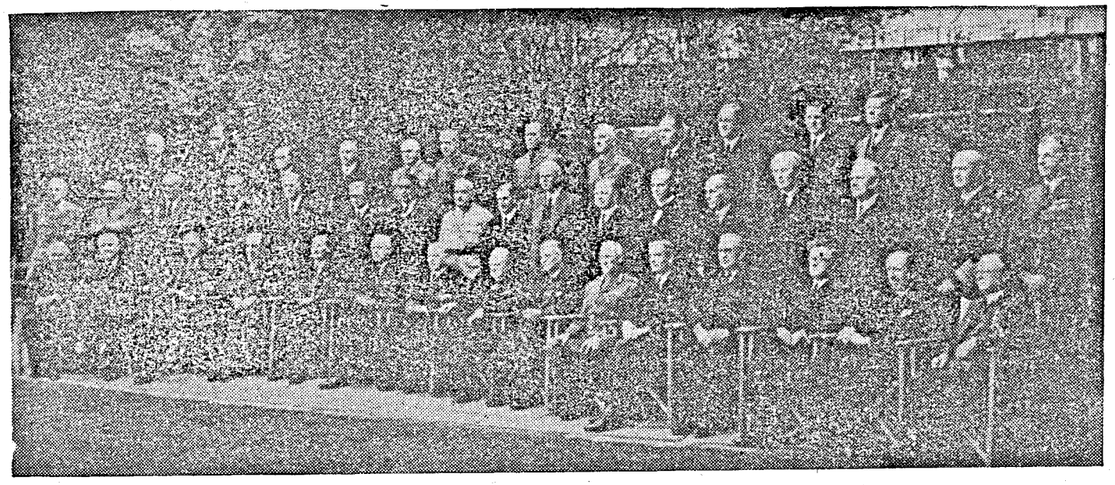
NOW the Allies are attacking the Hitler Line along its entire length. This has compelled the German forces to build another switch line running through Piedimonte and Pontecorvo to Terracina. The Poles have since captured Piedimonte, the northern anchor of the Hitler Line, and the French troops of the Fifth Army which pushed up the road from Sant Oliva into the Pontecorvo-Pico defences threatening the "switch" section of the Adolf Hitler Line have now captured Pico, its northern pivot.

PONTECORVO, the king-pin of the Hitler Line, has also been captured by the Eighth Army. Kesselring has thrown in all the mobile forces including those from north of Rome into the Battle of Italy. The Fifth Army's threat to the rear of the Hitler Line has placed Kesselring's vaunted defence positions in a rather critical position. Now the second phase of General Alexander's offensive has started on Tuesday. The Fifth and Eighth Armies have simultaneously attacked on the Anzio Front and against the Hitler Line. The Fifth Army's beach-head drive is described as the start of a new phase in the Battle of Italy.

THERE are two roads along which Allies can advance from their present positions to Rome. One is the road leading through Cassino, up the narrow Liri Valley, to Caprano, past the Albian Mountains, to Rome. The approaches to this road were till recently barred by the German Gustav Line. The other one is the coastal road leading from the Fifth Army's positions on the Lower Garigliano through Minturno, Terracina, the Pontine Marshes, Cisterna and Valletri. But this road has been rendered impassable by the Germans flooding the Pontine Marshes which lie betwen Terracina and Cisterna. So the only practicable approach to Rome lies through Cassino which was the vital enemy bastion of defence on the Gustav Line. Cassino which had excellent natural and scientific defences acted like a road block but now resistance there has been cleared away and it is not now so difficult for the main body of the Eighth Army to move forward. American and French forces have captured Castleforte five miles above Minturno.

NOW the two-way Allied offensive launch in Italy constitutes a new and grave menace to Kesselring's forces south of Rome. Already the Eighth Army has cracked through one of the main defences of the Hitler Line in an attack, the object of which is to drive the Germans back to Rome. It is obvious that success in the Battle of Italy can be achieved mainly by the infantry, and all indications point to the fact that General Clark's Order of the Day issued before the attack—"We can, and will, destroy the German armies"—is likely to be carried out in perhaps a much shorter time than the Germans are bargaining for.

CONFERENCE OF PREMIERS IN LONDON



Mr. Churchill with Members of the Cabinet and Dominion Premiers photographed after the first meeting of the conference.

Left to right, 1st row.—*Lord Beaverbrook, Lord Woolton, Mr. Lyttelton, Sir John Anderson, Mr. Attlee, Mr. Peter Fraser (New Zealand), Mr. Mackenzie King (Canada), Mr. Winston Churchill, Mr. J. Curtin (Australia), Field Marshal Smuts (South Africa), Mr. Anthony Eden, Mr. Bevin, Mr. Morrison, Lord Cranborne and Mr. Amery.*

Left to right, 2nd row.—*Field Marshal Sir Alan Brooke, Colonel Reitz, Lord Cherwell, Mr. Bruce (High Commissioner, Australia), Sir Stafford Cripps, Sir James Grigg, Sir Firoz Khan Noon (India), H.H. The Maharaja of Kashmir, Sir G. Huggins (Southern Rhodesia), Mr. Oliver Stanley, Mr. A. V. Alexander, Sir Archibald Sinclair, Mr. Massey (High Commissioner for Canada), Mr. Brendan Bracken, Mr. Jordan, (High Commissioner, New Zealand), Admiral Sir A. Cunningham and Air Marshal Sir G. Portal.*

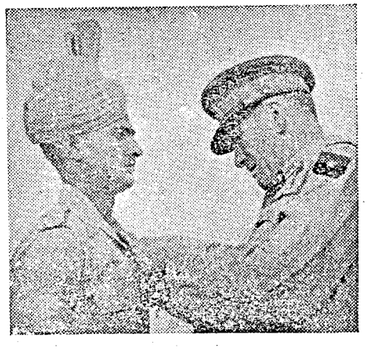
Left to right, back row.—*Sir J. Stephenson, Mr. N. Robertson, Sir R. Hopkins, Sir F. Shedden, General Sir T. Blamey, General Stuart, Sir H. Ismay, General Puttick, Mr. Forsyth, Sir E. Machtig, Mr. Mackintosh and Sir E. Bridges.*

RUNNING COMMENTARY

The Burma Front—Jap plans upset

The plans of the Japanese on the Burma front have been upset by Allied moves. The Japanese around Kohima were waiting for Imphal to fall, and those around Imphal were waiting for the fall of Kohima. Both these expectations have been dashed to the ground. The most important battle in the Kohima area has resulted in a clear victory to our troops, which have been consolidating their newly-won positions around Kohima. To make matters worse for the Japanese, Myitkyina, the most important and largest town in North Burma in Japanese hands, has been practically captured by General STILWELL's forces. The town was of great importance to the Japanese, because it commanded good communications to the south. Now the next objective of General STILWELL's forces and the Chindits under General LENTAIGNE is most probably Mogaung, about 30 miles west of Myitkyina, as that is the only way by which they can consolidate their positions and improve the communications. General STILWELL's brilliant strategy has practically brought about the collapse of the Japanese operations in North Burma and thereby made the Japanese threat to India a vanishing dream.

In the Arakan our troops have established themselves in well-chosen monsoon positions, and it is likely that the Japanese may make another



Jem. Azim Ullah of the 12th Frontier Force Regiment whose home is Village Daulatpur, Charsada, near Peshawar, receives the I.D.S.M. from the Commander-in-Chief.

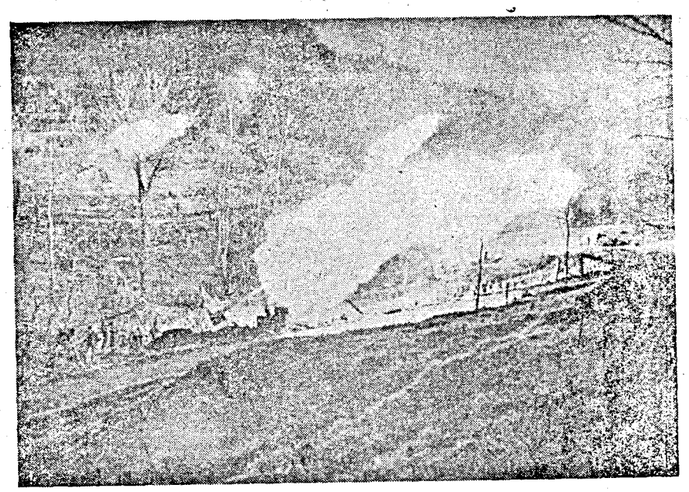
attempt to dislodge them. The difficulties likely to be created by monsoon conditions are well realized by the Allies, but they are confident of living and fighting more efficiently than the Japanese in these unpleasant conditions. There is no complacency at all on the Allied side. They expect continuous heavy fighting before monsoon sets in, and are prepared for it. As for the Japanese, they give the impression that they are only improvising to meet a situation which is increasingly difficult for them and quite different from what they had expected.

* * *

Tokyo's Propaganda for the Chinese

Having nothing much to show, Japanese propagandists have shifted their centre of interest from Burma to China. It seems as though they want to make up for unrealized imaginary victories by saying something to impress the Chinese. Tokyo has been busy trying to stress the point that Japan is not, after all, going to lose the war. But this impression has been successfully created, not on the Chinese, but on the Japanese people. In an article in the *Daily Mail*, Miss ARTEMISE GOERTZ, an American author, who has recently returned from Tokyo where she has lived since the war began, says that the Japanese are smugly convinced that they are going to win this war. "The strongest and most striking factor responsible for creating this cocksure attitude," she observes, "is the complete control which the Tokyo Government exercise over the minds, lives and activities of the Japanese people."

But Tokyo propaganda has not succeeded in making any headway in China. Not only have the Chinese refused to become victims of Japanese propaganda in regard to operations in Burma, but they have also declined to walk into the parlour set up by Tokyo regarding Allied help. It has been the constant endeavour of Tokyo to persuade the Chinese that no help can ever come to them from the Allies. But Japanese lies and libels have been nailed to the counter by *Ta Kung Pao*, a leading Chinese paper. The journal says in an article last month, when the Japanese claimed to have captured Kohima and Imphal, "We are not pessimistic. We believe in MOUNTBATTEN and AUCHINLECK and in all the British and Indian troops."



BATTLE FOR CASSINO.—Latest pictures received from the Cassino sector of the Fifth Army Front illustrate the weight of the offensive and the extent of the air support given to the Indian troops.

Gunners of an Indian formation keep up the barrage day and night.

Troops on patrol in the mountains.

INSIDE BURMA.—American Airborne engineers who landed in Gliders 200 miles behind the Japanese lines and prepared an airstrip, unknown to the Japanese, on which supplies could be landed for General Wingate's forces in North Burma.

F/Lt. A. Stickney Harris, 22, from Newcastle, Brunswick, Canada, former clerk in lumber company, and enlisted as aircrew in Catalina Squadron—volunteered for Combined Operations, later took charge of this small Royal Air Force Wireless Unit attached to British column who trucked 300 miles into Japanese occupied Assam.

Photo shows *him cleaning his Tommy gun.*

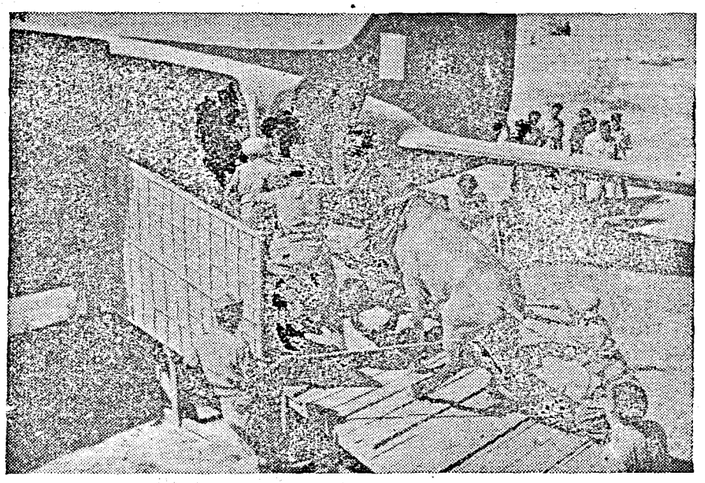
Manipur Misrepresentations—Chinese Confidence in Allies

Replying to the Japanese comment that Allied communiques about the Manipur front resembled too closely those issued before the fall of Singapore, *Sao Tang Pao*, a newspaper of the Chinese Army, wrote on April 18: "The position now is different from what it was in 1942. Now the Allies have reinforcements close at hand." Referring to the transfer of Lord LOUIS MOUNTBATTEN's Headquarters to Ceylon, the paper says: "He has always urged an attack from the sea against Singapore and Rangoon. Without going as far as Singapore, the occupation of the Andaman Islands and a landing at Rangoon would change the whole position of the Indo-Burmese front. Perhaps some people may think that we take too light a view, but we certainly do not believe that the Allied forces in South-east Asia lack the strength for this."

These articles show that Japanese misrepresentations have not deflected the Chinese people from their determination to win the war against Japan or change their faith in Allied strength and co-operation.

KOHIMA BATTLE,—Great deeds of gallantry and devotion to duty were performed during the siege of Kohima, which was ultimately relieved. Combatants and non-combatants, British and Indian, deserve equal praise for their defence of Kohima and for the eventual defeat of Japanese plans.

Mr. C. R. Pawsey, Deputy Commissioner of Naga Hills, who remained with the garrison in the Kohima box during the heavy fighting.



FIFTH INDIAN DIVISION MOVES BY AIR.—Royal Air Force and American crews of Troop Carrier Command under Brigadier General Old recently moved by air the Fifth Indian Division from the Arakan to the Imphal Front. Indian and British troops, jeeps, and mules, food and ammunition were transported hundreds of miles in a couple of hours and shortly after the troops were in contact with the enemy on the new front.

This mule was rather reluctant but was eventually persuaded to enter the plane.

MADRAS AND THE BOMBAY DISASTER

A short notice recently appeared in the Press of the gift of Rs. 50,000 from the Madras Governor's War Fund to the Governor of Bombay, in token of this City's sympathy with the victims of recent explosions in Bombay. We put below the correspondence exchanged on the subject between His Excellency Sir Arthur Hope and His Excellency Sir John Colville:—

I

Letter, dated Ootacamund, May 3, 1944, from His Excellency the Hon'ble Sir Arthur Hope, G.C.I.E., Governor of Madras, to His Excellency the Right Hon'ble Lieutenant-Colonel Sir John Colville, G.C.I.E., Governor of Bombay:—

My Dear Colville—We in Madras have read with profound regret the reports of the recent disaster in Bombay City and of the widespread distress caused among certain sections of the local population On behalf of the people of Madras, the Committee administering the Madras War Fund has recommended a grant of Rs. 50,000 towards the alleviation of distress among the victims of this tragedy, and I am instructing the Honorary Treasurer of the Fund to remit this amount to your Secretary for disbursement as you think fit.

I should be glad if you would accept this contribution from the people of Madras as an expression of their deep sympathy for their fellow countrymen in Bombay in hardship and suffering which they have undergone.

II

Letter, dated Bombay, May 8, 1944, from His Excellency the Governor of Bombay, to His Excellency the Governor of Madras:—

My Dear Hope—Very many thanks indeed for your letter of the 3rd May and this most generous grant of Rs. 50,000 from your War Fund for the relief of the distress caused by the explosions and fires at the Docks. I am most grateful for this warm and practical expression of sympathy from the people of Madras, and I know that the news of this donation will be received with very deep appreciation by everyone in Bombay.

MADRASSI SOLDIERS ON BURMA FRONT

"THESE MADRASSI GUNNERS ARE EXCELLENT"

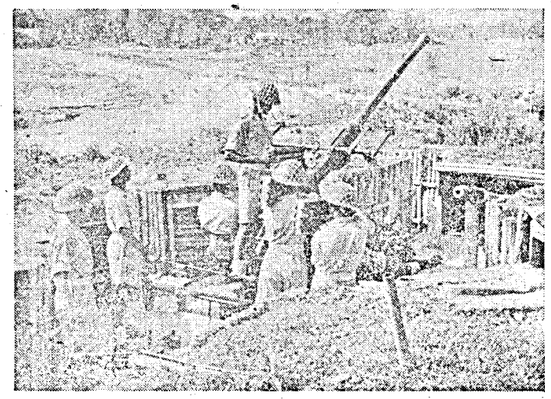
KOHIMA FRONT

From manning Ack Ack guns on lonely Assam airfields to driving bulldozers through virgin jungle to enable infantry columns to reach the Japs—these and a hundred more are the tasks undertaken by Madrassis on this front, writes an Indian Army Observer from Kohima.

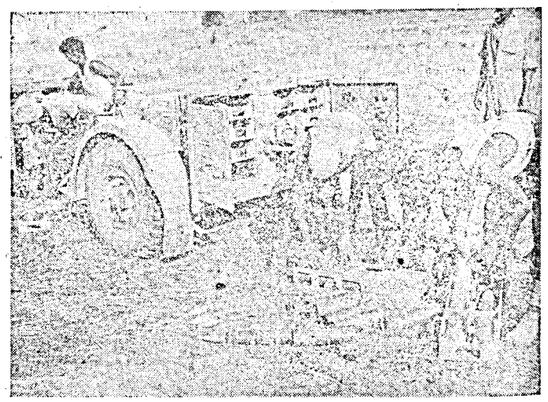
Eighteen months ago Lance-Naik Chotte Jan of Salem, Madras Province, was a bidi-maker. Today he is Number 1 on an Ack Ack gun. His whole detachment, like the rest in this regiment, are Madrassis and, in the words of Sergeant W. B. Washer of Lewes, Sussex, "These Madrassi gunners are excellent. They are as keen as any gunners I have ever met". And Sergeant Washer should know. He was an Ack Ack gunner throughout the Battle of Britain.

Everywhere Madrassis are doing their piece. You find them doing a host of specialist jobs—Lance-Naik Padari Gownder of Coimbatore is operating a unit switchboard, fitter P. N. Naidu of Madras is repairing electrical equipment. There are hundreds of drivers in charge of all types of vehicles, from my own jeep driven by Abrahim of Guntur district to Bulldozer Operator Pichai of Madura. Many of them were in the Kohima garrison which held out against superior Jap forces for thirteen days until relieved. A colonel thanked them for the excellent work they had done. His speech was interpreted by a young Madrassi doctor.

Serving with a Madrassi gun-crew is Gun Sergeant R. B. Washer whose address is County Hall, Lewes, Sussex.

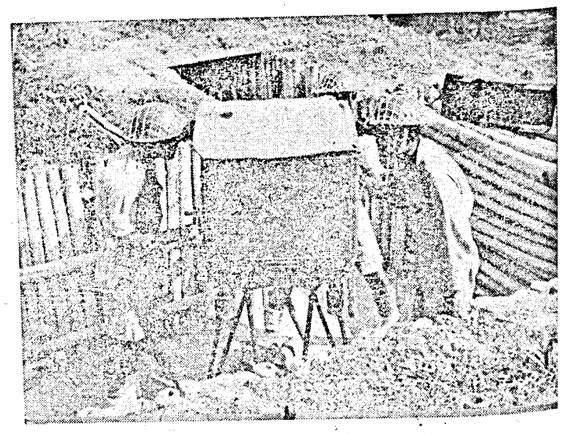


An entire gun-crew at their positions in the Imphal area.



Twenty-five pounder shells are unloaded from a gun limber in Arakan by Madrassis.

Madrassi gunners in action in Arakan.

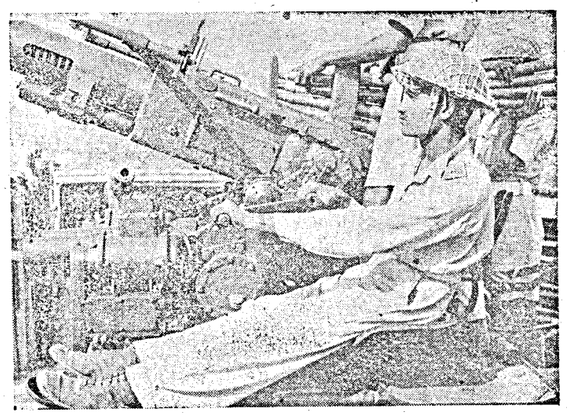


A Predictor crew at work in the Imphal area following the target.

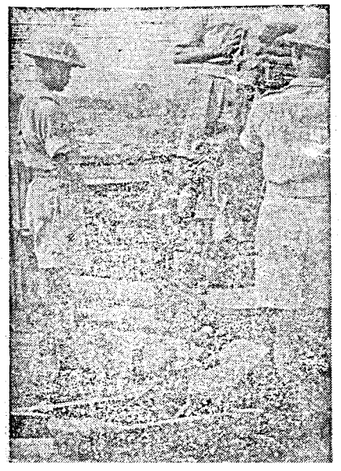
L/Naik Chotte Jan of Salem, Madras Province. Before the war he was a bidi-maker. To-day he is No. 1 on an Ack-Ack gun in the front line.

Gnr. Raju from Arni. He is No. 2, the Line-layer.

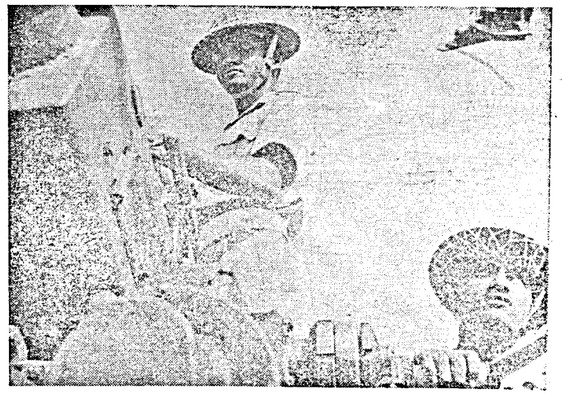
Gnr. Kannappian, North Arcot, helps change barrel.



Gnr. Kandasami from Trichinopoly. He is No. 3, the Elevation-layer.



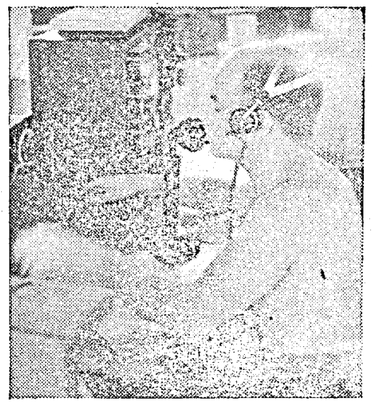
Gnr. Mottian from Chingleput, who controls the firing of his gun.



Gnr. Pichia, Madura. He is No. 4 who fires and loads.

GARHWALI TROOPS ON THE ARAKAN FRONT.—Fighting with our forces on the Arakan front are men of the 18th Royal Garhwali Rifles.

Garhwali Riflemen watch Japanese positions during the day—positions which they attached the same night.



STRATEGIC AIR FORCE SUPPLY CORPS.—Good work is being done by the Air Transport Corps of the Strategic Air Force, who supply battle areas by air.

Controlling the arrival and departure of supply aircraft at a forward airfield on the Burma Front, is LAC F.H. Lynch, 11, West End Road, Southhall, Middlesex.

☆

SESHIAH, THE CURIOUS VILLAGER

(*By* R.G.)

CANTO I

First Instalment

The tale I tell is of a date
Not far from 1938
And rather earlier it may be
Than 1999 A.D.
In those far times there was a war
Which lasted five whole years or more
And made life difficult for most,
Not only those whose lives were lost.
Huge armies battled everywhere
And vast armadas thronged the air;
The seas were dangerous and filled
With sunken ships and cargoes spilled;
And over all the teeming earth
There was but little cause for mirth;
For neutrals too grew pale and thin
(Although they saved their precious skin)
And learnt neutrality can be
No substitute for liberty.

Now in this scene of dire confusion
There was a people whose delusion
Was thinking that a war is won
By getting simply nothing done.
They sat around and smoked and chatted
While their chief politicians ratted,
And would not take the matter seriously
Though propaganda spoke imperiously--
Until there came a frightful day
When hostile forces made their way
Right up to the north-eastern frontier
And said 'Please, honourable hunt here'.
From neighbouring lands the refugees
Streamed in more numerous than bees
When hives are broken by a storm
And all seek shelter, swarm on swarm.
With all these fugitive and blitzed
Tottering and sitting in their midst
The people about whom I write
Betrayed astonishment and fright,
Some thinking that the foe might land
While yet the army to withstand
His onset was not quite recruited
Nor trained nor well-equipped and booted,
And others casting round their eyes
And nothing with a shocked surprise
That rice no longer was imported
Because the foe the export thwarted.

MAP OF ITALY

TWO YEARS OF MISERY: JAP PRISONER TELLS STORY

[In the course of a Talk (delivered in Urdu) broadcast from All-India Radio, Delhi, on May 21, Jamadar Mohd. Yusuf Khan, one of the Twelve Indians who recently landed in India from a Japanese submarines, said—

TO-DAY, after an absence of two years I find myself in my beloved homeland talking to my friends. This period I spent as a prisoner of war with the Japanese. Two years of misery; of utter helplessness. Back in my own country, I feel as if I have suddenly stepped out from a dark grave into a new world—a world full of life and freedom.

I have a story to tell—the story of a dead man resurrected.

On the 25th March at 9 a.m. we landed on Indian soil from a canvas boat. It was a place called Pasni. We buried our boat in sand and proceeded on foot to the village of Pasni. We met the zamindar of the village to whom we told our story. We had been sent to India by the Japanese but we never had any intention of doing what the Japs asked us to do, and asked him to report our arrival to the Military authorities. We showed him the things that the Japanese had given us—six revolvers and ammunition, dry ration and two wireless sets, one hidden in a bucket and the other in a hookah and money. Everyone of us had 900 rupees, and packets of diamonds worth thousands of rupees. The zamindar gave us food and drink and sent a message to Karachi. Next day a Major arrived and took us to Karachi. From there we came to Delhi.

This is the end of my story. A happy ending to a tragic tale. For the beginning I shall have to go back to the fateful day of 15th February 1942 when we were made prisoners by the Japanese. I was attached to the 8th infantry brigade transport company. All the personnel of this unit were sent to various prisoner-of-war camps and I was sent along with some of my comrades to Bidadari P.W. Camp where I was employed in looking after the supply and rationing of the prisoners.

These places were strictly guarded by the Japanese sentries and their inmates could only go out when required for labour, that is, to work on roads, aerodromes, removing of debris and heavy stones from one place to another. Working for nine hours a day without respite, we had to live on very meagre rations. The camp commandant later on, however, managed to get for us a quantity of the rice and atta—rice in the form of coarse powder and flour mixed with half dust. There was no salt, no chillies and no spices. Affairs became so bad that we were forced to protest to the Japanese authorities in the hope of some amelioration, but our protest was ignored.

JAP TEMPTATIONS

The Japanese in the early days would leave no method of persuasion untried to make us fall in with them. They would appeal to our sentiments in the name of so-called Asiatic Liberation and offer us various temptations. But when their cunning and persuasion failed they began to resort to tortures.

Every prisoner was asked to volunteer, and anyone refusing would be sent to concentration camps where they would be chained and subjected to corporal punishment and given most dirty rations, in consequence of which they would fall easy prey to dysentery and other diseases.

During this period Japanese atrocities had assumed such an alarming aspect that the prisoners sometimes rose in revolt. One morning came the news of a mutiny in a nearby camp. Soon after we understood that a large number of Indian officers and soldiers were sent to concentration camps. Such mutinies were not uncommon in prisoner-of-war camps and numerous incidents of firing and shooting occurred every week.

I spent about six months in Bidadari camp and all the time Japanese excesses upon these helpless victims increased.

One thing, however, I observed; if anyone submitted to the Japanese it was actually in the ultimate hope of finding his way out to India.

After six months I was transferred from Bidadri to "Saleter" P.W. Camp.

Prisoners here would cheerfully undergo all the suffering and miseries the enemy could inflict, rather than tarnish the fair name of their country and become his agents.

Hardly a week had elapsed after my transfer when this camp was visited by a Major to select persons for special jobs. I took it as a heaven-sent opportunity to escape from enemy hands, and so volunteered for special service.

I was attached to a group of Muslims who had been selected for espionage work. Our team was sent to Penang where we were given details of the work. All of us received training in propaganda, swimming, rowing and such things. Later on Mr. Subhas Bose interviewed us individually and instructed us how to present the picture to the Muslims of India.

MOVE TO SINGAPORE

After a few days we were ordered to move to Singapore. We were kept in Singapore for about two months and again a party of twenty was selected and ordered back to Penang. I was one of them. Here we underwent a further course of training and twelve out of the twenty were finally chosen for espionage work in India.

So on the happy morning of 27th February 1944, we commenced our journey to India. You can imagine very well how happy I felt, even though our journey was full of peril.

The commander of our submarine looked more like a cook than an officer. Extraordinarily short statured, with glaring eyes and long buck teeth, with a small towel round his neck and a shirt half covered by his knickers and half outside. His face looked as if unwashed for many days. Had I not known that our Mr. Musaka was the submarine commander, I would have never believed him to be an officer. The only symbol of his rank were the two stripes of his cap and they too were covered in dirt. Fortunately for us, none of the Japanese crew understood our language, so we were able to make fun of them.

Every day that passed brought us nearer home. Night after night I would keep watch on the compass and see how far was our country's shore. One day the Japanese submarine crew had a feast and we were invited. While dishes were being served to our surprise and anger we found pork dishes on our table. Naturally we objected and refused to take it,

(*Continued on page* 15.)

JAPS' CRUELTY TO INDIAN PRISONERS OF WAR

In the course of a broadcast (delivered in Urdu) from All-India Radio on Monday, May 22, Technical Warrant Officer Asal Nur Khan, I.A.O.C., one of the twelve Indian soldiers who recently landed in India from a Japanese submarines said :—

I thank God that to-day I am in a position to speak to you from my own country. Two months before the War with Japan began, I was in Ipoh, Malaya; on the 8th December 1941 *my unit was transferred from Ipoh to Jetra for active service along with the 28th Indian Infantry Brigade. For two months we fought; but on the 15th February, Singapore fell and we were all taken prisoner.*

I was separated from my unit and was attached to a mobile workshop. Later, along with other units we were packed off to Naisum Camp, where for the first two days we did not get any rations save for a few biscuits which were hardly sufficient for us.

PRISONER'S PITIABLE PLIGHT

There was absolutely no arrangement for our living. Some 19,000 prisoners were thrust into a place where hardly 500 men could stay. After two days rations came. Rice with a quantity of lime mixed with it gave dysentery to almost all of us. And there was no arrangement for treatment of patients. One by one they died. I estimate that more Indian soldiers died on account of the neglect of the Japanese in such camps than those who fought and died at the Front.

The treatment meted out by the Japanese to the Indian prisoners of war was very cruel. Even a Japanese soldier would, when dealing with officers of the Indian Army, behave in a disgraceful manner, such as slapping them for supposed misdemeanours. The Japanese deprived us of all our personal effects. They took away our watches and they beat us.

At eight in the morning they put us into lorries and made us work hard the whole day. And if anyone complained of the strain of hard labour the Japanese tortured him, and do not forget that in the mornings we were given no breakfast at all.

CRUELTY TO INDIANS

As everyone knows by now, the Japanese are always very cruel to Indian prisoners of war. I had the opportunity of seeing other prison camps also and I can say that in all the Japanese prison camps Indian prisoners are treated alike with the utmost cruelty.

The only way to free ourselves from the yoke of the enemy was to pretend that we were eager to co-operate with him. I started talking in a manner which would convince the Japs that I was a pro-Jap who could be very useful to them. So my name was included in the list. In September we reached Penang where we underwent training for one year.

In the training school we got no time to offer our prayers even. The climax of Japanese cruelty was reached when on the Id Day we were assembled in an open space and a Japanese Officer ordered us to offer prayers with our faces towards the Imperial Palace of Japan. What could be more humiliating to a Moslem? But we were all helpless. One of our friends was offering the Azan when a Japanese soldier came forward and gagging his mouth, pulled him away. He was, we learnt later, beaten cruelly. Asked what the offence was, the Japanese said that he was facing towards the west while he offered his Azan.

SUPREME CONSIDERATION

However, to reach India by hook or crook was our supreme consideration. So we were on the look-out for a suitable opportunity to get out of the Japanese trap. There was one thing which all of us had in common. We were always afraid that the Japs might come to know our real intentions, and what little hope we had of getting to our motherland might be lost indefinitely. So we always acted in such a way that the Japs should feel that we were one with them in every respect. Even so, they watched us with suspicion.

On the 27th of February we embarked on a submarine. Our feelings at that time were very strange. We feared lest there might be a last minute hitch; the Japs might come to know all or something about our intentions and the prospects of our reaching India might be lost for ever. So we took all possible care when we talked to our companions.

On the 25th of March we landed on Indian soil at a place called Pasni. We were so weak and rundown that we could not even walk freely. But as we touched our motherland, we felt beside ourselves with joy. We thanked God that we had got out of the Japanese hell and reached our own country. We, who a few moments ago could not walk even, felt so strong that we were willing to undertake a long journey.

Hastily we made for Pasni. We wanted to contact some one to whom we could surrender. At a distance of about 1½ miles we came across a town post, where we received kind treatment and the first good meals we had had in two long years.

The next day an aeroplane took us to Karachi. From Karachi we left for Gwalior on a Flying Boat and from there we entrained for Delhi . . . and now all of us are living happily with our families.

(*Continued from page* 14.)

at which the Japanese got annoyed and tauntingly remarked that as soon as they were in India, all such superstitions would be done away with.

At last on the night of March 16/17 we got somewhere near our shores and the Japanese tried to land us on the coast. They launched two boats into the sea but one of them overturned. Next night we again tried, but the other boat also got damaged. So Mr. Musaka suggested that we should kill some fishermen and use their boat. Naturally we would not consent to such an abhorrent act.

LANDING ON INDIAN SOIL

A week or so passed and the boats had by then been repaired, so we got into them and made for Pasni. Landing on the sacred Indian soil we embraced each other and there were tears of joy in our eyes.

MADRASSI SIGNALLER'S BIRTHDAY GIFT.

COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF'S CHOICE

No. 05120 enrolled Non-Combatant Arokiasami, of the Indian Signal Corps, has been selected by General Sir Claude Auchinleck to receive a special birthday gift of Rs. 100.

The gift was donated by Sardar Nawab Sir Naharsinhji, Thakor of Amod, Broach and Panch Mahals District, to be given to a wounded soldier considered by the Commander-in-Chief as being the most deserving.

Arokiasami, whose address is Munireddipalayam, Hebbal, Bangalore, was badly wounded in a mine explosion at Tobruk while serving with headquarters of the 5th Indian Divisional Signals.

WAR AND DIAMOND INDUSTRY

THE war has brought about revolutionary changes in the diamond-cutting industry. Just as the production and the sale of diamonds is a close monopoly, controlled by the De Beers interests, so the cutting and polishing of diamonds were, before the war, industries virtually monopolised by two centres. They were Antwerp, which employed about 80 per cent of all the diamond-cutters and polishers of the world, and Amsterdam, which employed another 17 per cent. The main explanation of this concentration of the industry was to be found in the supply in each of these towns of the cheap, and yet expert, labour which the trade requires.

Plans were made early in 1940 to move the bulk of the Antwerp labour to London, but, like many other plans which were being formulated about that time, they were too slow in getting into motion and were overtaken by the German invasion of the Low Countries. The continuity of this industry, which had become essential to the war machine, had to be improvised in other countries. A number of refugees from Antwerp and Amsterdam reached England and established a small-scale industry here. Others crossed the Atlantic. Before the war there were 300 diamond workers in the United States of America; now there are 3,500.

A certain number of Belgian and Dutch refugees also got held up in Cuba and Mexico on their way to the United States, and, helped by cheap local labour, they have set up local diamond industries in those countries. South Africa is another centre where the industry, helped by direct subsidisation from the South African Government, has made some headway since 1940. It is, however, in Palestine that the biggest development has occurred. The diamond workers in that country have risen from 200 to over 3,000 since the invasion of Belgium.

The Belgian authorities are understandably disturbed at this dispersion of an industry which before the war was so largely centralised in Antwerp. An organization has been formed, called Correspondence Office for the Diamond Industry (Cofdi for short), to represent the interests of the Belgian industry. It keeps in touch with emigrant diamond workers all over the world and attempts to keep alive their desire to return to Antwerp after the war.

It has also negotiated with the Diamond Syndicate and with the Diamond Control at the Ministry of Supply a number of agreements, the object of which is as far as possible to safeguard the post-war position of Antwerp as the largest diamond-cutting centre in the world. These efforts have met with some success. For example, exports of rough stones from Britain to Mexico and Brazil have been prohibited altogether. Supplies for Palestine and Cuba have been limited to rigid ceilings. The Diamond Trading Company is maintaining a stock of rough stones valued at several million pounds which will be made available to the Antwerp industry as soon as Belgium has been liberated. This reserve of stones is being maintained without any interest payment.

ODE FOR VICTORY

By M. KRISHNAMURTI

[*At the end of the sixth book of the Rigveda, the oldest and the most sacred book of the Hindus—and, incidentally, one of the great war sagas of the world—is an entire hymn in honour of the soldier and his weapons of war. The following lines are, in the main, founded on it and certain other passages of this great Scripture.*]

I

A goodly sight
Is the well-accoutred warrior,
As seated in his battle-car
He moveth in the fight:
He shineth in the chariot's gloom
As lightning in the rain-cloud's womb!

How like a hero's car
In very truth is the storm cloud,
When Indra goes to war
And puts to panic rout
The Dragon-brood of Drought!
Bright gleam the felloes then, and loud
Their thunder sounds, as o'er the bowed
And prostrate enemy
They roll to Victory!

Ah, Victory is the prize
We seek contending in this wise
On Earth and in the skies!
Victory is the merchandise
For which our ships put out to sea!
Victory is the hero's guerdon,
And of the poet's song the burden.
Heaven grant us Victory!

II

Yea, goodly to the eye,
And comely as the Day Star
In his own splendour hid,
Is the warrior panoplied,
As gleaming in chest and thigh
He dawns on the field of war.
None shall his beauty mar!
Surer and more close-fitting than his mail
Are these my prayers! They shall not fail!
Like as a bridegroom to the bridal room,
Let him go meet the battle's doom!

What of our warrior-maids, who ply the loom,
Weaving the garments for their hero-swains,
And in their absence drive the harvest-wains
And tend the fields; while some in their first bloom
Have donned their battle-dress
And shown that in their veins still flows
The blood of many a warlike ancestress
Who was the terror of her country's foes?

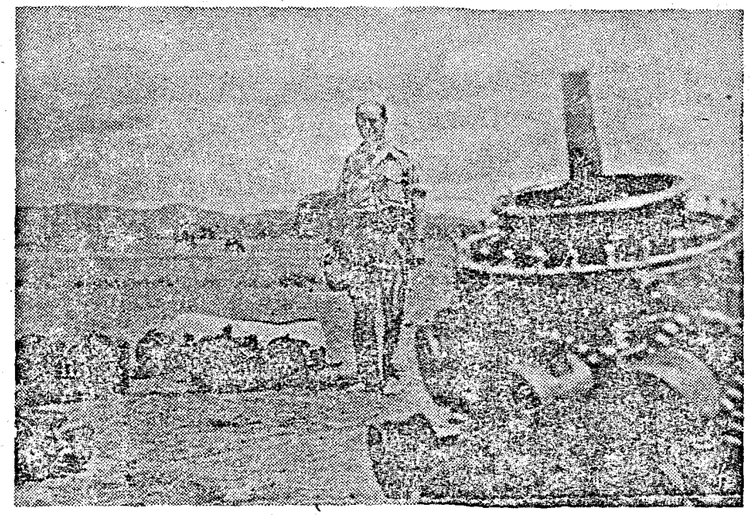
What shall I say of these?—Save to give praise
That here again are the old heroic days,
When like the holy mountains men stood guard
And with the Rivers did the women vie
To nourish all the land: grim times and hard,
But with a glory the shabby years of peace
Could scarce lay claim to! Gods most high!
When of your mercy we have won surcease
Of slaughter and of blood,
See that we fall not to the husks again
Or wallow in the aboriginal mud,
But seek the Light still, till at last we gain
Admission to the Portals of the Sun
And passing inward with all strife be done!

REPAIR AND SALVAGE UNITS OF THE R.A.F.

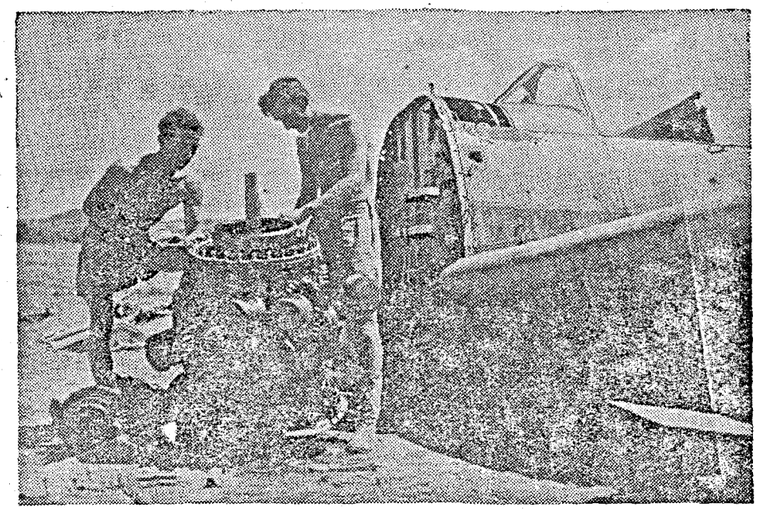
AMONG little known units of the R.A.F. is the R. & S.U., or to you, the Repair and Salvage Units—those airmen and officers trained in the salvage of damaged or crashed aircraft who at times forge far into the plains and jungles sometimes right under nose of the enemy to reclaim equipment, thus saving many millions of sterling.

Their work—which is sometimes fraught with danger—is equal to any other in the service especially when applied to the Burma fronts and the different terrain which it involves. They are self contained units, fully mobile, usually split up into salvage parties with a sergeant in aircraft. These parties are despatched to the scene directly after a preliminary reconnaisance of the area by an aircraft attached to the unit for that purpose. Upon reaching the spot—sometimes after days or weeks of arduous travel by truck, rivercraft or on foot, the damage is assessed and it is decided whether the crashed aircraft can be repaired on the spot and flown out or dismantled and carted away. The latter may involve the recruiting of local labour, the securing of barges, sampans and flats and the use of bullock carts and other means of easily obtained road transport.

Difficulties are met and overcome. The army is contacted to ascertain whether the salvage party are liable to be under enemy shell fire, shot at by the snipers or harrassed by enemy patrols. If this is the case then it is all in the day's work but it is nice to know from what direction it may come. Where possible the army provide a guard but then this is a war of improvisation and the parties must be ready for anything—and ready for anything they are. Hats are also off to the unit's test pilot who, where possible, flies the repaired bomber or fighter back to an airfield. Not off a well-suffaced runway but off a strip hacked out of the paddy field, cleared and levelled. All this is done by the salvage party with the help of coolies—if available.



R.A.F. SALVAGE UNITS INSIDE JAP TERRITORY.—An N.C.O. in-charge of Salvage work inside Jap territory.



Dismantling a crashed Vengeance in Jap patrolled territory.

"LOVE IN A MIST"

The entertainment provided by the E.N.S.A. party arriving in Madras next week is a hilarious comedy entitled "LOVE IN A MIST" by Kenneth Horne.

The play had a successful run at Bombay, Poona and Secunderabad. "LOVE IN A MIST" is booked for two nights in Madras before passing on to Ooty, Wellington and Bangalore. In Madras the first show will be at 6-30 p.m. on Wednesday, 31st May in the Gymnasism at Fort St. George and the second at the Museum theatre at 6-30 p.m. on *1st June*, admission charges are Re. 1, As. 8 and As. 4.

For the second show seats may be booked in advance at the Museé Musical. Members of all services may bring civilian guests.

"Love in a mist" ran for several weeks in London and is first class entertainment.

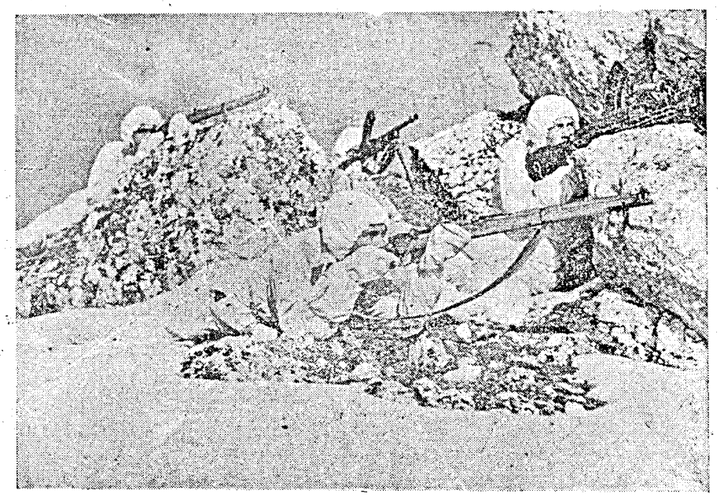
A rather nice little macabre type of story from *The Forum*, Johannesburg:—

In the military hospital, a couple of medical orderlies were playing cards, when there was a knock on the door.

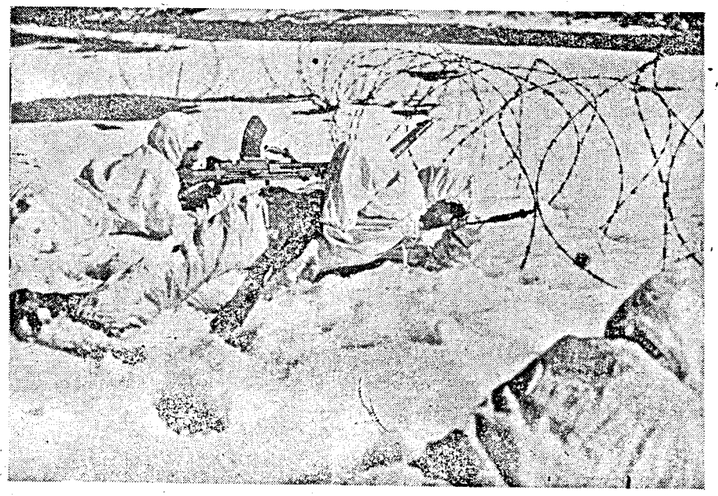
"Who is it?" yelled one.

A quiet voice answered: "Rigor Mortis. May I set in?"

INDIANS IN ITALY



INDIAN LANCERS PATROL SNOW-CAPPED MOUNTAINS IN ITALY.—Indian Lancers act as Reconnaissance Regiment for an Indian Division operating in Italy. In the mountain regions they are equipped with snow suits, which greatly reduce the chances of being detected by the enemy. Sniping at enemy positions.



Barbed wire entanglements laid out by the Germans are cut by the "snow patrol."

BALUCHIS' EXPLOIT IN ITALY

In the early hours of a morning a Baluch patrol attacked a farm-house in No Man's Land which had been occupied by the enemy the previous night. The patrol was led by Major J. K. Chandy who comes from Aymaran, Travancore State.

Approaching the building, the patrol opened up concentrated fire from several directions and then rushed the building. Its occupants, unnerved by the attack, did not wait for closer combat but ran away suffering a number of casualties.

On my way to forward positions I saw men of the patrol cleaning their Bren guns and other weapons and I asked them about raid. L/Naik Barkat Hussain of Gujarkhan, District Rawalpindi, answered:

"Mamuli kam tha. Dushman mamuli hai. Teen duffa ham ne fire kia, aur dushman bhag gia. Bus." (It was very ordinary. The enemy were ordinary. We fired on them three times and they ran away. That's all.)

In these few words he dismissed a courageous action involving a difficult patrol in the dark hours before the dawn.

Later, returning from forward positions (writes the Observer), I saw the same men sitting on the steps of an Italian farm-house singing and clapping their hands in time to music. L/Nk. Barkat Hussain was using an empty petrol-can as a *dholak* to accompany the singers.

One *jawan* was sitting in a chair in the stone courtyard teaching the four-year-old Italian, son of the family which despite the fighting still lives in the farm-house, to beat time to Indian music with his tiny hands.

The most welcome news of this centenary day was that shortly a party of fifty men is being sent on home leave to India. Another batch, sent a few months ago, has now returned to this theatre. The sepoys will get two clear months in India before boarding a ship to return to their battalion.

"RED-BAND TURBANS" IN ITALY

"Our spectacular move from one side of Italy to another in this campaign was only possible with the help of the steadfast Indian and British Policemen of the C.M.P. (India). We are justly proud of the co-operation between British and Indian Policemen in the Corps."

This was what the Assistant Provost Marshal of an Indian Division in Italy said to an Indian Army Observer, when he described the excellent work of the Corps of Military Police (India).

It is the responsibility of the C.M.P. (I) to keep men, material and ammunition constantly on the move and to ensure that that they move fast enough where a battle may depend on rapid movement of supplies.

The C.M.P. (I)'s lay out routes in advance of a move, examining the roads carefully for bottle-necks or diversions. Ubiquitous traffic posts are manned day and night and there "information bureaux" where the well-informed military Police furnish information about the location and position of every unit of the division are at once the source of confidence to the convoys on the move and the secret of some of the rapid movements with which we have often surprised the enemy.

The drivers of all the Division's transport know and respect these efficient "red caps" and the "red-band turbans" who are continually on patrol, sorting out traffic blocks, helping drivers, assisting them with their mechanical knowledge during breakdowns. The C.M.P. (I) also keep in close touch with sappers and workshops so that the breaks in the roads are repaired without waste of time, and vehicles with serious mechanical breakdowns are recovered.

WAR DIARY

BRITAIN AND GERMANY

17TH MAY.—Allied planes attacked objectives in Berlin.

A declaration by the Commonwealth Premiers is published.

18TH MAY.—The House of Commons to-day went into secret session.

19TH MAY.—"The issue of the great battle for Europe may not be decided by coming operations in west or by either attacks from the Mediterranean and Russian fronts, but by all three combined" said General Smuts at Birmingham to-day.

General D. Eisenhower has just returned to his headquarters from a quick trip in England and North Ireland to visit air and ground troops.

Mr. Eden stated in the Commons that 47 officers of the R.A.F., Dominion and Allied Forces had been shot by the Germans after a mass escape from Staalag camp.

Nearly 1,000 planes attacked Berlin, Brunswick, Brandenburg, Schlsweig, Holstein and Macklanburg.

20TH MAY.—Cologne was heavily bombed.

21ST MAY.—Allied aircraft attacked objectives in North-west, North, Central and East Germany last night and to-day.

22ND MAY.—Allied bombers heavily bombed Kiel and Dnisburg.

His Majesty the King and General Sir Bernard Montgomery had a long talk to-day.

23RD MAY.—Marshal Rundstedt had a conference with Marshal Rommel to discuss defence problems.

Last night about 1,000 Allied bombers attacked Brunswick, Dortmund and Ludwigshafen. American planes bombed objectives in Western Germany to-day.

German planes raided some places in South Coast of England.

* * *

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE ATLANTIC

17TH MAY.—President Roosevelt made a statement on the International Labour Conference. He signed the third year's extension of the Lend-Lease Act.

British frigates have sunk two German U-boats while on patrol in the North Atlantic.

19TH MAY.—President Roosevelt has decided to call a World Monetary Conference and a definite date has been fixed. Fiscal experts from more than thirty of the United and Associated Nations are expected to attend.

Mr. James Forrestal became the 48th United States Secretary of the Navy to-day.

21ST MAY.—The Assistant Secretary of State, Mr. Adolfe A. Barle, predicted that the next war, if it comes, will probably commence with an attack on the United States.

A Cochin State labour unit engaged in military construction. (The men work to music. The man in the foreground is beating a tin-can drum.)

22ND MAY.—The Canadian Prime Minister, Mr. Mackenzie King, returned to Ottawa. He declared that he was confident of ultimate victory.

The Chief of the United States Army Air Force, General Henry H. Arnold, asserted in a speech that the aerial pounding of German-held territory constituted invasion "in the deadliest sense of the word."

* * *

INDIA, BURMA AND CEYLON

17TH MAY.—There was no major activity around Kohima. East and south of Imphal there is nothing to report. In the Arakan, there is no change.

18TH MAY.—American-Chinese forces seized the southern aerodrome at Myitkyina yesterday.

19TH MAY.—On 18th, Brigadier-General Merril's American and Chinese forces have penetrated into the outskirts of Myitkyina. In Kohima sector there was patrol activity. Allies captured Nawraw Sakan.

20TH MAY.—The Japanese garrison of Myitkyina is being driven out by American-Chinese forces who are steadily closing in from three sides. The village of Zigyun has been occupied.

21ST MAY.—One-third of Myitkyina including the railway station is in Allied hands. The villages of Namkur and Charpate were captured.

22ND MAY.—Heavy rains hampered military operations around Myitkyina. The Japanese recaptured the Myitkyina railway station.

23RD MAY.—It is revealed that His Excellency the Viceroy recently paid a flying visit to the Chindits in North Burma.

In the Imphal area the enemy has received some reinforcements and is making determined efforts to regain initiative. In the Myitkyina area heavy rain again hindered operations and there was no substantial change in the position.

* * *

RUSSIA AND FINLAND

17TH MAY.—Soviet forces are rehearsing and perfecting their tactics for the next big push while the lull in ground operations on the Russo-German front persists. Soviet planes attacked Minsk, Baronovitchi and Kholm.

22ND MAY.—German attacks north-west of Tirarpol and south-east of Stanislavov were repulsed. Soviet aircraft sunk a German transport of 6,000 tons in the Gulf of Finland.

23RD MAY.—Soviet bombers attacked enemy objectives.

* * *

ITALY, AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

17TH MAY.—The battle for Gustav Line continues without pause. The Eighth Army bridgehead has been enlarged. South of Liri River all positions in Gustav Line have been overrun. Fifth Army continues to fight its way forward to contact with Adolf Hitler Line.

18TH MAY.—The Allies have captured Cassino. The Gustav Line south of the Appenines has ceased to exist. The Adolf Hitler Line is now under attack. Allied troops are now in contact with the outposts of the Hitler Line in the Liri Valley. American troops captured Formia—a port on the Appian Bay. Esperia has also fallen.

19TH MAY.—Allied forces have broken into Hitler Line fortifications along its entire length. Allied blows had forced the Germans into a disorderly retreat.

20TH MAY.—Germans have 'transferred' the main Hitler Line to new defence points closer to Rome. Allied forces occupied Gaeta, Mount Mandrone and Campodimele.

21ST MAY.—Allied troops have occupied Fondi and Piedemonte, the northern anchor of the Hitler Line. Offensive by the Allied armies continue without a pause, severe pressure being maintained on the enemy all along the battle front.

22ND MAY.—Allies captured Monte Marino, Monte Antone, Monte San Biagio and Monte Capiccio. Hard fighting to evict the enemy from the Adolf Hitler Line continues. Field Marshal Kesselring has moved all his mobile reserves into the battle for Italy.

23RD MAY.—The Fifth Army has launched an offensive in the Anzio beach-head, thus starting a new phase in the Battle of Italy. The Eighth Army has advanced beyond the Acquino-Pontecorvo road. Germans have evacuated Pico.

* * *

VICHY, FREE FRANCE AND THE OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

17TH MAY.—Marshal Petain received Marshal Von Rundstedt, the German Anti-invasion Chief.

Carrier-based aircraft attacked German shipping in Norwegian waters.

18TH MAY.—More than 500 American bombers attacked Rumanian oilfields in Ploeste and railway yards in Yugoslavia.

19TH MAY.—Allied bombers attacked military objectives in Northern France including Boulogne, Orleans, Le Mars and Tours.

20TH MAY.—United States bombers in daylight to-day attacked Atorlay and Villacoubaly near Paris and Champagne near Rheims.

King Peter is trying to form a "Unity Cabinet" for Yugoslavia.

22ND MAY.—Allied planes attacked Pas de Calais area.

23RD MAY.—Allied planes bombed Orleans and Le Mars in France.

It is stated that a new Bulgarian Cabinet will be formed by Kristo Kalkov, President of the Bulgarian National Assembly.

The King of Greece has entrusted M. Papandreou with the formation of a new Government of National Unity.

* * *

THE NEUTRAL COUNTRIES

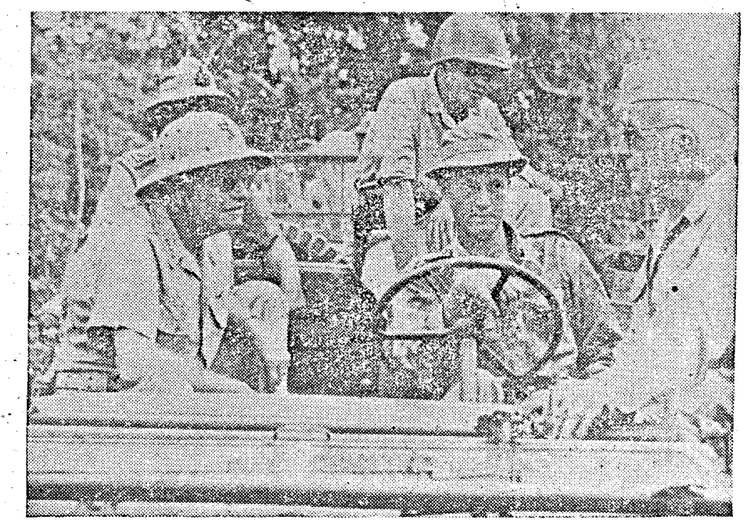
17TH MAY.—Mr. Eden made a statement on Spain implementing its pact with the Allies.

20TH MAY.—The German Consulate at Tangier has been closed.

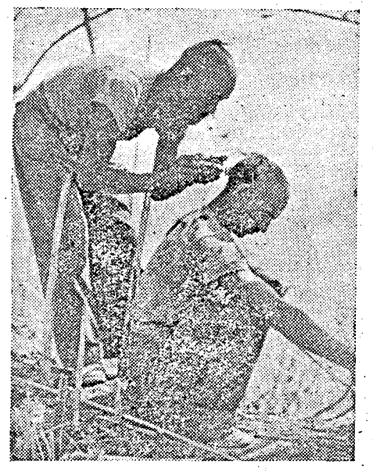
* *

THE FAR EAST

17TH MAY.—Jap fishing fleet north of Kurile Islands were attacked on Saturday and Sunday, it is disclosed. Jap positions in Marshalls were attacked.



ALLIED COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF OF SOUTH PACIFIC VISITS NEW BASE.—United States Admiral William F. Halsey, Jr. (in left front seat of car), *Commander-in-Chief of Allied forces in the South Pacific, talks with United States' Vice-Admiral Aubrey W. Fitch* (leaning on car), *Commander of Allied Air Forces in the South Pacific, during an inspection tour of the Green Islands, Allied base in the South-west Pacific, recently seized from the Japanese. UnitedStates' Rear Admiral Robert B. Carney, Chief of Staff to Admiral Halsey, is sitting back of the driver. By capturing the Green Islands, Allied forces gained a base 130 miles from the Japanese stronghold at Rabaul, New Britain, and trapped stray enemy garrisons scattered throughout the Northern Solomons.*



GARHWALI TROOPS ON THE ARAKAN FRONT.—Fighting with our forces on the Arakan front are men of the 18th Royal Garhwal Rifles.

A front-line haircut. A Garhwali rifleman acts barber to a comrade.

The United States Navy Secretary, Mr. James Forrestal, made a statement on the Pacific war.

General Shang-Chen, head of the Chinese Military Mission, arrived at Washington.

18TH MAY.—Allied forces have seized Wadke off Dutch New Guinea and landed at Aara.

Sourabaya, the main Japanese base in Netherlands East Indies, has been heavily bombed.

20TH MAY.—President Roosevelt announced to-day that Vice-President Henry Wallace has left for China to gather information of utmost importance.

21ST MAY.—Allied forces raided Ogasawana in Bonin and Minamiorishima Island (Marcus).

22ND MAY.—In China the situation in the Loyang sector remains unchanged. Chinese recaptured Lushan. In Eastern Honan, the Chinese recaptured Shushih, Chankgo, Weichwan. In Southern Honan Chinese forces recaptured Sinantien and Kumlung in Yunan.

Ponape Island and Jap positions in the Marshalls were bombed.

23RD MAY.—Allied planes are now using the Wadke airfield. Enemy positions in Wewak and Kavieng area were bombed.

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MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. V FRIDAY, JUNE 2, 1944 No. 39

NOTABLE SUCCESSES

WILL you please convey to General Alexander and to all under his Command my heartfelt congratulations on the notable successes that they are achieving in what we all know to be an exceptionally difficult and hard fought action. I pray that those successes may continue until the forces of the enemy in Italy are finally overwhelmed

HIS MAJESTY THE KING, in his message to General Sir Henry Maitland Wilson Allied Commander of the Mediterranean Theatre, on Saturday

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[NOTE.—*The summary of news and comments contained in the* MADRAS WAR REVIEW *generally relate to events and statements published till Wednesday, every week.*]

OPTIMISTIC HOPES FULFILLED

"Now we have secured bases of departure for advance to vital areas of the Philippines and the Dutch East Indies. For strategic purposes this marks the end of the New Guinea campaign.

"The results of the offensive launched in the Pacific theatre, eleven months ago, have more than fulfilled my most optimistic hopes and expectations. Operations have appreciably advanced us on our way. I am especially thankful for our light losses. Nothing could more clearly have indicated the mercy of guiding Providence."

GENERAL MACARTHUR, *Commander-in-Chief, South-West Pacific, said on Sunday.*

❖

ON THE THRESHOLD OF ROME

"We stand now on the threshold of Rome. Before many days have passed, we shall have freed this first European capital from Nazi tyranny. Our Fifth Army has been the pioneer for other Allied victories to come. Ours has been truly an Allied army. Men who have cherished liberty and freedom as life itself, have come from many parts of the world to form this fighting team in Italy."

GENERAL MARK CLARK, *Commander of the Fifth Army, in his address at Nettuno, on Tuesday.*

❖

INDIA HAS MET JAPAN'S CHALLENGE

"We were left in no doubt that when India attains her desires and realizes her full Independence she will still continue to be most welcome in the highest councils of the British Commonwealth and will have much to gain by remaining within that powerful and free association. An exchange of views took place on general questions of policy affecting no one country of the Commonwealth in particular, but all. My co-representative at the War Cabinet, Sir Firoz Khan Noon and myself, were invited to attend the meetings when subjects of interest to India were under discussion. We did so. We made our contribution and learned much. We felt ourselves to be not on the edge, but a part of the conference.

"To indicate the subjects in which India was sufficiently interested to justify her representation at the conference is almost to go through the agenda. We, Indian representatives, were naturally particularly interested in the war against Japan and plans for the future part to be played by Australia, New Zealand and India among others. I have heard much sincere appreciation of how India has met the challenge of Japan both on the battlefield and as an arsenal and supply base. Above all was the fact itself that India had joined in the Empire family party."

HIS HIGHNESS THE MAHARAJA OF KASHMIR, *giving his impressions on Empire Premiers' Conference, in London, on Wednesday.*

MADRAS WAR REVIEW

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VOL. V FRIDAY, JUNE 2, 1944 No. 39

THE QUEBEC PLAN AND BURMA STRATEGY

THE monsoon has begun in Burma. There has been continuous heavy rain in the Manipur hills. A storm is raging in the battle-ring round the Imphal plain. In the Mogaung valley, it is reported that for days the rains have been coming down unceasingly. But, in the opinion of some experts, it seems the monsoon has not yet started! Whatever it is, the fact remains that rainy weather is bringing about a lull in the operations. For instance, in Myitkyina heavy rains and deep mud have slowed down fighting. Several villages outside the town have already been captured by Chinese and American forces and this has blocked the Japanese retreat lines to the north-west. General Stilwell's forces have also fought their way into the southern end of Myitkyina and blocked the Japanese escape way to the south of the city. They now hold more than one-third of the town which is the biggest in North Burma and have been frustrating enemy attempts to bring relief to the Japanese garrison in Myitkyina.

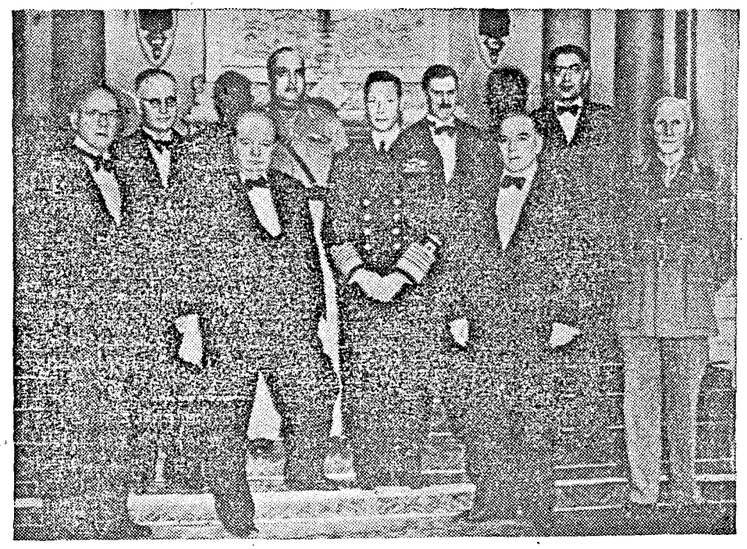
ALLIED superiority in the air and on the ground on all sectors has placed the Japanese forces in Burma in an increasingly grave position, according to an official spokesman at Admiral Mountbatten's Headquarters. He points out that "on the eve of the monsoon, after gambling for high stakes in 1943–44 campaign and misjudging their opponent's strength, the Japanese are unable to effect a swift retreat anywhere." The fierce fighting in the Manipur zone has resulted in heavy losses to the Japanese. They made desperate attempts to break into the Imphal plain, but, in spite of the use of fresh Japanese units, they have failed. The Allies have made considerable progress in the Kohima area in getting astride Japanese communication lines and tightening their grip on the Tidim Road zone. They have also beaten the enemy attacks on the Palel area.

THIS is the broad position before the advent of the monsoon. From this it will be seen that the Japanese have failed to exert concentrated pressure on even one of the points and achieve any tangible results. This is no doubt due to the constant pressure maintained by Allied forces in the fighting zones in the Far East. General MacArthur has given no respite to the enemy in the Pacific either on land or in the air and Admiral Nimitz's fleet and submarines have been causing anxiety and uneasiness to them on the sea. In the Indian Ocean Admiral Somerville's Fleet Air Arm, which carried out a successful attack on Sabang in Sumatra, has repeated its success on Sourabaya which is in Java. All these successes, seen in proper perspective, appear to be not only parts of a single strategic plan, but also inter-dependent for their respective successes upon operations in the other areas.

THE defeat of the Japanese in the battle for the control of the vital base of Kohima, the successful offensive of the Chinese forces under General Stilwell's command in Western Yunnan, the capture of the southern airfield of Myitkyina and penetration into the town itself, which have been achieved by General Merrill's forces—all these have been planned out long ago. It is now revealed that the Chinese offensive in Yunnan, planned at the Quebec Conference, was timed to take place at a suitable opportunity. The opportunity visualised came on account of three factors. They were: the success of our troops in getting a firm hold in the Arakan, the failure of the Japanese "token invasion" of India, and the continued pressure maintained by General Stilwell's forces in North Burma.

VIEWING the situation as a whole, it becomes clear that the object of this seemingly unrelated, but really co-ordinated, strategy is not so much to capture places as to leave the enemy the least freedom of choice in the concentration of his effort. The Japanese were faced with four problems at the same time. The first was that of retaining the posts captured by them in Assam. Secondly, they had to resist the Chinese troops threatening Myitkyina and Mogaung. The Chinese advance in Yunnan was their third problem. Lastly, there was the threat to the rear caused by General Lentaigne's air-borne troops. The Japanese attempt to tackle all these problems simultaneously and their failure to achieve success in any show that their position is not so strong and that they were not able to concentrate their attention on one problem for fear that they might have to do this at the expense of all the others. This weakness is no doubt due to the deep commitments and heavy losses of the Japanese in the South-West Pacific.

THOUGH the situation in the Burma front as a whole is favourable to us and justifies the confidence of military leaders in the ultimate outcome, the task of defeating the Japanese who are determined fighters, is not smooth and easy. They have been out-manœuvred and out-generalled, but they still have the strength to make it hard going for us in Burma.



H.M. THE KING ENTERTAINS DOMINION PREMIERS TO DINNER AT BUCKINGHAM PALACE.—Photo shows: Left to right—*The Rt. Hon. Peter Fraser, The Rt. Hon. J. Curtin, The Rt. Hon. W. S. Churchill, H.E. the Maharaja of Kashmir, His Majesty the King, Sir Godfrey Huggins, The Rt. Hon. MacKenzie King, Sir Firoz Khan Noon and Field Marshal The Rt. Hon. J. C. Smuts.*

RUNNING COMMENTARY

Yugoslavia: King Peter's Unpopularity and its Causes

The impressions of the political situation in Yugoslavia given by Reuter's Special Correspondent in a despatch, published here on Monday, give a clear picture of the extent of the influence of Marshal TITO, as compared with that of King PETER. He says that unless some unforeseen development occurs before the end of the war, the chances of the Yugoslavian King returning to his country are rather remote, because his name was closely associated, during the last three years, with that of the Yugoslavian traitor, General MIHALOVITCH, who is collaborating with the Germans. A second cause which has contributed to the unpopularity of the King is that his Governments were composed, for the most part, of reactionary Serbs who were against a free and federated Yugoslavia, for which Marshal TITO's Partisans are fighting. The recent declaration of the King on the future of Yugoslavia came too late to have any effect in changing the outlook of freedom-loving people in Yugoslavia towards the Royal House, which is still associated in men's minds with the extremely repressive dictatorship of the King's father, ALEXANDER. There is also the psychological aversion to Serbian domination. The most important thing is the freedom of Yugoslavia, and the people believe that the one leader who can rid their country of the Nazi oppressors is Marshal TITO.

* * *

Youth Congress in Yugoslav Mountains Plans Country's Liberation

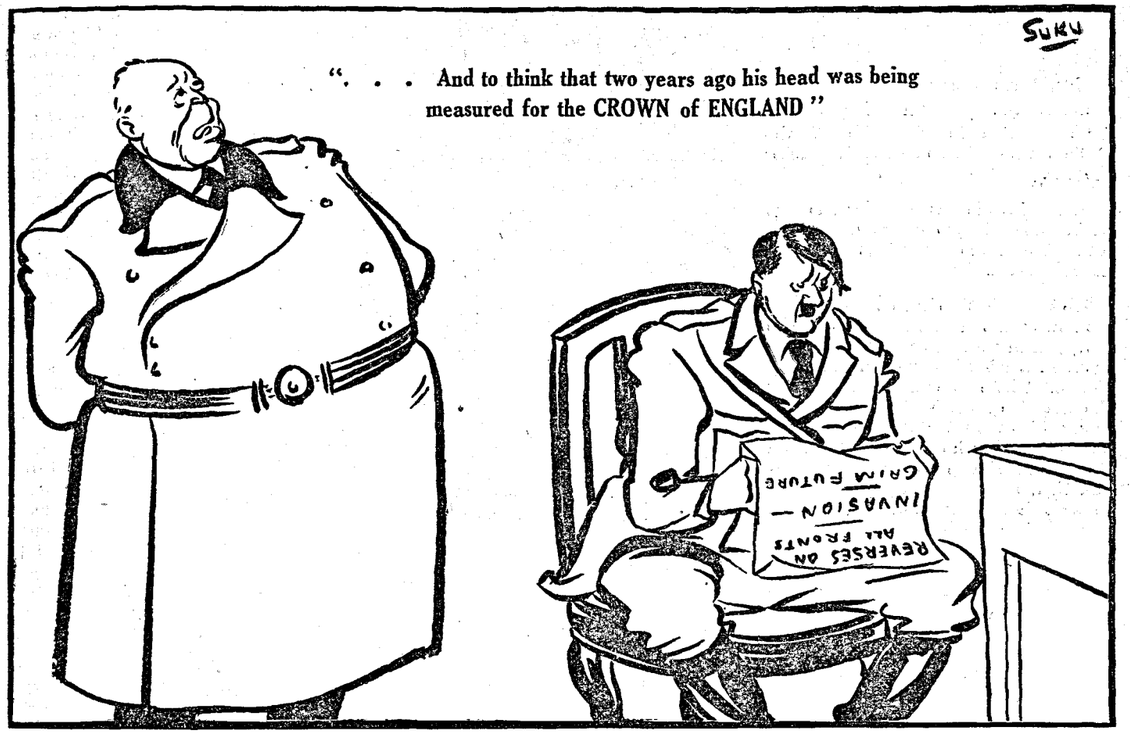
Some idea of the spirit, enthusiasm, loyalty and allegiance of the Partisans to Marshal TITO and his Movement is given by one of the correspondents representing the combined British and American Press, who attended the Youth Congress at Marshal TITO's Headquarters in the Yugoslav mountains. The correspondent refers to the spirit animating the Partisan movement and says, "There were more than 800 delegates representing youth organizations of over 50,000 registered members. Almost half of them were young men and women in the fighting forces. This is the spine of TITO's Army, and 75 per cent of which are not more 25 years old." There were a number of speeches at the conference and many resolutions were passed. The main resolution was to the effect that a stronger link between youth organizations throughout Yugoslavia should be forged, so that the war effort, both at the front and behind the lines, could be intensified. Another resolution was to the effect that youth organizations should do everything possible to assist in organizing a federated Yugoslavia on democratic lines.

The leaders of the youth organizations present at the conference took an oath to Marshal TITO pledging their lives in the struggle for the liberation of Yugoslavia. "Many of the delegates," says the correspondent, "were veteran fighters. Many had travelled for weeks on foot to attend the Congress. Some have forded rivers and fought their way through enemy lines. Some have left their comrades dead, behind. They stood and applauded the names of CHURCHILL, ROOSEVELT and STALIN.

A LUCKY ESCAPE—When one of H.M.I. ships was operating off the Burma coast recently she was attacked by Japanese aircraft. A small bomb struck the armour plate on the starboard side of the bridge and was deflected through the upper deck, via the engine room and through the hull, to burst harmlessly in the sea. No one was hurt.

The Captain (Lieut. H. G. R. Percival, R.I.N.V.R.) shows where the bomb struck the armour plate that saved the ship.

UNEASY LIES THE UNCROWNED HEAD!



—*Specially drawn for the* MADRAS WAR REVIEW.

They shouted against traitors without mentioning any names. They cried out that there should be no return to the old state of things."

The Nazis are trying their best to sow seeds of disunity between different elements of the Yugoslavian population. They want to exploit the differences between the Serbian Chetniks and the Croat Ustachis and make them both fight against the Partisans, but the spirit of fighting democracy shown by the Yugoslav Youth Congress representing all the racial elements of the country is a sure indication that the enemy's attempt will not succeed.

* * *

The fighting in Yugoslavia —Allied help by air— Partisan Guerilla Tactics

As regards the fighting in Yugoslavia itself the Nazis are making every effort to crush the Partisans. Fierce fighting is going on in Bosnia. The Germans want to safeguard the railway linking Austria, through Zagreb and Belgrade, with Bulgaria and Rumania. They are also extremely anxious to protect the Dalmatian Coast from possible Allied invasion. The chances of the Germans in regard to attaining these aims do not seem to be very bright, for they are faced by an army of Partisans under Marshal TITO comprising about 300,000 men and women, who have all been highly trained in the technique of war. This number is steadily increasing. The Partisan forces are receiving supplies from the Allies by air. This is intensifying their aggressiveness and increasing their fighting power. An idea of the extent of their success may be gathered from the fact that they now control more than half of the whole of Yugoslavia.

The German campaign during the last six months had as its aim the crushing of the Partisans as a military factor to be reckoned with in the Balkan Peninsula. A series of offensive operations launched for this specific purpose led to no decisive result. It is all like a ding-dong fight. The Germans would advance in a particular area and capture a number of towns. The Partisans would withdraw to the mountains. Later they would re-emerge and close in on the Germans from behind and annihilate small German garrisons, thus leaving the larger ones in unhappy isolation. By perfecting this method of guerilla fighting, the Partisans were able to *inflict heavy casualties on the Second* Panzer Army to such an extent that all that the German General RENDULIC can now claim is that he has managed to keep the coast open from Fiume down to Albania and see a few heavily-escorted trains running between Trieste and Belgrade.

* * *

Balkans and the Reich— Cutting Supply Lines

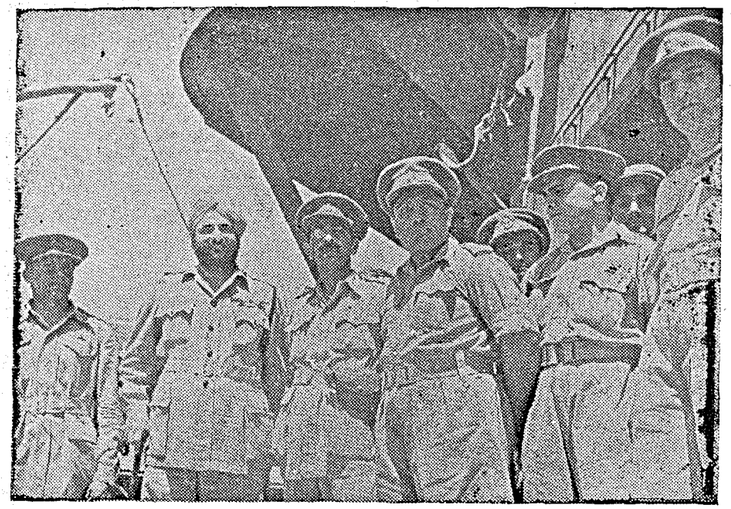
The situation as it stands to-day is something like this:. The Germans are deadly in earnest in their new offensive against the Partisans. If Marshal TITO is able to neutralise this offensive, as he successfully did the previous ones, he may be able to open a corridor

(*Continued on page* 8.)

SETTLEMENT OF DEMOBILISED SOLDIERS

FORMER INDIAN P.O.Ws. RETURN.—The Governor of Bombay, Sir John Colville, welcomed more than 300 Indian soldiers who had been prisoners of war in German and Italian hands when they returned to India. He went aboard their ship at Bombay, reviewed a parade on the deck and shook hands with the officers and V.C.Os. Each man was given a copy, in his own language, of a message of greeting from the Commander-in-Chief, General Sir Claude Auchinleck.

A soldier reads the Commander-in-Chief's message of welcome to a group of home-coming Indian soldiers clustered round him on the deck.



A group of officers in charge of the home coming Indian soldiers.

By SIR HUGH HOOD, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., I.C.S., *Adviser to H.E. the Governor*

I should like to say something to you about the problem of providing for absorption in civil life of the soldiers who will be demobilised after the war.

First of all let us consider the two main factors in the problem, the man himself, and the conditions to which he will return.

We know that we have about 300,000 men away in almost all branches of the Navy, Army and Air Force, not to mention a lot of women in Auxiliary Forces. There are all sorts among them, trained mechanics, artisans of many kinds, motor drivers, sappers and pioneers who have worked on roads and simple engineering construction, medical men from doctors to orderlies, cooks, and many taken from agriculture and labour but with no special technical training in the army. We do not know exactly the number that will fall in any one category but there must be wide variations in the degree of skill and efficiency in their trades.

A number of them will doubtless return to their pre-war occupations, some have particular jobs to go back to, some have lands to which they will return, but many will not be content to return to rather poor conditions, particularly in the villages.

APPROACHING THE END

One cannot say that this war will end on a given date. We know we are approaching the end, but neither an armistice putting an end to actual fighting, nor the later definite conclusion of peace is likely to bring about the immediate demobilisation of the bulk of the army. So far as we can judge an armistice will release a trickle of returning men and later it will increase to a stream of some size, that will continue for a long time.

We have then to provide for the return, over a considerable period, of a large number of men of all kinds who have been fighting our battles for us.

Let us now turn to the other side. What are they coming back to ?

Plans are being laid for post-war development. A great deal of constructive work has had to be put off to a time somewhat vaguely described as after the war. We have got to catch up on that work. The improvement of roads and the building of hospitals are only two of many items in which we are behindhand. But post-war work as we now regard it is not confined to catching up. A demand is being freely made by prominent people and by non-official bodies for great developments and improvements and I can assure you that no one is more keen than the Government of Madras on furthering all possible plans to develop the resources of the country, to raise the standard of living and to improve the conditions in which the people of this country exist. The trend of modern thought is towards Governments taking a more active part in the development of trade and industries. A policy of self-sufficiency in production and manufacture does not go hand in hand with greater foreign trade but we have scope for much greater industrial development without needing to worry about foreign trade.

These appear to be the conditions to which the men will return. Many war time activities will close down but others will take their place, to use a metaphor, factories will be busy beating swords into plough-shares. On the whole we look forward to a period of great activity in almost all spheres of human endeavour.

GREAT EXPENDITURE

All of this implies great expenditure and Government have put aside a fair sum in this year's budget. It will probably be very much bigger by the end of next year, and we hope that this will help quite a lot in embarking on a period of great activity "after the war."

The problem, or rather one part of it, is to fit the demobilised soldier into this state of affairs and we have made it the responsibility of a Member of the Board of Revenue to see that this is done in the fullest measure. It is a complex problem in which there are at present many unknown factors, but as plans become more precise it will become clearer in what way and to what degree the returning soldier can be provided with a reasonable livelihood.

So far as industries are started or run by private enterprise we cannot of course compel the employment of demobilised men, but Government have no doubt that many employers will co-operate and a provision to that effect might conceivably be a condition of Government help. In regard to Government undertakings of all kinds it is the duty of the Board of Revenue to look to it that posts are kept for such of our men in the forces as are qualified to do that work.

WAGES

The question of wages is another side of the problem. Many who have seen more of the world, who have been well fed and cared for in the army, will not willingly go back to conditions which have ceased to be palatable nor agree to a rate of pay which compels the return to a lower standard of living. Yet wages in an industry must depend on what that industry can afford to pay to put goods on to a competitive market and it is hardly practicable to have two rates of pay, one for those who have been to war and a lower one for those who have not. Wages at present however are comparatively high and it seems unlikely that they will revert to the pre-war level.

So far as rural conditions are concerned, there is need for much improvement. It has a bearing on the problems as very many of the men have been recruited from the villages. A new approach is being made by providing instructional courses for village headmen to help them to realise what improvements can be made, so that they, as leaders of public opinion, may bring about some urge for improvements from the villages themselves. Hitherto that urge has come only from outside, from officials and others with a wider knowledge and experience who have striven to improve village standards. Soldiers will go back to their villages more happily if the roads and water-supply and sanitation are improved.

The Army is itself contributing to the resettlement by lectures and instructions to the men in the forces to qualify them better to fit in and find employment in a post-war India.

SCHEMES

Some of the Government schemes on which it is intended to employ a number of ex-soldiers are the Muchkand Hydro-Electric Scheme, the Tungabhadra Irrigation Project, the Pykara West Coast Extension, a number of municipal water and drainage schemes, considerable road works, three large hospitals and many smaller works. These will provide a quantity and variety of jobs in all parts of the Presidency.

Now it is all very well to talk about fitting the returning men into conditions as they are or will be. It is important but it does not fill the bill. More direct action is needed to provide for at least some of them.

The Government of India are building up a fund to be used on schemes solely for the benefit of ex-soldiers. Madras will get its due share and it is intended to draw on this fund to help with the schemes to which I shall presently refer. But I may say at once that these have not yet been worked out in full detail and a number of other suggestions have been made and are being examined.

It is proposed to start equipped workshops to be run by demobilised technicians on a co-operative basis with a management partly elected and partly nominated. So far there are 11 on the list but proposals from some districts have not yet come in. For agricultural classes we have proposals to start eight agricultural colonies, to be run also on a co-operative basis; the land will be held by the society and let to the members and it will not be alienable outside the society; the possibilities of irrigation are being looked into and plans are being made for village sites, electric supply, wells, roads, and so on. They vary in size from 3,400 to 4,000 acres and we expect to find land for more colonies in other districts. It is not to be understood that land for ex-soldiers is to be confined to these schemes; they do not preclude that possibility of other grants but it must be realized that the amount of good land available altogether is not great. Many plots of land have, however, been newly brought under cultivation under the Grow More Food Campaign; these have been given only for short terms and at least some of them will be available for permanent assignment at the end of the present tenures. We hope to avoid what happened after the last war when lands were granted to ex-soldiers who promptly sold them. Such grants were not of lasting benefit—and we do not contemplate giving land unless there is some assurance that the man will settle down and cultivate it.

Other schemes that are under examination are the formation of transport units with workshops at certain district headquarters. Another for the organization of co-operative labour units both technical and non-technical to undertake works on contract. Another is to form silk-rearing colonies

(*Continued on page 9*)

(*Continued from page 5*)

through to the coast which will enable him to receive Allied supplies in bulk by sea. Then there is the further prospect of his cutting vital lines of communication between the Balkans and the Reich. Perhaps the most important development which both sides are expecting—one with hope and the other with fear—is the possibility of Allied invasion forces landing in Yugoslavia. That event, whenever it comes, is bound to substantially help Marshal TITO in his great and grand struggle against overwhelming odds, for the liberation of his country from the Nazi yoke.

VICEROY'S WAR FUND EXCEEDS TEN CRORES

Contributions of Rs. 28,00,473 during April 1944, have brought the total of His Excellency the Viceroy's War Purposes Fund to Rs. 10,23,37,531 while the payments in the same month amounting to Rs. 6,24,956 raised the total of payments to Rs. 8,61,33,536 leaving a balance in hand on April 30, 1944, of Rs. 1,62,03,995 of which about Rs. 1½ crores represented unearmarked money.

Notable donations during the month were Rs. 10,00,000 from the United Provinces, Rs. 3,00,000 from the Bombay Provincial Joint War Committee, and Rs. 1,00,000 from the Rewa State, for the Central Joint Red Cross and St. John Ambulance Association War Organization; Rs. 5,00,000 from the Junagadh State, Rs. 2,00,000 from the Jaipur State, Rs. 1,50,000 (the usual monthly donation) from the Hyderabad State and Rs. 1,00,000 from Mayurbhanj State, all for general purposes.

Of the payments in India, Rs. 1,00,000 went to the Young Women Christian Association, Lucknow, for the welfare of service women in India, Rs. 1,00,000 to the Welfare Officer, Royal Indian Navy, New Delhi, for the Royal Indian Navy Benevolent Association, Rs. 1,75,200 for welfare projects for the benefit of Royal Indian Navy, Rs. 50,000 to Director-General, Welfare and Amenities, Simla, for Viceroy's Amenities Fund for officers, Rs. 25,000 to H.E. the Viceroy's Distress Relief Fund, New Delhi, and Rs. 20,608 to the Polish Children's Fund. Payments overseas include Rs. 70,000 to the Royal Air Force and Rs. 13,333 for Mrs. Churchill's Fund for Aid to Russia.

The St. Dunstan's Section of the Fund increased to Rs. 13,44,230 plus £263, the whole of which sum, apart from Rs. 1,00,094 (the balance in hand) has been disbursed to the Committees formed for relieving the war blinded in India and the United Kingdom.

MADRASSIS SECOND TO NONE

SINCE the outbreak of war, no less than 322,479 men of the "non-technical" class have joined the armed forces from Madras Presidency and the Indian States of Travancore, Cochin, Pudukottah and Banganapalle.

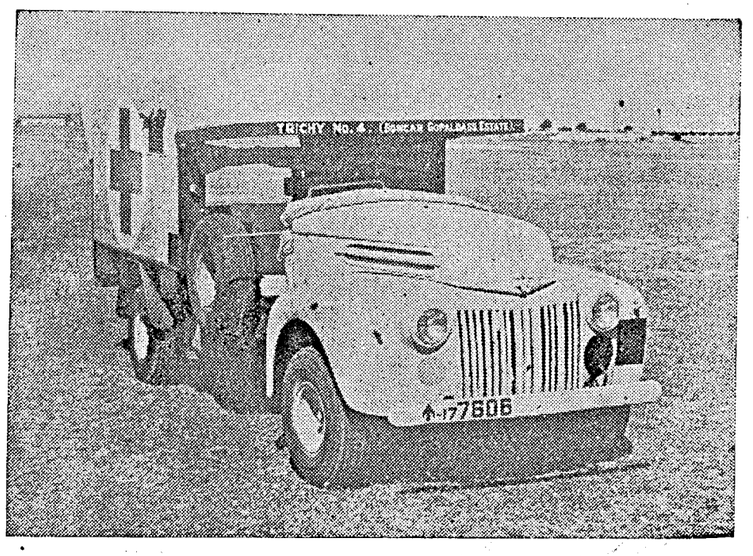
The district with the highest record of volunteers is North Arcot which has produced 11 per cent of the number. Second comes Malabar district, followed closely by Tinnevelly district and the States of Travancore and Cochin.

Most of the men are now trained personnel in Madras Infantry, Engineer or Artillery units or have joined the Indian Signal Corps, I.A.M.C. or R.IA..S.C. of the total, approximately 10 per cent have been recruited for the Pioneer Corps, while regiments such as the Q.V.O. Madras Sappers and Miners and the Third Madras Regiment attract large numbers of men.

These men are learning useful trades of various kinds which will fit them for useful post-war careers. This will mean that post-war Madras will have great number of fully trained personnel to play their part in post-war construction projects.

Even to-day the great influx of men into the army is having its effect in the village and towns. For example, in Chandole village, Bapatla taluk, Guntur, from where about 425 men have joined up, their families receive about Rs. 3,293 per month transmitted through the medium of the blue money order and an additional Rs. 2,026 per month by remittances. This sum of money coming in regularly is tending to raise standards in this village and many other villages in the south.

Reports received during recent weeks from the Assam and Burma fronts prove that the Madrassi is second to none as a soldier and that the fine traditions of the old Madras army, reborn in such exploits as those of the Madras Artillery at the Battle of Bir Hachiem are being maintained against the enemy on all fronts.



THE above is a reproduction of a photograph 8" × 5¾". Similar photographs are given by the Madras Ambulance Fund to every donor of a complete unit presented through the Madras Governor's War Fund. The donor's name, whether district or individual, is clearly painted on the front of the Ambulance so that wounded soldiers may know to whose generosity their speedy conveyance to hospital is due. The cost of one fully-equipped Ambulance is *Rs. 3,275 only*; why not have a PERMANENT DOUBLE RECORD of your generosity? Simply pay Rs. 3,275 to your District Collector or Tahsildar for transfer to the Madras Governor's War Fund EARMARKED FOR AMBULANCE and within a short time a fully equipped Ambulance like the above will be handed over to the military authorities bearing any name you select, and a photograph of the Ambulance 8" × 5¾" will be sent to you FREE OF CHARGE. (Extra copies can be supplied at Rs. 2 each.)

SESHIAH, THE CURIOUS VILLAGER

(*By* R.G.)

CANTO I.

Second Instalment.

Now in a village by the sea
There lived a ryot peaceably
And on a trifling bit of land
Just slightly larger than his hand
Grew paddy, vegetables and so on
Sufficient for his brats to grow on.
He had not been to school at all
But picked up news as chickens dhall,
Thrusting a firm and eager nose
Right into everybody's woes
Or joyful tidings, and thereby
Making himself alert and spry
And ready in his conversation
Beyond the normal of his station.
He could at need chop logic with
The orator of froth and pith
And answer sermons hot and fervent
With proverb's wit or nod observant.
He spent the day and half the night
In lounging talk, and with delight
Would hear or speak an argument,
Nor think a week of it ill spent.

Seshiah (which is what they named him
Commonly, though some defamed him,
Speaking of the 'Long-eared Ass'
Or 'Nosey' or—but let it pass:
Great men have many enemies,
As cows are often teased by flies).
Seshiah, I was going to say,
Was pleased enough in his own way
When war broke out; for news would be
Of riper brisker quality
And rumours might be fit to hear
When magnified by doubt and fear,
And give the active intellect
A proper pastime to dissect
The many strands in search of what
Might be the truth, and what might not.

And first there came a handsome story
Of Ministers in search of glory.
"They say" (so said Seshiah's informant)
"A military passion dormant
Has led them to proclaim the nation's
Great need for martial preparations.
Though formerly it was their creed
Non-violence met every need,
They now want men and money for
The conduct of a righteous war.
And I for one must say they feel
A very proper kind of zeal."

(*Continued from page 7*)

but it is probable that this must be subsidiary to a land of colonisation scheme as are those for poultry-farming, bee-keeping and stockrearing.

The Government have before them three large land development schemes. One is going ahead, the other two which are in malaria tracts are under investigation. The malaria, we are assured, can be overcome and they are very promising schemes. They are not devised for ex-soldiers but it is intended that ex-soldiers will have a part in them.

Finally there is the absorption of men into the regular public services. The Government undertook that the posts in all departments which fell permanently vacant should be filled only by acting incumbents until the end of the war and that the permanent vacancies should be available for qualified men returning from the forces. It may be necessary to amend this by keeping posts vacant only for two years and continuing the scheme after the war until the full equivalent number of posts has been made available. Not only does this avoid some hardship to existing staff and administrative difficulty caused by having posts vacant for a long period to be filled at last with retrospective effect but it will ensure posts being available for such men as return, a considerable time after the war. I should repeat, however, that if there is any modification it will definitely not be to the detriment of our undertaking to the forces.

These then in outline are the plans of the Government for providing for men returning from the war. They are at present immature and further proposals are coming in from various authorities, but I have said enough to show that the whole problem is being seriously tackled, and that before long we shall have a series of complete plans ready to put into operation. We trust that the returning warrior will find that in his absence his interests have not been neglected.

—*A talk broadcast from A.I.R., Madras, on 29th May 1944.*

The sergeant-major had just been giving a particularly gory lesson on the use of the bayonet. The practice sack had been slashed and re-slashed, and by the close of the lesson was hanging in suggestive strips. Then the voice of the instructor barked out:—

"Any here wish to ask any questions?"

"Yes, sir!" a tremulous voice quavered. "How do you transfer to the R.A.M.C.?"

An R.A.F. man tells me—how truthfully I don't know—that when the Royal Air Force was formed the Stationery Office was told to prepare a special edition of King's Regulations by altering the word "soldier" to "airman" wherever "soldier" occurred in the book that was the basis of Army discipline.

This was done—and even now, my informant asserts, the paragraph of the R.A.F. version reads: "No airman may sleep more than 100 yards away from his horse."

THE NEW OUTLOOK IN BRITAIN

By H. S. TOWN

ONE of my most cherished possessions is a small, but not very valuable etching. It shows a narrow passage with high buildings on either side, and at the end can be seen the steps leading to the great door of the North Transept of St. Paul's Cathedral, London. Above the door is the tall North window and higher still is the huge dome surmounted by the Golden ball and cross.

It is a picture of a scene I know for more than 40 years but never shall I see it again, for Paternoster Row is no more.

As a Londoner I feel a little sad at the thought that most of the busy warehouses, shops and offices which crowded round the Cathedral are gone. To me it is strange to think of St. Paul's standing apart from the city buildings; but there is a new outlook abroad and many who have seen the Cathedral freed from the cluster of ugly Victorian buildings have changed their opinions and wish it to stand apart. No longer will St. Paul's look down on a mass of roofs, chimney stacks and narrow streets; it is to have a new outlook with an open space around its walls.

CHANGE IN EVERY ASPECT

This changed outlook for St. Paul's is symbolic of the change in the outlook which has grown up in Britain.

Changes in outlook have taken place in every aspect of life. Foreign policy for the future will be something very different from that of the past. Domestic policies, are changing. The State will, in future, take a much more important part in the day-by-day life of the people. Employer and employee will get closer together. Extreme wealth and extreme poverty will both disappear. The reasons for the errors of the past are more fully understood now and on all questions affecting the day-by-day life of the people a new outlook is forming and taking definite shape.

I am tempted to make my starting point in the early nineteenth century and trace the course of British foreign policy to show how the outlook continually changed.

In domestic matters I could perhaps trace the changing outlook concerning education, sanitation, factory legislation and the franchise, but if I go too far back I shall have so long a journey that you, and I, will be wearied long before the end; so let me go back to somewhere about the end of the last great war.

FROM ONE CRISIS TO ANOTHER

The period between 1918 and 1939 saw Britain pass from one crisis to another. Unemployment in one trade after another caused serious social unrest. Britain's standing abroad was the lowest it had been for many generations and other countries began to think that ere long Britain would be a second-rate nation. Britain was weak, and other nations knew it and so all she fought for, and gained, in the last war slipped out of her grasp, or perhaps it would be more correct to say it was brazenly taken from her by the very people she had defeated.

Our leaders, upholding the ideals of the League of Nations allowed Britain to become militarily so weak, that those nations who were establishing new and strong forms of Government were able to build up a position which eventually allowed them to dictate on international questions. Looking back on that period, I am sure it will go down in history as an important period in man's evolution. Not only Britain, but other nations were trying to cure their ills with useless medicines, and each, and every one, seemed to fail to grasp the simple fact that the cure lay in international goodwill, and not in national sufficiency. We had to have the illness in order to find the cure, and that is why I suggest that the period with all its troubles will eventually be looked upon as an important one.

JUST BEFORE WAR

But I tend to wander away from my subject and I must get back to its narrow confines. Just prior to the war I feel it is safe to say that in Britain there stalked abroad a feeling of helplessness, hopelessness, and, in some quarters, despair. A feeling that some great international calamity would soon engulf the world and there was no one who could stop it. Hurried journeys were made by British Statesmen to the various capitals of Europe to try and stave off this, as yet dimly discerned, calamity. We know they failed. Why? Perhaps the answer is given in some words written by an experienced student of current world affairs in December 1938 when he wrote:

> "It is necessary to face the facts; one of the most disquieting features of the present situation is that far too many people insist on their own theories and refuse to accept facts if they are unpleasing or conflict with some cherished desire, belief or doctrine."

The facts that many people refused to face then were being stated by a few people, but Britain, and in this she was not alone, Britain hoped to cure her external ills by building up a balance of power against those who had differing international views to her own and to cure her internal ills by exporting her unemployment problem in the form of sending goods to countries who could not afford to buy them. Both these policies not only failed to effect a cure, but the patient became weaker still.

FOREIGN COMMITMENTS

There is no doubt that Britain entered into foreign commitments without making any serious attempt to measure them in terms of the military resources required to carry them out.

You will remember that Britain and France undertook to go to the assistance of Poland if she were attacked. Other countries, knowing our military weakness did not take this pledge very seriously, but events have shown that we were serious. Our obligation was undertaken with the knowledge and approval of the Dominions and the seriousness of it will be recognized when it is remembered that we are pledging ourselves to help a country into whose territory we could not get without much fighting.

I venture to suggest that the pledge was given because Britain then had an outlook, which we know to-day, was in need of re-alignment. The strength of the Imperial Commonwealth was immense, its resources and potential fighting strength were so great that Britain believed it invincible, and that no possible combination of powers could possibly defeat it.

This then, was the British outlook at the beginning of this war, but events have shown that even the great British Commonwealth cannot stand in isolation any more than any country can now do, if faced with the combined military and enonomic strength of the major powers of the world.

SIMPLE FACT

One really simple fact seems now to have been grasped throughout the world and in Britain in particular, namely, that every country is dependent on all other countries and that none can stand alone. It is further becoming fully realized that even groups of countries cannot stand alone and that the whole world has to be brought into one camp.

Hundreds of pamphlets, books and articles have been written telling how the future of the world should be ordered. Many of them contain hopeless suggestions, some, written in the early days of the war, must be giving their authors severe headaches to-day for they were written on impulses caused through Axis victories; to-day things look different and some articles, which looked so good, are now revealed to be the outcome of shallow thinking.

Perhaps one of the most remarkable pamphlets produced during this war is one produced by a group of British industrial and commercial men. It points out that a lot of the world's troubles arise through international trade tending to enrich some nations and impoverish others. The impoverished nations become still less able to purchase the manufactures of the more highly industrialized nations which in turn are faced with unemployment and a lowering of their standards of living.

After exhaustive arguments this document goes on to say that "international trade must now be raised to its true function which is nothing more nor less than an exchange of goods and services of a mutually advantageous character."

This is a very great change in the outlook of commercial men and is worthy of close study. It is now realized that in international trade there must be a wholehearted endeavour to promote the greatest interchange of goods between the various communities of the world and the aim must be the betterment of standards of living in every country without which world prosperity is a dream which might well be a nightmare.

BETTER STANDARD OF LIVING

The betterment of standards of living is a world question and those countries which are not willing to tackle it within their own borders can do nothing towards its solution abroad. This is now well understood in Britain and this is why so much attention is now being directed in that country to questions of social security.

COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF VISITS JHANSI.—Pursuing his policy of getting to know his men and keeping a personal eye on their training, the Commander-in-Chief, General Auchinleck, recently visited military units at Jhansi.

The Commander-in-Chief asks searching questions in the Information Room of the Central Command School. With him are Brig. C. C. Crick, Area Commander, Major D. Burnett, Commandant, Central Command School and Lieutenant-Colonel Robinson, Chief Umpire.

BEVERIDGE REPORT

The Beveridge Report received fairly general approval; true there were some reservations but the approval was fairly general because the new outlook in Britain demands that squalor and want shall be abolished, that access to higher education be improved, that better homes, improved medical treatment and security for the future be assured.

I trust you will excuse me if I close by boldly taking the closing words of the editorial in "Britain to-day" for February this year, as they clearly summarize the new outlook in Britain.

> "We are looking more and more to world organizations which will substitute co-operation for aggressive nationalism, political or economic, but no country can make the full contribution to international progress unless it has taken steps to eliminate the social sores in its own system. There cannot be a successful world policy for improving the nutrition of the undernourished unless each country is bent on the proper nutrition of its own citizens. There cannot be a successful world policy for increasing international trade unless each country studies its own problems of employment. Hence the necessity of preparing now, before the war is over, for reconstruction both in the domestic and in the international sphere; and there should be no surprise, still less regret that the people of Britain are urging their sorely strained Government to even more strenuous endeavour in the sphere of domestic reform."

—A talk recently broadcast from A.I.R., Madras.

ACK-ACK GUNNERS' PARADE

We published some photographs of Ack-Ack Gunners' Parade with captions as received by us, in our issue of May 12, 1944. We have now received the following corrections to some of the captions from the source which supplied us the photographs:—

"It is regretted that certain inaccuracies appeared in the report of His Excellency's visit to a British Heavy Ack-Ack Gunners in South India.

"Would you be so kind as to make the following corrections:—

"1. The regiment was raised in Cornwall and was earmarked for the defence of Plymouth and Portland. (Page 9, paragraph 4.)"

"2. Under the top left hand picture on page 11, the names Capt. Keely and Capt. Blakeman should read 'Cfmn. (Craftsman)' and not Capt."

THE MENACE OF JAPAN

THE alliance between Nazi Germany and Imperialist Japan is not merely an alliance of convenience—fundamentally they are both agreed on certain broad principles: in their general outlook on life and in most of their theories and practices, they show the greatest resemblance. Nowhere is this resemblance more clear than in their attitude towards those whom they consider "inferior races". Now, "racialism", as generally understood by power-mad politicians, is essentially different from the scientific meaning of the word. Politicians generally use the word to cloak their greed to exploit the defenceless, or as an excuse to annex territory: scientists use the word to mean "the possession of certain attributes, physical and otherwise, inherited from a long chain of *a single common ancestry*" (*Julian Huxley*). Now, man is temperamentally mobile, has a restless urge to migrate and, unlike other animals, shows a readiness to mate with individuals or groups of quite different ancestry and appearance. Consequently, in the centuries that have passed, man has become so thoroughly mixed up that pure ethnic groups have almost entirely disappeared, specially from countries that are called civilized: and in modern times to speak of a pure Nordic or a pure Nipponese 'race' is a fallacy.

RACE SUPREMACY

Yet, purity of race makes a good slogan, since every man likes to think of himself as one of God's own people, definitely superior to all the rest, with a racial ancestry pure and undefiled, running back to the 'first-created'. There is nothing by itself objectionable in such an attitude: one can imagine himself descended from the nebular hypothesis, for aught the world cares: but when such an attitude makes a man a bad citizen, makes him look down upon all the rest as unfit to live, makes him steal, plunder and murder on the plea that none but he has the right to whatever he might take a fancy to, then obviously the rest have the right to knock the stuffing, and bad stuffing at that, out of him. The Germans and the Japanese have been taught by their rulers to believe that none but they should inherit the Earth; and between themselves they propose to divide the globe. The rest of humankind—white, yellow, brown or black—are just animals, to be used or exterminated as may be thought necessary.

MADDENED NATION

It seems incredible that in the twentieth century, after centuries of civilized humanism, such a cry can be raised: and still more incredible that entire nations can be infected with such a pernicious philosophy. Yet, it has so happened, both in Germany and in Japan. Deep down in the heart of every son of Nippon is the firm belief that he is of divine descent, and therefore no one, not of the chosen, has any rights as against him. The rulers of Japan, during the last three-quarters of a century, have so 'arranged' the 'education' of the people that, bar material prosperity and military strength, there is little to choose between the modern Japanese and the nomadic hordes that wandered about the steppes of Central Asia. By exploiting the fundamental Japanese instinct of racial superiority, by exploiting the 'divinity' of the Emperor, their rulers have maddened an entire nation: yet, this has not been for the good of the Japanese people *as a whole*. All power, political, military and economic, has been concentrated in the hands of a few: the Army and the Navy control the administration, and the capitalists control both; thus the country is ruled by a small group of industrialists greedy for dividends, and a small group of Chauvinistic warlords greedy for conquest. These small groups are of the 'chosen': they are of the 'Yamato' race: the world exists for them. Even in their own country, the vast masses of the people are outside the pale: the patient farmers, tillers of the soil, the fishermen that daily brave the perils of the sea to earn a scanty livelihood, the industrial workers that sweat in factories to give Japan her international trade and her armaments, the educated classes that earn a most precarious living in the "learned" professions or in the Civil services,—all these are just the 'means' to the greatness of Japan, the real meaning of which is the greatness of the capitalist-cum-military coterie.

OUT FOR EXPLOITATION

This is the real menace of Japan: they are out for exploitation. Having remorselessly exploited their own countrymen, they have now turned to other peoples: 'Japan must expand' that is their ambition: and in this expansion they have violated all known laws of man and of God; Japanese methods of exploitation are crude and brutal: their sense of racial superiority makes them deny even elementary human consideration to those different from their own 'race.' Neither the property, nor the person, nor the honour of womenfolk in conquered or occupied countries is safe. The Japanese look upon everything in conquered lands as the rightful prize of the conquerors, and since every soldier of theirs is a 'conqueror', he can work his will upon the conquered. Forcible entry into private houses, loot of property, carrying away of women—these are just ordinary incidents of the day. And there is a method and purpose in their brutality. They seek to demoralize the native population of conquered or occupied countries by all means in their power: by reducing them to economic slavery; by drugging them into insensibility with opium or heroin readily obtained: by destroying their culture and civilization: the full horrors of Japanese Fascism, both in Japan itself and in conquered or *occupied countries* will be told in another pamphlet.

(*A pamphlet issued by the Bihar N.W.F.*)

NEW M.G.O. IN INDIA.—Lieut.-Gen. K. M. Loch, C.B., M.C., has been appointed Master-General of the Ordnance in India in succession to Lieut.-Gen. Sir Clarence Bird, K.C.I.E., C.B., D.S.O.

EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN SOVIET RUSSIA

THE Academy of Sciences was founded by Peter I in 1724. One of the first Russian members of the Academy and the father of Russian science was Mikhail Lomonosov, son of a peasant of the Far North.

It was not long before the Russian Academy assumed a prominent place in Europe, particularly for its work in mathematics, physics, chemistry and geography. Besides Lomonosov, the Academy could pride itself on such internationally-known scientists as the mathematicians P. Chebyshev, A. Lyapunov and V. Steklov, the physicists V. Petrov (who discovered the phenomenon of the electric arc several years before Davy) and B. Golitsyn (one of the founders of Seismology), the chemists A. Butlerov and N. Zinin, and the physiologist Ivan Pavlov.

Because of its fundamentally reactionary policy, however, the doors of the Academy were closed to a number of outstanding scientists, the chemist D. Mendeleyev, the physiologist I. Sechenov, the botanist K. Timiryazev, and others. Another gifted scientist not a member was the mathematician N. Lobachevsky. Mixim Gorky, the famous Russian writer, was not approved as an honorary member by the Tsarist Government. For a long time the Academy remained a closed corporation of scientists, as it were.

RADICAL CHANGE

The situation changed radically after the establishment of Soviet power. The basis of its activity was laid in 1918 in a broad plan of scientific and technological work, the author of which was the head of Soviet Government, V. I. Lenin.

In Soviet times outstanding engineers who have directly participated in large industrial construction jobs have become members of the Academy—I. Bardin, B. Vedeneyev, G. Graftio and others. In 1929, 42 new academicians were elected, among them S. Chaplygin, famous for his research in aerodynamics, A. Bach, the biochemist, and N. Zelinsky, the chemist, who invented the Russian gas mask. In 1939, 59 members and 102 corresponding members were elected, and for the first time in its history a woman became a member—L. Stern, famous for her work in physiology.

During the Great Patriotic War, the Academy has grown by another 36 members and 58 corresponding members, as well as honorary members, from among British and American scientists.

The number of distinguished scientits in the U.S.S.R. has been growing year by year. A comparison indicates the scope scientific activity has assumed: as of October 1, 1943, the Academy has 150 members, over 200 corresponding members and more than 3,000 professors and scientific workers, whereas in 1917 the old, pre-Revolutionary Academy numbered 45 academicians and 212 scientific workers.

BASIC WORK

The basic work of the Academy is conducted at its various institutes, headed by prominent men in the respective fields. It has more than 70 large research institutes and an extensive chain of independent laboratories, stations, observatories, museums, scientific archives, libraries and other organizations, among them various scientific societies and commissions.

President of the Academy is V. L. Komarov, a botanist of world renown and a deputy to the Supreme Soviet of the U.S.S.R.

As many as 1,000 post-graduates are studying at the Academy at state expense, preparing for research work. The old Academy from 1800 to 1917 did not bother training young scientists.

Side by side with the Academy and its branches in the Armenian, Azerbaijan, Kazakh, Kirghiz, Tajik, Turkmen and Uzbek republics, there are independent academies in the Ukrainian, Byelorussian, and Georgian republics.

In pursuance of a Government decision, the Academy of Sciences of the U.S.S.R. was transferred in 1934 from Leningrad to Moscow, the capital of the U.S.S.R. Since then it has become the centre not only of a theoretical research but of the applied sciences, actively helping the Government in developing productive forces, in cultural and economic up building and in strengthening the country's defence.

In war time the Academy has helped plants in the Urals to go over to local manganese and employ coke substitutes; to develop a method for smelting ferrochrome steel in blast furnaces and refine it in convertiers. It has drawn up fuel charts for iron and steel plants, surveyed new rich mineral deposits in Kazakhstan and other republics. Besides, the Academy raised the productivity of coke and chemical plants, perfected industrial gas generators and solved the problem of increasing oil extraction and obtaining liquid from solid fuel.

Academician P. Kapitza's work in the field of low temperatures has earned him world fame. An investigation. "On Developing the Economy of the Urals in war time," carried out under the direction of the President of the Academy, won him a Stalin Prize in 1942. In 1941 and 1942 more than 70 members and corresponding members and a number of scientific workers of the Academy were awarded Stalin prizes. The Government has decorated many scientists in recognition of their services and achievements in solving problems of vital economic defence significance for the Soviet Union.

HIGHER EDUCATION

Public Education in Tsarist Russia was at an extremely low level of development, the overwhelming majority of the people being illiterate. As regards higher education the situation was still worse. In 1914 there were altogether 91 higher educational institutions, with a total student body of 112,000, most of these the children of the "elite," upper classes of society. In the peripheral regions inhabited by non-Russian nationalities, there were almost no higher educational institutions. Such a city as Thilisi had only one higher school, while there was not a single one on the territory of the present Union Republics Byelorussia, Azerbaijan, Armenia and others.

From the very first days of its existence Soviet power opened wide the doors of higher and special educational establishments to the working people. Higher education became accessible to young men and women of all the nationalities of the country. At the present time there are 800 higher educational establishments in the U.S.S.R. with a total student body of 650,000. More than 100,000 young people graduate from the higher schools every years.

Soviet higher educational institutions prepare specialists and are also a centre for the dissemination of scientific and technical knowledge and the latest achievements of science.

Furthermore, in order to bring the masses closer to science, many of these schools have opened "Sunday Universities," which give cycles of lectures on various problems of science and technique, literature and art.

Stalin's words "We want all our workers and peasants to be cultured and educated, and we shall achieve this in time" provided a big programme of work for a number of years for the entire system of public education in the U.S.S.R. Millions of workers, collective farmers, and office employees study in the higher schools, technicums, and in special courses, constantly raising their cultural level, becoming thoroughly trained specialists, active builders of the Soviet State, of its culture, economy, administration. As a result of this tremendous amount of cultural work a large, new, Soviet intelligentsia has appeared and grown, which serves the peoples of the U.S.S.R. faithfully and truly. The rise of this new, people's socialist intelligentsia is one of the most important results of the cultural revolution in the U.S.S.R.

ASSISTANCE TO STUDENTS

The Soviet Government does everything to enable the students to complete their course of study successfully. It has placed many comfortable dormitories and entire students' quarters at the disposal of the students, containing their own dining rooms, club-rooms, etc., necessary to satisfy their everyday needs. Scores of thousands of students who come from the provinces to the city, live in these dormitories and students' quarters. Students are assured state stipends.

In addition to higher educational establishments the Soviet Union has a large number of research institutes in which professors, associate-professors and instructors prepare post-graduates

for independent scientific activity in various branches of the public economy and cultural life.

During the Great Patriotic War against Hitlerite Germany, the instruction and preparation of educated cadres has been continuing successfully. Soviet students have been fulfilling their duty to their country with honour, helping the Red Army in every way possible to accomplish its great mission of liberation—the destruction of the vicious Hitler gangs, their expulsion from Soviet soil.

PUBLIC EDUCATION

One of the most remarkable and outstanding results of the Great October Socialist Revolution of 1917 in Russia was the genuine cultural revolution throughout the country. The primary and fundamental expression of this revolution or rebirth of culture, was the organization of public education.

In a historically brief period, the U.S.S.R. effected universal, free education of children of both sexes in the languages of the nationalities in 1928–32, four years of elementary school; in 1933–37, junior middle school (seven years), and in 1938–42 it had been planned to establish free, universal education extending over elementary and secondary school in the cities, and elementary and junior middle school in the rural national districts. In 1938–39 there were 33,400,000 students in the elementary and secondary schools, as against a total of 8,000,000 in 1913. Of the 23,000 schools built in the U.S.S.R. from 1933 to 1940, about 18,000 were constructed in the rural districts. Altogether there were 172,000 schools in 1938–39, against 105,000 in 1915.

Those peoples which did not have any written languages formerly, now have them. This has made it possible to give an education to all children of formerly backward peoples. In this connexion, the proportion of students as compared with the total population of the U.S.S.R. has changed considerably. In 1914, for every 1,000 of the population there were 60 pupils in elementary and secondary schools; in 1938–39 this number was 185, or more than three times as many.

FUNDAMENTALS OF INDUSTRY

Besides receiving a general education, Soviet students learn the fundamentals of large-scale industry and also a socially useful trade on the principle of polytechnical education.

* * *

In Tsarist Russia, the secondary school, or "gymnasium," as it was formerly called, was inaccessible to the masses; there were insufficient schools, tuition fees were high, class discrimination existed, and so forth. This has all been changed. The Soviet Government established an enormous network of secondary schools; in 1939 there were about 16,000 such schools with a total student body of 11,000,000.

Tuition is free of charge in the elementary and middle schools, which are open to all children irrespective of nationality, social origin or property status of their parents.

The upbringing of the child is in the hands of its family and the school jointly. The parents have their school committees which are in close contact with the teachers and the teachers often visit students at home.

Besides these schools, there are trade and factory schools; which train boys and girls to be skilled workers as well as give them a general education. During their course of study the students are maintained completely at the expense of the State, receiving clothing, footwear, food, and everything else required. In less than three years, from December 1940 to October 1943, these schools graduated about 1,550,000 young skilled workers.

SUVOROV SCHOOLS

In 1943 a new type of school was organized in the Soviet Union, the Survorov srhools, which are new establishments of the typt of the cadet military school. These are open to boys who have lost their parents during the Great Patriotic War.

There is a special network of schools and courses of study for adults who have not received an elementary or middle school education. In 1939 there were 10,000 such institutions with an attendance of more than 750,000. In Tsarist Russia there were no adult schools except for some isolated "free universities."

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During the Great Patriotic War the Soviet Government has not lessened the attention it pays to public education. It has passed special decrees improving the material conditions of teachers, increasing their salaries, etc.

Libraries occupy an important place in the system of public education. In 1939 there were 86,000 libraries, as compared with 12,500 in 1913. A similar picture holds true for clubs; there are 111,000, of which 39,000 are cottage reading rooms in rural districts. As for historical, art, natural science and regional museums, there were about 800 in 1939.

In 1940 the Soviet Government allocated 23,000 million rubbles for public education. In 1911 the total expenditure for all the schools of Tsarist Russia was 91 million rubbles.

The total number of students, children and adults in all the schools of Soviet Union in 1939 was 47,400,000. This figure is a striking confirmation of the genuine cultural revolution effected in the country as a result of the tremendous creative efforts of the Soviet people.

SOVIET LITERATURE

Soviet literature arose and developed by the peoples of Russia after the Revolution of 1917. Essentially, Soviet literature is a new phenomenon, different from former Russian literature as well as from that of other countries. It derived new content from the national struggle for Socialism, and its pages show readers the heroes of this struggle with their emotions and world outlook.

The first writer to express this advance of the revolutionary spirit and the transforming energy of the Russian people in the beginning of our century, was Maxim Gorky (1868–1935).

Gorky is a living link between classic Russian literature of the past and the new literature which has sprung up in Russia during the Soviet epoch.

In his numerous novels Gorky gives the reader a broad colourful picture of the real life of the lower social strata, and of the merchants and intelligentsia in old Tsarist Russia. In remarkable novel "Mother," Gorky shows how progressive public activity leads to the spiritual ennoblement of a person. On the other hand, in his novel "The Life of Klim Samgin," the author paints the portrait of a man who becomes morally degenerate because of his hypocritical attitude toward the progressive democratic movement.

CREATIVE IDEAS

Gorky's living creative ideas developed further and were embodied in Soviet literature which reflected in its many aspects the Civil War (1918–20) and the entire period of gigantic industrial construction in which millions of working people from city and village took part. All these events, which developed at a tremendous pace during the past 25 years, have served as the subject for numerous works by Soviet writers. These materials and ideas have inspired an outstanding generation of writers—V. Mayakovsky, A. Tolstoy, M. Sholokhov, A. Fadeyev, M. Zoshchenko, V. Ivanov, L. Leonov, N. Ostrovsky, L. Sobolev, I. Ehrenbourg, N. Pogodin and many others.

Vladimir Mayakovsky (1893–1930) created a new type of lyric, imbued with the emotions of the participant in the day-by-day fight for Socialism.

Besides Mayakovsky, Soviet poetry can boast of a number of other gifted personalities, among whom special mention should be made of E. Bagritsky (died 1934), author of a remarkable poem on the epoch of the Civil War, "The Lay of Opanas," S. Yesenin, that gentle bard of Russian nature and the old vanishing Russian village; B. Pasternak, delicate lyricist; I. Selvinsky, powerful master of epic poetry and poetic drama; the courageous writer N. Tikhonov, author of the poem "Kirov Is With Us," N. Aseyev, Mayakovsky's friend and author of a poem about him, "Mayakovsky Begins."

Alexei Tolstoy (born 1883) is the most richly-endowed and most Russian in spirit of modern Soviet writers. His two volume novel, "Peter I," gives a picture of Russia at the end of the 17th Century. In it he brilliantly moulds the figure of Peter, that gifted reformer who occupied the throne of Russia. In

his three-volume novel, "Pilgrimage Through Torment," Tolstoy give a panorama of Russian life during the years of Civil War and portrays to fusion of the intelligentsia with the people.

HISTORICAL NOVEL

The historical novel in particular developed quickly and won a distinguished place in Soviet literature. One of the most outstanding masters of this genre is S. Sergeyev Tsensky (born 1876), author of a three-volume novel about the defence of Sevastopol in 1854–55 "The Ordeal of Sevastopol," and of "The Brusilov Breach."

Mikhail Sholokhov (born 1905) is the most outstanding and highly talented representative of the younger generation of Soviet writers. In his four-volume novel, "And Quiet Flows the Don," his manner of depicting people and epic narrative reminds one of the great Leo Tolstoy. He gives a picturesque, human psychological study of Cossack life at the turning point of its history, during the years 1915–20.

Russian literature naturally occupies a central place in modern Soviet literature. During the years of Soviet power more than 40 nationalities have developed a literature in their national languages. Much of this in type, genre and make-up comes close to modern Russian literature. This refers to the literature of the Ukrainian, Byelorussian, Georgian, Armenian, Azerbaijan, Uzbek and Kazakh peoples as well as that of the Soviet Baltic republics.

The literature of the other peoples is developing at rapid pace corresponding to the growth and development of the people as a whole, for there are many nationalities which acquired their own national written language and grammar under Soviet power. Such, for example, are the people of the Far North and the namodic peoples of Central Asia. The development of oral forms of folk literature was also stimulated after the Revolution. Some national bards, as the famous 95-year-old Kazakh "akyn," Jambul, have won renown throughout the country.

Soviet literature, profoundly democratic, anti-fascist in spirit, was ready when the Patriotic War against the Germans began. From the very first days it was at the service of the Soviet people in the heroic struggle for independence and freedom, at the service of the native land, lauding the unexampled heroism, daring and bravery of Soviet fighters. It has inspired millions with these qualities.

WRITERS' UNION

Of the 3,000 members of the Writers' Union, about 900 went to the front, joining the Red Army ranks as officers, rank-and-file men, workers of front-line newspapers and war correspondents. No small number of writers died the death of heroes on the field of battle. Among them is Eugene Petrov, one of the most gifted Soviet satirists, who died at his post as war correspondent.

Since the war began the literary life of the country has become more intense, wider, and has been reflected on the pages of the daily newspapers.

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The play "Russian People," by the young lyrical poet, K. Simonov; A. Korneichuk's drama "Front;" Vasili Grossman's outstanding novel "The People Immortal" and his articles on the Battle of Stalingrad; Wanda Wasilewska's "Rainbow;" A. Tolstoy's passionate articles, and I. Ehrenbourg's caustic pamphlets—all of these have appeared on the pages of the biggest central newspapers, all have become the possession of the people, their own thoughts and feelings.

The oneness of literature with people, in their ideas, language, and vital interests—this has always formed the basis for the development of Soviet literature. And therein lies its future.

PUSHKIN

Alexander Pushkin was only 37 years old when he died. His entire literary activities were concentrated in the short space of something over two decades. Yet in this period he accomplished the enormous historical task of creating a great new Russian literature.

The overwhelming majority of writers usually confine themselves to one or another literary genre. In Russian literature there are great poets, there are great prose writers, there are great dramaturgists. But Pushkin—the author of "Eugene Onegin," "The Bronze Horseman," "The Queen of Spades," "The Captain's Daughter," "Boris Godunov," "Little Tragedies"—struck out simultaneously and with notable success along all literary paths, and justly earned the title of the father of modern Russian poetry, and prose, and drama.

Pushkin, in fine, created and perfected the national language, the instrument of all subsequent Russian literature. His essentially realistic writings include brilliant examples of nearly all literary styles. With each new major work, he created not only another literary gem, but wrote a new chapter, sometimes, a whole new volume, in the history of Russian literature.

In the poem "Ruslan and Ludmila," the first-born of Pushkin's illustrious literary line, he produced a brilliant example of a work based on a theme from folklore.

The poems "The Prisoner of the Caucasus," "The Fountain of Bakhchisaral" and "The Gypsies" are examples of Russian romanticism at its finest.

On the other hand, in his masterpiece "Eugene Onegin," a 'novel in verse,' Pushkin established his position as a great realistic poet, father of artistic realism, the initiator of the basic trend in Russian literature. Nearly all the works of the greatest Russian realists—from Lermontov's "A Hero of Our Time" through the novels of Turgenev and Goncharov to the monumental creations of Leo Tolstoy—have their direct forerunner in Pushkin's 'novel in verse.' It is precisely with "Eugene Onegin" that Russian literature became an artistic and poetic "Mirror" of whole historical epochs.

Pushkin's tragedy "Boris Godunov," the heroic poem "Poltave," the narrative in verse "The Bronze Horseman," the novels "The Moor of Peter the Great" and "The Captain's Daughter" are on themes from Russian history. As one Russian critic rightly pointed out, without Pushkin's "The Captain's Daughter" Tolstoy's "War and Peace" could not have been written.

The "Tales of Belkin," a collection of short stories written by Pushkin in 1830, were the first examples of Russian artistic prose. Among the "Tales of Belkin," a particularly important role in the further development of Russian literature was played by "Master of the Post-House." Pushkin's master of the post-house was a direct forerunner of the hero of Gogol's "Greatcoat" and of all those "Poor people," "humiliated and outraged," who were soon to fill the pages of the short stories and novels of the 40's of the last century.

The folk satire "The History of the Village of Goryuknino," written by Pushkin in the same year, suggested to Saltykov-Shchedrin outstanding Russian political satirist, the form for his celebrated "The History of a Certain Town," Pushkin's "Little Tragedies" anticipate the penetrating psychological analysis of Dostoyevsky's novels.

"In Pushkin reside all the seeds and embryos from which afterward developed all the types and forms of art of all our artists," rightly remarks Goncharov, one of the great Russian novelists. Maxim Gorky calls Pushkin unhesitatingly "the beginning of all beginnings" of Russian literature.

In his works Pushkin refuses to intrude the likes and dislikes, the partialities and designs of the author upon the reality he portrays: he gives an artistic generalization of the laws governing development of reality itself, regardless of whether they are in line with his personal desires. But the impartiality of the poet and artist in Pushkin never degenerates to apathy or lack of passion. Pushkin's objectivity is combined with a profound human understanding of what he is portraying, and a prepossession in favour of all that is lofty, beautiful, noble.

In "The Monument," a poetical testament to posterity in which Pushkin summarizes all his creative activity, he writes presciently:

> And long the people will with love remember me,
> For that my poet's lyre kind sentiments compelled,
> For that in my harsh age I lauded liberty
> And mercy for the fallen have upheld

These words contain the programme of that humanism, that courageous and lofty compassion with which all Pushkin's works are imbued. Like a cardinal behest, Pushkin's humanism was followed by all subsequent Russian writers, forming one of the most precious features, one of the chief qualities in the great works contributed by Russia to the literary treasures of mankind.

MAXIM GORKY

Maxim Gorky, the "Father of Soviet Literature," stands out as a great writer and political figure of our times.

Born in 1868, the son of a handicraftsman, Gorky was left an orphan at an early age and went to work when he was 9. During childhood and youth he lived on the Volga River, which he later so vividly described in his trilogy "Childhood," "Into the World," and "My Universities." In 1884 Gorky went to Kazan and worked there as a stevedore, gardener, watchman and baker. Here the future great writer met the progressive young people of his time. He took an active part in illegal workmen's groups, his revolutionary activities leading to his arrest. After being released he was kept under police surveillance.

In 1891–92 Gorky went on a tramp through Russia, going from Nizhni-Novgorod to the Black Sea. In the latter year he published his first story, "Maker Chudra," the forerunner of a great line of stories, plays and poetry. In his poems "The Song of the Stormy Petrel" and "The Song of the Falcon," in all his works, Gorky glorified the proud free spirit of man.

Gork y's popularity grew rapidly, particularly after his play "The Lower Depths" was staged by the Moscow Art Theatre in 1902.

That same year the Russian Academy of Sciences elected him an honorary member, but on the Tsar's order this election was annulled. For his protest against the shooting of workers on January 9, 1905, known as Bloody Sunday, the Tsarist Government imprisoned Gorky in the Peter and Paul Fortress, the "Russian Bastille." After his release, he went abroad in 1906 and for many years lived an exile in Italy.

FIRST MEETING WITH LENIN

In 1907 Gorky participated in the work of the 5th Congress of the Russian Social-Democratic Labour Party held in London, where he first met Lenin. This meeting developed into a lasting friendship.

Lenin highly appreciated Gorky's extraordinary talent and was especially warm in his praise of the writer's novel "Mother," a picture of the revolutionary struggle of 1905 imbued with deep conviction in the final triumph of social justice. The novel contains a remarkable portrayal of an old, downtrodden woman, a worker's wife who is drawn into the revolutionary struggle through her son and rises to heroic stature.

Gorky bitterly attacked the oppression and tyranny of Tsarist Russia in his works "Foma Gordeyev," "The Rise and Fall of the Artamonovs" (in English translation entitled "Decadence"), "Enemies," and others. He also powerfully lashed the blockheaded pettiness, vulgarity and treachery of philistines and whiners in "The Town of Okurov," "Philistines," the play "Suburbanites," etc.

His novel "The Life of Klim Samgin," the fruit of 10 years of labour, is an enormous literary canvas showing the Russian intellectuals of the turn of the century, and covers a period of 40 years.

In portraying Tsarist Russia Gorky did not hesitate to reveal the seamy side in all its ugly aspects. But at the same time he also showed that the people possess hidden wellsprings of great potential force, and retain honest conceptions about labour, beauty and truth.

In 1913 Gorky was back in Russia again, and remained until 1921. In that year Lenin insisted he must go abroad as he was suffering from an aggravated form of tuberculosis.

While abroad he worked unremittingly to unite the progressive people of western Europe for the struggle against reaction, against fascism. He maintained close ties with the Soviet Union and was an ardent champion of his country and its achievements. In 1928 Gorky returned to his native land, and at once plunged into intense and many sided work.

RECOGNIZED LEADER

Gorky was the recognized leader of Soviet literature. He taught and inspired Soviet writers, and brought to the fore many new gifted people. Indefatigably he inculcated in his followers the will to fight, and an indestructible faith in the powers of the human intellect. His friendship with Stalin was of great assistance to Gorky in the building of socialist culture.

A brilliant master of the written work, Gorky continued the great traditions of Pushkin and Tolstoy, and also created his own, a Gorky period of Russian proletarian socialist literature. The life and struggle of the working people inspired him. The first great socialist writer, Maxim Gorky has gone down in the literature of all peoples as the author of classics. He blazed new paths in world literature, discovered new themes, new heroes, a new creative method of depicting them, and understood, as no one else did, the demands of the new reader.

In 1932, on the occasion of the celebration of his 40th anniversary of unceasing literary activity, he was decorated with the Order of Lenin, and his birthplace, the city of Nizhni-novgorod, was called Gorky.

In 1936, following his death, which was mourned by the whole country, Moscow's main street was renamed after him.

Gorky headed the international anti-fascist movement. Great humanist and champion of culture that he was, he sounded the call to struggle for equality, freedom and independence. He hated with a passionate hatred the fanatic "race theory" of the fascist maniacs, and aroused mankind to destroy the brown plague.

"If the enemy does not surrender, he must be destroyed."

Gorky summoned writers to strengthen the people's honesty, valour and heroism, and he was proud of the Red Army and his nation.

Gorky's works are popular in his own country and throughout the world, having been translated into almost every foreign language. In the U.S.S.R. he has an enormous reading public; from 1917 to 1942 his works were published in 65 languages of the Soviet Union in editions exceeding 41,000,000 copies.

MAYAKOVSKY

Vladmir Mayakovsky is one of the outstanding Russian poets of our century. The significance of his work has been expressed in the following words of Stalin:

"Mayakovsky was and remains the best, most talented poet of our Soviet epoch."

The poet was born in the village of Bagdadi (now called Mayakovsky), in Georgia, 1893, the son of a forester. After his father's death his family moved to Moscow in 1906, and there he came into contact with revolutionary youth circles. From the age of 15 he took an active part in the revolutionary movement, was arrested and imprisoned.

Upon his release, the young Mayakovsky passionately devoted himself to the idea of founding a new, revolutionary art. In 1911 he entered the Moscow School of Painting, Architecture and Sculpture but soon occupied himself wholly with poetry.

Mayakovsky's first verses were published in 1913 in a volume called "A Slap in the Face of Convention." In 1915 he became acquainted with Maxim Gorky, who exerted a strong influence on the young poet. Even in those early years he wrote a number of remarkable poems "Cloud in Pants" (1915), "Flute-Backbone" (1916), "Man" (1917), in which he emphatically and indignantly protested against the reactionary forces which outraged and humiliated human personality.

OCTOBER REVOLUTION

It was with great enthusiasm that Mayakovsky welcomed the October Revolution of 1917, which marked emancipation from age-old oppression. He became its most brilliant, ardent bard.

He rebelled keenly against cold and apathetic "academic" art, striving to bring poetry closer to life. He regarded the poet as a direct participant in the struggle for freedom and a beautiful future for his people. During the years of Civil War he directed all his energy as a poet and artist to creating propagandist and satirical posters which lashed the enemies of the Soviet land ("Rosta Windows"—1919–1921). This was followed by much intensive newspaper work, in which he reviewed political events of the day and also wrote a number of poems, unsurpassed *chef-d'oeuvres* for their caustic political commentary.

In contrast to aristocratic, reserved, chamber art, Mayakovsky forged his ideal of a genuinely democratic, popular art. He carried poetry out of the close confines of literary salons into the open air, into the streets and squares. He appealed directly to the people, tirelessly travelling over the entire country, reciting his poems before mass audiences of workers and farmers.

A profound and fine lyricist, Mayakovsky expressed in his verse the wealth and diversity of emotions and experience of the new, freeman, the man born of the Revolution, who loathed baseness, vulgarity and narrow-mindedness, who hated all manifestations of oppression and violence, who fought for the cleanness of human relationships, and who was supremely loyal to his native land, to the ideals of the Socialist State. In poems which are among the finest examples of Soviet lyricism, he paints an ethically superb picture of a mighty, staunch lighter, a burning patroit ("To Comrade Nette," "Verses About a Soviet Passport," "To Sergei Yesenin," "Home," "At the Top of My Voice" and others).

A master of keen will and painfully stinging satire, he created a large gallery of pamphlet caricatures and grotesque figures, exposing the enemies of Soviet man in their diverse manifestations, from the bigoted bureaucrats and philistines to the international ravagers and fascist murderers preparing to attack the Soviet Land ("Mayakovsky Gallery," "The Bedbug," "The Bath-House," and others).

Among Mayakovsky's most striking works are his volumes of verse written after his trips to Western Europe and America "Paris" (1924–25), "Verses About America" (1925–26), "There and Back" (1928–29).

GREATEST ACHIEVEMENTS

Mayakovsky's greatest poetic achievements are his large poems "150,000,000" (1920), "About This" (1923), "Vladimir Ilyich Lenin" (1924), "Khorosho" (Good) (1927), in which he reveals, with exceptional force the historical greatness of the October Revolution and its leader, Lenin, the spiritual beauty and strength of the Soviet man who defended his land and lofty ideals belonging to all mankind against numerous enemies.

The influence exerted by Mayakovsky on all modern, Soviet poetry is tremendous. A tireless innovator, he transformed poetic language, democratized it, introduced into it ordinary everyday, colloquial speech. He reformed poetic rhythm, using live oratorical and colloquial intonations, and skilfully developed new rhythms. In spite of the difficulty of translation, his verse has been put into 23 foreign languages.

The literary legacy left by Mayakovsky has been declared by the Soviet Government to be a state possession, and accordingly the Vladimir Mayakovsky State Museum has been made one of the signets of Moscow.

THE SOVIET THEATRE

The Soviet people are justly proud of their theatres, which have won worldfame.

In Tsarist Russia, only those theatres occupied a place of prime importance which bore the name "Imperial Theatre" as the Mariinsky opera and Alexandrinsky drama theatres in St. Petersburg, and the Bolshoi opera and Maly drama theatres in Moscow. At the end of the last century these theatres, having companies that included the best of the country's stage forces, nevertheless experienced a grave crisis because of the lack of profundity and artistic value of their repertories and the existing bureaucratic system of administration.

The reforms effected by the Art Theatre's founders—those remarkable masters of stagecraft K. Stanislavsky and V. Nemirovich-Danchenko, who renounced the stereotype and the artificial—were exceptionally significant. But they could not bring the theatre closer to the people, lead it out of its impasse. The inaccessibility of the theatre to the general public and the limited number of theatres meant that they were attended by only a narrow circle of spectators.

MASS CHARACTER

It was only after the establishment of Soviet power that the theatre took on a significant mass character. New theatres arose, among them the Theatre of the Moscow Soviet, the Theatre of the Revolution, the Red Army Theatre, the Kamerny Theatre, and the Vakhtagov Theatre in Moscow, the Gorky drama theatre in Leningrad and many others throughout the country. These have played a big role in the development of Soviet Theatrical Art.

The national theatres of the Soviet peoples, among them the Georgian Rustaveli theatre, the Ukrainian Ivan Franko theatre, the Uzbek theatre, the Jewish theatre and others, also developed rapidly. Moreover, peoples that previously had no theatre at all now founded their own national troupes, as the Tajik, with 23 new theatres; the Turkmen, 11; the Kirghiz, 21. All in all, there are 825 theatres in the Soviet Union as compared to the 153 that existed in 1914.

The finest pre-Revolutionary theatres —the Moscow Art, the Bolshoi opera, the Maly and several others—were given every opportunity for development after 1917. The Soviet theatre became a cultural force of exceptional importance. Its repertory was revised, and the classical works of Gogol, Griboyedov, Ostrovsky, Gorky, Chekhov, Shakespears, Schiller, Moliere, occupied a permanent place.

The Soviet people have produced their own forces of new gifted playwrights, producers and theatre directors.

Gorky's dramas have played a significant role in the development of the Soviet theatre. His writings, imbued with humanism and truth to life, have instilled and continue to instil in the spectator a love of country and respect for human dignity.

Developing under Gorky's influence, Soviet dramaturgy reflected socialist reality and the thoughts and feelings of the new Soviet man.

A foremost achievement of Soviet dramaturgy was the presentation of Lenin and Stalin on the stage. The best, most gifted Soviet actors—Shchukin, Shtraukh, Gelovani and others, have given brilliant, unforgettable portrayals of the leaders of the Soviet State. A number of impressive performances are based on historic themes, bringing to theatre-goers, for instance, the heroic deeds of Russia's outstanding military leaders such as Sovorov and Kutozov, and Nadezhda Durova, the girl officer and hero of the Patriotic War of 1812.

Besides the big theatres in Soviet cities, others have been established in the countryside, as well as amateur mass folk theatres. Collective farm theatres alone numbered 283 in 1941. Youngsters have their own special children's theatres, working under the guidance of experienced actors and teachers.

The Soviet Government has conferred upon the best producers and actors Stalin Prizes, Honorary Titles and Orders.

The Soviet actor is not dependent upon the caprices of private entrepreneurs; his interests are protected by the Government. He is never threatened by unemployment and the intrigues of rivals and competitors.

In the grim days of the Patriotic War of the Soviet people against Hitlerite Germany, the Soviet actors are selflessly devoting their art to the front. They are favourite guests of the Red Army men, often performing at the front lines right under enemy fire.

Plays which inspire the people in their struggle against German fascism ("Russian People" by K. Simonov, "Front" by A. Korneichuk, "Invasion" by L. Leonov) are running with great success at the biggest theatres as well as at theatres of amateur groups.

The Soviet theatre, generally recognized as occupying first place in the world, is a potent weapon in the struggle against the stranglers of culture—the Hitlerite invaders.

MUSIC OF THE SOVIET PEOPLES

Music occupies a place of honour in the general cultural programme of the U.S.S.R. Musicians are encouraged by the Government in every way possible. Large sums are allocated for staging new operas and musical-dramatic productions, for training and developing musical cadres, etc.

The most gifted composers and performers have been given the titles Artist of Merit and People's Artist, and many have been honoured with Stalin Prizes.

The Soviet people profoundly love their composers and musicians. Concerts are given every day throughout

the land in concert halls, workers' clubs and over the radio, the programme including the works of Dmitri Shostakovich, author of the remarkable 5th and 7th symphonies, the music of which reflects the loftiness of the Soviet people's spirit and their love for freedom; Serge Prokofieff, with his expressive feeling and humour, his lyricism and tragedy, his joy and laughter and tears; Nikolai Mayaskovsky, who is rightly regarded as the founder of Soviet symphonic music; Vissarion Shebalin, whose string quarters on Slavic themes have won wide popularity.

Dzerzhinsky's new operas "And Quiet Flows the Don" and "Soil Upturned" and T. Khrennikov's "Into the storm" are known all over the Soviet Union. The new Uzbek operas "Gulsara" and "Leila i Medjnun" by R. Gliere, the Georgian opera "Daisi" by Z. Paliashvili, the symphonic poem "The Hermit" by Z. Kiladze, the "Poem about Stalin" by the Soviet Armenian Composer A. Khachaturyan, and many other works, for which the composers have drawn upon the musical culture of the national republics, develop the best traditions of classical music and at the same time are genuine innovations.

The Soviet winners of international music contests—as the pianists Lev Oborin, Yakov Fliere and Emil Gilels, the violinists David Oistrakh and Marina Kozolupova, and the distinguished pianist Vladimir Sotronitsky, Stalin Prize-winner—have gained world renown. The best of the performers are the pupils of outstanding music teachers. Professors K. Igumnov (piano) and K. Mostras of Moscow and P. Stolyarsky (violin) of Odessa, who have created their own schools of music. Many of the performers are graduates of special schools for musically gifted children, where from early childhood they received Government stipends and other help in developing their musical abilities.

Most of the peoples in the country before the Revolution had no national opera. To-day the Kazahk, Uzbek, Turkmen, Tajik, Kirghiz, Buryat-Mongolian and other peoples have their own national opera, representing a valuable contribution to musical culture.

Until 1917, folk bards and singers led a miserable existence, subjected to constant repression for their freedom-loving songs, imbued with the spirit of protest against the oppressors. To-day, a quarter of a century later, they are popular creators of new epic genres, of inspired songs and poems about the heroism of the Red Army, about Lenin and Stalin, about socialist life. Gifted performers on national instruments are popular and enjoy esteem both in their own republics and throughout the U.S.S.R.

ART

The arts in the Soviet Union have flourished during the war against Hitlerite Germany, a foremost place being occupied by music. Numerous musical compositions reflecting the patriotism of the Soviet people and their heroic struggle against fascism have appeared. Outstanding among these are Shostakovich's 7th Symphony, a work that has received world recognition, Prokofieff's suite "The Year 1941," and the heroic ballads of Muradeli and Mosolov. In the field of folk songs special mention should be made of A. Alexandrov, composer of the "Hymn to the Bolshevik Party," V. Zakharov, I. Dunayevsky and Dmitri and Daniel Pokrass, who have been especially successful with their popular songs that have taken a firm hold on the popular imagination as a part of everyday Soviet life in wartime.

HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL MONUMENTS

The first Russian Museum—"a chamber of curiosities"—was founded by Peter I in St. Petersburg, early in the 18th century. That same century the first art museums were founded in Russia, in the city and suburban places of St. Petersburg and Peterhof. The famous Hermitage was opened in St. Petersburg, at first in the form of a court and collection of the empress Catherine II.

Other museums were founded in the following century:—the historical, Rumyantsev, Polytechnical and State Russian museums, the Tretyakov Art Gallery, and the first public museums of the Academy of Science and Universities. Many of the collections preserved in the museums of Russia enjoyed not only European but world fame, while some of the provincial museums had large valuable collections. All in all, there were 180 museums in the country. But the bulk of workers had little access to them before the Revolution. Cultural treasures of great value belonged to private individuals and collector of antiques.

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Museum assumed a new position after the Great October Socialist Revolution.

The exceedingly valuable monuments created by the Russian people in the long centuries of their history, were taken over by the State and now belong to the Soviet people. They are carefully preserved in numerous national and local museums. Tremendous sums are released by the Soviet Government annually for the maintenance, preservation and restoration at special art studios of these treasures of antiquity, as well as for the collection of new historical and art material and for the development of research work. In addition to their regular activities, Soviet museums carry on political and educational work on a large scale.

A CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION

A central museum administration was formed after the Revolution—a special department under the Peoples Commissariat of Education, and funds at its disposal were increased considerably.

Museums of the Soviet Union had about 17,000,000 exhibits, as on January 1, 1940, and the 180 Museums of Tsarist Russia had grown to 836. Numerous museums were opened in the Union Republics. For instance, the Azerbaijan S.S.R., which did not have a single museum before the Revolution had 19 in 1930, the Georgian S.S.R. had three museums in 1914, and 32 in 1939, the Armenian S.S.R. had none before 1917, and in 1939 there were nine, etc.

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Many new museums of outstanding significance have been founded in the U.S.S.R., the Lenin Museum in Moscow, Leningrad and Kiev, the Red Army and Gorky Museums, the Museum of the Revolution in Moscow and Leningrad, the Museum of Oriental Cultures, and the Museum of Modern Western Art in Moscow. The finest works of human art have been collected by the Soviet State in these museums, and are the property of the millions of workers and farmers.

More than 37 million people visited the museums in 1939 alone. The Lenin Museum is especially popular. It contains most valuable exhibits and the life and activity of Lenin and the great friendship between Lenin and Stalin.

Of great repute is the State Hermitage Museum of Leningrad, which contains outstanding valuable specimens of Western European painting, priceless collections of porcelain and material on the art and culture of primitive society. The Hermitage is rich in collections of Italian painting of the 16th and 17th centuries, Spanish, Dutch and Flemish painting of the 17th Century and French painting of the 17th and 18th centuries. Spanish painting is more fully represented at the Hermitage than anywhere else, except at the Del Prado Museum in Madrid, and its collection of the works of the French school is second only to that at the Louvre in Paris. Here too are those rarest treasures—painting by Rubens, Van Dyck, Rembrandt. The museum has 250,000 etchings, including the famous Rembrandt collection.

The Tretyakov Gallery in Moscow is also universally known, containing some of the finest specimens of Russian art from antiquity down to our day.

* * *

Now, during the Great Patriotic War, the museums of the U.S.S.R. conduct their work on a reorganized basis, their fundamental task being to inspire the population to enhance the defence might of the country. They arrange lectures and reports at workers' clubs and palaces of culture, and send out travelling exhibitions concerning the heroic traditions of the peoples of the U.S.S.R. The museums have also undertaken important research on the natural productive forces of the country and the use of its supplementary raw material resources for defence. They are also doing considerable work in collecting material on the history of the Great Patriotic War.

On the territory temporarily occupied by them, the Hitlerite vandals have destroyed and plundered valuable historical and cultural centres of the past, as the Peterhof palaces, the ancient cathedrals in Novgorod and Istra, the Leo Tolstoy Country-house Museum at Yasnaya Polyana, the Chaikvsky Museum in Klin, Moscow Region, the Chekhov Museum in Taganrog, the Pushkin and Turgenev Museums and others.

SOUTH INDIAN LADIES VISIT DELHI W.A.C. (Is).—Four Indian ladies, well known in South India for their wide interest in women's movements, have been visiting Delhi to obtain first-hand knowledge of the Women's Auxiliary Corps (India). They saw the girls at work and at play and lived in one of their hostels.

The visitors photographed on the balcony of one of the hostels with Regional Commander E. M. Dennys, centre, and officers of the Corps, are Left to right—Mrs. Aranha, Mrs. Sreshta, Mrs. Shanta Bai and Miss Parvati from the Mangalore district.

WAR DIARY

BRITAIN AND GERMANY

24TH MAY.—Mr. Churchill opened the debate on foreign affairs in the Commons to-day.

About 2,000 Allied planes attacked Berlin and other places.

25TH MAY.—The debate on foreign policy was continued in the Commons.

Hanover, Aachen and other places in Germany were bombed last night.

26TH MAY.—General Eisenhower returned to London after inspection of ground force units of the Allied Expeditionary force. He was received in audience by His Majesty the King.

Sir Samuel Hoare, British Ambassador to Spain, made a speech on Britain's role in post-war Europe.

27TH MAY.—American bombers raided Karbruke, Mannheim, Ludwigshafen Saarbrucken and Strasbourg in Germany.

28TH MAY.—Last night Berlin and Dussaldorf were heavily bombed.

Hitler saw yesterday, General Oshima, the Japanese Ambassador to Germany. Ribbentrop, the Geman Foreign Minister, was present.

German bombers raided a coast town in South England.

29TH MAY.—Ludwigshafen was bombed by the Allies last night. United States bombers attacked Leipzig, Tutow, Cottbus, Sorau, Mecklenburg and Magdeburg in Germany.

30TH MAY.—On the last two nights enemy aircraft raided the coastal districts of South and South-west England.

American boubers attacked Dessaw, Osthersleben and Halberstdat in Germany.

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE ATLANTIC

26TH MAY.—President Roosevelt visited the Bethesda naval hospital.

The Secretary of the Interior and Fuel Administrator, Mr. Harold Jekes stated that Uninted States faced the greatest coal shortage in recent times.

The White House has announced that President Roosevelt has called an International Monetary Conference for July 1.

27TH MAY.—President Roosevelt signed into law legislation authorizing a special 60 million dollar appropriation for tools equipment and facilities to manufacture Rocket guns projectiles, etc.

28TH MAY.—Brigadier-General R. E. Nowland, Chief of Staff of the United States Air Transport Command, said that during April A.T.C. ferry pilots flew 29 million miles to deliver bombers to the European and Pacific zones.

30TH MAY.—Mr. Cordell Hull, the Secretary of State, conferred to-day with the British, Soviet and Chinese Ambassadors following his announcement that that the United States was now ready to join these three countries in the planning of a post-war organization to maintain peace.

The American Ambassador to Britain, Mr. John G. Winant, returned to England.

* * *

INDIA, BURMA AND CEYLON

24TH MAY.—South and south-west of Kohima Allied troops improved their positions. In the Bishenpur area Allies captured a village.

25TH MAY.—The Japs desperate attempts to capture Imphal have been foiled. The ring around Myitkyina town continues to close in slowly.

26TH MAY.—Allied forces continued their pressure north-west of Myitkyina. Allied patrols were active in the neighbourhood of Kohima. Heavy fighting continues in Bishenpur area.

27TH MAY.—Allied troops advanced 1½ miles towards Myitkyina. In the Imphal area patrols were active.

28TH MAY.—North of Bishenpur the enemy made repeated unsuccessful attempts to re-capture his lost positions.

29TH MAY.—Chinese-American forces penetrated into the south-end of Myitkyina. Chinese forces captured the village of Sharaw, north of Kamaing.

30TH MAY.—Chinese-American forces have cut the main road between Kamaing and Mogaung. In the Kohima area the Allies have progressed near the Naga village.

* * *

RUSSIA AND FINLAND

24TH MAY.—During air-combat 17 enemy planes were destroyed. Two German ships were sunk in the Gulf of Finland.

25TH MAY.—Soviet aircraft continued to attack enemy objectives.

26TH MAY.—Thirty enemy planes were shot down in air combat. Two large German transports were sunk in the Gulf of Riga.

28TH MAY.—The Germans are working desperately to throw up new defence zones on the eastern front and are mobilizing new forces to stiffen their existing positions which are being kept under an almost incessant Red Army Artillery and mortar fire.

29TH MAY.—Germans were beaten back near Luck. Thirty-three enemy planes were shot down in air combat.

LAST MONTH . . .—

1ST MAY.—Empire Prime Ministers' Conference meets.

10TH MAY.—Russians capture Sevastapol.

12TH MAY.—New offensive in Italy: Attack on Gustav Line begins.

16TH MAY.—Empire Premiers' Conference concludes.

Battle of Kohima Ridge ends.

17TH MAY.—Empire Premiers issue joint statement.

18TH MAY.—Allies capture Myitkyina aerodrome in Burma and Cassino in Italy. Allies bomb Sourabaya.

20TH MAY.—Allies occupy Gaeta.

24TH MAY.—Mr. Churchill speaks on Foreign policy.

Allies occupy Terracina.

26TH MAY.—Hitler Line liquidated.

Allies capture Cisterna and Littoria.

29TH MAY.—Allied troops are within 16½ miles of Rome.

ITALY, AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

24TH MAY.—The Allies have occupied *Terracina*, Pico, Lenola and Monte Alto.

25TH MAY.—Patrols of the main Fifth Army have linked up with the forces in the Anzio beachhead. The Allied forces occupied Pontecorvo, La Villa and Aquino.

26TH MAY.—Hitler line has been liquidated. The Allies are now only 21 miles from Rome. Allied forces have captured *Cisterna*, *Littoria*, Roccasecca, Mount Cairo, Cori, San Giovanni, Valle-Corsa and Colle Grande.

27TH MAY.—The Allies have occupied *Sezze* and Monte Arrestino.

28TH MAY.—Allies captured *Ceprano*, *Artena*, Belmonte, Villa San Stefano and Norma.

29TH MAY.—Fifth Army troops are within 16½ miles from Rome. The towns of Sermoneta and Bassian are cleared of Germans.

30TH MAY.—Gigantic battles have developed along the whole 26 miles of Kesselring's last ditch defences before Rome. British troops occupied Arce, Eighth Army troops took Atina. Allied forces have entered the suburbs of Velletri.

VICHY, FREE FRANCE AND THE OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

24TH MAY.—Allied bombers attacked enemy objectives in Paris area and Vienna in Austria.

25TH MAY.—Allied planes attacked enemy positions in France and Belgium.

27TH MAY.—Metz in France was attacked by Allied bombers.

28TH MAY.—Nantes and Rennes in France and Bourg Leopold in Belgium were attacked by Allied bombers.

29TH MAY.—Allied planes bombed Angers and other places in France, Posen and Kreiseng in Poland, Wienel Neustdt in Austria and enemy positions in Belgium.

30TH MAY.—Allied bombers attacked Brussels in Belgium, Rheims and Troyes in France.

THE FAR EAST

24TH MAY.—Truk, Wewak and other places were attacked by Allied aircraft.

Chinese troops have captured Sniping, Chumatien, Svping and Hsiunbshan in Honan province.

25TH MAY.—Fifteen more Japanese ships were sunk by American submarines in the Pacific, according to United States Navy Communiqué issued to-day.

26TH MAY.—United States aircraft bombed Ponape.

28TH MAY.—American troops have invaded Biak Island. Allied planes attacked Kusaie and Ponape Islands in the Carolines and Jap positions in the Marshalls.

28TH MAY.—The Japanese have launched an attack south of Yochow in South-eastern China.

29TH MAY.—United States bombers strafed Ponape and Pakin islands.

30TH MAY.—On Biak Island Allied troops have advanced six miles. Allied planes bombed Truk, Tobera, Rabaul, etc.

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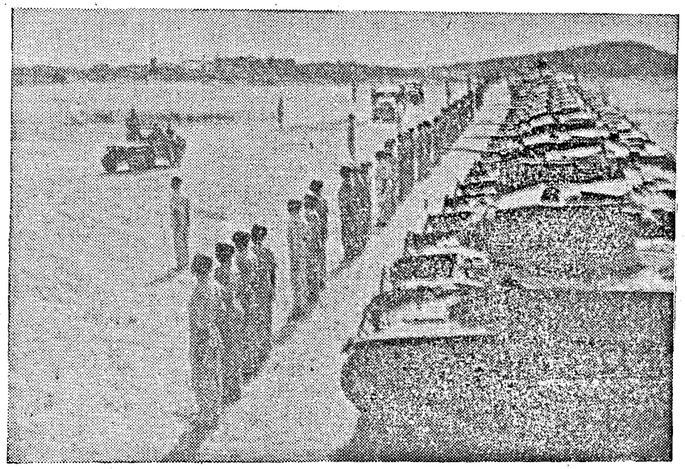
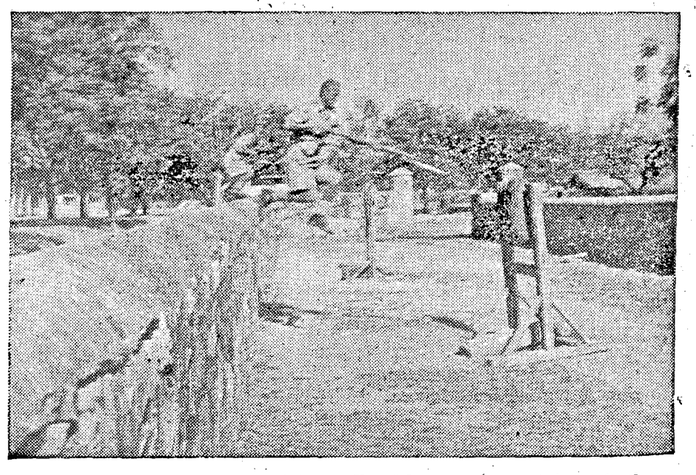


Travelling by Jeep, the Commander-in-Chief inspects tanks and crews in Jhansi



Trainees at the Central Command School at Jhansi demonstrate bayonet charges for the Commander-in-Chief.

FOR YOUR RADIO DIARY

MADRAS—JUNE 3.—9-45 p.m. Fighting Forces.
" " 5.—9-00 p.m. 'Shadow of the Rising Sun.'
" " —9-45 p.m. 'Problems of New India: relay from Delhi.'
" " 8.—9-00 p.m. The Common Cause.
TRICHINOPOLY—JUNE 8—9-45 p.m. A declaration of Interdependencies: By Dr. R. N. Poduval.
MADRAS—JUNE 9.—9-00 p.m. 'Concept of freedom: collective freedom.' By Mr. R. Galletti, I.C.S.

MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. V FRIDAY, JUNE 9, 1944 No. 40

THIS GREAT NEW FRONT

Mr. CHURCHILL

I have to announce to the House that during the night and early hours of this morning the first of a series of landings in force upon the European continent has taken place. In this case the liberating assault fell upon the coast of France. ¶ So far the commanders who are engaged report that everything is proceeding according to plan—and what a plan! This vast plan is undoubtedly the most complicated and difficult that has ever occurred It involves tides, wind, waves and visibility both from air and sea standpoints, and combined employment of land air and sea forces in the highest degree of intimacy, and in contact with conditions which could not and cannot be fully known. ¶ There are already hopes that actual tactical surprise has been attained and we hope to furnish the enemy with a succession of surprises during the course of the fighting. The battle which has now begun will grow constantly in scale and intensity for many weeks to come and we shall not attempt to speculate on its course, but this I may say—that complete unity prevails ¶ The ardour and spirit of the troops as I saw for myself when they were embarking in these last few days was splendid to witness. Nothing that equipment, science or forethought can do has been neglected, and the whole process of opening this great new front will be pursued with utmost resolution, both by the Commanders and by the United States and British Governments whom they serve

Mr. CHURCHILL, in a special statement to the

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[NOTE.—*The summary of news and comments contained in the* MADRAS WAR REVIEW *generally relate to events and statements published till Wednesday, every week.*]

MEMORABLE AND GLORIOUS EVENT

"The House should take formal cognizance of the liberation of Rome by Allied armies. This is a memorable and glorious event which rewards the intense fighting of the last five months in Italy."

MR. CHURCHILL, *making a statement, in the Commons, on Tuesday, June 6.*

❖

ULTIMATE VICTORY STILL LIES AHEAD

"It would be unwise to inflate in our minds, the military importance of Rome Germany has suffered heavy losses but not great enough yet to cause her collapse We shall have to push through a long period of greater effort and fiercer fighting before we can get into Germany itself.

Ultimate victory still lies some distance ahead. But that distance will be covered in due time, have no fear of that. But it will be tough and it will be costly. Germany has not yet been driven to a point where she will be unable to re-commence world conquest a generation hence. The United Nations are determined that in future no one city, and no one race will be able to control the whole of the world."

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT, *in a broadcast, on Monday, June 5.*

❖

STRIKE FOR FREEDOM

"Good hunting on the mainland of Europe. To us is given the honour to strike the blow for freedom which will live in history. I want every soldier to have complete confidence in the successful outcome of the operations."

GENERAL MONTGOMERY, *in a message to his troops, on Tuesday, June 6.*

MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

FRIDAY, JUNE 9, 1944 No. 40

THE FINAL ROUND—FIRST PUNCH

ON September 4, 1940, Hitler said, "When people in Britain ask: 'Yes, why don't you come?', we reply: 'Calm yourselves, we shall come'." The Germans did not come. They could not come. They miscalculated. They wanted to eliminate Russia before turning their attention to Britain. Instead of eliminating Russia, they got entangled in Russia. This gave the Allies time—time to build new planes, new ships and new equipment, time to train thousands and thousands of young men and women in the tasks of war, time to prepare for a Second Front.

THE Allies had a twofold task—to help the Russian Front by regular supply of valuable equipment, and at the same time to prepare for that Other Front, for which the hard-pressed Russians were clamouring. This was by no means easy. It was a race against time to be run on an obstacle course, and the Allies have done it exceedingly well indeed.

THERE were, of course, people who were impatient. They said slow and steady might win the race, but by the time it got into stride there would be no race to be won. But others there were—and they were larger in number—who believed that an early start was not always the best guarantee of victory. They knew that time and the forces of time were with the Allies, that it was not catching time by the forelock that was important so much as acquiring it lock, stock and barrel. And that is what the Allies have now succeeded in doing.

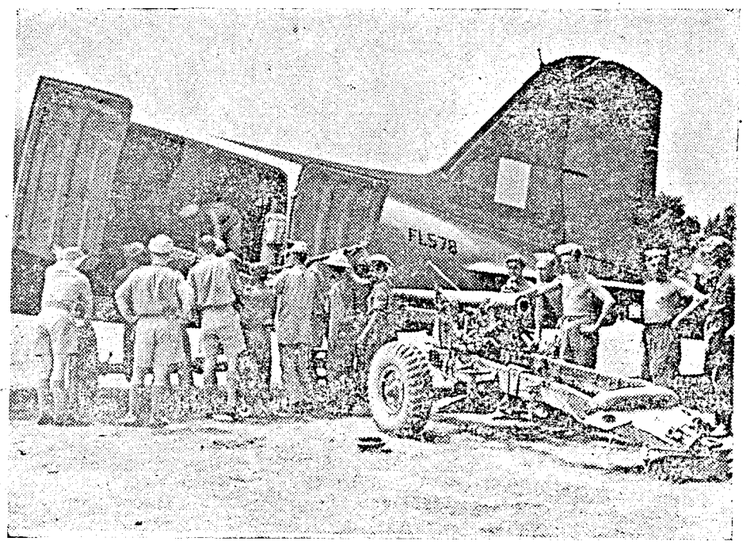
MEANWHILE, Dr. Goebbels and Lord Haw-Haw were, with persistent pertinacity, calling for the Second Front. "Why don't you come?" they asked, "Russia is clamouring for an invasion from the West. Why don't you go to her rescue?" The main objective of Axis propaganda was not only to create disunion between the Allies, but also to ridicule the idea of the Second Front itself. On October 17, 1942, the Berlin Radio declared to the German people: "Germany and her Allies are prepared to such an extent as to rule out the Second Front." About a month later (November 10, 1942), Dr. Goebbels assured them that "every expert knows that the European Continent is barred to any attempted invasion by the English."

BUT in recent weeks there was a noticeable change in the tone and tenor of German propaganda. The old doctrine of Hitler's invincible *Festung Europa* was practically given up. In its place, a new weapon was forged, a weapon which was considered to be a sufficient answer to Allied might—Berlin commentators called it "the true Nazi spirit," Lord Haw-Haw described it as "that calm and imperturbable assurance," but Dr. Goebbels would prefer to characterise it in his *Das Reich* as "fanaticism"!

AS contrasted with the "fanaticism" of the Germans, the British had a feeling of quiet confidence right through, a feeling that they should bide their time, a feeling that, come what may, all that they had to do was to hold on till the freedom-loving world rallied and gathered its strength. Four years ago, after the evacuation of Dunkirk, Mr. Churchill declared (June 4, 1940), that "Britain and the Commonwealth would carry on the struggle until, in God's good time, a new world with all its power and might steps forth to the liberation and rescue of the old."

AND now it has happened! The new world has come to liberate the old from Fascist tyranny; America has joined hands with Britain, and an all-out attempt to rid Europe of Hitlerism has been launched. This great invasion of Europe has begun soon after the liberation of Rome, the first Axis capital to fall into Allied hands. The timing of the invasion, the landings of troops on the French Coast on a scale hitherto never seen before, the fact that this took place with extremely little loss and great accuracy, the perfect co-ordination of the naval, land and air services in the landing operations and subsequent fighting, and the initial successes that have attended the great effort of the Allies—all these show, that a good beginning—a very good beginning—has been made.

IT is the final round in the great battle for freedom and democracy, and the first punch itself has, according to a Berlin report of the German-controlled Scandinavian Telegram Bureau, "knocked out the tactical teeth of the Atlantic Wall." The Gustav Line and the Hitler Line in Italy have crumbled; now it is the turn of "Walls." This does not, however, mean that everything will be "smooth sailing," to use a naval expression. Allied troops will meet with stiff and desperate resistance, but there is no doubt that, in due course, their air superiority, numerical strength, and advantage in equipment will carry them onward from success to success on the mainland of Europe.



FIFTH INDIAN DIVISION MOVES BY AIR—*R.A.F. and American crews of Troop Carrier Command under Brigadier General Old recently moved by air the Fifth Indian Division from the Arakan to the Imphal Front. Indian and British troops, jeeps, guns mules, food and ammunition were transported hundreds of miles in a couple of hours and shortly after the troops were in contact with the enemy on the new front.*

Photo shows : *heavy guns being loaded into one of the transports.*

RUNNING COMMENTARY

Burma Situation—Result Satisfactory

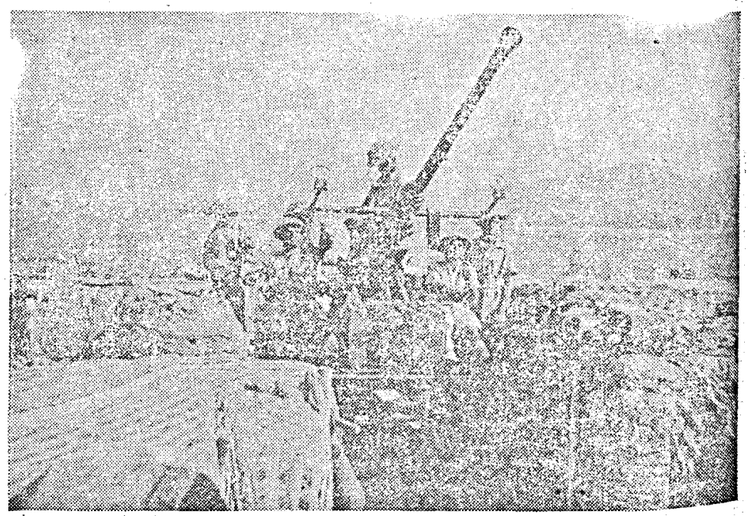
Speaking to pressmen on the latest position on the Burma front, a military spokesman at New Delhi said on Monday, "On the whole, for the first time, we seem to have met the Japs on equal terms in Burma, and we appear to have got their measure. They have given us no challenge in the Bay of Bengal or the Indian Ocean ; we are dominant in the air ; they show no signs of winning the battle on land. In fact, it is the other way round. There is no reason to be complacent, but the results are satisfactory." The Japanese have been putting up a stiff fight on the Burma front south and south-east of Imphal with a view to capturing the Imphal plain before the monsoon set in. This was particularly evident in the Tamu-Palel and the Bishenpur areas. Their desperate efforts to get the coveted Imphal plain have failed. Their attacks have been driven off. This does not mean that the Japanese cannot, if they so decide, still further increase their pressure, for the Tamu road is an all-weather road and transportation of supplies is comparatively easy. The Tiddm road is less serviceable to them, because Indian troops have placed a road-block south of Bishenpur. The Japanese are making attempts to remove the road-block without any success so far.

In the Manipur road area, the Japanese have been fighting desperately but without hopes of supplies or reinforcements. Allies in this area are being supplied from the air, which monsoon weather will make it difficult. But it may be pointed out that weather conditions may diminish but cannot prevent our air-borne supply. Thus the balance of advantage in the difficult weather conditions lies with us.

* * *

North Burma—Tactical Situation Bad for Japs

In the North Burma front, although our troops advancing from the southern air fields on Myitkyina and from the north were able to take one-third of the Myitkyina town including the railway station, the speed of our advance was retarded by the obstinate defence tactics of the Japanese who were aided by heavy rain and deep mud. The Japanese lines of withdrawal have been cut by the capture of a number of villages by our troops south and north-west of Myitkyina. In the Mogaung valley, steady progress is being made by the Chinese forces and in the south General Lentaigne's forces, which are now under General STILWELL's Command, are attacking from the rear. In the Yunnan area, Chinese troops which are advancing from the Salween river to the Burma frontier have made it difficult for the Japanese to assist the Japanese 18th Division, which is holding Myitkyina and Mogaung, by transfer of troops from their area.



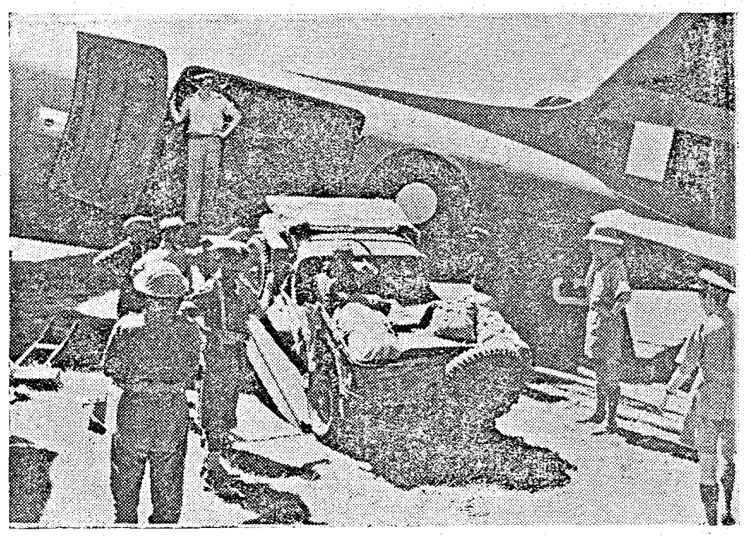
Indian ack-ack gunners on the Imphal Plain about to engage an enemy aircraft. Among them is Havildar Shanmugavel, Madras, who directed the crew when they recently bagged two Jap planes.

Thus it is clear that the tactical situation for the Japanese in North Burma is pretty bad. But this should not be taken to mean that the whole of Myitkyina or Mogaung is likely to be captured by our troops early, for the Japanese are known to be excellent last-ditch fighters and their defensive strategy may be helped by the rainy weather. Further they still have the advantage of round-about tracks of supply to their troops.

* * *

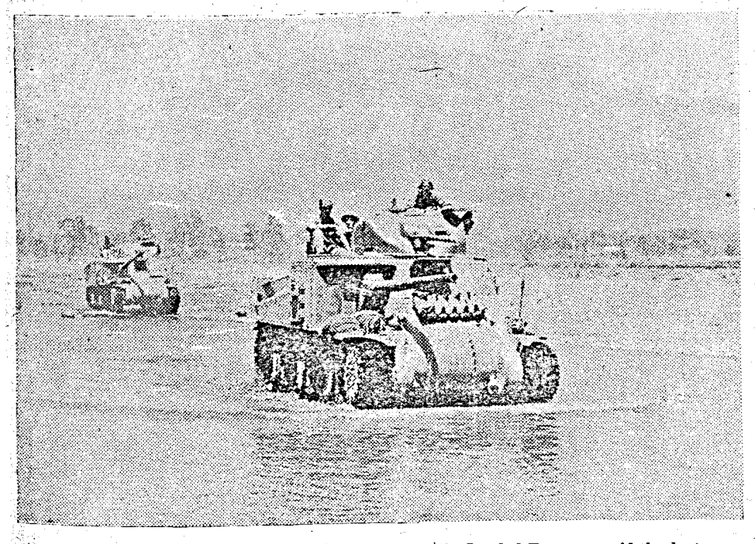
Japanese Radio Propaganda—Talk About Difficulties

But it is significant that Japanese radio stations have not been mentioning anything about the operations in the Myitkyina area. They have been showing considerable reserve in referring to the operations here and elsewhere. They have been emphasizing the difficulties facing their troops in broadcasts intended for home listeners. For instance, a Japanese officer in the course of a talk giving personal impressions of the Imphal front said, "The difficulty of our forces in operating on this front lies in lack of supplies and lack of air supremacy (clear admissions of facts). Our efficiency of supply moreover is considerably inferior to that of enemy. While the enemy receive food by air, our men continued battles eating a handful supply of barley or gram . . . During eight days' stay, I once saw a plane which looked like our own. The happiness of our men was indeed immense."



From the Arkan to the Imphal front: A heavily loaded jeep goes aboard the transport plane.

Another significant fact is that Tokyo and its satellite stations have now more or less completely abandoned the claim to a successful invasion of India. From bold claims and promises of quick and easy victory, they have now come to candid admissions of difficulties. This change on the propaganda front is due to the fact that the Japanese have realized for themselves that in equipment, training, toughness and endurance our troops are more than a match for them.



IMPHAL SCENES.—Tanks travel upstream on the Imphal Front to avoid the dust.

RAJAPUTS FIRED 8,000 MORTAR BOMBS

Over 8,000 bombs were fired by the mortars of a battalion of the 7th Rajaput Regiment during their two major encounters with the enemy first in the Arakan and then in the Kohima area, writes an Indian Army Observer.

The mortar platoon commander, Capt. R. J. Solomon of Lily Court, Churchgate Reclamation, Bombay, told me that during the relief of Kohima town alone 3,080 bombs were discharged, including 400 when the enemy attacked "Two Three Hill." Another 1,000 when the Japs attacked one of the Rajaput companies near Jhotsome village.

In the Arakan, the mortars were used mainly in the Ngakyedauk and the Razabil fortress areas, 1,000 having been discharged on the "Tortoise" feature alone.

ADDRESS SLIPS FOR INDIAN SOLDIER'S RELATIVES

Indian soldiers are to be supplied with printed slips containing their addresses. To ensure correct delivery of letters these slips will be sent to relatives who are expected to stick them to envelopes.

This move has been decided on by the Army Postal Service in India to overcome the difficulty caused by insufficient and inaccurate addressing of correspondence intended for troops and to ensure prompt delivery of letters.

HIS MAJESTY THE KING.

A CALL TO PRAYER & DEDICATION

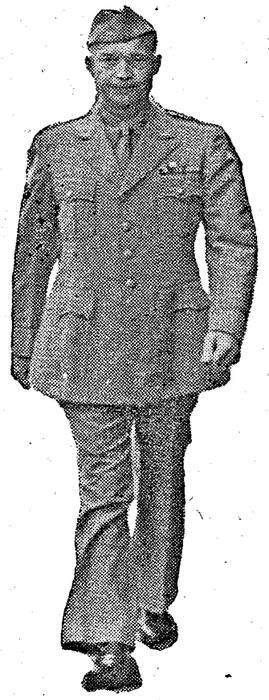
"Once more the supreme test has to be faced. This time the challenge is not to fight to survive but to fight to win final victory for a good cause. Once again what is demanded from us all is something more than courage and endurance; we need a revival of the spirit, a new unconquerable resolve.

After nearly five years of toil and suffering we must renew that crusading impulse on which we entered the war and met its darkest hour that we may be worthily matched with this new summons of destiny. I desire solemnly to call my people to prayer and dedication. We are not unmindful of our own short-coming, past and present; we shall not ask that God may do our will but we may do the will of God; and we dare to believe that God has used our nation and Empire as an instrument for fulfilling His high purpose."

—HIS MAJESTY THE KING-EMPEROR, *in a broadcast on Tuesday.*

"THE EYES OF THE WORLD ARE UPON YOU"

SOLDIERS, SAILORS AND AIRMEN OF THE ALLIED EXPEDITIONARY FORCE!



GENERAL D. EISENHOWER.

You are about to embark upon a great crusade towards which we have striven these many months.

The eyes of the world are upon you. The hopes and prayers of liberty loving people everywhere march with you.

In company with our brave Allies and brothers in arms on other Fronts, you will bring about the destruction of the German war machine, the elimination of Nazi tyranny over the oppressed peoples of Europe and security for ourselves in a free world.

Your task will not be an easy one. Your enemy is well-trained, well-equipped and battle-hardened. He will fight savagely.

But this is the year 1944. Much has happened since the Nazi triumphs of 1940-41. The United Nations have inflicted upon the Germans great defeats in open battle, man to man.

Our air offensive has seriously reduced their strength in the air and their capacity to wage war on the ground. Our home fronts have given us overwhelming superiority in weapons and munitions of war, and placed at our disposal great reserves of trained fighting men.

The tide has turned. Free men of the world are marching together to victory. I have full confidence in your courage, devotion to duty and skill in battle.

We will accept nothing less than full victory. Good luck. And let us all beseech the blessing of the Almighty God upon this great and noble undertaking.

—GENERAL EISENHOWER, *Allied Supreme Commander, to his troops, on June 6.*

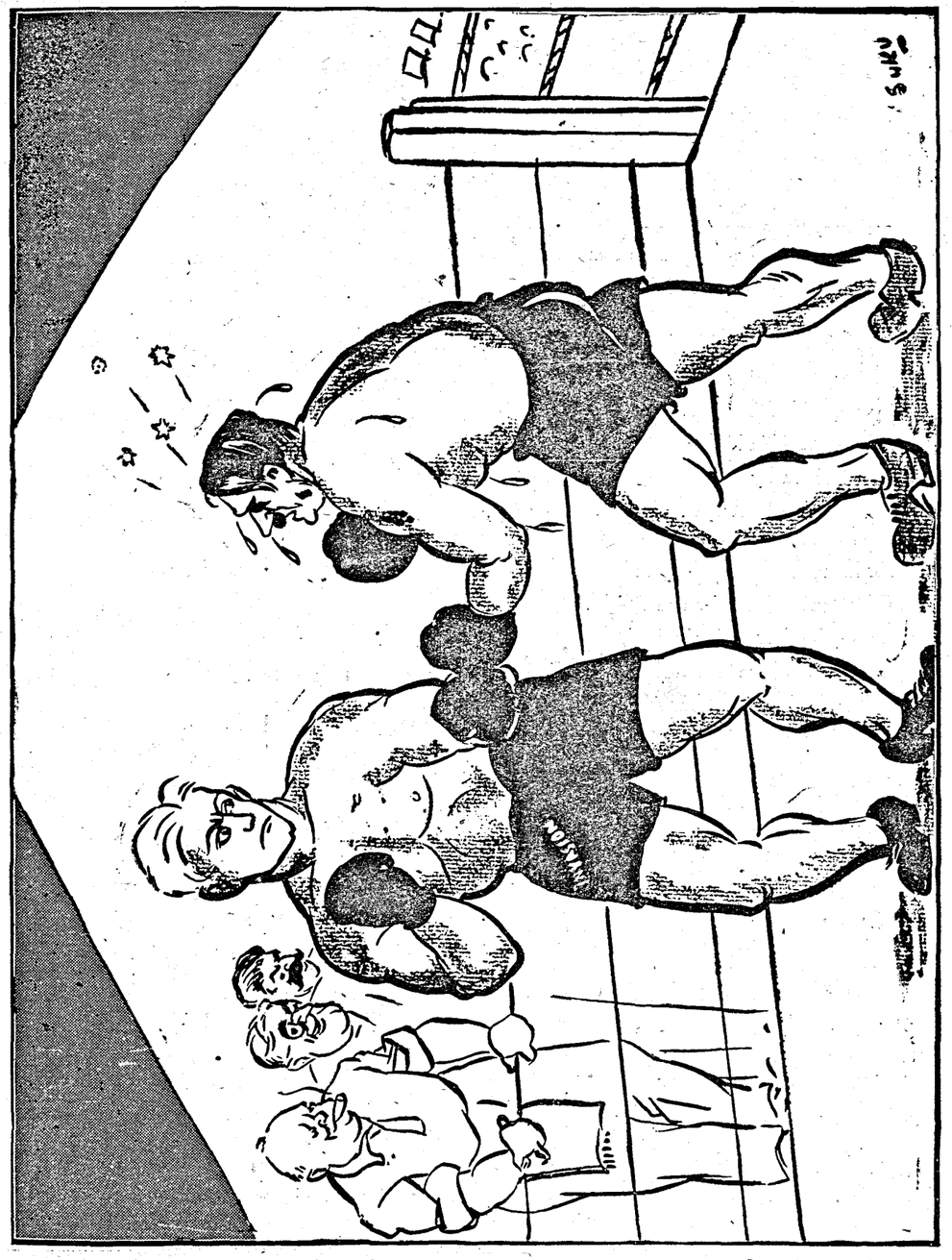
A TERRIFIC ALLIED TEAM

GENERAL MONTGOMERY.

"I personally have absolute and complete confidence in the outcome. Our party is in first-class shape to win the match. We are a great Allied team—a terrific Allied team, the integration of the British Empire and America going out to battle together. I don't think any other two nations could have done it. I don't know when the war is going to end, but I don't believe the Germans can go on much longer with this business. The German soldier is terribly good, but I don't think the German General is as good as he used to be. He has been on the defensive a very long time, and I believe it must affect his mentality."

—GENERAL MONTGOMERY, *in an eve-of-battle statement.*

THE LAST ROUND



—*Specially drawn for the* MADRAS WAR REVIEW

MEDITATIONS FAR FROM ANY FRONT—(*By* R.G.)

He sat beside the quiet sea
  And thought of perils not his own,
The roaring wings of liberty,
  His people's warlike power full-grown.
He thought of peace that was to come
By bugles called and beat of drum.

The surf in tossing ostrich-plumes
  Broke peacefully and on the shore
Threw opening fans of frothing spumes.
  His heart within him raged the more
To think of cruelty and lies
In settings of serenest dyes.

" For human folk a table's spread
  Of sustenance, dainties and delight.
But shall the dear untimely dead,
  Who should have shared the feast of right,
Be not remembered, out of mind
As out of sight of living kind ?

Monstrosity and war and lie
  Have preyed on man for centuries,
And still they raise their head on high
  And claim the world is theirs, not his.
Nor shall he his disease forget
Because abundant blood is let.

In fear and danger men have been
  Courageous, noble, fiery, proud,
And many a lass has proved a queen
  Who else were hidden in the crowd :
But nations grow no better by
Preparing all to kill and die.

If in his interims of peace
  Man has not learnt to live aright,
Will he from wrath and folly cease
  When in his hands the tools of might
Have won a greater, fiercer war
Than ever shook the earth before ?

The fool and knave, like tares that grow
  And steal the riches of the wheat,
With little minds that nothing know
  Save with bewildering words to cheat,
Still thrive, still work their wanton will,
And common men bedevil still.

If war-lords fall and not again
  The flag of conquest lures the folk,
Beware lest other figments vain
  Bow man and woman to a yoke
As savage and as merciless
As iron-handed war's distress.

In war our people learnt to strive
  United for a common end,
To save their rights and souls alive :
  So enemy did more than friend
To foster love and brotherhood
And out of evil came forth good.

As nave and transept, aisle and apse
  Beneath one splendid spire and tower
Together buttressed from collapse
  In unity proclaim the power
Of vision, and call Englishmen
To worship over field and fen.

So English freedom shone afar
  While the whole people toiled and fought.
And stresses of a nation's war
  An edifice majestic wrought :
Old liberties redeemed with blood
Withstood new tyranny at flood.

But as a climber will display
  In danger on a treacherous crag
A coolness not of every day
  And daring like a flying flag
But, having scaled the peak and come
To level ground, grow dull at home,

So danger past and peace regained
  The heroic pulse may cease to beat
And weary victors be enchained
  More pitiably than by defeat.
A proper rage must fire their mind
Lest they be bound like Samson blind.

Folly, monstrosity and lie
  Detest, my people, and despise :
However gaudy is the dye,
  Let promise never dazzle eyes ;
And never for mess of pottage be
Bartered your strength and liberty.

Do not suppose the barrack square
  Will be enchanted to a lawn ;
Nor, hearing voices in the air,
  Think cruelty is freedom's dawn.
For that way madness lies ; and you
Have fought for better things you knew.

Surrender not to plot nor plan
  Your native wit and happy heart.
Call not to lead your caravan
  False guides who gloss a falser chart.
Do not yourselves in bricks immure
Nor build a jail your ills to cure.

See, England's lovely landscape smiles
  In April showers, September suns,
And thickest hedges guard the miles
  Of peace between the angry guns.
Tall elms and beeches rustling say
' Our beauty grew not in a day.

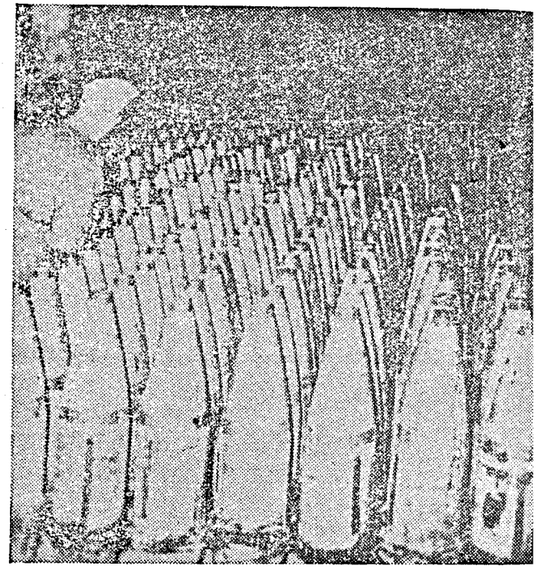
But as we grow, so slow, so sure,
  The liberties of England grew
And sucked a sap serene and pure
  From soils enriched with bloody dew.
In field and pasture, park and glade,
Master and man alike they shade.

Though concrete runways scar the land,
  Though miseries tell of errors great,
So long as English freedoms stand
  Invincible, inviolate,
So long the world shall draw from you
Example old and purpose new.' "

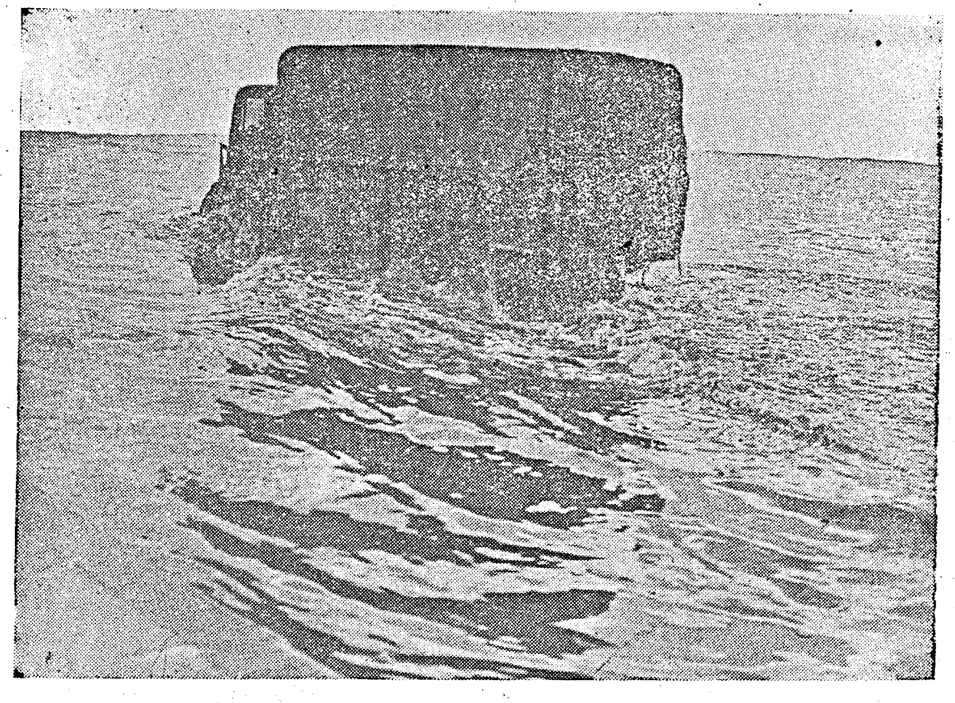
Beside the quiet sea his thought
  Came round full circle from his rage
And with the ceaseless surges wrought
  His mood of passion to assuage.
Though evil be beneath the sun,
On feet as strong man's guardians run.

PREPARATIONS FOR THE GRAND ASSAULT

Picture shows *the King inspecting machine-gunners, with their Yukon Pack strapped on to their backs enabling them to march with their arms free.*



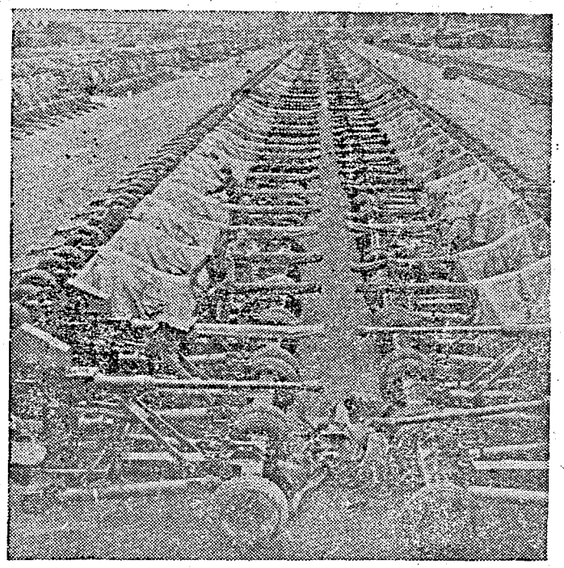
Shells by the million ready for the Allied armies, stacked deep underground somewhere in England.



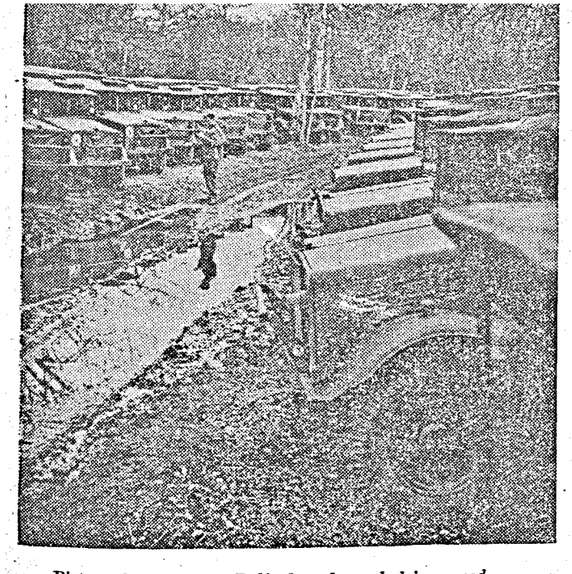
Training M.T. drivers on invasion barges. The training takes place both during the day and night and includes the driving of vehicles through water. Picture shows *practice driving in deep waters.*

THE TOOLS FOR THE JOB

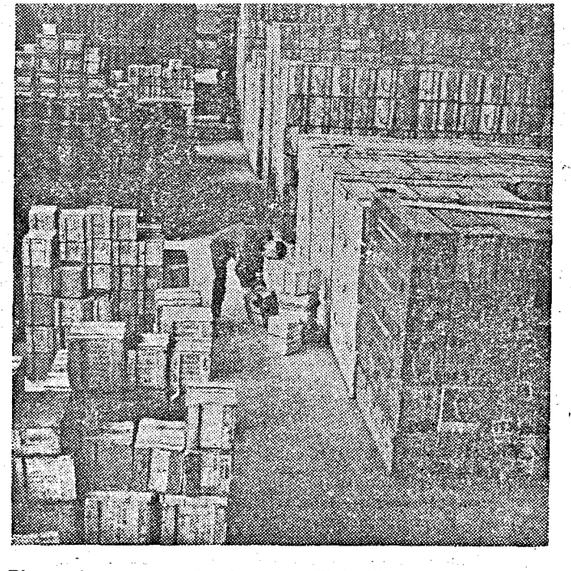
Picture made at an equipment depot somewhere in England shows: *Hundreds of motor cycles stored in large outbuildings of a disused brick-works. An officer and an N.C.O. are seen checking them in one of the buildings.*



Picture shows *long lines of 40 m.m. Bofors Light A.A. guns on Mark II mountings.*



Picture shows 15 *cwt. Bedford trucks parked in a wood.*



Picture shows *stacks of packing cases filled with rifles, Bren guns 20 m.m. gun Piat mortars, etc., at a Bulk Store House.*

MEDICAL ARMY FOR SECOND FRONT

WHILE massed Allied armies await the opening of the Second Front, medical authorities of England and America have completed the most ambitious plan for dealing with casualties ever evolved in the history of warfare.

The combined forces of medical science and equipment are mobilized. Doctors, nurses and hospital staffs are standing by to deal with any emergency. England is fully equipped and ready to become the greatest medical reception base in the world.

For the past nine months requisition officers have been touring the country commandeering castles, country mansions and large houses for conversion into naval, military and air force hospitals.

Civilian and service tradesmen were mobilized for the reconstruction work, which was carried out in record time.

With a few exceptions, the commandeered buildings have not had exterior alterations made. But few of the former owners and tenants would recognize the interiors.

UP-TO-DATE WARDS

Dining rooms, bedrooms, and halls have been converted into the most up-to-date wards. Reception rooms are now the latest thing in operating theatres.

Greenhouses and conservatories which last year housed tomatoes and grapes now house the latest sun-ray and violet-ray apparatus. Outhouses have become well-equipped gymnasiums, with the latest devices for muscular restoration.

Basements and cellars are now X-ray rooms fitted with the most elaborate and expensive plants known to science. Coal cellars have made ideal dark-rooms for developing X-ray plates.

Kitchens have been enlarged and equipped with the latest electric stoves and grills with ample refrigerators.

Transport of the wounded from the front line to home hospitals has received special consideration. A fleet of air-ambulances will operate from front-line stations.

No more will the grievously wounded feel the jolt of the train, the roll of the ocean, or the jostling of the dockside.

Special arrangements have also been made for immediate pre-dressing of wounds in the line of action. Gone is the old emergency dressing with its small bottle of iodine.

Instead, a small compete of medical requirements will be carried by trained men in each platoon to deal with wounds until skilled medical attention is available.

LARGE STAFFS

The training of personnel has also been completed. For the past six months numbers of Wrens, Waafs and A.T.S. have been trained in hospital work.

Large numbers of doctors and nurses from America and Canada have arrived and in most cases have already been posted to the emergency hospitals.

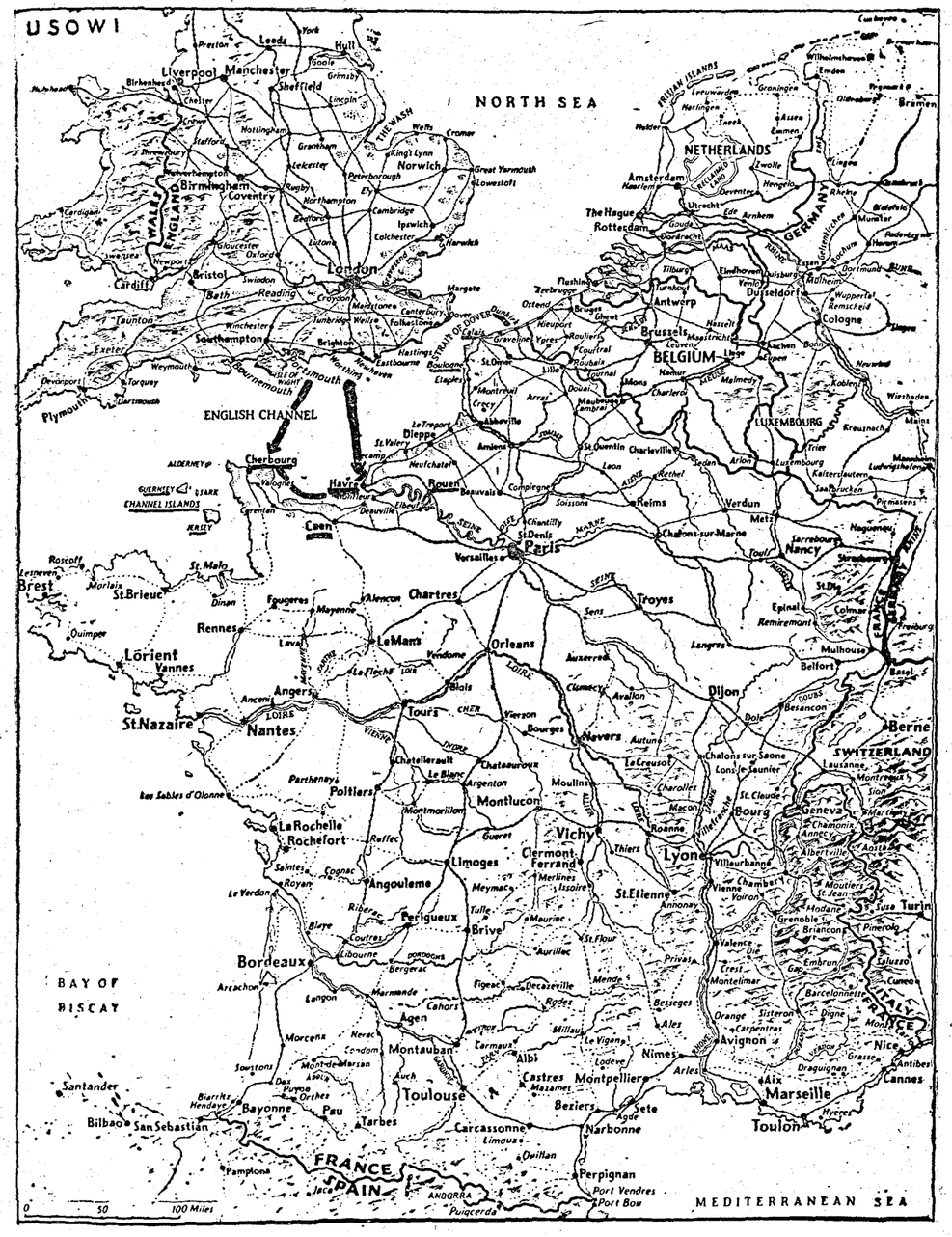
Thousands of documents of vital importance to the Nazis were destroyed when R.A.F. Mosquitoes sought out one particular house in the Hague in which those documents were reported to have been stored, and attacked it by day on May 3. This is probably the most brilliant feat of low-level precision bombing of the war. It is reported that only one bomb fell wide of the target, O.P.S. His Majesty the King speaking to Wing-Commander R.N. Bateson, D.S.O., D.F.C., who led the Hague attack during His Majesty's visit to an R.A.F. station where he inspected many new types of aircraft and the pilots who fly them. Behind the King *is Air Marshal Sir Arthur Coningham, K.C.B., D.S.O., M.C., D.F.C., A.F.C., A.O.C., Second Tactical Air Force.*

Their Majesties and Princess Elizabeth with air-borne troops. The Queen and the Princess interested in a camouflaged sniper. (A radio photograph.)

Yet, with all this gigantic undertaking the civilian population will not suffer as far as medical service is concerned. Civilian doctors will carry on as usual and hospital treatment will be unimpaired.

The authorities have accomplished magnificent job in record time. The medical army is fully equipped and standing behind the fighting army ready for "the day".—*News Chronicle (London).*

INVASION MAP OF EUROPE



"DYNAMO" RAMSAY PLANS LANDING ARMADA

By A. J. McWHINNIE

THE Army is a projectile fired by the Navy, runs an old definition of British sea power which was never more appropriate than it is to-day on the eve of the greatest amphibious operation of all time.

The man responsible for firing that giant projectile—the man responsible for carrying the Allied Army to Hitler's Europe—is the least known of all Commanders-in-Chief at the Supreme Headquarters of the Allied Expeditionary Force.

His name is Admiral Sir Bertram Ramsay. He knows more about planning seaborne invasions and organizing vast armadas than any man in history. Yet, as he strides to and from his secret headquarters in London swinging a Malacca cane not one person in a thousand recognizes him.

NICKNAME FROM DUNKIRK

To Britain's Royal Navy he is known affectionately as "Dynamo Ramsay." There are two reasons. First, and the obvious one, is that he is a man of tireless energy. Then, when he organized little ships which brought back the British Expeditionary Force from Dunkirk the code word which started evacuation was "dynamo." And from that moment his room in Dover Castle only 21 miles from Hitler's occupied France became known as "dynamo room." Not unnaturally from that moment Admiral Sir Bertram Ramsay became known as "Dynamo Ramsay."

It is difficult to realise when meeting him at his headquarters, where the finishing touches are being put to Allied plans for landing on German occupied Europe, that in 1938 this organizing genius was striding along country lanes on the borders of England and Scotland clad in the rough tweeds of a man in retirement. His sea life was apparently over. He had left the Navy and settled down at Coldstream, Berwickshire. But the drums of war were sounding—and drawing nearer. In 1939, Admiral Ramsay put away his rough brown tweeds and donned his uniform. When the war came he was at his post—at Dover. Important as his job was then, it became a hundred times more important when France collapsed. The Germans were only 21 miles away. The British Army was in retreat—bombed and blasted, weary and isolated and stuck at the water's edge on the beaches of France.

ORGANIZED LITTLE SHIPS

Round the coast of Britain the call went out for little ships. Anything that would float—old coasters, wealthy sportsmen's yachts, week-end sailing boats and little cabin cruisers. They came down the Channel manned by volunteer civilian crews—old age pensioners and schoolboys, stock-brokers and clerks, fishermen and lawyers. Men in little ships organized by Dynamo Ramsay went to save the British Army and brought them back alive.

From that moment, Triumph No. 1, Ramsay was marked out as a man destined to play a major part in the war events ahead. Heavy responsibilities were due to be placed on his shoulders. As a tribute to what he had already achieved, King George the Sixth knighted him.

Triumph No. 2 was the organizing of 850 ships for Anglo-American landings in North Africa. It took months of careful planning and organization. "Ramsay's ships" to North Africa even took cargoes of coal to feed the locomotives of French railways known to be short of fuel. Invasion chiefs have to think of everything!

After successful landings in North Africa I met Dynamo Ramsay. He gave me inside information about 40 experts who for months sat in secret at round table conferences working out every minute detail of the operation. But the Admiral made one stipulation at that time. He asked that his name should not be published

PLANNING NO. "3"

Soon Ramsay, tight-lipped but twinkling-eyed, immaculately uniformed, short in stature but erect with four rows of medal ribbons on his chest, was to be seen again striding down London streets. He was to be seen mainly in the vicinity of Combined Operations Headquarters. That was where by this time he was working. And those who knew him would murmur, "There is something in the air."

There was. He was planning ships for Triumph No. 3—invasion of Sicily.

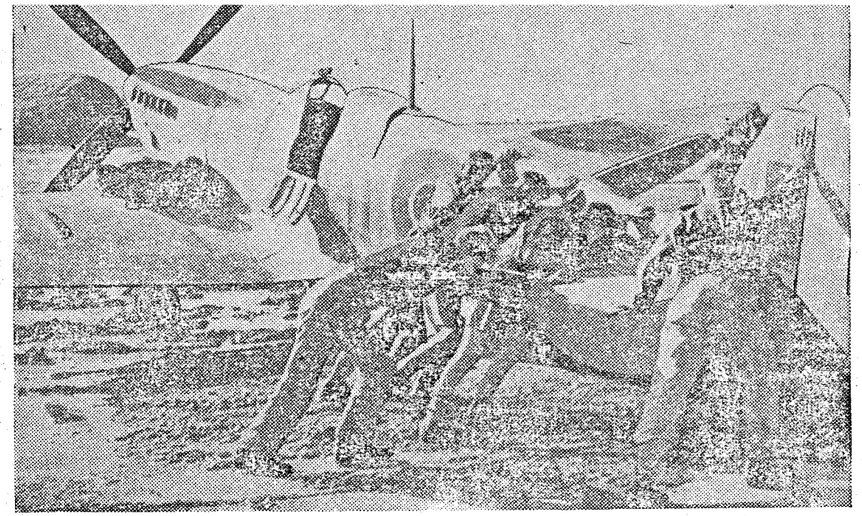
But, for this operation four times as many ships were needed than had been needed for the Allied landings in North Africa. Then he used 850 ships. For the Allies to land in Sicily no fewer than 3,250 ships were needed. Ramsay organized them.

How the Allies captured Sicily without losing a single ship in the first phases of the operation is now a matter of history. Here was sea power demonstrated to the world.

For Triumph No. 3 Admiral Sir Bertram Ramsay was awarded the K.B.E. He had played a major part in the planning and execution of the greatest seaborne expedition in history.

And now for a few months past he has been planning an even greater seaborne expedition—planning ships which will carry fighting men, their arms and supplies over to Hitler's Europe. His staff working in close co-operation with United States naval officers, are men who will fire the mightiest projectile of all time—the *armies of liberation. These are the* men who will arrange for the crusaders of the United Nations to be carried to the right landing places at the right time. These are the men who will keep Liberation armies well supplied with reinforcements and supplies.

ATTACK ON GUSTAV LINE.—German prisoners, consisting of grenadiers and paratroops, awaiting preliminary examination. (A radio photograph.)



ITALY: R.A.F. BATTLE AGAINST MUD AND RAIN.—Many hands make light work of a job of moving a spitfire on a waterlogged R.A.F. landing ground in Italy.

SESHIAH, THE CURIOUS VILLAGER

(*By* R.G.)

CANTO I

Third Instalment

"But what" Seshiah said "are we
To fight for? Something it must be,
And not for nothing shall we send
Our men to war and money spend.
And why if (as they would repeat)
Non-violence would all defeat
Who tried to keep this country down
And subject to a foreign crown,
Will not this same non-violence be
Protection now for you and me?"
"I never knew" the man replied
"If they believed all that they cried.
Perhaps they have sincerely spoken
And yet to brutal fact awoken.
When tigers rage and panthers spring
Non-violence is not the thing
To quell the menace of the beast
Or save your cow from being its feast.
From what I hear, the present foe
Is not impressed if people go
To jail with smile and happy shout,
Quite confident of being let out.
He doesn't mind if people yell – –
But takes a whip and gives them hell
If what they yell is not the word
He wishes to be said and heard.
The English, in their simple way,
Allow their foes to have a say:
But Hitler, if you criticize,
Is not content to damn your eyes;
He's quite prepared to gouge them out
To teach you what to shoot about,
And shuts up critics bright and clever
Not some for months, but all for ever.
To Germans he may seem a god:
To others he will be a rod.
And where his armies go, there ends
The voice of freedom – and its friends.
The rack and thumbscrew come to stay:
Then happy those who only pay
Their money, half, or even all,
But save themselves a funeral – – –
Our ruling party know this well
And know the raving brute from Hell
Will brush Non-violence aside
Without a blink: no deified
Great Soul or Prophet within range
Of Nazi Jackboot gets much change.
So of the two, Shoot or Be shot,
The first we choose, the second not."

DEALING WITH TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS

A Press Note issued from Headquarters, Southern Army, indicates further steps taken by the military authorities to deal with traffic accidents.

The task of drivers of both civilian and military vehicles will be made much easier if pedestrains use footpaths where they exist and keep the sides of roads where there are no footpaths. So far as military personnel are concerned, a Southern Army Order just issued instructs all commanding officers to see that orders to this effect are carried out. Disciplinary action is to be taken against offenders, and military police have been instructed to enforce this order.

Other instructions recently issued deal with the parking of military vehicles. Military car parks are to be provided where possible in towns where none exist at present. Parking outside such car parks is to be cut down to a minimum and in any case must never obstruct other traffic.

The army authorities are anxious that civilians and the civil police shall be able effectively to assist in a real effort to eliminate unnecessary accidents. To this end, the following hints are given to facilitate the task of the police in tracing offenders:—

Prompt action in reporting incidents is of great assistance to the military police and while civilians should make an official report to the civil police, the army will act immediately on unofficial reports made to the military police. Incidents in Madras may be reported by telephoning the local military police at Madras 3426.

Civilians may experience some difficulty in noting vehicle numbers. The most important detail is to report the W.D. Number, e.g. (↑ 48248) painted in white on a black plate at front and rear. The other markings will also be a useful supplementary guide, while the type of vehicle—lorry, staff car, truck, jeep, etc.—may also be noted.

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ARMY RAZOR BLADES RE-SHARPENED

At an average of 300 blades an hour 2,500 used razor blades are being re-sharpened daily by a Lahore firm. This is one of the latest economy measures which the Army in India has introduced; soldiers return their used blades when issued with fresh ones.

The machinery was imported from Germany before the war and subsequently bought by the firm. The workers engaged Punjabis, nearly all from Lahore.

Artillery boards for the army are also being made by this firm.

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GURKHA PIPER PLAYED FOR WOUNDED SCOTS

Strains of the bagpipes greeted men of a famous Scottish Regiment, wounded at Kohima, when they arrived at a forward ambulance post. For a few minutes their pains were forgotten as they sat up on their stretchers and cheered the piper.

He turned out to be Havildar Gaj Bahadur Gurung, Ist. Gurkha Rifles, of Lamjung, Nepal. "I thought it would cheer them up", he said to an Indian Army Observer.

Bagpipes are played by many Indian regimental Gurkha pipers who soon become masters of the instrument. Havildar Gaj Bahadur Gurung has been playing the bagpipes for many years.

ANTI-MALARIA MEN BUSY ON BURMA BORDERS

Dressed in special uniforms and with cumbersome malarial knap-sack sprayers on their backs men of anti-malaria units on the Assam-Burma front are now waging a war of their own, writes an Indian Army Observer.

While our soldiers are hammering the Japs these men are fighting in a less spectacular way another enemy whose destruction is just as important—the mosquito. With the monsoon season fast approaching anti-malaria units are now working harder than at any other time of the year. Hundreds of Indian soldiers from Bihar, Orissa and many parts of Central India are running a race with time to prevent Minimus Anopheles, the insect Mata-Hari, from getting a hold over the fighting men.

Apart from distributing anti-malaria creams and oils and enforcing anti-malaria regulations the most vital and difficult job of these units is to go into thick jungle around military camps and locate and disperse stagnant pools of water which are common in the rain-drenched, tree-cover hill country on this front. The most effective check is exercised by digging contour drains which take away the water which keeps oozing out of the roots of trees and bushes. Besides the constant danger of leeches and snakes these men must be ready to face Jap snipers when working in forward outposts.

GURKHA GIRLS JOIN W.A.C.(I)

Following the example of their famous Gurkha brothers, Nepalese girls are joining the colours.

For the first time in their lives they have travelled by train and 'plane.

In their schools high up in the snow-topped Himalayas, teachers, students and ex-students followed closely the progress of the war, especially the fighting on India's eastern front.

When the enemy came over the border near Imphal they decided it was time for them to act.

So the Gurkha girls set out for the plains.

Never before had they been on a train, but they travelled along the twisting mountain roads to the nearest station. Teachers and students together boarded a train for Calcutta. There they went to see the Women's Auxiliary Corps' chief recruiting officer for Eastern Army.

A Nepalese unit was immediately formed. The officer commanding is one of their school teachers. So are some of their officers. They live in their own hostel, with a Nepalese Mess Sergeant to see that they get the food to which they are accustomed.

The girls will be a most valuable addition to the W.A.C.(I). A number of Nepalese signal sections are being formed. Already a contingent has flown half across India to receive training for urgent signal duties.

ROYAL INDIAN NAVY EXAMINATION

A competitive examination for entry to the Royal Indian Navy will be held in Delhi on Monday, the 9th October 1944, and subsequent days. The examination will be conducted by the Federal Public Service Commission.

At this examination one vacancy will be offered for admission to the Executive Branch of the Royal Indian Navy.

Candidates for admission to the Royal Indian Navy examination must have been born not earlier than the 2nd May 1925 and not later than the 1st May 1927. These age-limits can in no case be relaxed.

A candidate who desires to appear at the examination is required to submit to the Federal Public Service Commission his application in the prescribed form with the necessary documents in accordance with the instructions given in the Instructions to candidates regarding the filling up and submission of applications. Applications must reach the authorities prescribed in the rules on or before the 3rd July 1944. *Copies of the rules and the application form, etc., may be obtained from the Secretary, Federal Public Service Commission, Simla.*

The fact that an application form has been supplied, on a particular date will not be accepted as an excuse for the late submission of an application. Candidates who delay their requests for forms until a late date will do so at their own risk.

NOTE.—The approximate cost of training for the Royal Indian Navy is £260.

WAR DIARY

BRITAIN AND GERMANY

31ST MAY.—A few German raiders were over East England and dropped bombs.

Allied bombers attacked Hamm, Osnabruck and Schwerte in Germany.

1ST JUNE.—The British Minister of Production, Mr. Oliver Lyttleton, speaking in London said, "I do not think that any army will ever go into battle so well-equipped as the army we shall one day launch upon the Continent."

2ND JUNE.—Allied aircraft attacked Leverkusen.

3RD JUNE.—Allied bombers attacked Ludwigshafen.

4TH JUNE.—Sir Stafford Cripps, Minister for Aircraft Production, made a statement on British production of Planes.

5TH JUNE.—Last night Allied planes bombed Cologne.

6TH JUNE.—*Allied Armies have landed on the North Coast of France.* Hitler has taken personal command of all anti-invasion operations. Mr. Churchill, Generals Eisonhower and Montgomery have issued statements on the opening of the Second Front. His Majesty the King has also issued an appeal.

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THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE ATLANTIC

31ST MAY.—President Roosevelt at his press conference suggested that this war be called "The Tyrants' War."

General Shang Chen, head of the Chinese Military Mission, called on President Roosevelt.

The United States Secretary of the Navy, Mr. James Forrestal, made a statement on landing-craft building.

The annual Jap production of combat planes is estimated at about 13 per cent of the American output which is also estimated to be four times greater than Germany, says an official report. The United States has made more than 170,000 planes since Pearl Harbour. The total output in this year will be 100,000. The combined output of United States and the British Empire is given as 23.000 in 1940 and 42,500 in 1941, 75,000 in 1942 and 114,000 in 1943.

1ST JUNE.—Mr. Henry Stimson, United States Secretary of War, in a statement, surveyed the progress of war on all fronts.

Mr. Cordell Hull, the United States Secretary of State, conferred with M. Andre Gromyko, thes Soviet Ambassador, Dr. T. V. Soong, the Chinese delegate to the Monetary Conference, and with the representative of the French Committee of National Liberation. He also assured in a statement that small nations will be properly represented in the International Post-War Security Organization.

2ND JUNE.—It is revealed that Lend-Lease aid by the United States to the Allies now totals 24,225 million dollars.

General Sir Claude Auchinleck, Commander-in-Chief in India, recently visited Lahore where he saw the War Services Exhibition and also inspected a battalion of the Frontier Force Regiment and the 8th Punjab Regiment Training Centre.

These boys of the 8th Punjab Regiment Boys Company are taught to be tough. Here they are seen by the Commander-in-Chief during his visit to the centre, undergoing assault course training.

ALLIES IN BURMA GET SUPPLIES FROM THE SKIES.—An American infantryman unwraps a parachute to unpack ammunition, dropped by an American transport plane to United States troops, fighting under Brigadier-General Frank Merrill against the Japanese in North Central Burma. Pressing hard against the enemy in a two-pronged drive, American and Chinese forces have driven the Japanese from a strategic valley in this area.

5TH JUNE.—President Roosevelt had a long conference with Mr. John Curtin, Australian Prime Minister. Polish Prime Minister, M. Mikolajczyk arrived in Washington to exchange views with President Roosevelt.

INDIA, BURMA AND CEYLON

31ST MAY.—Chinese-American pressure on Myitkyina continued.

1ST JUNE.—Chinese-American forces have taken Malakawng. The Gurkhas took a village in Bishenpur area.

2ND JUNE.—About half of Myitkyina is in Allied hands.

3RD JUNE.—At Myitkyina, Chinese and American forces have made progress near the Railway station.

4TH JUNE.—Allied patrols were active near the Aradura Spur. In Bishenpur area the enemy has withdrawn from Gun Hill.

5TH JUNE.—Chinese forces captured Tumbonghka, 10 miles south-east of Kamaing. Severe fighting continues at Myitkyina.

6TH JUNE.—In Mogaung area the Chinese troops captured Tangaoyon. East of Kohima, enemy has withdrawn from several portions.

RUSSIA AND FINLAND

31ST MAY.—North of Jassy, Russian forces repelled German attacks. The Russians captured an important hill south-west of Vitebsk.

1ST JUNE.—German attacks in Jassy area continued.

2ND JUNE.—The Russians have beaten off more German attacks north of Jassy and at some points they counter-attacked successfully. Thirty-seven German aircraft were shot down.

American bombers landed on American air-bases in the Soviet Union after bombing Axis targets in Eastern Europe.

3RD JUNE.—North-west and north of Jassy Russian troops repelled Nazi attacks. In other sectors, there were no changes.

4TH JUNE.—Heavy land and air-battles raged around Jassy.

5TH JUNE.—Nazis used new weapons against the Russians in Tiraspol area.

ITALY, AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

31ST MAY.—Eighth Army troops have reached the outskirts of Frosinone. The Allies have seized Fontana and Strangolagalli.

1ST JUNE.—The Allied forces have captured Frosinone, Sora, Ripi and Torrice.

2ND JUNE.—The two main strong points of the German defence line south of Rome—*Valmontone and Velletri* have been taken by the Fifth Army troops. Other places captured by the Allies include Ferentino, Voroli, Campoli, Lariono and Morolast.

Pope has made an appeal to spare Rome.

3RD JUNE.—The Fifth Army have broken through the Alban Hills Line. The Fifth and Eighth Armies have joined hands on Highway Six. The Fifth Army troops have captured Lanuvio and Labiio.

General Sir Henry Maitland Wilson, Supreme Commander in the Mediterranean, has issued a statement in reply to Pope's appeal.

4TH JUNE.—The Allied troops have entered *Rome*. The Allies captured Colle Piso, Colle Ferro, Alatri, Fumone and Anagni.

5TH JUNE.—Rome has fallen. Allied troops passed through Rome and crossed the Tiber at several points. King Victor Emmanuel abdicated signing a decree transferring his powers to Prince Umberto. General Bencivenga assumed military and civil command of Rome on Allied authority. Half of Italy is in Allied hands.

6TH JUNE.—Eighth army troops occupied Tivoli. Fifth Army troops have advanced five miles beyond the Tiber.

STRATEGIC AIR FORCE SUPPLY CORPS.—Good work is being done by the Air Transport Corps of the Strategic Air Force, who supply battle areas by air.

A careful watch is kept on the arrival and departure of supply aircraft on the Burma Front by the Officer and the Airmen of the Watch. Left to right.—1342469 *A.C.L. Walker, 73, Menzies Drive, Stirling, Scotland and* 170110 *P/O R. Winder,* 13, *Howyill Avenue, Lancaster, Lancs.*

VICHY, FREE FRANCE AND THE OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

31ST MAY.—Bridges on the Seine river and Luzeol in France and military objectives in the area of Ploesti oilfields were attacked by the Allied aircraft.

1ST JUNE.—King Peter of Yugoslavia has now entrusted Doctor Ivan Subasic, former Governor of Croatia, with the formation of a new Government.

2ND JUNE.—Allies bombed Pas de Calais area.

3RD JUNE.—The air-assault on Pas de Calais area and other places in German-occupied territory continued unabated.

4TH JUNE.—Last night Allied bombers attacked military objectives on the French Coast.

The new Yugoslav Prime Minister, Dr. Ivan Subasic, will shortly hold a private conference with Marshal Tito.

6TH JUNE.—Invasion forces have landed in North France. General de Gaulle had arrived in Britain and had met Mr. Churchill and Eisenhower. Calais was heavily bombed.

THE NEUTRAL COUNTRIES

31ST MAY.—Mr. Brendan Bracken, the British Minister of Information, made a statement on Britain's attitude towards Spain.

THE FAR EAST

31ST MAY.—Shimushiru, Matsuwa Paramushiru and Shimushu islands in the Kueriles were bombed by the Allied planes.

Mr. James Forrestal, United States Secretary of the Navy, said that American fleets would continue on their present offensive in the Pacific.

1ST JUNE.—American planes again bombed the Kuerile islands.

2ND JUNE.—The Americans are pouring reinforcements into Biak Island. Allied bombers attacked Guam, Truk, Wake, Ponape and Marshall islands.

The Jap advance on Changsha, the capital of Hunan Province, has been slowed down. The Chinese captured Kaitou.

3RD JUNE.—It is revealed that Allies have landed in Bougainville in the Solomons.

4TH JUNE.—It is reported that American forces landed on Owi and Woendi on Friday, in the Schouten group.

The Chinese captured Ansiang, on the Tungting lake area.

5TH JUNE.—Allied advance in Biak in New Guinea continued.

To-day's United States Navy Department communiqué says that 16 Japanese ships have been sunk by United States submarines in the Pacific.

6TH JUNE.—The American troops continued their advance towards aerodromes on Biak.

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MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. V FRIDAY, JUNE 16, 1944 No. 41

A BRILLIANT SUCCESS

M. STALIN

THIS is undoubtedly a brilliant success of our Allies. One must admit that the history of wars does not know any such undertaking so broad in conception so grandiose in its scale and so masterly in its execution

IN summing up the results of the seven days' battles of liberation by the Allied troops who have invaded Northern France, one may say without hesitation that large-scale forcing of the Channel and mass landing of troops of the Allies in Northern Franee have fully succeeded

M. STALIN, in a reply to the *Pravda* Correspondent

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[NOTE.—*The summary of news and comments contained in the* MADRAS WAR REVIEW *generally relate to events and statements published till Wednesday, every week.*]

NEED FOR UNITY

"As we draw towards final victory for which we long it is fitting that we should emphasize the unity which alone can make it possible. Divided we can await nothing but confusion and ruin. United we have brighter hopes than have ever cheered mankind."

MR. CHURCHILL, *in a special message on the United Nations' Day, June 14.*

❖

WINNING IN RECORD TIME

"Men of all the United Nations have fought magnificently and are winning the battle in spite of everything that Nature and the enemy have put in their way. Now they are winning it in record time. They are sure of themselves, deservedly so and with every fresh mile of advance their spirits are rising higher."

MR. PETER FRASER, *Prime Minister of New Zealand, in a statement on Sunday, June 11.*

❖

END OF NAZI DOMINATION BEGUN

"This general Allied offensive will not cease until Germany completely collapses. We can now really say that the end of Nazi German domination has begun. Before many months pass the ruins and the terrible collapse of the so-called Reich, that symbol of the worst political evil which European history has ever seen, will become a reality."

DR. BENES, *President of Czechoslovakia, in a broadcast on Saturday, June 10.*

❖

MUCH REMAINS TO BE DONE

"After four days of fighting the Allied armies have secured a good and firm lodgment area on the mainland of France. First, we must thank Almighty God for the success we have achieved and for giving us such a good beginning towards the full completion of our task. Second, we must pay a tribute to the Allied navies and air forces for their magnificent co-operation and support, for without it, we soldiers, could have achieved nothing.

"Third, I want personally to congratulate every officer and man in the Allied armies on the splendid results of the last four days. British, Canadian and American soldiers, fighting gallantly side by side, have achieved a great success and have placed themselves in a good position from which to exploit this success. To every officer and man, whatever may be his rank and employment, I send my grateful thanks and my best wishes for the future. Much still remains to be done, but together you and I will do it and we will see the thing through to the end. Good luck to you all."

GENERAL MONTGOMERY, *in a message to his troops, on Sunday, June 11.*

MADRAS WAR REVIEW

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KESSELRING'S STRATEGY OF RETREAT

THE pace of Allied advance in Italy shows that Kesselring has been completely out-manœuvred by General Alexander's masterly thrust from the Anzio beachhead, which facilitated the liberation of Rome. He was till then holding the defence line facing south-east against the Fifth and Eighth Armies' frontal attacks. But the Anzio offensive seriously lengthened his line at a time when he had depleted his resources on account of the severe losses inflicted by Allied forces. The capture of Velletri and Valmontone, the two key points of Kesselring's last defence line before Rome, left little doubt that the fall of Rome could be expected early, as there was no natural barrier, such as had existed in Central Italy, between the Allied forces and the Capital. The troops which swept aside German defences in hills and mountain defiles found it comparatively easy to fight German resistance on open ground and bring about the spectacular fall of the Holy City.

THE military importance of Rome lies only in the fact that it is a bottle-neck through which all roads run. The use of airfields in the neighbourhood of the City would help Allied forces in extending the scope of their air operations to south and south-eastern Europe. The spiritual significance of Rome consists in its being the Sacred City of the Catholic Church. From the Middle Ages when Italy was considered to be part of the Holy Roman Empire, the Emperors, who were Germans, came to Rome to be crowned, and stayed in Italy long enough to prevent development of any Italian nationalism. The most important aspect of the fall of Rome is the psychological effect it has had on Europe in general and on the Balkan States in particular. The uneasiness which began among Hitler's satellites when Allied troops first landed in Italy has now considerably increased. The liberation of Rome has given them an unmistakable indication of the fighting qualities of Allied troops, the military skill of its leaders and the united strength of the Allies as a whole. But it is well to bear in mind that the overall importance of Rome should not be rated too high. Its liberation cannot be a decisive factor either in the European war or in the Italian campaign, for General Alexander has declared his object to be the destruction of Kesselring's 10th and 14th Armies, and this has yet to be achieved. Though Rome has fallen into Allied hands after long and bitter struggle extending over a period of nine months since they landed on the mainland of Italy, the Allies have not reached their journey's end.

IT may be noted here that Allied soldiers had received special instructions to abstain from all acts which might lead to damage of Rome's priceless art treasures, ancient buildings, and other monuments. That these orders were strictly adhered to was borne out by His Holiness the Pope who, in his recent broadcast, stated that Allied bombing had not caused damage to the City's religious or cultural monuments. The decision of the Germans to evacuate Rome without destroying the ancient religious and artistic treasures marks a departure from the invasion history of Italy which was ravaged by the Goths, Huns, and Vandals in the past.

THE German withdrawal from Rome is also a departure from previous German policy of not yielding territory for purely military reasons. It was because of this policy that the German High Command previously lost three considerable armies at Stalingrad, in Tunisia and in the Crimea. Considerations of prestige prevailed in these three cases over those of military necessity, and in the case of Rome, there was every reason why a bitter battle should have been fought by the Germans, for the loss of Rome at a psychological moment would be, it was only too apparent, a blow to German civil and military morale. It was therefore expected that the Germans would not abandon Rome without a final struggle.

KESSELRING, however, has chosen the better way of falling back to northern Italy fighting only delaying actions on the way. He evidently thought that there was one thing which was more important than prestige and that was the safety and security of the Reich itself. As a military commentator has pointed out, the keeping of General Alexander's forces at arm's length from the Reich has become the chief point in Kesselring's strategy of retreat. He is now withdrawing further as a result of persistent pressure by the Allied Fifth and Eighth Armies. As soon as he reaches a natural defensive terrain, his 14th and 10th Armies may attempt to stem General Alexander's advance. But it can only be a delaying action, for the complete destruction or expulsion of the Germans from Italy is only a question of time.

ALLIED INVASION CHIEFS

THE ALLIED SUPREME COMMAND PHOTOGRAPHED AT THEIR LONDON HEADQUARTERS.—(Left to right *Lt. Gen. Omar N. Bradley, Senior Commander American Ground Forces; Allied Expeditionary Force; Admiral Sir Bertram Ramsay Allied Naval Commander Expeditionary Force; Air Chief Marshal Sir Arthur Tedder, Deputy Supreme Commander; General Dwight D. Eisenhower, Supreme Commander; General Sir Bernard Montgomery; C-in-C. British Group of Armies. A.E.F. Air Chief Marshal Sir Trafford Leigh Mallory, Air C.-in-C., A.E.F. and General Walter Bedell Smith, Chief of Staff, Supreme Headquarters, A.E.F.*

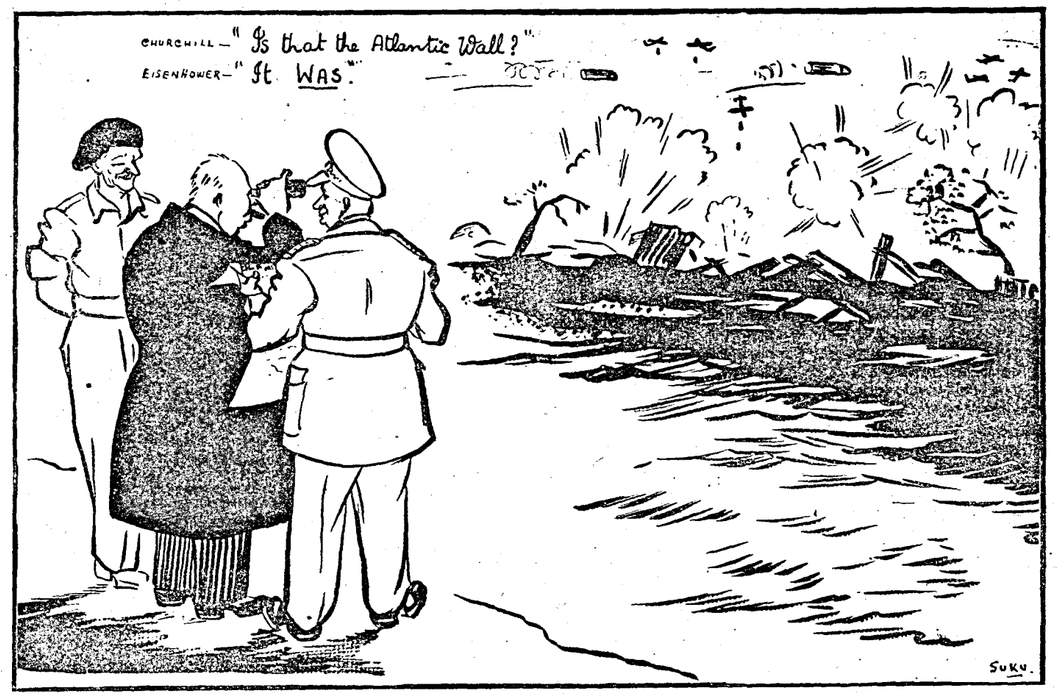
RUNNING COMMENTARY

"Consternation in Germany"—German Home Front—Neutral Propaganda

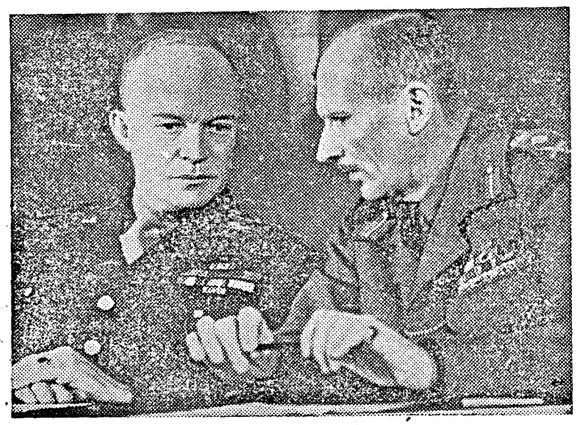
A Zurich message published on Sunday last stated that according to reports reaching the Swiss frontier the news that the Allies have breached the West Wall has been received with consternation in South Germany, as most people had believed that a real Second Front had been postponed until autumn. The man in the street in Germany, it seems, is asking, "Where was the *Luftwaffe*?" The Zurich report quoted one informant as saying that all German factory workers are being armed against the eventuality of a revolt by war prisoners and foreign workers when war approaches German frontiers. Numerous passages of a similar nature from writings in the German Press, broadcasts by the Berlin Radio, and articles by neutral observers which would give a picture of Germany on the verge of collapse can be quoted, but they should all be taken with some reservation. For warning or castigating articles in German newspapers exaggerate things often in order to whip up the public for a particular purpose. As regards observers of neutral papers, they seem to allow their obvious hatred of the Nazis to colour their judgment by attaching over-much importance to particular episodes. For instance, a Swiss paper, the *Berne Tagwacht*, in discussing the attitude of the German people towards the impending Allied attack in the west speaks of their weariness and apathy. The paper writes, "In this connection we possess numerous absolutely definite and incontestable items of information. In reply to Goebbels' war cry 'Let them come,' most Germans say with a surprised sigh 'If only they would come . . .' All propaganda including enemy propaganda has been running a 'free wheel' for weeks in Germany and no longer makes any impression. The German people have become tired. The Gestapo would tell a tale of what public morale is like in the large cities. The S.S. has its hands full, and if to-day in a single city such as Berlin, a couple of dozen people disappear daily 'without a trace,' it can easily be guessed what happened to these unfortunates. For this reason, despite all the soldiers' heroism, an atmosphere has developed that can be expressed by the well-known phrase *Lieber ein Ende mit Schreckon als Schrocken ohno Endo* ('Better an end with terror than terror unending'). . . 'If only they would come, then at least it would all be over'—that is how these people think who, in years of war, had conquered three-quarters of Europe."

* * *

Vice-Admiral Sir Philip Vian, K.B.E., D.S.O., who is in charge of one of the Task Forces covering the present landing operations.

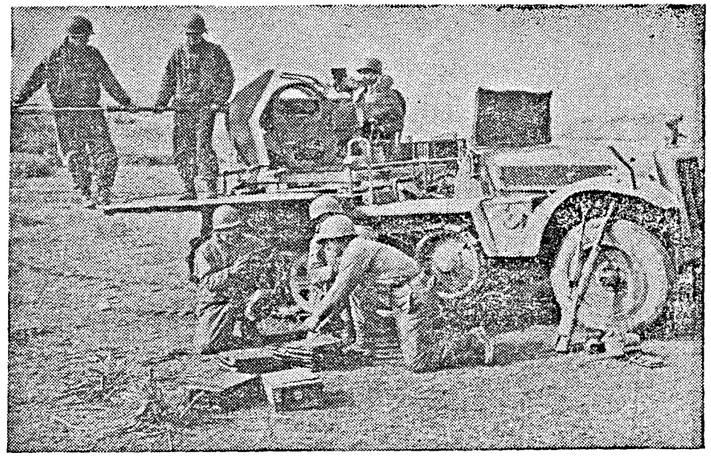


—*Specially drawn for the* MADRAS WAR REVIEW



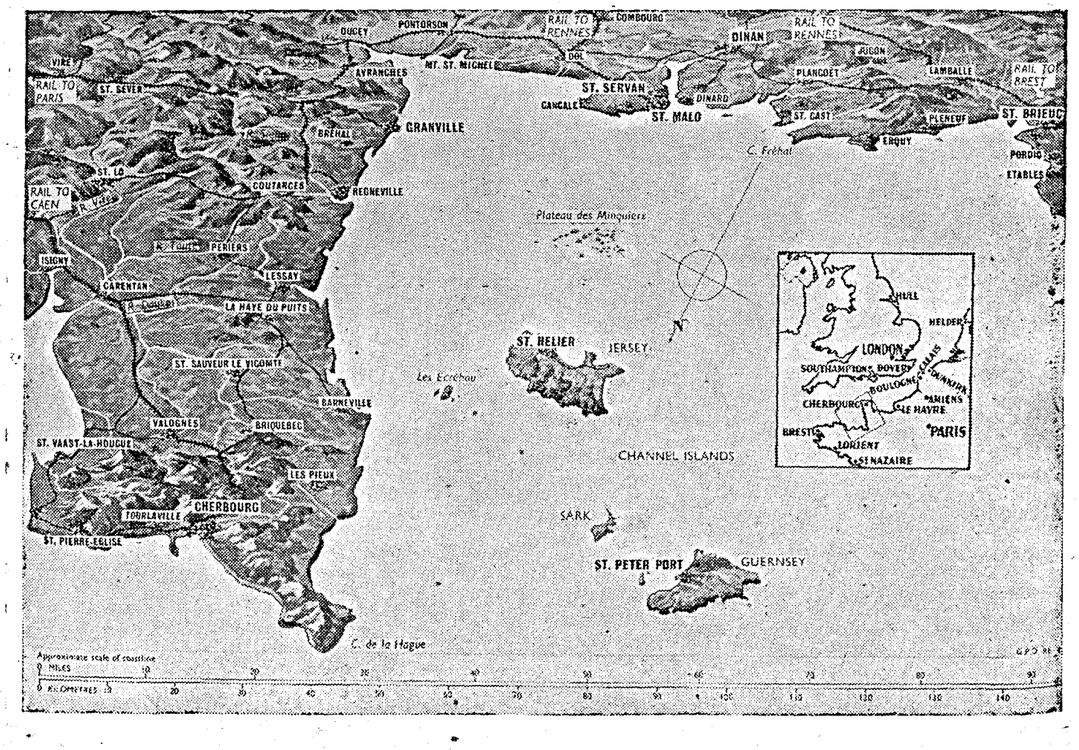
CHIEFS OF ALLIED LIBERATION FORCES.—Picture shows *General Eisenhower (Supreme Commander)* (left) *with General Sir Bernard Montgomery (in command of the Expeditionary Forces).*

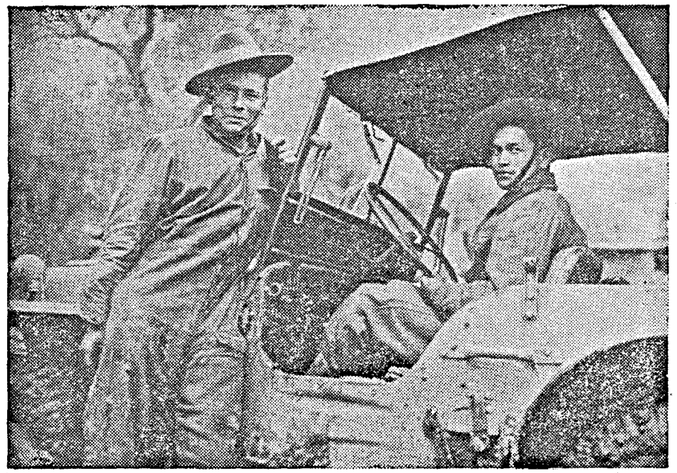
Effect of Allied Air Raids In another Swiss newspaper an article appeared last month (May 23) from a correspondent who had just returned from Germany. He gives a vivid description of the damage done to certain industrial towns in Germany by Allied bombers, but says that the Allied air offensive has neither broken down the people's spirit of resistance nor driven wo kers away from their work in the factories by the destruction of their residential quarters. He is completely wrong in thinking that the primary purpose of Allied air attacks, is to break the morale of the people, for their principal object is only to inflict as much damage as possible upon German war-industries and railways. The correspondent pays a tribute to the "almost incredible toughness" of city workers and says that it is quite clear that the air offensive is continuing unceasingly to wear this spirit down. He observes: "There is a big difference between standing up to a single bombardment and maintaining complete efficiency through months of air war . . . In fact, air war completely dominates life, and is almost the only topic of conversation, thus pushing far into the background events at the front or in politics."



UNITED STATES' TROOPS INSPECT CAPTURED GERMAN ANTI-AIRCRAFT GUN.—United States soldiers of the Allied Fifth Army in Italy examine ammunition of a German anti-aircraft gun, captured intact on the Fifth Army front Fellow soldiers inspect the 20-mm. air-cooled, clip-fed gun mounted on a turntable at the rear end of a half-track vehicle.

INVASION MAP





INDIAN SOLDIERS IN WESTERN ITALY.—Indian soldiers of the Allied Fifth Army drive an American jeep in Western Italy.

* * *

Foreign Workers in German Factories With regard to the workers in the factories it may be pointed out that a considerable number of them are foreigners to which reference was made in the Zurich report quoted earlier. A significant thing that has happened is the loosening-up of police control over foreign workers from all parts of Europe who number 6,500,000. Now let us look at some German claims about their treatment of these labourers. "Foreign workers now in Germany," says a recent Berlin broadcast to Hungary, "feel that they belong to a big family and are well-housed, fed and cared for." In a speech at Hamburg a month ago, Sauckel, the Labour Minister, said, "The idea of National Socialism is also behind the working effort of foreign workers who are also overwhelmed by the inner power of National Socialism. They try to equal their German fellow workers, and the majority have reached the output of the Germans Naturally, the pre requisites are good treatment and adequate food and accommodation. Though the saboteur must be punished severely, we want to be fair towards the willing foreigner." In an account transmitted to the Far East on May 4, the Trans-Ocean Service said, "None of the former Soviet citizens working in Germany have committed act of sabotage or made Communist propaganda. Output has increased."

* * *

Menace within Germany—Authorities' Concern. The other side of the picture has been given by a Swedish traveller in an article published in the *Arbetaren*. He says, "Thousands of Russian men and women are disappearing from their places of work. According to reliable statements, about 50,000 people are constantly fleeing from their German places of work to their homeland." The fact that sabotage by foreign workers has lowered the total production by at least 8 per cent has been referred to by the Berlin correspondent of *Dielat*. He quotes a German industrialist's statement that "the behaviour of foreign workers has become unbearable, but we can do nothing about it as they know that we cannot do without them." Several factories have been completely destroyed by foreign workers who set fire to them before the arrival of the Royal Air Force, thus providing targets for the bombers.

The German authorities are gravely concerned about this menace within their gates. Recently an important meeting of Nazi officers took place in Bremen, at which it was decided that necessary efforts be made to convince people that quiet and order would be maintained in spite of the presence of innumerable foreign workers.

All indications point to the fact that the German home front is not likely to suddenly crack or have a spectacular collapse. What seems likely is that it will rather sink gradually into a stupor.

INDIANS AND CANADIANS TOGETHER IN ITALY

Indian troops in Italy have been working with Canadians using Sherman tanks. Indian troops have never had better tank support than they received in the Gari crossing, writes an Indian Army Observer. They have learned to appreciate the help which tanks can give them in fighting in close country and they certainly admire the dash with which the Canadians have gone ahead of the infantry in order to destroy enemy tanks and self-propelled guns and thus facilitate the advance. The Canadians have taken great risks, in their opinion justifiable, and the results have been magnificent.

The Canadians for their part like the Indians. "They are hard-working and cheerful," one Canadian told me, "and Jeez, can they fight!"

A country doctor on his rounds narrowly escaped running over a Home Guard writhing in apparent agony in the middle of the road. Stopping his car he got out, bent over the man, and asked: "What's the matter? Where's the pain?"

"There isn't any pain," the man replied. "This road is supposed to be a deep river, and I can only swim on my back."

* * *

The sergeant raged at his squad of recruits, for they turned left when they should have turned right and *vice versa*. Private Higgins was the greatest offender, and the sergeant going up to him, bawled in his ear: "Haven't you ever drilled in your life."

"Yes, Sergeant," replied Higgins, "I once drilled for three years."

"Oh indeed.....and where?" snapped the sergeant.

"In a quarry!" grinned Higgins.

* * *

An Army officer, noted for his imperturbability, was in the back of a motor-car which fell over a low cliff.

Miraculously, nobody was hurt, but as the car came to rest in the water a dispassionate voice was heard from the rear seat: "How frightfully Gadarene."

SOCIAL RIGHTS*

By R. GALLETTI, I.C.S.

IN the last talk, I began an enumeration of the rights, which taken together, constitute the English system of freedom. I spoke of physical freedom and the right to a free enjoyment of property. I said that the English were now facing the need to regulate the right of property. Listen for instance to Professor Tawney:

"It sometimes seems that we know everything about the economic system except the purpose for which an economic system exists . . . That purpose, is, or ought to be, plain enough. It is the conquest of nature, by co-operative effort, for the service of man. Industry, therefore, is a social function. It is to be judged not by the dividends which it yields but by the service which it renders . . . That principle . . . will lead us to look with a severe eye on the neglect, under-utilization, or wasteful exploitation of natural endowments—whether land, timber, minerals and other productive assets, or places of beauty and amenity—whose development or preservation is the common interest of the whole nation, including posterity as well as ourselves. We have scandalously misused them in the past, sometimes because there was money in them, sometimes because there was not. We ought now to resolve to take a long view and to exercise our stewardship in the spirit, not of a profiteer on the make, but of a responsible trustee. Clearly, in the second place, when we hear the term "property" used, we shall be careful to discriminate between different species of this ambiguous genus. While recognizing that some forms of property are generally beneficial and desiring to extend them as widely as possible, we shall also be forced to admit that some others confer on their owners a degree of power which is too great to be exercised by private persons, and that others again amount to little more than a right to levy private taxation on one's fellow-citizens. We shall not allow ourselves, therefore, to be bludgeoned by a word into shrinking from the plain duty of requiring doubtful cases to produce their social title-deeds. Such cases are not few. Clearly, to give a third example, we shall realize that the moment has arrived for a thorough-going revision of conventional conceptions of the respective spheres of public and private enterprise. Whether an undertaking is properly to be regarded as invested with a public significance depends, not on the term used to describe it, but on the facts of the case. It is a question of the nature and magnitude of the interests involved in it; of the number of persons dependent on, or affected by it; of the place which it occupies in the economy of the nation. In a closely integrated economic system like our own, various services which, in a more loosely-organized society, were naturally left to private control, are, on a realistic view, public, since the greater part of the public is vitally interested in the manner in which they are conducted.

"If, for example, as some competent economists tell us, it is possible for the State, by controlling credit policy, to avert or mitigate cyclical depression, then clearly it ought to possess whatever powers, whether by way of ownership or regulation, may be needed for that purpose, for depressions are responsible for more misery and waste than anything except war."

PROPERTY RIGHTS

And listen, too, to Walter Lippmann—(even if he is an American)—". . . the rights of any man upon the earth must be reconciled with the equal rights of other men, not only of living men but of the unborn generations. No one in his senses can therefore believe in an absolute right of property which would permit the transient possessors of the land to destroy its fertility, to burn down forests, to cause the streams to dry up, to squander at will the minerals under the surface. Those owners did not make those resources. They are unable to re-create them. What title have they, then, to claim that posterity has no rights which they must respect?"

"And, likewise, no one believes in an absolute right of property which gives such exclusive possession that property owners can so monopolize the land and the resources that other men can live only by paying the price they choose to exact. Men may pretend to believe in such a theory of property. In practice it is unworkable. The dispossessed and the disinherited will haunt them and terrorize them. The desperate insecurity of all private property in the modern world is due to the fact that the proportied classes in resisting a modification of their rights have aroused the revolutionary impulse to abolish all their rights. Modern bolshevism is the product of the attempt to make property an absolute right.".

I now come to a pair of rights which the Englishman demands as a man living in an organized society. The first is one more evident in England than almost anywhere else and the occasion of much wonderment in visitors from other lands—the right to a man's own personality, the *objection to intrusion and compulsion*, on even the best grounds and from even the best motives. It is said that the Englishman's home is his castle; that the English do not mix—and so on. The English are notorious for their idiosyncrasies and eccentricities and their remarkable disregard for other people's ways and wishes. The ability to call one's soul one's own is the very core of liberty for the English. It made them among the most successful Protestants in religion and among the best fighters for freedom of worship, which they triumphantly asserted in the end not only in the American colonies, many of which were founded for this specific purpose, but also by stages in England till the toleration desired by Cromwell was confirmed by the Catholic Emancipation of 1830. (The same spirit speaks in Milton's defence of the freedom of the Press.) In some ways this right, which might be called the right to be wrong, is due to the sin of pride. But the English and the Americans perhaps even more, think a man must be allowed to make his own mistakes, since otherwise he will not have the chance to make his own glories. "If every action (says Milton) which is good or evil in man at ripe years, were to be under pittance and prescription and compulsion, what were virtue but a name, what praise could then be due to well doing, that gramercy to be sober, just or continent?"

This sort of feeling appears in all classes. The English poor are at one in this with the 'milor' and 'superior person.' C. F. G. Masterman, writing on "The Condition of England" before the First World War, says on this point:

"All that the poor want, runs the popular Socialist declaration, is that the rich shall get off their backs. All that the poor want, would be a truer aphorism, is to be left alone. They don't want to be cleaned, enlightened, inspected, drained. They don't want regulations of the hours of their drinking. They assiduously avoid the hospitals and parish rooms. They don't want compulsory thrift, elevation to remote standards of virtue and comfort, irritation into intellectual or moral progress".

"Not only England, but every Englishman, is an island" is a true word spoken in jest. And so long as each Englishman feels strongly the desire to be left alone, he is willing to leave others alone, so that Englishmen suffer fewer infringement of their personal freedom than men who are more willing to be reformed and made over according to the prescription of zealots and revolutionaries. The persistence of a class structure, which seems to some observers to show that England is not really a free country, is actually a measure of the degree to which the English are willing to live and let live. The master, the policeman, the magistrate and the legislator are the more easily tolerated because they know better than to intrude too far or to compel too briskly. Persuasion and compromise flourish where a people cannot easily be forced; and in the end it is the English man's personal independence and self-reliance which has given him Government by discussion, self-Government in local affairs and representative institutions.

FREEDOM OF ASSOCIATION

But the next right to be mentioned is equally characteristic and oddly enough springs from the same root. The Englishman claims the right to enter into social and commercial relations at his pleasure. He wants to be left alone—in order to choose his own friends and associates, form clubs, organize parish councils and philanthropic societies, enter into business of his own choice and deal with any persons whatever. The English have placed freedom of association for pleasure or business very high in their list of things needed. It is not accidental that they did much of the pioneer work in designing organs of local-self Government, trade unions, co-operative organizations, and the harmless necessary clubs. As soon as one type of association becomes obsolete another type better adapted to the age springs up and flourishes; and if the Government of the day disapproves and seeks to repress it, it only flourishes the more.

The Joint Stock Company and the Limited Liability Company were invented in a country where men could associate easily and without incurring the suspicion of the authorities. It was also a country where movement from place to place was unrestricted. In spite of the old Poor Laws which tried to restrain the labourer from changing his parish, the Englishman seems to have got used to changing his abode earlier than the inhabitants of other countries particularly in going to London to seek his fortune. And good communications arrived together with the reformed Poor Law to give him a freedom of movement never before known and a freedom of association over a wider area than could have been covered by one organization before. The further freedom of communications given by the penny post helped an ample use of the right of association, while no English Government ever found it necessary to fear associations, even when the Chartists were led by men who exhorted them to violence.

POLITICAL ASSEMBLIES

Here the rights I have classed as social overlap with those more properly described as political. Association like the Chartists have political objects and their public meetings are political assemblies—even if many of the listeners go really to be entertained. To the stranger one of the wonders of the fabulous English island has been the complete freedom of gathering in Hyde Park, where policemen ignore orators preaching the most outrageous doctrines of violence and rebellion. But Hyde Park crowds are not usually political, and it is much more to the credit of the English people that freedom of assembly for political purposes and opposition to the Government in power has been maintained unimpaired (except during the period of reaction in Napoleon's time and after) even through great crises. The views expressed by Lord Russell at the time of the Chartist agitation have held the field:

"The people have a right to meet. If they had no grievances, common-sense would put an end to their meetings. It is not from free discussion that Governments have anything to fear. There was fear when men were driven by force to secret combinations."

The right of assembly was one of the contributions made by English tradition to the Americans and embodied in the Constitution of the United States. In England as in the U.S.A. It is one of the most cherished of all liberties, and rightly, because without it the right of free speech, once a privilege of Parliament but afterwards successfully claimed for citizens in general, would be whittled down. It has been observed that it is not the right to speak that is important but the right to be heard; and as the written word has not the same impact as the spoken, and the right of free speech on all subjects has not been extended to broadcasting, the free public meeting is still a prime factor in politics.

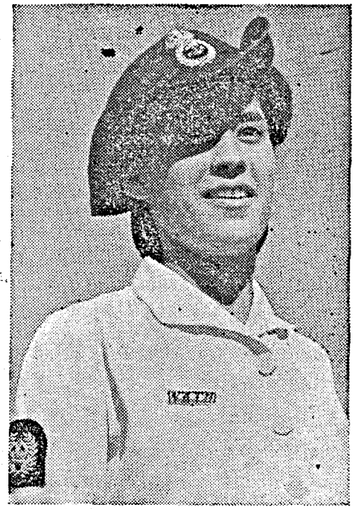
LIBERTY IN TIME OF WAR

The English expect some curtailment of this liberty in time of war, as in the Napoleonic period already mentioned and in the last World War and again at the present time; but they are jealous of the encroachments of Government and lodge their protest when the aim of the curtailment seems to be to prevent legitimate criticism rather than to prevent discouragement of the people and aid and comfort to the enemy. Listen to Ivor Jennings:

"On one occasion recently (a debate on civil liberties, be it noted) the Government's majority fell to 28. Indeed nothing shows more emphatically the essentially democratic nature of our war-time Government than the debates on the internment of aliens, the exercise of powers of arrest without trial, and the creation of special criminal courts. These debates occurred too, in July and August 1940, when German guns could fire across the English Channel, when from a ring of bases from the Arctic to the Bay of Biscay invasion of these islands was being threatened, when German fighters and bombers were seeking supremacy in British air, and when two-thirds of the broadcasting stations of Europe were prophesying the immediate downfall of the British Empire. While these conditions were in operation, Parliament was insisting (and was compelling the Government to give way) that innocent aliens ought not to be interned, that popular opinion ought not to be suppressed, and that trial by courts-martial was not justified even in war time . . . It was not only magnificent, it was democratic war."

* This is the third talk broadcast from A.I.R., Madras, on 9th June 1944 by Mr. R. Galletti, I.C.S., in the series "The Concept of Freedom." The first and second talks were published in the *Madras War Review* of 21st April 1944 and 19th May 1944, respectively.

WOMEN HELP THE NAVY



WOMEN DO THEIR BIT FOR THE NAVY—Formation of the Naval Wing of the Women's Auxiliary Corps, India, has given women new opportunities of assisting their menfolk in the defence of India. Officers and auxiliaries—as the "other ranks" are called—assist the Royal Indian Navy by performing important secretarial duties and helping in the transmission of Naval messages. They have taken to their work with enthusiasm, and their number is constantly increasing as more recruits come forward to do their bit for the Navy.

This photograph, in a shore establishment of the Royal Indian Navy, is of Chief Petty Officer Kelly (Master-at-Arms) of the W.A.C. (I) Naval Wing.

"THE Navy—why, that's a man's job." So many people think, picturing smart Naval officers and ratings going about their duties.

Well, the Navy once was a purely masculine institution, but in Great Britain the Women's Royal Naval Service ("Wrens" for short) have long played an important part in releasing men for combatant duties afloat, and more recently the Royal Indian Navy has followed suit. There are women serving with it as officers and auxiliaries. Among the places at which they are working is Karachi, where they are engaged in operating and attending to ingenious instructions used in gunnery training. Some of them are employed in estimating the accuracy of anti-aircraft gun-fire in practice "shoot", thus enabling guns' crews to see what results they have achieved.

All this represents a big development. Not long ago you saw men and men only—parade in their hundreds on the quarterdeck of H.M.I. Signal School at Bombay. They are now joined by women, each dressed in a white sari, or blouse and skirt, crowned by a naval cap perched at a saucy angle.

These are members of the Naval Wing of the Women's Auxiliary Corps, and they attend the signal school for two weeks' preliminary training in Naval organization, followed, if they are destined for the Communications Branch, by six weeks' instruction in cyphering and coding.

A revolutionary change for a Naval establishment, but the girls take their work very seriously, and have won golden opinions for their keenness to learn. They attend their own classes, and, when the day's work is over, have a pleasant and roomy hostel to rest to, situated just north of Malabar Hill within sight of the sea.

After serving for six months, an auxiliary—as a woman rating is called—can apply for a commission, or she may be recommended for one earlier if she had shown special aptitude. She then takes a two weeks' course in H.M.I.S. Feroze, the training establishment at Bombay for officers of the Royal Indian Navy. And that's a big change too, for until the W.A.C. (I) Naval Wing was formed, no women had entered the establishment.

But one fine day the prospective W.A.C. (I) officers marched firmly in and started to learn about the administration of a warship, about bells and dog watches, and what a "make and mend" is (that, at all events, must have struck a familiar note).

Later they were taken round the Dockyard and were shown over warships, where the bearded sailors gasped at the unwonted spectacle, but recovered their equanimity in the face of such a business-like desire to learn. For living quarters the W.A.C. (I) officers were given the pleasant building known as Admiral's House, where the nautical atmosphere is enhanced by stirring pictures of sea battles and other mementoes of India's long Naval history.

Every women who joins the W.A.C. (I) Naval Wing serves in a shore establishment in India either at a port or at Naval Headquarters in New Delhi—and so releases a man for active service.

Auxiliaries act as cypher and teleprinter operators and in other ways help to keep the world-wide network at Naval communications functioning smoothly. Others are engaged in secretarial duties and in assisting gunnery training. With promotion responsibilities increase, leading to key appointments at Naval Headquarters and elsewhere.

Serving in the Naval Wing are women from Madras, Bengal, Rajputana, the Punjab, Bombay Presidency and other Provinces and Indian States as well. There are Hindus, Muslims, Parsees and Christians among them.

More members are wanted, to help to relieve the strain on India's manpower, and they may either volunteer for local service only, or else elect to be posted to a port or to Naval Headquarters required by the Navy.

GIRLS WHO CHOSE SERVICE IN FORWARD AREAS

Girls of the Naval Wing of the Women's Auxiliary Corps (India) who have volunteered for service in forward areas are doing valuable work for the Royal Indian Navy at Chittagong.

They are engaged in important secretarial and signals duties, and their presence is also valued because every girl who joins the Naval Wing of the W.A.C. (I) releases a man for active service.

Regard for their welfare has been shown by providing the Naval W.A.C. (I)s at Chittagong with a comfortably furnished hostel, one of the rooms of which can be used for dances. High ranking officers of all three services attended the opening ceremony recently.

The girls of the unit at Chittagong come from various parts of India and Burma, and are proud to be doing their bit in the war against the Japanese.

C. P. O. Jessie Smart of Tavoy and Leading Auxiliary Doris Willson of Akyab told an R.I.N. Observer that they were glad to be so near Burma and were glad to be so near Burma and the Japs' expulsion would enable them to visit their homes again.

A snobbish old Major was asked by a firm, if he would recommend a certain man for a job. The Major wrote back as follows:—

"Mr. Blank is an excellent young man. He is a son of Major Blank, grandson of General Blank, cousin of Sir Henry Blank, nephew of Lord Blank, and he is otherwise well-related."

The Firm wrote back: "Thank you very much for your letter of recommendation concerning Mr. Blank. But we must point out that we require him for clerical work—not for breeding purposes."

FIGHTERS OPEN WAY FOR DAY RAIDS ON GERMANY

(By An Air Correspondent)

TWO things can be regarded as chiefly responsible for the ultimate penetration of the British-based American heavy bombers to Berlin. Those two things are tactical ingenuity and sufficiently high production to make its application possible. And fighter production and not bomber production is the vital element.

For enemy fighters do make contact with the bombers and generally take toll of them. Bomber units of the Eighth Air Force found out for themselves that this was true as soon as they began their raids on German-occupied Europe rather more than a year ago. For a time they met the Germans with the concentrated fire of cleverly arranged formations. Gradually they came to the conclusion that wherever German fighters were likely to appear in droves, some additional protection would be needed. In providing themselves with that protection the Americans have done an excellent piece of work.

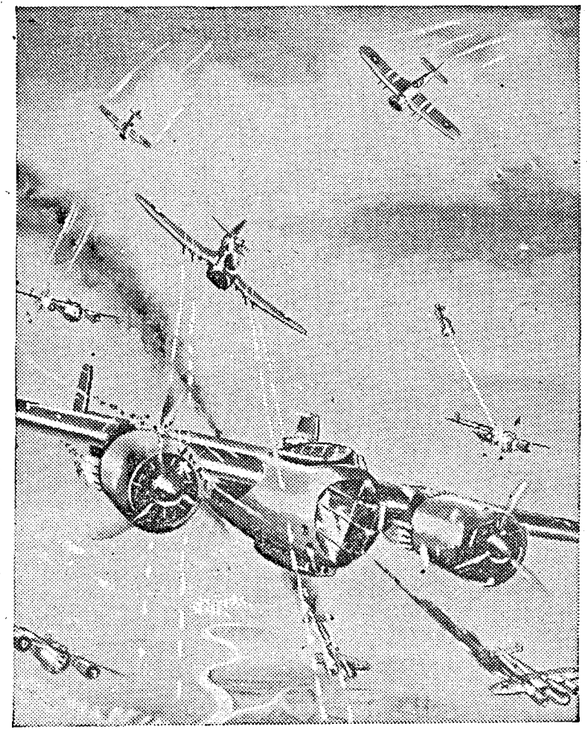
If the heavies were to go to Berlin from British bases, they had to face a journey of 500 miles each way and the prospect of fighting over a distance of about 300 miles on the way in, and another 300 miles on the way out. Fighter escort for a trip like that would have been impossible in 1939. A fighter which could carry enough fuel for 1,000 miles and enough ammunition for 600 miles of combat would have been so big and heavy that it would be no match for the short-range, single-engine fighters the Germans could send up from home bases.

PROBLEM TACKLED IN 1940

The idea of taking the high-performance, single-seat fighter and giving it extra range was tackled by the British as soon as the evacuation of France showed that they must thenceforth rely only on bases in Britain. The Americans followed the same line in seeking a solution and the external, detachable tank is the answer. These tanks are usually stream-lined, egg-shaped containers set under the wing towards the tips. In the Spitfire the auxiliary tank is wedge-shaped and fits close up under the centre section of the wing virtually under the fuselage. They may carry between them anything from 90 to 150 gallons.

The wing tanks can be shed like old slippers the moment the fighter sees a combat in prospect or as soon as all the fuel in them has been used. When once they have been allowed to fall away the fighter is as good in speed and powers of manœuvre as ever it was. It has gained a range without sacrificing performance.

That range can only be useful to it so long as the fighter has ammunition left to use against the enemy. When the ammunition is finished it goes home. And most fighter pilots find their ammunition boxes empty after they have pressed the firing button, at most, six times. Ammunition, therefore, remained a limiting factor. The solution of that puzzle was to throw fresh fighters into the battle at the time when those on duty might be reckoned to be coming to the end of their bullets or shells.



R.A.F. TYPHOONS SHOOT DOWN ELEVEN DORNIERS.—On one of their many patrols over German-occupied Europe a squadron of R.A.F. Typhoons spotted a formation of 14 Dorniers and shot down eleven almost before the enemy knew they were being attacked. Allied air superiority over the Channel is proving a formidable weapon. Such patrols as this do extensive damage to enemy locomotives, aircraft, troop concentrations, etc.

Picture shows *an artist's impression of the Typhoons in action.*

MUST BE IN STRENGTH

That was the point at which supply became vital. Plenty of fighters would be needed if they were to fly out in relays to provide escort reliefs at successive stages on a long journey. The heavy bombers, now attacking Germany in daylight, are going out by the hundred. The Germans send their fighters up in great numbers to attack them. One pilot, who went to Berlin estimated that something like 150 fighters delivered attacks on his formation as it made its bombing run over the city. The Mustangs which look after the most distant stages of the journey needed to be there too in strength.

Lightnings and Thunderbolts shared the escorting work on the earlier stages. They were enabled to reserve their strength for the fighting over Germany by British Spitfires which covered the bombers on the way across the North Sea and into occupied Europe.

Their fighter units have provided the lever which opens up Germany—the most heavily screened parts of Germany—to the big bombers by day. They are proving the way for daylight raids comparable in weight to the night raids the British have been making.

MOTH TO MOSQUITO

By S. E. VEALE

WHEN Geoffrey de Havilland, a young draughtsman in the drawing office of a motor firm, resolved to become a pilot, there were no flying schools to teach him. No one, in fact, had then flown in England and few shared his ambitions.

Undeterred, he threw up his job, built an aeroplane, taught himself to fly, became a designer of aircraft and for more than 20 years now has been the main inspiration of the de Havilland Aircraft Company, Limited, one of the pillars of Britain's Aircraft industry and the originators of the magnificent Mosquite.

BECAME GOVERNMENT DESIGNER

De Havilland's first attempts to fly extended over several discouraging weeks, but ended abruptly. The aircraft which he, his wife and a friend had built for the 50 h.p. aero-engine he had designed, showed no inclination to fly, but one day leapt into the air only to crash a moment later. The disconsolate trio gathered up the pieces and returned to their South London workshop.

In time, another aircraft emerged. This was a success and de Havilland learned to fly. Unfortunately, in the hour of his triumph his money ran out, but he sold his aeroplane—and the services of himself and his friend—to the Balloon Factory at Farnborough—later re-named the Royal Aircraft Factory—and became a Government designer. That was in 1910, two years after the urge to fly came upon him.

SERVED IN ROYAL FLYING CORPS

During the four years he remained at Farnborough, de Havilland was largely responsible for all the designs produced there. Among them was the B.E. series, used extensively by Britain's Royal Flying Corps in the early months of World War I, and built under licence in many factories while private designs were being developed. Early in 1914, he left to join the newly-formed Aircraft Manufacturing Company.

When war broke out, he was an officer of the Royal Flying Corps Reserve and in August, 1914, went to France with his squadron. His stay was brief. He was ordered to return to his drawing board, and in the following four years designed many types of aircraft, including the D.H. 4, D.H. 9, D.H. 9a, and D.H. 10.

The D.H. 9a not only took part in the war, but remained in service with the Royal Air Force for twelve years after the Armistice! The D.H. 10 arrived too late to take a big part in operations, but it was an outstanding design and would have been a weighty addition to the Allied bomber offensive.

In 1920, the Aircraft Manufacturing Company was wound up, but such was the confidence in its designer that new money was readily forthcoming to keep his creative mind busy, and on September 25, 1920, the de Havilland Aircraft Company, Limited, was registered as a private company—under the least favourable circumstances.

FUTURE STAKED ON CIVIL PLANES

The new venture was launched during a period of acute depression and the decision was taken to stake its future on civil and commercial flying and to seek no military orders. That was the boldest step of all, but the company's record to-day testifies how firmly it was adhered to, and what handsome dividends it paid.

From 1928 until 1939 every aircraft except one which was designed and produced by the de Havilland Company was basically a civil type, though some were converted to, or used for, military purposes.

In designing their civil types, de Havilands enjoyed a scope which left them free to give full expression to their own ideas, and they quickly made a reputation for meeting each new need as it arose.

One of the earliest of their designs was the D.H. 34, an air liner which could carry ten passengers at a speed of 105 miles per hour on a mere 450 horse power. It was produced so that British Air lines could combat foreign subsidized competition. Such a revenue-earning capacity had never before been attained.

Some years later, Edward Hillman, head of a big road transport concern, decided to challenge the Government's monopoly air line company and run air services between London and the Continent. He asked de Havillands to build him an air liner to cost no more than £500 a seat. The result was the twin-engined Dragon which, on a total of only 260 horse power could cruise at 109 miles per hour with eight passengers. Such was its economy of operation that after the original order had been completed, hundreds were sold all over the world.

MOTH FOUNDATION OF PROSPERITY

In the early 1920s, the Government sought by means of official competitions to discover the best form of light aircraft with which to popularise flying in Britain. The results showed that the Air Ministry had aimed too low, and de Havillands built the Moth, a two-seat biplane rather more powerful than those taking part in the competitions, but still of modest performance.

The Moth had an instantaneous and phenomenal success, and within a few years of its appearance in 1925 was in use by scores of flying clubs, was owned by hundreds of private pilots, and had been flown all over Europe, Asia, Africa and Australia. Epic flights, many of them by women pilots flying alone, were made with it between England, India, South Africa and Australia, and orders for it poured in from many lands.

The Moth was the foundation of the de Havilland fame and prosperity and the forerunner of a large family of Moths, some biplanes, some monoplanes, each meeting a different need. Among them were the Puss Moth, Leopard Moth, Hornet Moth, Fox Moth, Tiger Moth, Hawk Moth and the Moth Minor.

The Tiger Moth was chosen by Britain's Air Ministry as one of the two standard basic trainers of the Royal Air Force, and in the past seven years, thousands of pilots have been trained on it.

EXPANDED INTERESTS

Perhaps the most notable civil aircraft ever built by de Havillands was the Comet. This was designed specifically for the England-Australia Air Race of 1934. Three were built, and that flown by C. W. A. Scott and Campbell Black won the race at an average speed of 160 miles per hour covering the 12,000 miles between Mildenhall (England) and Melbourne (Australia) in 71 hours 18 seconds.

Because it was a racing type, its development was not continued, but to-day, its outline can be traced with little difficulty in the shapely form of the Mosquito.

The fame of the de Havilland Company rests for the moment in the Mosquito, one of the war's most versatile and efficient aircraft. Though a twin, it is faster than the enemy's fastest single-engined fighters, and has been put to many uses. As an unarmed bomber it has raided deep into Germany, often making visits to Berlin and equally distant points. As an offensive fighter it has wrecked scores of locomotives and other transport vehicles in France and the Low Countries, and as a defensive fighter it has destroyed many of the enemy's fastest fighter-bomber over Britain by night.

AIR SEA RESCUE

After a search lasting for sixteen hours, the crew of pinnace belonging to the R.A.F. Air Sea Rescue service picked up a couple of survivors from an aircraft which had crashed to the sea west of Ceylon. The Master of the pinnace was Sgt. J. D. Linklater of Tynemouth, Northumberland, who is well known as a cartoonist. It was in the late afternoon that a message was received to the effect that an aircraft was in distress over the sea and when no further news was forthcoming a high speed rescue launch was sent out to search the area where the aircraft was last reported. At 10-25 p.m. a further launch was sent out to assist along with the pinnace under the direction of Sgt. Linklater. A call for personnel to man the latter was answered not only by members of the Air Sea Rescue service but by airmen of a balloon squadron who had had experience in handling boats. All night the search continued and at dawn the boats joined by a Catalina and other aircraft. At 10 o'clock twelve general reconnaissance planes were sent out to assist the search. Fifteen minutes later Linklater's crew found a deflated dinghy floating in the sea but afterwards the survivors were spotted. They were wearing their Mae Wests and were about twenty yards apart when we found them said Sgt. Linklater. They had then been in the water for eighteen hours and during that time were troubled by attacks from dogfish.

PLANNING A LARGE SCALE R.A.F. BOMBER RAID.—Perfect co-operation, organization and understanding is needed from the C.-in-C., Bomber Command and his staff down to the tail gunner of an aircraft, if a large-scale bomber attack is to be a success. An enormous amount of detailed organization, close study of intelligence reports and hard work is entailed before the crews are briefed.

Picture shows *the chief navigator starts plotting the course—part of the R.A.F. preparations for a big raid.*

SESHIAH, THE CURIOUS VILLAGER

(*By* R.G.)

CANTO I

Fourth Instalment

" But these great men " Seshiah said
" Have told us we'd be better dead
Than bound and ground as now we are
Beneath a vast imperial car,
A set of miserable slaves
Owned by the mistress of the waves.
If we are slaves, how can we be
Worse for the loss of liberty ? "

Seshiah's friend, before he spoke
Roared out his laughter at the joke.
Seshiah winked, and so expressed
A modest pride in his own jest.
" We're slaves, ha! ha! " they both guffawed ;
Like crows with merriment they cawed.
" My friend " at last that other said,
" From what I've heard and what I've read,
I doubt if anywhere you'll find
A law more certainly designed
To make you free and keep you free
Than that which for a century
Throughout this land has stretched its arm
To keep the common folk from harm,
And curb in turn the baditprince
Whose aiding cavalry would mince
The villags and far and wide
Spread terror through the countryside—
The petty tyrant, clerk or karnam,
Who in the old days would learn 'em
To pay the mamul, lest a worse
And sadder fate befall the purse—
The grim dacoit—the smooth-lipped cheat—
As well as mighty despots. Bleat,
You silly sheep, who would be shorn
Of all your fleece and left forlorn,
Had not the British lion's paw
Struck down the wolf, laid down the law."

" I rather think " Seshiah said
" You've hit the nail upon the head.
I doubt if Mogul potentates
Would have allowed the wild debates
We've heard since I was very young
Or let those frantic songs be sung
Saying foreign rulers should be hung.
Free speech we've certainly enjoyed,
Perhaps with licence too alloyed.

And men have met quite openly
To challenge Government's decree.
The papers, which I cannot read
But listen to with patient heed
Scream rage and roar and rant and rave
Unlike a well-conducted slave ;
And when our M.L.As. assemble
I gather that they do not tremble
Or dread the Governor's strong hand
As would a truly servile band
And when I ask who makes the laws
These M.L.As. claim the applause.
Perhaps in fact we are as free
As any man can hope to be."

SIX SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

UKRAINE

[*Area*—578,000 *square kilometres, population*—40,000,000, *capital*—*Kiev, population before the war*—846,000.]

THE Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic (the Ukraine) is situated in the south-west of the U.S.S.R., and is bordered on the south by the north coasts of the Black Sea and Azov Sea, on the east by the region which adjoins the Don River, and on the west by the north-eastern slopes of the Carpathian Mountains. It has a fertile soil, a mild humid climate, and is rich in mineral deposits such as coal, iron, ore, manganese, salts, oil and building materials, with navigable rivers which are vast reservoirs of cheap energy. Since the Soviet system was established the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic rose to the level of the great states of the world. In economic development and population it is the second largest republic in the U.S.S.R. Before the present war the Ukraine produced 54 per cent of the coal, 60 per cent of the pig-iron, 48 per cent of the steel and 35 per cent of the manganese ore turned out in the Soviet Union.

PROGRESS ON ALL SPHERES

The political, economic and cultural growth of the Ukraine began with the establishment of Soviet power, at the end of 1917. In 1922, the Ukrainian Soviet Republic, jointly with the other Soviet Republics, formed the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

Until the autumn of 1939, western Ukraine remained under the rule of the Polish landowners, who greatly oppressed the Ukrainian people. In September 1939, Hitler Germany attacked Poland. In view of the collapse of the Polish state, the Soviet Government ordered the Red Army to take the western Ukrainians under its protection. The National Assembly of Western Ukraine, which was elected by universal suffrage, resolved to affiliate to the Soviet Union as part of the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic. The Supreme Soviet of the U.S.S.R. granted the petition of the population of Western Ukraine and on November 1, 1939, that territory became an inseperable part of the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic. Thus, for the first time in their history, the Ukrainian people were united in a single Ukrainian state. The affiliation to the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic marked the beginning of the economic and cultural development of western Ukraine.

The Ukraine is inhabited by Ukrainians, who constitute 80 per cent of the population—and also by Russians, Jews and Poles, who enjoy equal rights with the Ukrainians.

COAL CENTRE

The Ukraine was the premier coal and metallurgical base of the Soviet Union. In 1937, the industrial output of the Ukraine was 8.3 times greater than in 1913.

In 1940, the Donets Basin produced nearly 100,000,000 tons of coal. The first-grade iron ore of Krivoy Rog and the manganese of Nikopol were transformed into pig-iron, steel and metal goods. The Ukraine in that year produced about 9,400,000 tons of pig-iron and 9,200,000 tons of steel. It manufactured railway engines and cars, tractors, turbines, harvester combines, and mining and agricultural machinery for all parts of the Soviet Union. It also produced mineral fertilizers, soda, glass and cement. The output of the sugar, meat-packing, flour-milling, distilling, oil-crushing and dairy industries reached great dimensions. Fishing was developed on the Black Sea and Azov Sea. The Ukraine possessed a far-flung network of electric power-stations. The Dnieper Power Station, the largest in Europe, was famous throughout the world. The cities of the Ukraine, both old and new, developed rapidly. During the past 25 years, 77 new cities and 285 industrial settlements were built.

AGRICULTURE

Agriculture also made tremendous headway. Before the war the Ukraine was one of the largest granaries of the U.S.S.R. and produced 44 per cent of the winter wheat and 74 per cent of the sugar beet crop of the Union. Twenty-five million hectares of land were planted with cereal and industrial crops. Millions of head of cattle; pigs, sheep and poultry were raised. The orchards of the Ukraine were famed for their apples, plums and cherries. In the south, high grades of grapes were cultivated. Ukrainian agriculture was highly mechanized; 90,000 tractors and 30,000 harvester combines operated in her fields. The Ukrainian peasants were organized in collective farms.

During the gloomy reign of Tsarism, Ukrainian culture was persecuted. Instruction in the native language was prohibited. Only 25 per cent of the population was literate, and these mainly in the Russian language. Before World War I only 1/3rd of the children attended school. The same was true of Western Ukraine while it was under the rule of the Polish landowners. There, 60 per cent of the population was illiterate. Nearly all the Ukrainian schools were closed.

In 1939, 85 per cent of the population of Soviet Ukraine, not including Western Ukraine, was literate, 5,500,000 children attended school, 3·2 times as many as in 1913. Before the present war there were in the Ukraine 129 higher educational establishments and the number of students attending higher and secondary technical educational establishments exceeded 275,000, almost 8 times as many as under Tsarist regime. The Ukraine had about 40,000 libraries and a vast network of scientific research institutes, headed by the Academy of Sciences of the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic. Hundreds of newspapers were published in the Ukrainian and other languages.

THEATRES

All the towns and a good many villages had theatres. The country produced numerous talented poets, prose-writers and artists. All the nations of the Soviet Union cherished the literary heritage of the classical Ukrainian poets like Shevchenko, and novelists like Franko. Under Soviet power the Ukrainian people developed their culture to an exceedingly high level, playing a foremost part in every field of social endeavour. The world-famous *Stakhanov movement originated in the* Ukraine.

The hordes of Hitler Germany and her vassals temporarily seized the land of the Ukraine with the object of enslaving the people and of plundering their country.

But this is not the first time that the Ukrainian people have had to withstand the tyranny of German oppressors. The German hordes drenched the soil of the Ukraine with blood and devastated the land in 1918, but with the fraternal assistance of the Russians, the Ukrainian people expelled the invaders from their country. In the war against the Hitlerites, the Ukrainian people are again fighting self-sacrificingly for the honour, freedom and independence of their Soviet land.

After the attack of Hitler Germany on the U.S.S.R., Ukrainian industry was evacuated east, where it has been working at full blast, providing the Red Army with the wherewithal for the complete destruction of the invaders.

The sons of the Ukraine are fighting in the ranks of the Red Army and, united in partisan groups, they are also inflicting upon the enemy crushing blows in his rear. In the summer of 1943, the Red Army began to sweep the German invaders out of the Ukraine.

On November 6, 1943, the valiant Soviet troops freed the Ukrainian capital, Kiev, from German occupation.

ESTHONIA

[*Area*—47,500 *square kilometres, population*—1,131,000, *capital*—*Tallinn, population before war*—147,000.]

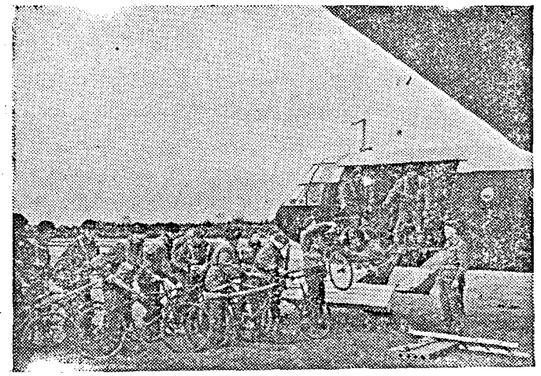
The Esthonian Soviet Socialist Republic (*Esthonia*), is situated on the Baltic coast, between the gulfs of Finland, and Riga, and on the numerous adjacent islands. It occupies a plain intersected with low hills and river valleys. Its mild and humid climate (the Gulf of Riga hardly ever freezes over round the shores of Esthonia) facilitates the cultivation of a number of agricultural crops, although the ashy and the boggy soil requires large quantities of fertilizers and drainage. Coniferous and other forest cover 20 per cent of its area. The mineral resources of *the country are shale—the deposits of* which are estimated at 5,000 million tons—peat, phosphorites, dolomites, and blue clay.

THE PAST

Until the end of World War I, Esthonia was part of Russia and was connected with her by historical destiny, joint struggle against foreign invaders (Germans and Swedes) and

(*Continued on page* 16.)

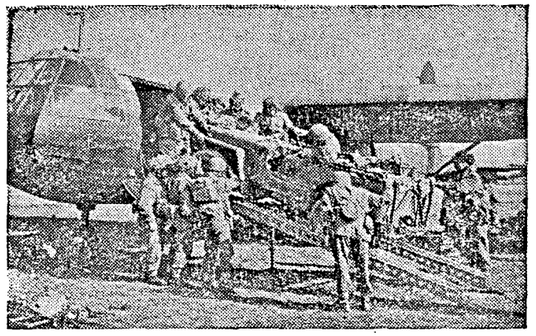
AIRBORNE TROOPS "RAIN FROM THE SKIES"



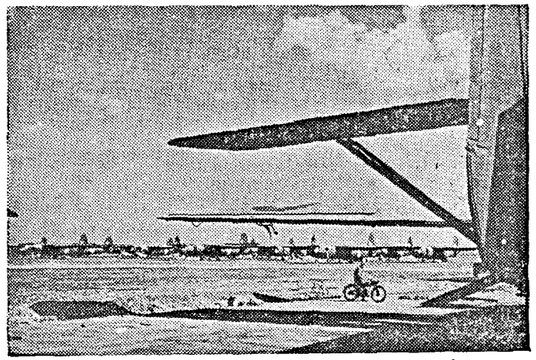
Within a space of 20 minutes scores of glider 'planes, carrying troops and equipment, were landed without a mishap at an English airfield (April 22).

Guns, ammunition, bicycles and other equipment rained from the skies by parachute, while on the ground, gliders poured out their load of troops, doctors and stretcher bearers. The demonstration was part of a large-scale combined exercise by the Royal Air Force and British and United States armies. It was watched by Air Chief Marshal Sir Arthur Tedder, Deputy Supreme Commander of the Allied Expeditionary Forces.

Picture shows *army cyclists going aboard a Horsa glider.*



Picture shows *a jeep being unloaded from a Horsa glider.*



Picture shows *aline-up of gliders ready for loading and take-off.*

FINE RECORD OF INDIAN AIR FORCE

Air and ground crews of the Indian Air Force operating on the Burma Front have been personally congratulated by Air Marshal Sir John Baldwin, Air Commander of the Third Tactical Air Force, on their achievements.

The following letter from the Air Marshal has been received by the Commanding Officers of Indian Air Force Squadrons of the Third Tactical Air Force:—

"For the first time in India's history squadrons of fighters and dive bombers manned by Indian pilots have operated in strength against the enemy. As part of the Third Tactical Air Force, which I am proud to command, the air and ground crews of the Indian Air Force have made a magnificent contribution to our success.

"You and your pilots have won honour and glory. S/Ldr. Mehar Singh, who commands one of your squadrons was awarded the D.S.O. for his brilliant exploits against the Japanese. S/Ldr. Mehar Singh is the first of your fellow countrymen in the Indian Air Force to win this decoration.

"Another of your commanding officers, S/Ldr. Arjan Singh, has been decorated with the D.F.C. No. 1, Indian Air Force Squadron which participated with distinction in the Burma Campaign of 1942 is back again on operations.

"The Indian Air Force is eleven years old. In these eleven years you have built up a strong, hard-hitting force. I should like to place on record my appreciation of the unity and strength achieved by the Indian Air Force in flying, fighting and bombing side by side with the Royal Air Force and United States of America Air Force.

"A big job has got to be done. We are fighting a ruthless and well-equipped enemy, as you are aware, but I have no doubt of the outcome. Carry on with the good work and when victory is won India will owe a great debt of gratitude to her flying sons of the Indian Air Force."

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I.A.F. SQUADRON COMMANDER AWARDED D.F.C.

It is announced that His Majesty the King has approved the immediate award of the Distinguished Flying Cross to S/Ldr. Arjan Singh, Indian Air Force.

The citation promulgating the award says: "S/Ldr. Arjan Singh is a fearless and exceptional pilot with a profound knowledge of his specialized branch of tactical reconnaissance and he has imbued those under him with the same spirit." The citation refers to him as a fine leader and concludes: "The success of his squadron reflects the greatest credit upon him."

He was born at Kohali in Lyallpur, Punjab, 25 years ago. His father Sirdar Kishan Singh is a District Engineer on the Ceylon Government Railway and his only brother, L. A. C. Surat Singh is now undergoing a Pilot's course in Canada under the Empire Air Training Scheme.

S/Ldr. Arjan Singh was studying for his B.A. at the Government College, Lahore, when at the age of 19 he decided to join the Indian Air Force. He was successful in a competitive examination held at Delhi in August 1938 for entry into the R.A.F., College at Cranwell, England, where he received two years of up-to-date instruction in both flying and ground subjects. He returned to India, when he was commissioned in the Indian Air Force.

(Cotinued from page 14.)

firm economic ties. During its separation from Russia (1919–39), the country's economy, and particularly its most important branches of industry, were in a state of decline, while Russia, having adopted the Soviet system rapidly proceeded along the path of economic and cultural progress. In June 1940, the Esthonian people overthrew the reactionary clique that governed the country and elected a democratic State Diet which proclaimed the country a Soviet Republic. On August 6 of that year Esthonia affiliated to the U.S.S.R., with the status of a Union Republic. That gave a fresh impetus to the country's economic and cultural development.

Esthonia is inhabited by Esthonians—who constitute 88 per cent of the population—and Russians. The urban population constitutes about 30 per cent of the whole.

Before the invasion of the German fascist hordes, Esthonian industry was fairly well developed. The textile industry was represented by the 2 large Kreenholm and Baltic cotton mills, 3 cloth mills and 9 linen mills. It had large ship-building yards, railway car and cement works, saw, paper mills, and match and wood-working factories. The highly developed food industry produced natural fats, bacon and flour. Fishing was carried on in the Baltic Sea. Shale was mined (output 1,600,000 tons per annum) and converted into petrol and lubricating oil. The shale-refining industry of Esthonia was the largest of its kind in the world. Peat was extracted, and the water power of rivers was utilized to some extent.

FARMING

In agriculture, which occupied an important place in the country's economy, dairy farming and the cultivation of fodder crops predominated. The cultivation of cereals (rye, wheat and oats) was of secondary importance. In some places flax was cultivated and processed in local mills. Merchant shipping occupied an important place in Esthonia's economy, and her large ports. Tallinn and Paldisky, which are almost not icebound throughout the year, acquired considerable importance for the whole of the Soviet Union.

After Esthonia affiliated to the U.S.S.R., extensive industrial development was undertaken. Old plants were extended and the construction of new ones was begun. In one year of Soviet power the country's industrial output increased 63 per cent. Agriculture was mechanized. Measures were taken to develop the art and culture of the nation.

The land was nationalized and tens of thousands of peasants with little or no land received plots. Unemployment was abolished. The number of children attending school increased 33 per cent. Five higher educational establishments were functioning, one of which was the famous ancient university in Tartu (Yuryev).

The Esthonian people are bravely resisting the efforts of the invaders to Germanize the country, and are doing all in their power to assist the Red Army to defeat the German hordes.

LATVIA

[Area—65,800 square kilometres, population—1,971,000, capital—Riga, population before the war—385,000.]

The Latvian Soviet Socialist Republic (Latvia) lies on the coast of the Baltic Sea and the Gulf of Riga, on a plain intersected with picturesque hills and deep river valleys and lakes. Natural resources; timber, covering 27 per cent of the area of the country, arable lands requiring fertilizers, or drainage, the energy of rivers, estimated at 5,000,000 kwts., peat, estimated at 3,000 million tons, dolomites, limestone, chalk, clay, gypsum, and mineral water springs.

Latvia is inhabited by Letts, constituting 59 per cent of the population, Latgalians, a people kindred to the Letts and constituting 16 per cent of the population, Russians, Jews, Poles, Byelorussians and Lithuanians.

Until the end of World War I, Latvia was part of Russia, connected for many centuries with the Russian nation by common historical and cultural interests, by joint struggle against German invaders and against the Tsarist autocracy, and by strong economic ties.

During the period it was separated from Russia (1919–39), the country was in a constant state of economic distress. Industry declined, and many of the largest plants were closed down or else cut down production. Meanwhile, the Soviet Union was undergoing vast industrial and cultural development.

RE-UNION

On July 21, 1940, the democratically elected National Diet of Latvia proclaimed the country a Soviet Republic, and on August 5 of that year, it affiliated to the U.S.S.R. with the status of Union Republic.

A new glorious era opened for the Latvian people which, however, has been temporarily interrupted by the treacherous invasion of the U.S.S.R. by the German Fascists.

Latvia was predominantly an agricultural country, but at the same time it was the most industrialized of the Baltic republics. Here electrical engineering was developed. Railway shops and an iron and steel plant functioned. The country's production included rubber goods, dyes, mineral fertilizers, candles, and glassware. The food industry manufactured butter and linseed oil, cheese, meat products, starch, treacle, flour, spirits and sugar. Fishing—for herring, sprats, plaice and other fish—was carried on in the Baltic Sea and the Gulf of Riga. The country had large sawmills, paper mills, match factories and cement works. Latvia had a number of large electric power stations, outstanding among which were the Riga Power station with a capacity of 35,000 kwts., and the hydro-electric power station on the Western Dvina, with a capacity of 75,000 kwts.

In agriculture, dairy farming and meat packing predominated. In this connection an important item was cultivation of grass and fodder, which covered 27 per cent of the cultivated area, and also cereals, such as oats, rye, barley and wheat. Flax and sugar beet were also important items.

INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT

After its affiliation to the U.S.S.R., extensive industrial development was undertaken; old plants were extended and new ones were built. Unemployment was abolished. The land became public property and was distributed for cultivation among the peasants who had little or no land. About 75,000 peasants obtained land for the first time. Tractors and modern agricultural machinery appeared in the fields.

Cultural development took a great step forward. The number of children attending school increased 50 per cent. The Universities, the Agricultural Academy, the Academy of Arts and the Conservatory were reorganized and enlarged.

The German Fascist invasion has temporarily interrupted the peaceful economic and cultural development of the Latvian Soviet Socialist Republic. But the Latvian people are fighting side by side with the other peoples of the U.S.S.R. to drive the hated invaders from their country and to regain their freedom.

LITHUANIA

[Area—60,000 square kilometres, population—2,880,000, capital—Vilnius, population before the war—250,000.]

The Lithuanian Soviet Socialist Republic (Lithuania) lies on the eastern coast of the Baltic Sea, on an undulating plain intersected with numerous lakes and marshes. It has a fertile soil, covered in parts by forest and peat bogs.

Lithuania is vitally connected with the peoples of the U.S.S.R. by their common struggle against the German invaders and against the Tsarist regime, and also by their common economic and cultural interests. In 1919, however, it was torn from Soviet Russia and remained separated for over 20 years. This separation proved fatal for the economy of the country and also retarded the development of its national culture. But in June 1940, the Lithuanian people overthrew their reactionary rulers and, exercising their sovereign rights, adopted the Soviet form of government and economy as the only guarantee of their national independence, the free development of their national culture and rapid economic growth.

On July 21, 1940, the National Diet of Lithuania that was elected by universal suffrage, proclaimed the country a Soviet Republic, which, on August 3, 1940, affiliated to the U.S.S.R. with the status of a Union Republic. The country is inhabited by Lithuanians, who constitute 85 per cent of the population, Russians, Jews, Poles, Byelorussians.

The Lithuanian S.S.R. is the most outstanding agricultural republic among the Soviet Socialist Republics of the Baltic coast.

The main branches of the economy of Lithuania are the breeding of dairy cattle and pigs and the cultivation of cereal crops. The crops grown are rye, wheat, oats and barley, and also flax and sugar beet. Fodder crops are an important item in connection with the breeding of dairy cattle.

Industry in Lithuania was mainly connected with the processing of agricultural produce. The food industry predominated: butter-making, bacon and other meat products, flour-milling and, just before the war, the refining of sugar was started. Lithuania also manufactured linen fabrics and yarn, cotton fabrics, leather and tobacco. Saw milling and the manufacture of plywood were important items of Lithuanian industry.

After its affiliation to the Soviet Union, extensive industrial development was undertaken in the republic. Unemployment was abolished, and in the course of year the number of workers engaged in industry increased 30 per cent. The land became public property, and 585,000 hectares was distributed for cultivation among the peasants who had little or no land. The fields began to be cultivated with tractors for the first time in Lithuania's history.

A great stimulus was given to the development of culture and public health. Social insurance was introduced, free medical service was established, schools, kindergartens and theatres were opened. The two universities in the country were extended and for the first time a Lithuanian Academy of Sciences was established.

The German Fascist fiends invaded Lithuania and, destroying her economic and cultural institutions, are trying to Germanize the country. But the Lithuanian people, jointly with all the peoples of the U.S.S.R., are fighting the invaders in order to restore the freedom and independence of their country.

KARELIA

[Area—196,000 square kilometres, population (1939)—469,000, capital—Petrozavodsk, population before the war—70,000.]

The Karelo-Finnish Soviet Socialist Republic (Karelia) is situated in the north-west European part of the U.S.S.R., between the White Sea and the Baltic Sea, at the frontier of the U.S.S.R. and Finland. Karelia is called "the land of lakes, forests and granite.". It lies on an ancient granite bed once upon a time crushed and ground by a gigantic glacier.

Karelia is dotted with a labyrinth of lakes numbering over 26,000 and occupying no less than 15 per cent of its area. The largest lakes in Europe are to be found here—Lake Ladoga and Lake Onega. The Karelian lakes are connected with each other and with the adjacent seas—the White Sea and the Gulf of Finland—by numerous rivers with waterfalls which contain inexhaustible energy calculated at a million kilowatts. Two-thirds of the area of the Karelo-Finnish Republic is covered by dense pine and fir forests. In the south, these merge with forests of the famous Karelian birch, from which valuable furniture and other articles are made. The Karelo-Finnish S.S.R. is rich in granite, diabase, porphyry, sandstone, marble, mica, pegmatites, and also in iron, including titano-magnetites, non-ferrous metals, peat and other natural resources.

UNDER TSARIST REGIME

Under the Tsarist regime, the Karelians were driven from the arable lands to the regions of the marshes and dense forests, where they engaged in lumbering, hunting and fishing, and tilling tiny plots of land. They lived in extreme poverty, and were obliged to eat bread made of rye flour mixed with pine bark and straw. The people which had created the immortal epic poem "Kalevala" had no written language of their own, and Karelian spoken language was practically banned. Even the Russian schools were closed to the children of the poorer classes of the Karelian peasants. Industry was represented by one iron-smelting plant in Petrozavodsk, which had been established as far back as the days of Peter I. Karelia was a roadless country; only in winter, when its rapid rivers, lakes and marshes froze, was it possible to travel at all over the country. It was not until World War I that the first railway was built in Karelia, namely, the Murmansk Railway.

GREAT CHANGE

The whole face of the country was changed after Soviet rule was established. With the aid of the Russian people the Karelians for the first time in their history set up their own state. In 1923 the Karelian Autonomous Soviet Socialist Republic was formed. In March 1940, after the Soviet Union had been obliged to eliminate the anti-Soviet place D'armes on the Karelian Isthmus, and after peace had been concluded with Finland, the new regions on the isthmus and the northwest were joined to Karelia. The Finns in these regions united with their kinsmen, the Soviet Karelians, and the Karelo-Finnish Soviet Socialist Republic was formed with the status of a Union Republic.

The basis of Karelia's economy is timber. After Soviet power was established the timber output increased considerable and in 1939, reached almost 14,000,000 cubic metres, which was 8 times more than the output of 1913. Hand labour—the only implement being a primitive saw—gave way to electric saws, tractors and auto-transport. Good roads were laid running right into the depths of the forests, where convenient workers' settlements were built with large houses, public dining rooms, hospitals and schools equipped with electric light, telephones and radio. The saw-milling industry, concentrated at the river mouths on the White Sea coast, increased almost fourfold since the period of the Tsarist regime. The Karelo-Finnish republic became the largest cellulose and paper making centre in the U.S.S.R.

ECONOMY

Important items in Karelia's economy are the quarrying of granite, diabase and marble, and the extraction of field spar, mica and pegmatites. Machine building and ship-building are also developed. Large hydro-electric stations provide power for industry and supply the domestic requirements of the population. Fishing is extensively carried on in the lakes and off the coast of the White Sea.

Agriculture has made considerable progress under Soviet power, mainly in the South of the republic. Here potatoes and vegetables are the principal crops, although barley, oats, rye and wheat are also grown. These crops have increased tenfold compared with the period before the Revolution. Marshes have been drained and forests cleared in order to extend the cultivated area. Stock-breeding largely takes the form of dairy farming. In the north, reindeer are bred.

The Karelo-Finnish Soviet Republic has ceased to be a roadless country. Her territory is now intersected by a number of railways, and also by canals, which serve as important means of communication. The Stalin White Sea-Baltic Sea Canal, 227 kilometres long, was built in 1933. The Saima Canal connects the Gulf of Finland with Lake Saima.

POPULATION

The Karelian population has rapidly increased, and from 1920 to 1939 it doubled. Before Soviet rule literacy did not exceed 44 per cent of the entire population, and among the Karelians it barely reached 13 per cent. With the introduction of compulsory universal education, literacy became almost the universal rule. In 1939, 95 per cent could read and write. As many as 13 technical schools and three higher educational establishments have been opened. Karelian art has revived and is flourishing. Modern poets, artists and dramatists have appeared. Theatres have been built. The country has hundreds of public libraries and reading and recreation rooms.

The prosperous and happy life of the Karelian people was rudely disturbed by the invasion of Fascist Germany and Finland, which temporarily seized the western part of the country. Shoulder to shoulder with the peoples of all other nationalities of the Soviet Union, the Karelo-Finnish people are waging a heroic struggle to expel the invaders and to liberate their country.

MOLDAVIA

[Area—34,000 square kilometres, population—2,200,000, capital—Kishinev, population before the war—110,000.]

The Moldavian Soviet Socialist Republic (Moldavia) is situated in the extreme southwest of the U.S.S.R., on the frontier of Rumania. It occupies an undulating but, in the main, flat plain between the rivers Pruth and Dniester, extending somewhat beyond the latter river. Only in the midlands is the plain intersected by low hills covered with oak, beach and birch. The country is rich in building materials such as limestone, brick-clay and sand used for making glass.

RUMANIAN OPPRESSION

Before the end of World War I, Moldavia, the major part of which is Bessarabia, belonged to Russia, but Rumania seized the country up to the Dniester and forcibly Rumanized it. This caused its economic and cultural decline. The area of cultivation of fruit, the vine and tobacco, and the stock of cattle diminished. Industrial output declined; the number of workers employed in industry was reduced 50 per cent. During the period they were in

occupation, the Rumanians exterminated over 30,000 of the inhabitants. Three hundred thousand inhabitants were obliged to flee the country, to the U.S.S.R. and other countries. Wretched poverty and high mortality were the lot of the Bessarabian rural districts. Infant mortality among the peasants was as high as 60 per cent.

Up to 60 per cent of the total population, and 73 per cent of the peasants, were illiterate. The Moldavian language and culture were banned, as also were those of the other nationalities inhabiting the country.

In Moldavia, on the other side of the Dnesster, life was entirely different Here, with the aid of the Russian and Ukrainian people, the Moldavian Autonomous Soviet Socialist Republic was formed, and agriculture, industry and Moldavian national culture made rapid progress.

In June 1940 the historic injustice of the annexation of Bessarabia by Rumania was removed. Bessarabia was restored to the Soviet Union. On August 2, 1940, the Supreme Soviet of the U.S.S.R. granted the petition of Moldavian people in Bessarabia to join with the people of the Moldavian Autonomous Republic to form a Soviet Socialist Republic, which received the status of a Union Republic.

NATIONAL LITERATURE

Seventy per cent of the population of this republic are Moldavians, the rest being Russians, Ukrainians and Jews. For the first time in their history, the Moldavian people acquired a written language and their own national literature. The number of schools and other cultural institutions in the country increased. The number of school children increased to half a million. There were three higher educational establishments functioning in the country—an agricultural and two higher pedagogical schools. In addition there were numerous technical schools, attended by 5,000 students. Newspapers were published in the Moldavian and other languages. National theatres were established. Hospitals, dispensaries, maternity homes and children's creches were built.

LAND

The Moldavian peasants, formerly landless or almost so, received allotments to develop their husbandry. In Bessarabia alone the peasants received land amounting to a total of 200,000 hectares. Following this, the peasants of the newly affiliated region formed collective farms, and the fertile black earth between the Pruth and Dnesster was cultivated with tractors and harvester combines. New orchards and vine yards were planted, mainly on the wooded down and adjacent valleys of the midlands. In Moldavia, grapes, both for dessert and for wine, plums, apples, pears, apricots, peaches and walnuts were grown. The vine yard area increased to 100,000 hectares. Tomatoes, egg-plants and marrows were grown to a large extent. Cereal crops also occupied an important place in Moldavia's agriculture and an extensive area was devoted to wheat, barley and maize. Other crops cultivated were sugar beet, tobacco and sunflower, the area of which steadily increased. Dairy farming and pig and poultry breeding were also important. Fishing was conducted in the Dnesster and Pruth.

INDUSTRY

Industry was, in the main engaged in processing the country's agricultural produce. The most important branches were wine-making, meat packing, the processing of natural fats, oil, flour milling and the manufacture of tobacco, and distilling. Stone quarrying and brick and tile making were also developed. An oil refinery, which had been standing idle for years under the Rumanian regime, was taken to develop the metal industry, which had scarcely existed in the country.

The Rumanian fascist clique, which has converted the country into an obedient tool of Hitlerite Germany, invaded and seized Moldavia. Bloody terror, national oppression and wretched poverty have again fallen to the lot of Moldavia. But the people have not resigned themselves to this fate. The fearless Moldavian partisans, backed by the entire Moldavian people, are striking telling blows at the Rumanian and German fascist invaders, and the day is not far distant when the gallant Red Army will drive their oppressors from the land.

WAR DIARY

BRITAIN AND GERMANY

7TH JUNE.—German aircraft penetrated inland into East Anglia and dropped bombs.

Last night aircraft of the Bomber Command attacked Ludwighaven.

8TH JUNE.—Three German aircraft were destroyed when enemy planes raided Britain last night.

Last night Allied bombers bombed Cologne.

Mr. Churchill and Lord Halifax made short statements on the progress of the Invasion.

The King and Prime Minister Churchill visited General Eisenhower at the Supreme Headquarters of the Allied Expeditionary Forces and Air Chief Marshal Sir Trafford Leigh-Mallory at the Headquarters of the Allied Air Forces.

9TH JUNE.—More than 750 American bombers attacked Munich area.

General George Marshal, Admiral King and General Arnold of United States arrived in London.

10TH JUNE.—R.A.F. Mosquitoes bombed Berlin last night.

11TH JUNE.—R.A.F. bombers raided Berlin last night.

12TH JUNE.—R.A.F. aircraft attacked Berlin last night.

Mr. Churchill gave His Majesty the King a full account of his visit to Normandy.

13TH JUNE.—Last night Allied bombers attacked Gelsenkirchen and Cologne. Over 750 American bombers from Italy bombed Munich area in daylight to-day.

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THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE ATLANTIC

8TH JUNE.—Mr. Henry L. Stimson made a statement on the progress of the European Invasion.

9TH JUNE.—President Roosevelt told his press conference that slow progress was being made on the French front. He also announced that General De Gualle will meet him soon.

12TH JUNE.—President Roosevelt in a message to the Congress said the Germans' insane desire to wipe out the Jewish race in Europe continued undiminished.

13TH JUNE.—President Roosevelt speaking at the opening of the fifth war loan drive said that Japan can be forced to "unconditional surrender or national suicide much more rapidly than had been thought possible". He said that Germany "is the first on the list for destruction" and added: "Germany has her back against the wall, in fact against three walls at once".

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INDIA, BURMA AND CEYLON

7TH JUNE.—The Japs withdrew rapidly in the Kohima area. Allied troops have occupied Chakhabama and Chozumi.

8TH JUNE.—The Allied troops have captured Aradura Spur.

9TH JUNE.—In the Kohima sector the Japanese retreat southward along the road to Imphal continued. Kigwema and Kezoma, near Kohima were cleared of the enemy. Chintits captured Hola near Myitkyina. Allied troops occupied Chakrao, Kadongtee and Pinhmi.

10TH JUNE.—Allied troops thrushing south-east of Kohima encountered opposition at Viswema.

11TH JUNE.—Viswema has been cleared of the enemy.

12TH JUNE.—In the Imphal Sector Allied advance north of Kanglatongbi continued. In the neighbourhood of Bishenpur Allied patrols were active.

13TH JUNE.—Chinese troops occupied the rifle range, an enemy strong point in the north-west section of Myitkyina.

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RUSSIA AND FINLAND

8TH JUNE.—The Russians launched an offensive north of Jassy on a broad front and advanced several kilometres.

9TH JUNE.—North-west of Tarnapol, the Germans broke into an inhabited locality, but were dislodged. North of Jassy Soviet detachments gained another strong point and improved Russian positions.

10TH JUNE.—The Russians launched a general offensive in the Karelian Isthumus.

11TH JUNE.—Soviet troops advanced 25 kilometres through Finnish territory. More than 80 localities, including Teri Joki, were captured.

12TH JUNE.—In the western part of Karelian Isthumus fierce fighting continued.

Russians captured Rajvala, Kivinappa and over 30 other inhabited localities.

13TH JUNE.—The Red Army has reached a point less than 40 miles south of Viborg. North-west of Sokolniki, Russians beat back several German attempts to retake positions from which they had been ousted. North of Jassy, Germans attacked the position of one Soviet unit but were thrown back.

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ITALY, AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

7TH JUNE.—Hard-fighting took place north-east of Rome. Allied forces have advanced more than 10 miles from Rome.

8TH JUNE.—The Allies have captured Civita Castellano, Civita Vecchia and Subiaco and Bracciano. Marshal Badoglio arrived in Rome.

9TH JUNE.—The Allied troops have captured Viterbo, Vetralca, Tarquinia, Fabrica de Roma, Tollo, Agosta, Palombara-Sabina, Sutri and Caprarola. The Allied forces have advanced up to 40 miles north of Rome.

Prince Umberto has charged Signor Bonomi, a former Italian Premier, with the task of forming a new Government. Marshal Badoglio has thus withdrawn from the political field.

10TH JUNE.—The Allied troops have advanced to about 57 miles from Rome. They have captured Tuscania, Vetralla, Maricone, Arsoli, Guiliano, Guardiagrele and Orsogna.

11TH JUNE.—Indian troops captured Pescara. Other places occupied by the Allies include Chieti. Sulomona has been evacuated by the enemy as also the island of San Stefano.

12TH JUNE.—The Allies captured Avezzano and Poggio Soma Villa.

13TH JUNE.—The Allied troops occupied Capelle, and Popoli and have crossed the Saline river.

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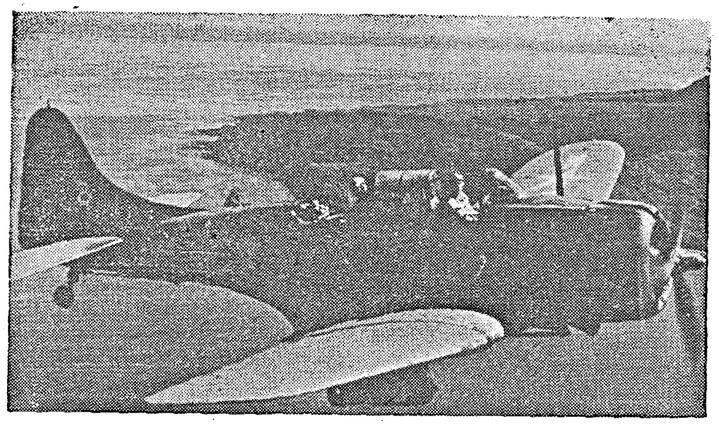
VICHY, FREE FRANCE AND THE OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

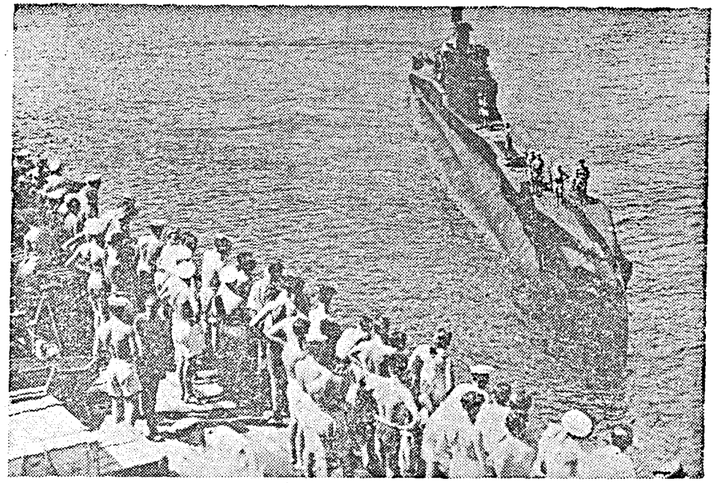
7TH JUNE.—Allied troops landed in Orne area, in the western coast of Normandy and some other places. The Allies have established a bridgehead 21 miles wide and 6 miles deep in one sector. In some places advanced to 12 miles within the land.

FOR YOUR RADIO DIARY

MADRAS—JUNE	16.—9-00 p.m.	Topical talk: By Dr. V. Venkappa.
,, ,,	17.—9-45 p.m.	Fighting Forces.
,, ,,	19.—9-00 p.m.	New Outlook: America.
,, ,,	21.—9-45 p.m.	"The Voice of America: relay from Delhi."
,, ,,	22.—9-00 p.m.	Common Cause.
,, ,,	23.—9-00 p.m.	Prelude to Peace: Rehabilitation.



UNITED STATES NAVY DIVE BOMBER OVER THE PACIFIC.—A rugged United States Navy Dauntless dive bomber roars past a Pacific island on a mission against the Japanese. Carrying 1,000 pounds of bombs, the heavily armed dive bomber has a range of approximately 1,000 miles and a top speed of more than 250 miles per hour. Dauntless planes have played an important part in attacks on enemy shipping in the Pacific.



WITH THE EASTERN FLEET.—Back from a successful patrol in Far Eastern waters, one of H.M. submarines arriving at the depot ship.

Allied bombers attacked Ploesti, Borasov, and Pitesti in Rumania and Belgrade in Yugoslavia.

8TH JUNE.—The Allies have captured Bayeux. The Bayeux-Caen road has been cut at several points. General Eisenhower who visited the beachhead and has issued a statement on the situation. General Montgomery has reached France. Allies bombed Paris area heavily.

9TH JUNE.—Despite German resistance, Allied troops continued to make progress in all areas and the beachheads were enlarged and widened to more than 36 miles. Allies occupied Formigny, Saint Mere Eglise, etc.

10TH JUNE.—General Montgomery, Commander of the British and Empire Armies invading France, has set up his headquarters in France. The Allies have captured Trevieres and Isigny. Allied aircraft bombed Flers, Rennes and Lemans in North France; Ploesti oilfields in Rumania.

11TH JUNE.—Allied forces have captured Lison and Tilly Sur Suelles. The Allied beachhead is now 51 miles long and 10½ miles inland at the deepest point.

Anglo-American planes bombed Constanza, Giurgiu and Fossahi in Rumania.

12TH JUNE.—Americans have taken *Carentan*. The linking of the beachheads in Normandy is now complete. A coastal stretch of 60 miles in length and 18 miles deep, is firmly in the hands of the Allies.

Mr. Churchill accompanied by General Smuts, and the Chief of the Supreme General Staff, Sir Alan Brooke, visited Normandy beachhead. General Eisenhower with United States Service Chiefs General Marshall, Admiral King and General Arnold, made a five-hour tour of the United States sector of the front in Normandy coast.

13TH JUNE.—The Allies have captured Montebourg, Le Ham and Pont L'Abbe.

American planes attacked Innsbruck in Austria.

THE NEUTRAL COUNTRIES

11TH JUNE.—It is understood that Sweden has agreed to stop exports of ball-bearings to Germany altogether and cut down other exports by 20 per cent.

The Prime Minister of Sweden, Mr. Albin Hansson, said that Sweden has "considerably strengthened her present military preparedness."

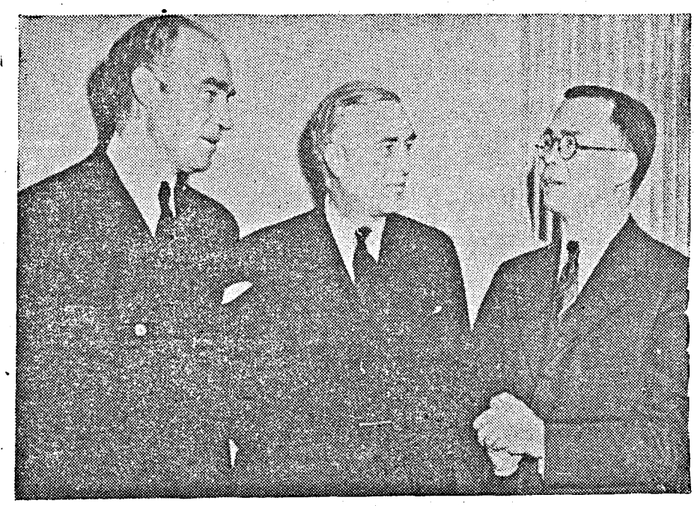
THE FAR EAST

7TH JUNE.—Allied bombers attacked Rabaul.

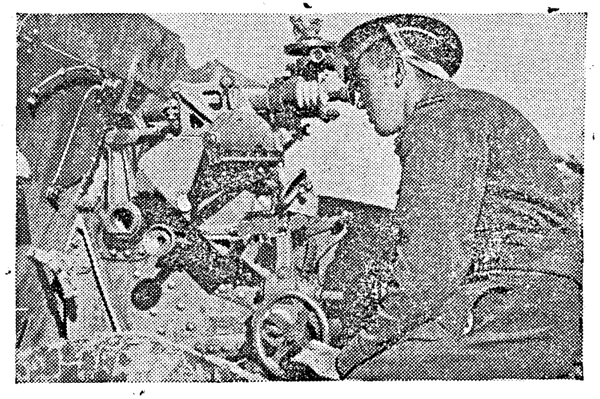
8TH JUNE.—The American forces have captured the important Japanese aerodrome at Mokmer on Biak Island. Allied troops occupied Mawaraka on Gazelle Harbour. Timoi, Truk, Rabaul and Wewak were bombed by the Allied planes.

9TH JUNE.—American bombers attacked Truk, Wewak and Noemfour. Northwest of New Guinea a Jap cruiser was hit and damaged.

10TH JUNE.—It is reported that four Jap destroyers were sunk by Allied bombers off the Dutch New Guinea coast.



SON OF FAMOUS UNITED STATES INVENTOR NAMED CHAIRMAN OF UNITED CHINA RELIEF.—At a reception in New York City, following his election as National Chairman of United China Relief, Charles Edison (centre), *son of the noted American inventor, Thomas A. Edison, and former Governor of the Eastern U.S. State of New Jersey, confers with his associates, Henry Luce* (left), *American publisher and editor, and Dr. T. F. Tsiang, Chinese delegate to the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration. In accepting his new office, Mr. Edison declared: "It is an honor to work with our Chinese Allies who have fought for so many years and so valiantly against the ruthlessness, treachery and tyranny of Japan."*



NEW ZEALAND TROOPS IN ITALY.—New Zealand gunner sighting the range on to an enemy target during an action in Italy.

The Allied forces mopped up the remaining Jap positions on Biak Island. Allied bombers attacked objectives in Truk, Aroe, Tanimbar Islands, Wewak and Hansa Bay.

11TH JUNE.—It is revealed that Allies have attacked the Ocean Island. Enemy positions of Saipan, Tinian and Guam in the Mariana Islands were attacked by Allied aircraft.

The Chinese forces have captured the Burma Road city of Lungling.

12TH JUNE.—Truk and other enemy positions were attacked by Allied planes.

United States submaries have sunk 18 more Jap supply ships in the Pacific, it is announced to-day.

13TH JUNE.—Over 141 Japanese aircraft were shot down and 13 Jap ships sunk in a three-day operation by an U. 6, Task force against four islands in the Marianas in the North-west Pacific from June 10 to 12. Sixteen other Jap vessels were heavily damaged.

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MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. V FRIDAY, JUNE 23, 1944 No. 42

FULL SUCCESS TO THE CAUSE OF FREEDOM

It may be that events will occur in the next few months which will show us whether we are soon to be relieved of the curse which has been laid upon us by the Germans. The end will be more terrible for our foes, the longer their struggle continues

The plans agreed upon at Teheran have not yet all been put into operation; but they are being steadily unrolled and the months of Summer may, by the victories of this Allied campaign bring full success to the cause of freedom

Mr. CHURCHILL, in a recent speech at London

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[NOTE.—*The summary of news and comments contained in the* MADRAS WAR REVIEW *generally relate to events and statements published till Wednesday, every week.*]

NO CORNER OF JAPAN IS SAFE

"No corner of the Japanese homeland is now safe from attack. New long-range bombers have overcome tremendous barriers of distance to bring the heart of Japan under the guns and bombs of the United States Army Air Forces. The pioneers who planned the Super Fortresses raid on Japan and those who manned the aircraft have shortened our road to Tokyo."

MR. HENRY L. STIMSON, *Secretary of War, the United States, in a recent statement.*

❖

ONLY THE BEGINNING

"The recent raid on Japan by American Super Fortresses is only the beginning of powerful Allied air attacks against the Japanese homeland. Those who, like myself know Japan and the Far East, will immediately realize that Japan is far more helpless than Germany in meeting this irresistible menace to her industrial potential. From Japan's little islands it is impossible for her industrialists to disperse factories beyond the reach of our air power."

ADMIRAL HARRY E. YARNALL.

❖

DAWN OF VICTORY SHINES

"Our people have passed through the vicissitudes of history and they know how grim is the climb up the slope of an abyss. But over graves and pain, the dawn of victory shines and the light of renewal begins, a renewal from which France will be able to do for the world something more than she has done before."

GENERAL DE GAULLE, *President of the French National Liberation Committee, in his speech at a special session of the French National Consultative Assembly, on June 18.*

MADRAS WAR REVIEW

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RUSSIA: AN ANNIVERSARY

THREE years ago, Hitler attacked the Soviet Union. He thought it would be a walk-over for him in Russia. He had a clean sweep in the West, and decided to go East before tackling Great Britain. His idea was that there should be no powerful enemy or neutral in the rear, when he launched his invasion across the English Channel. His calculation was correct, so far as it went—but Soviet Russia under the masterly leadership of the great Stalin had calculated earlier the exact shape of things to come and been preparing herself. Russia knew the changes that were taking place in Germany and visualized far ahead the danger that would one day come to her safety and security. She knew that Hitler's Pact of Non-aggression was a ruse, and that he would treat it as a scrap of paper in the same way as he treated similar pacts and pledges with other European countries, when the time came. But the Pact suited her. It gave her time—time to get ready, to gather her resources, to mobilize her men. But the time was not enough. Still it was valuable in its own way.

WHEN Hitler tore the Pact and attacked Russia on that fateful day—June 22, 1941—he knew that his powerful Nazi hordes would go a long way. He was fully conscious of the strength and the striking power of his *Luftwaffe* and *Wehrmacht*. He thought he could not fail. He was so confident of eliminating Russia that he began to indulge in proud boasts. He assured the world in October 1941 that Russia would soon be defeated. He was positive that there could be only one end in the war he started against Russia—the victory of Germany. He was certain that within a few months the Swastika would fly over the Kremlin. He had everything figured out. First, the Kremlin, then the Buckingham Palace, and lastly the White House. The whole world would be at his feet—if everything went according to his plan!

HITLER'S plan worked its way deep into the heart of Russia, but he did not fully bargain for the fact that Stalin had a plan of his own—a counter-plan—the plan of yielding space to gain time—and more time. The withdrawal of the Red Army far into the interior in the face of a numerically strong and well-equipped enemy was not a retreat—it was fighting a delaying action, it was strategy. Hitler's object was to smash the Red Army as a fighting force, and Stalin's strategy was to preserve its fighting strength as much as possible and conserve it for the great counter-offensives later on which would liberate the occupied areas of Russia. He who fights and runs away, lives to fight another day—and Stalin knew that the real hero in modern warfare is not the man who recklessly resists a superior enemy and loses his life "gloriously" on the battlefield, but one who measures his strength against his opponent's, who adopts tactics to tire the enemy, to lengthen his lines of communication and weaken his staying power, and then strikes at him with all his might.

THIS was what happened in Russia. The Red Army never took the impact of the terrific blow dealt out by the Nazi hordes, because of its strategy of fighting withdrawal. It has no doubt fought many fierce battles against the Germans and outwitted them in mobility and manoeuvre, but it never allowed the enemy a chance to inflict a shattering blow. The Red Army kept itself alive as a fighting force till help came from the Allies—much-needed arms and equipment from the far-flung colonies and dependencies of the British Commonwealth and the American Republic.

STALIN'S strategy and Allied aid had their effect in the fulness of time. Hitler's lines of communication and supply lengthened and the powers of endurance of the Germans during Russian winters weakened. The Red Army was conserving its strength and renewing its fighting spirit. It showed the extent of this strength and the effect of its fighting spirit in the great counter-offensives planned by Stalin with great care, skill and precision.

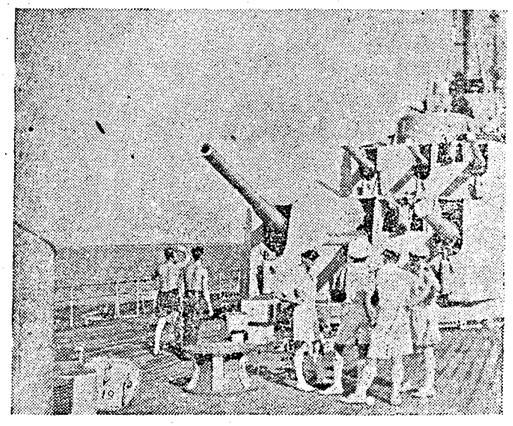
HITLER'S hordes reeled beneath the terrific onslaughts of the Red Army. They reeled, and retreated. Sector after sector was liberated from the clutches of the Fascists. The varying tides of the fortunes of war ultimately became a great flood which pushed the Germans in important fighting fronts far beyond the Soviet frontier lines.

THE war in Russia is still not over, but it is clear beyond the shadow of doubt that Hitler has lost. He has fared no better than Napoleon in his march to Moscow, and his gamble in Russia has proved a gain to the world. He wasted his gigantic strength in the vast open spaces of Russia against the strong and determined peoples of the Soviet Union, and gave Britain and America breathing space and time to prepare and rally the strength of the world against tyranny and aggression. He came to grips with the great Russian Colossus. The grip has become loose, but his ribs have been broken.

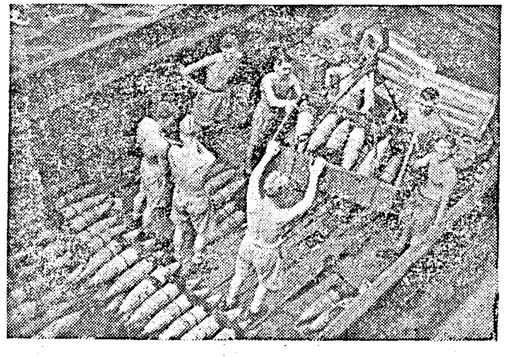
THE freedom-loving world is under a deep debt of gratitude to Soviet Russia for what she has done—and what she alone could have done. On the third anniversary of the beginning of the Russo-German war, this thought is uppermost in the minds of men.

EASTERN FLEET GUNS PREPARE

An Eastern Fleet cruiser calibrating her guns ; according to the angles given him by the Staff Gunnery Officer, the Gunner sets the "rakes" used to measure the spread of the shot.



An Ordnance Artificer lowers the weight down the barrel of one of the 6-inch guns preparatory to sponging out before the shoot.



Ammunition comes alongside in a lighter and the Royal Marines unload it. In the background are cases of cordite.

RUNNING COMMENTARY

First Phase of Invasion over—German Commands Dilemma

The first phase of the Invasion seems to be over. The slicing of the Cherbourg Peninsula was one of the principal invasion objectives, and it has been achieved with great success. The important port of Cher-bourg has been isolated, as also the northern sector of the Peninsula where it is believed, the Germans have kept much material and equipment for defence. The initial stage of the invasion, namely, the process of landing and establishing beachheads, has largely been completed, though it is only to be expected that reinforcements and supplies will continue to be landed with a view to maintaining and increasing the strength and pressure of Allied invasion forces. The fighting may now be stated to have reached the second stage. German reserves are now being thrown in to check Allied advance or delay it. German commanders seem to be undecided whether to regard the present battle as a major operation or as a prelude to bigger and more dangerous Allied attacks. They seem to have not yet taken a definite decision on whether they should use their strategic reserves or their main reserves at this stage.

* * *

No continuous Battle-line—Progress not to be measured in miles

There are intricate and complex variations in the battle as it is proceeding. In some cases, enemy coastal batteries are being smashed ; in others Allied forces are operating relatively far inland with a strengthened bridgehead behind them ; in still others, the mopping up of isolated enemy strongpoints behind Allied forward troops is going on. Then again, there are Allied air-borne troops ranging far and wide like moving islands of attack and resistance. The point is that, as yet, no continuous battleline has emerged from the operations.

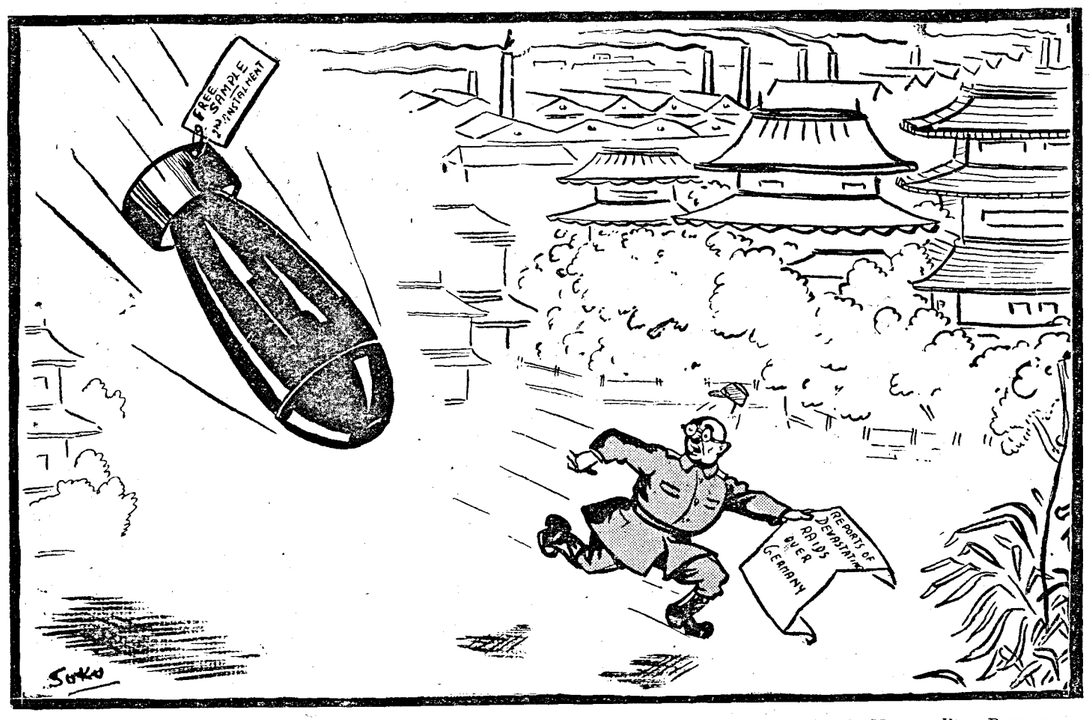
Now the most important scene of course is the Cherbourg Peninsula. In this area dominated by Allied control, U.S. Forces on the right wing and the British and Canadian forces on the left wing have been pushing inland. It is not always easy to follow the initial stages of the operations following the establishment of beachheads, as the military objectives of the Allied expeditionary force have not so far been disclosed. But it may be stated that the breach of the first coastal defences is in itself an achievement of a high order. It is obvious that, in operations of this kind, it is not possible to measure progress in miles upon the map at this stage. What is important is the measure of progress achieved in overcoming obstacles, the very location of which may not quickly be revealed.

* * *

German Propaganda Tricks—Dr. Gobbels' Definition of "News"

In passing, it may be noted here that official Allied communiques are necessarily brief, terse and straight forward, and do not give too many details, but the Germans, on the other hand, seem to be very anxious to tell the world exactly where the Allied troops are and how the battles are going. The anxiety of the Germans is not so much to give, but to find out, information. They want to know more about the dispositions of Allied forces, and the alleged information put out by

THE BOMBING OF TOKYO



—Specially drawn for the MADRAS WAR REVIEW

Berlin and other German-controlled radio stations is obviously intended to provoke a denial, or bring forth an elucidation, from Allied sources, which may help them to draw useful inferences or conclusions. But the brief Allied communiqués make it clear that the Allies are not going to disclose any information directly or indirectly in response to the clamour of the enemy radio. The Germans may go on continuing to fill the air with their reports some of which may by being nearer the truth give colour to others which are intentional distortions or deliberate inventions.

It may be recalled that Dr. GOEBBELS referred to the part played by the German propaganda organization in the first campaigns in Europe in a speech to a Berlin University audience on December 1, 1941. In that speech he made a statement which has become notorious that, "news is trickery by which to defeat the enemy." This Nazi principle has been used only too often in German propaganda, particularly in connexion with Commando raids or other Allied landings on the European soil in the past. No news has ever been given by the Allies of small-scale landings made during the past four years, because the object of those expeditions was accomplished without the enemy's full knowledge and the British Command wanted to observe a security silence in all the cases. In the case of other landings such as those of St. Nazaire and Dieppe, GOEBBELS began to make fantastic claims, taking advantage of the time that elapsed before detailed British communiqués were released. Regarding the St. Nazaire operations of March 28, 1942, a special German communiqué was issued falsely claiming that the Allied landing forces were "encircled and annihilated." As for the Dieppe raid of August 19, 1942, the French people were warned by the B.B.C. that the raid was "not an invasion," but official German statements took the opportunity to claim, "the disastrous defeat of the British-U.S.A. Expeditionary Force in its attempt to invade the European Continent."

There are many instances of such calculated trickery indulged in by Dr. GOEBBELS' propaganda machinery, but the point to which we want to draw the attention of our readers is the fact that the Germans may indulge in announcements of non-existent landings at other points on the French coast with a view to claiming their total repulse and that therefore they must be on their guard in assessing the news-value of such fictitious announcements.

IN A STRANGE LAND

(*By* R.G.)

Always the soldier far from home—
Hawk-eyed centurion fresh from Rome
And eating out his heart beside
A swirling British tide,
Or Macedonian in a land
Of elephants and sand,
Or Old Guard hero following still
His Emperor's will,
Always, parading or alone,
Remembers, while before his eye
Are spread a foreign scene and sky,
Another land and sky, his own.

The Welshman, Yorkshireman and Scot,
Sweeping the desert God forgot
And eating out their heart beside
The Mediterranean tide,
Or blasting out a giddy track
On ancient Asia's back,
Remember moor and heather scent
And ways they went
Across clean turf, down grassy lane,
From rock to rock across the stream
On whose brown eddies twitched the gleam
Of dawns they dream to see again:

Remember, and thrust down desire
For household talk and leaping fire.
And eating out his heart beside
An Indian Ocean tide
The Berkshire yeoman scours anew
His rifle bright and true:
The land who longs for Glassgow's mirk
Sets hand to work
In blinding sun; and in a street
Where mills a throng of alien speech
The boy from Cotswold-hid Northleach
Stand sentry in the dusty heat.

Until the task they sailed to do
Is done, they do not hope to view
The Sound at Plymouth or the tide
In Humber, Thames or Clyde,
Or sheep-cropped downs or turfy hills
Seamed with perennial rills
Where stark Helvellyn rises or
Arrogant Tor:
Until the task is done, they know
They shall not see their town and shire
Nor eye behold the heart's desire,
But only memories homeward go.

NAIK SANDANASWAMI'S GALLANTRY

Without regard for personal danger Naik Sandanaswami Michael, Third Madras Regiment of Karjithirampet, North Arcot, an Indian Christian, who is an Instructor at Khushalgarh training camp, Kohat, made strenuous efforts to save four sepoys who became exhausted while swimming across the River Indus in full equipment, and with rifles slung.

Naik Michael managed to save three sepoys. He dived four times into deep water, where the current was particularly dangerous, to save the fourth but the man, who belonged to the Twelfth Frontier Force Regiment was drowned.

Naik Michael has been awarded the B.E.M. (military) in recognition of "conspicuous gallantry in carrying out hazardous work in a very brave manner."

HIGH-POWER RADIO FOR TROOPS

Broadcasting for troops in India is to be extended.

The All Forces' programme broadcast for British troops from the New Delhi station of All-India Radio which was introduced last February is to be increased from 9 to 30 hours a week. In addition, the Middle East programme for Indian troops is to be extended from 30 to 45 minutes.

Both programmes are to be radiated on All-India Radio's new 100-kilowat transmitter, one of the most powerful in the East. It is expected that they will be clearly heard in the United Kingdom.

The increased "listening time" begins on 1st July, when British servicemen will be able to hear the following programmes: 7·00-8·30 daily, "Reveille" 13·00-14·30 daily, lunch-time music; 18·30-19·30 daily, All Forces' hour. In addition "Hippodrome" will be broadcast every Tuesday and Wednesday from 22·00-23·00. At present the All Forces' programme consists only of the daily 18·30-19·30 and twice weekly "Hippdrome" broadcasts.

"The programme is intended mainly for the Fourteenth Army but We boast All-India coverage", said an officer of the welfare and Amenities Directorate who is in charge of the broadcasts. "We particularly want listeners' reports on reception."

The frequencies on which the new British programmes will be broadcast are not yet known but servicemen are asked to listen in from 20th to 30th June to the present 18·30-19·30 programme on 25.27 metres. Announcements will be made each evening during this period giving all the necessary information.

Criticisms and suggestions and also requests for special items will be welcomed from members of the services and also from any civilian listeners interested. Letters should be sent to:—Broadcasting Section, G.H.Q., New Delhi.

The programme consist of variety, dance music, music ball, organ-music and classical items, in fact the whole range of entertainment, "with as little talking as possible".

Indian troops in India and Ceylon have their own broadcast programme, on wavelengths of 31.3, 41.15, and 60.48 metres, which is broadcast from New Delhi every evening from 19·45 to 20·25 There is also a programme for Indian troops in the Middle East, broadcast on 25·5 and 31·2 metres, from 23·30 to midnight nightly.

The Middle East programme is being extended from 30 to 45 minutes from 1st July. Indian troops overseas, wherever they may be, will now have not only more listening time and more varied entertainment than before but also clearer reception of these broadcasts.

The Indian programmes are arranged by the Inter Services Public Relations Directorate in collaboration with All-India Radio.

NORMANDY AS A BATTLEFIELD

By ALEXANDER CLIFFOD

OUR armies have set foot on Norman soil. What lies ahead of them now?

Let us be optimistic and assume several things.

Let us assume that our landings do succeed and are firmly consolidated. Let us assume that our general objective—the main direction of our advance—will be Paris. And let us assume that we do begin to advance.

The first consideration is what will Normandy be like as a battlefield? Normandy is not another Western Desert and it is not another Italy. Still less it is like Burma.

It is a type of country in which we have not fought for four years. It is like nothing so much as Southern England. It is a gentle, rolling, green country of quiet, meandering rivers, red and white farm-houses, sprawling villages, compact ancient market towns and a few big cities. It is a place of thick hedgerows and apple orchards and lush fields and deep narrow lanes and huge old trees. It is England without ribbon development, without advertisement, hoardings and Jacobean petrol stations.

It is a very far cry from the mighty corrugations of the Italian landscape with its sheer craggy mountains and swift-running transverse rivers. In Normandy there are no naturally impregnable positions, no Cassinos which can hold up the progress of an entire army. There are no rivers like Volturno and Garigliano which must be crossed at all costs. Because in Normandy we shall be advancing from the coast up rivers and not eternally crossing them.

In Normandy there are none of those airy bridges over 1,000-foot ravines and roads on shelves cut in precipices like those we had in Italy. For the most part when the Germans dynamite a road or a bridge there will be a comparatively easy way round.

There will be almost no natural obstacles for tanks. There is plenty of cover for tanks, guns and men. And that to some extent favours the defending side. The Germans will be able to conceal their anti-tank guns and mortars, and ambush our advancing patrols. But of course it cuts both ways. We can equally conceal our dumps, our troop concentrations and our lines of attack.

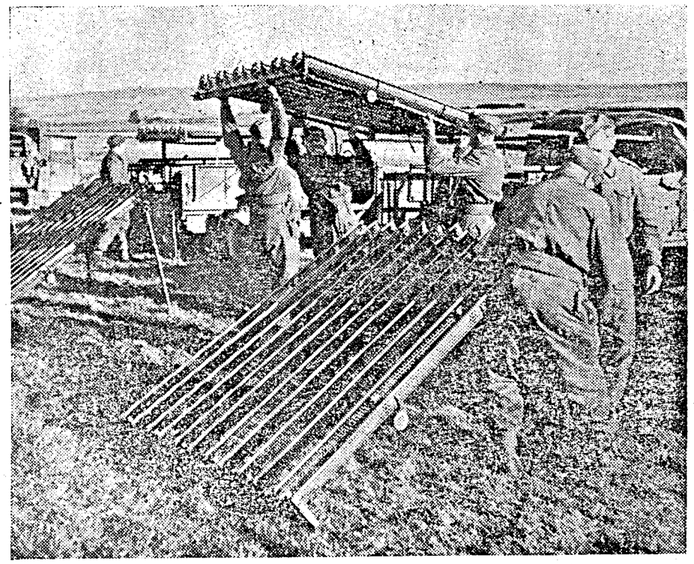
Most of the soldiers would call it a good fighting country. It is not an empty arena like the African desert which resembled the sea rather than land, and we can never expect advances at such a fantastic speed as the Eighth Army used to achieve. But the German Army four years ago showed how fast progress could be made by the attacker in this northern French terrain.

Daily Mail.

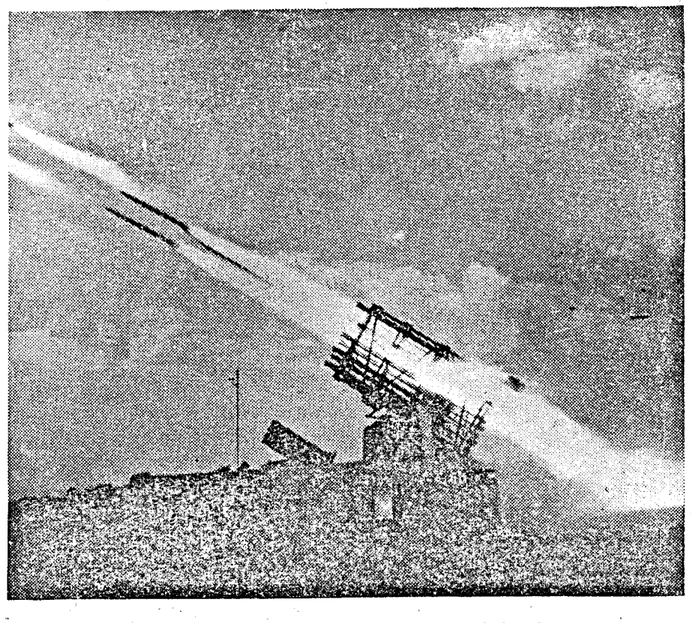
Czech soldiers in London are studying Basic English and doing pretty well. Said one to a policeman: "Please, Bobby, which watch?"

By and by the policeman got it and held out his wrist watch for the other to see.

"Six watch? Such much?" said the soldier, and hastened on his way.



Multiple barrelled rocket guns being unloaded from lorries and erected for firing.



Rockets being fired from a multiple barrelled rocket firing anti-aircraft weapon on a mobile mounting.

THE JIG-SAW OF ALLIED AIR POWER

By WING-COMMANDER L. V. FRASER.

ELEVEN thousand first-line aircraft formed a complicated piece in the gigantic jig-saw pattern of Allied air power on 'D' Day. They dropped 10,000 tons of bombs in the first eight hours. They provided the biggest land operation shield of all time. They wrote a new page in the history of air war.

There was never a jig-saw with as many pieces. The pieces have taken just four years to fit together. By dawn on June 6, the pattern was practically complete, but a few vital pieces were waiting to be fitted in. They were pieces that could not be slipped in place until the final signal had been received. By the time the first Allied troops had won beachheads in northern France, they were in position.

When the first wave of landing troops were taking their places in barges, they heard the drone of returning aircraft. More than 1,000 Royal Air Force "heavies" were coming back from their initial attack upon coastal batteries in France, which received more than 5,000 tons of bombs. The first of the missing pieces had been laid into position. The pattern was almost complete.

UMBRELLA OF FIGHTING COVER

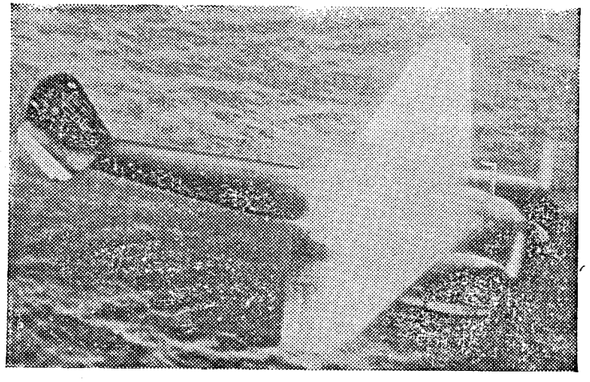
Before the "heavies" touched down at their bases, a second air armada carrying paratroops and the airborne vanguard moved off to land behind the enemy's lines. Next, 1,000 United States "heavies", supported by other aircraft, crossed the Channel and attacked bridges, roads and troop concentrations. Then the final piece was fitted into the great pattern—it was the huge umbrella of fighting cover for troops which ranged the combat areas looking—in vain as it happened—for the Luftwaffe.

The Battle of Europe has commenced under air conditions most favourable to the attacker, shepherded and protected by an air arm infinitely more powerful than anything the enemy can put in the sky. As the assault upon Hitler's European Fortress continues, that protecting arm—as potent in its offensive as in its defensive role—will advance step by step with the armies of liberation until Germany, a country which boasted that its air arm was the invincible adjunct to its colossal land armies, has learned the final lesson in modern war.

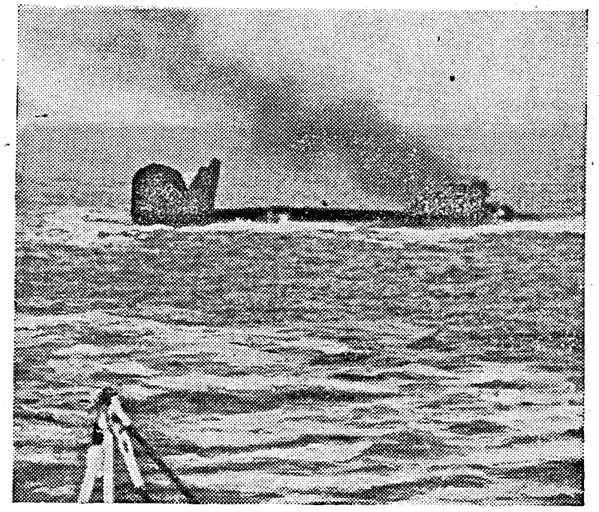
A colonel, who has been in the Army for more than thirty years is in charge of Army transport in Washington. 150 Wac's were assigned to his command, as drivers. He ordered one of them brought before him, for an infraction of the rules, and reprimanded her. She listened, dutifully saluted—and then burst into tears.

The next Wac to appear before him requested a three-day leave, to go to Detroit. The colonel, affected by the tears of the first one, now felt contrite. He told this second one, "A three-day leave would give you only one day in Detroit; take five days."

The Wac listened, dutifully saluted—and then she, too, burst into tears!



R.A.F. COASTAL COMMAND PLANE "KILLS" A JU. 88.—*A* Ju. 88 *shot down into the sea by an aircraft of Royal Air Force Coastal Command. The German plane is seen on fire just before it hits the water. The pilot of the British Aircraft flew around taking photographs but saw no signs of survivors.*

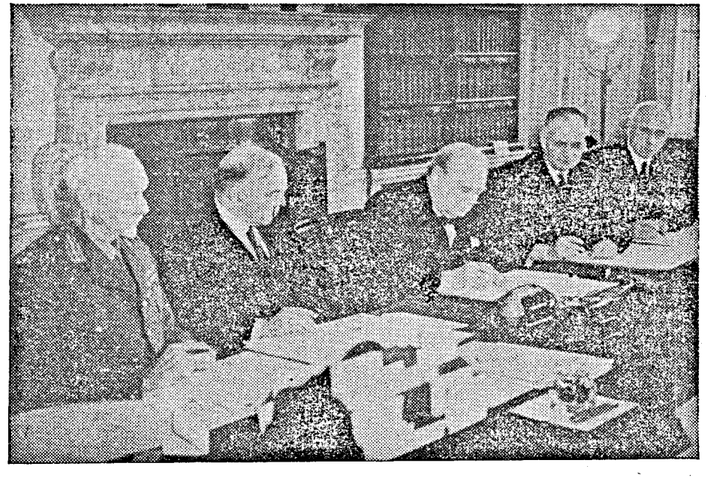


END OF A FOCKE-WOLFE.—Picture shows *last minutes of a* Focke-Wolfe *shot down in the sea. Survivors were picked up by the boat from a British ship.*

DRESSED THE WOUNDED UNDER SHELL-FIRE

With the enemy constantly shelling an Indian field ambulance, near Cassino, the task of dressing casualties was not easy. But Nursing Naik Chemati Ragavaraja Sundra Babu Faja, I.D.S.M., I.A.M.C., a Hindu of Sowcarpet, Madras, collected and attended to many wounded men in exposed positions for which he receives the M.M. "He was, to a large extent, responsible for the speed with which the wounds were dressed under the most trying conditions says the citation."

Nursing Naik C. R. Sundra Babu has thus received both the I.D.S.M. and the M.M. for conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty in attending to wounded. He received the I.D.S.M. in April 1943, during the campaign in North Africa.



DOMINION PREMIERS SIGN AGREEMENT.—Mr. Winston Churchill appends his signature, watched by General Smuts (South Africa), *Mr. Mackenzie King* (Canada), *Mr. John Curtin* (Australia) *and Mr. Peter Fraser* (New Zealand) *at the final meeting of the Dominion Premiers at* 10, *Downing Street.*

A recent portrait of Admiral Sir Bertram Ramsay, K.C.B., M.V.O., Allied Naval Commander, Expeditionary Force.

☆

SESHIAH, THE CURIOUS VILLAGER

(*By* R.G.)

CANTO II

First Instalment

Still pondering on the news he heard,
Still struggling with the lengthy word
In which the simple fact was hid
By journalists (who lightly skid
From error old to error new
Forwards and backwards and askew
Along a strong opaque verbosity,
Spun with a glamorous virtuosity),
Seshiah found himself perplexed
And struck a-heap by what came next.
—The Ministers had all resigned!

To old Seshiah's simple mind
Their action seemed a trifle queer.
It did not anywhere appear
That they had been in truth unseated
Or in the Assembly Hall defeated.
The Governor had not refused
To sign an Act, nor had abused
His powers, or his Ministers.
"Then why this resignation, Sirs?"
Seshiah asked. And one replied
"Because of due respect denied
To our great Nation. Who is Lord
Thingumabob to wave a sword
And say 'The King's at war and we
Are likewise bound in loyalty
And by the constitution's ties
To fight against his enemies?'
The Party leaders met and swore
They should be asked their views before
The country is declared at war."

Seshiah asked again "But how
Do they expect to snaffle now
The privileges none ever had
In the old days both good and bad?
I never hear the kings of old,
When set on war, the people told
Exactly what they meant to do
Or asked 'My friends, will that suit you?'
Sultans and Rajas all alike
Would make the hapless people hike
To battle, foray, siege and raid
Without a 'By your leave.' Who said
The Party leaders now must share
The king's prerogative and care?"

WIZARD IN THE SHADOW

By TREVOR GLENNY

A full private in Home Guard uniform came up in the lift with me one morning. His offices are two floors below mine. A lot of people in our building don't even know who he is—but the Germans do. They're scared of him . . . and the men and women who work with him. He's the Director of Scientific Research, and he is beating the Germans at their own pet game . . weapons.

Now, these things don't just happen overnight. They mature from the past. He started last war as a Royal Engineer in the trenches—a wireless expert in the days of crystal and cat's whiskers. Then the Admiralty asked for him.

He learned something in the trenches in France—and from Mr. Churchill, First Lord of the Admiralty. He learned that courage is not enough—that victory depends on weapons—new weapons—better weapons. That no weapon is ever made that can't be beaten, if you have the best scientific brains.

A TRAINED TEAM

After last war he stayed on, one of the little band of Scientists in the Department of Scientific Research. They worked for the Navy, Army and Air Force—but principally for the Navy. Then, twenty years ago, they made him Director of Scientific Research. For those twenty years he fought the men who left England well-nigh defenceless. They cut his money grant to the bone. His men worked anonymously (they still do) for love of the Navy—for love of the job.

Bitter years. But sailor, soldier, airman, and scientist, got to know each other—and each other's jobs. Nothing that would not stand up to dirty weather at sea—or in the air—was good enough for them. Out of that testing time came something priceless—a tiny magnificently trained team. Lucky for Britain.

And what was Germany doing all this time?

Hitler mobilized every scientist, every inventor. Where we had one, he had fifty, with money—equipment—everything they wanted. Germany had a big advantage, too—she could concentrate on offensive weapons. England wasn't out to attack anybody. Our job was defence. Against what?—well, the Director had to guess, and then think up a counter.

The Germans began this war with Hitler's secret weapon—the magnetic mine. A ship's keel is laid down on the stocks. From that day till her maiden voyage you literally belt magnetism into her with every hammer blow. Then she passes over the mine, and up she goes. The German scientists told Hitler there was no answer to it.

IT MAY BE—REGRETS

You know what happened. The sea washed a magnetic mine ashore. Lieutenant Ouvry waded out and opened it up. Cold courage, and a set of non-magnetic tools: a little telephone and listen, brother, I may go wrong this chilly dawn.

Then one of the Director's men got busy with the mine's inside. Within forty-eight hours he had the answer—degaussing it's called—You loop the ship with electric cable, switch the current on, and she's demagnetised.

Forty-eight hours—and Hitler's secret weapon was finished. Yes, but you haven't heard this bit. Three years before Germany declared war, we demagnetised a cruiser. It wasn't called degaussing those days. It was just one of the Director's experiments. Perhaps that experiment changed the whole course of this war.

So, you see, thinking up counter weapons is not easy or quick. Far from it. Take Asdics, for instance. Everybody knows our ships listen for U-boats. But did you know the sea is an absolute bedlam of noise? Your own ship makes one noise; every other ship in the convoy makes its own different noise. So do the waves. Even the fish add to the general din, and rain makes a row like ten thousand machineguns spattering bullets on a tin roof. That's the medium through which our sailors listen for the tiny sound that echoes back from a submerged U-boat. It took our scientists ever since last war to get that echo right.

The sea is bad enough for noise, but the air is pandemonium. The ether howls and screams and crackles, like the atmospherics on your radio—only a million times worse. Yet our anti-aircraft guns shoot down the raiders they can't even see, and Fighter Command had those few priceless minutes' warning that made all the difference in the Battle of Britain. But right up to 1939, there was one weak link in detection. A Midlands scientist found the answer—and opened up a new era in the conquest of the air.

CONVOY PROBLEMS

There are a scroes of other research jobs you never hear about—camouflage at sea, for instance. Why, the Captains say they're risking collisions, they can't even see their own sister ships in convoy, by the time the scientists have blended them with sea and sky.

Then the U-boats used to spot the convoy smoke miles before they saw a single ship. The scientists soon stopped that. It meant concentrated research on boiler construction, coal analysis, and films to show the stokers how to feed their fires properly.

Another problem was depth charges. The little ship men wanted to know how to drop them, where to drop them, and how to time them to go off. You can't just ladle depth charges over the ship's side, they're quite as likely to blow you up as damage the U-boat. A destroyer's plating is only a little bit thicker than a post card, and, besides, if you bend a propeller shaft, or damage your engines, you'll stop. That's just how a hunted U-boat wants you—a nice sitting shot.

The Director gets every sort of problem you can think of. How do torpedoes run when they hit the water? How can submarines stop under water longer? How can we get drinking water from sea water? Why, the Admiralty even asked how to keep sailors' hands warm, and the proper way to renovate gold lace.

Every sort of modern technical equipment has been made. Machines that measure a millionth of an inch: a cine camera that takes tens of thousands of pictures in one second. It actually photographs an explosion; and machine gun bullets pose for a nice quiet snapshot as they go sauntering by 500 square miles of sea, complete with waves, fog, or a howling gale are ready any time in the model tank. You can even take an armchair flight over them if you want to.

TRIUMPH OF BRITISH OPTICAL GLASS

There is other, less spectacular, research. Improvement in metals, wood, cotton, silk, wool, leather, paper and plastics. Substitutes are wanted for things that are enemy monopolies, or, better still, find the way to produce them yourself—optical glass, for instance. How much optical glass do you think Britain made pre-war? Five tons a year! It almost makes you laugh, doesn't it? No laughing matter to be caught that way with all the services shouting for gunsights, and periscopes for submarines and tanks, let alone range-finders and precision instruments.

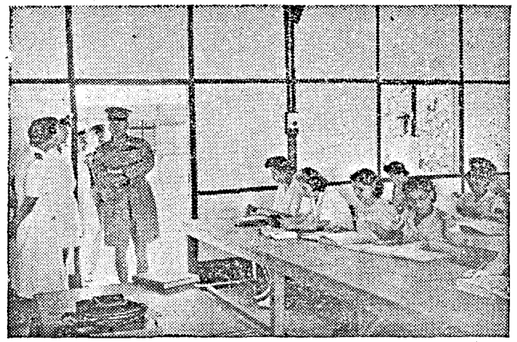
The basis of optical glass is sand—not just any old sand from Margate beach. Well, here the Director had a stroke of luck. His men found the best optical glass sand in the world, better than the German best. With that sand, a couple of derelict factories, and British craftsmanship, we're turning out all the glass we want. In fact, we've made lenses and prisms that lose less light than any Germany ever made. By the way, did you know that the lens you bought in the best German pre-war Leica camera was designed in England? Where we don't need optical glass, we are making thousands of plastic binoculars, lens and frame complete.

Now, I have been telling you about things—weapons and counter-weapons. The Director of Scientific Research has to co-ordinate all the activities, and present the case for production. But there's something much more important people. Without the right men and women the war can be lost.

Mussolini invaded Abyssinia. On that day the Director knew Germany would plunge the world into war. He called in his two deputies. They chose their key scientists from Industry, from the Universities, from other Government Departments. They drew up a list of laboratories with the technical

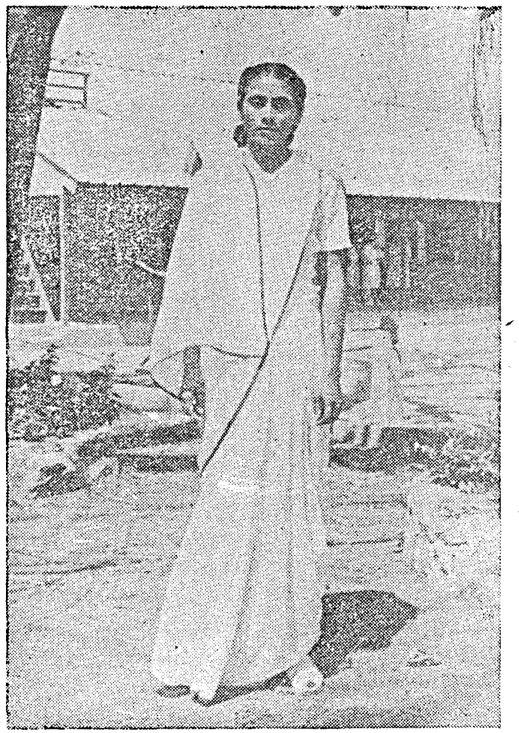
(*Continued on page* 12.)

WOMEN DO THEIR BIT FOR THE NAVY



Indefatigable in getting to know his troops and keeping a critical eye on their training the Commander-in-Chief, India, General Auchinleck, recently paid a visit to units in Bombay. Girls of the Naval Wing of the W.A.C. (I) being trained in the Royal Indian Navy's Signal School.

Left to right: *Chief Petty Officer Kelly, Leading Auxiliary Burke, Petty Officer Barry, and Auxiliaries Menezies, Joseph and Ungar, all of the W.A.C. (I) Naval Wing.*



Chief Petty Officer Shri Hari of Madras.

Petty Officer Barry (left) *and Mrs. Hasan, from Bengal, who have successfully completed the officers' training course at Bombay.*

(*Continued from page* 10.)

gear they wanted. Then the Director made a big decision. The nucleus organization was there. He would have no cut and dried plan for expansion.

Germany declared war . . . and Director simply opened thedoor. In came 10,000 men and women . . . gardeners, bricklayers, scientists, stockbrokers, solicitors, engineers, bankers, brewers: people from every peacetime job you can imagine. They were sorted straight into their proper jobs.

HIGH-PRESSURE INTERVIEWING

I talked to the man who did the sorting. He said it nearly killed him . . and he loved it. He saw everybody who came along. He saw them at 9 a.m., he saw them at midnight. He saw them in offices, in air-raid shelters; in hotels and clubs and pubs. He saw a tramdriver one minute, a professor of chemical engineering the next. He engaged them both. He settled every job and the salary on the spot. He saw forty-eight people in one day. He averaged over a hundred and eighty interviews a week, for months on end.

A Civil Servant phoned him one day —"I say, couldn't you occasionally hum and haw a bit? We can't keep pace with your entry forms, you know."

He told me, on the whole, the number of square pegs he put into round holes were astonishingly few, and you can overdo specialisation. Amateurs, like a University classical scholar, a 45-year-old dentist, a biologist, and a man who was studying nerve reactions in birds and animals, are some of the Navy's finest wireless experts to-day.

Meanwhile the inventors were busy. The magnetic mine really started them. A thousand letters a day came pouring in, and every single letter had to be carefully studied. No matter how wild the idea, there might just be the germ of something worthwhile. The Director had twenty experts doing nothing else. Inventors are difficult to handle. A man may send in an idea that's already being used: or part of something being tried out. You can't tell him so without giving away official secrets.

Very few brand-new inventions have come in this war. Most of the really big ideas have been known to scientists for years, as possibilities. Television, for instance. Seventy years ago, a scientist described television in detail, but it took fifty years before modern equipment made it a fact.

There have been a lot of simple ideas for saving life . . . especially at sea . . . like those little red lights on lifebelts that a woman thought of, and the polished steel hand mirror to catch the sun and flash an S.O.S. to a passing ship or aircraft.

Sometimes inventors can be very dangerous. Early in the war a scientist wrote an article in a technical journal abroad. Within a week the Germans had used his idea to kill one of our counter weapons. To this very day, I doubt, if the writer knows what he has done.

Hitler announces his new weapons in a blaze of secrecy. The Director never announces anything. He just keeps the Nazis guessing.

THEIR MOST DEVASTATING WEAPON

Have you ever wondered what those scientists look like? Well, if you have any lingering ideas about dreamy professors or laboratory limpets, prepare to shed them! Here is a silhouette of the Director. He went to the South Pole with Scott. He fought in the trenches last war. To-day he is a private in the Home Guard. He knows every weapon in use . . . every secret weapon planned; ours and most of Germany's. Day and night for four years the next phone call may bring him news of triumph or disaster. Nothing shakes him.

His manner is considerate, quiet, almost retiring. His speech is brief, humorous, direct. But the most striking thing about him and these brilliant, creative men of imagination who work with him is their devastating common sense.

POTATO SHORTAGE

Army responsibility for the present potato shortage in Madras is strongly denied in a Press Note issued from Headquarters, Southern Army.

The attention of the Military authorities has been drawn to suggestions that the present shortage and high prices of potatoes have been caused by excessive military demand. The facts, however, indicate that this is not at all the case.

The main cause of the present shortage is that the Nilgiri crop has practically finished. The partial failure of the subsidiary June "swamp crop" in the Nilgiris has been a contributory factor. May, June and early July always tend to be barren months with resulting high prices, but nothing that the Army has done is in any way responsible for this situation.

The Army in South India is not purchasing potatoes from the Madras area ercept in very small quantities. It is on the contrary living almost entirely on its own supply grown outside Madras Presidency.

This, moreover, has been the position for the last two months and to some degree even before that. Indeed, so far from affecting the civil markets adversely by increased purchases, the Army has curtailed the potato issues to troops this month, and during May when it had a surplus actually handed that surplus over for civil consumption in many parts of South India. These stocks were in good condition at the time they were handed over and any damage or deterioration had been caused by delay during transit.

Nor can it be said that Army purchases have been responsible for the high prices now current in Madras. As already stated, during the period of the barren Nilgiri crop the Army in Madras consumes potatoes mainly grown under its special schemes outside the Presidency. At other times when purchases are made in Madras, the price is always determined by the Madras Provincial Price-fixing Committees on which both military and civil authorities are represented. It was normally in the region of Rs. 11-8-0 per 100 lb. In no case would the Army pay more than Rs. 16 per 100 lb. and in all cases the consent of the Collector would be obtained.

WOUNDED SIKH WENT BACK TO FIGHT AGAIN

Though wounded in the arm and evacuated from the battle field, Sepoy Bikram Singh, of village Jabbowal, district Jullundur, volunteered to go with another company to have a further crack at the enemy, writes an Indian Army Observer.

About 15 minutes after the Sikh company of a Punjabi battalion had made an assault on Church Knoll, Kohima, I saw Bikram being led back with blood all over his clothes. He was taken to the regimental aid-post.

Bikram was still in the area when another company was ordered to get ready. The company commander, asked if he could be allowed to go too, replied, "But what about your arm?", "It is nothing at all," said Bikram, and went along with the Jats to avenge his friends.

BAN ON EXPORT OF COTTON SEED

The following is an extract from G.O. Ms. No. 2540, Development, dated 12th June 1944:—

In exercise of the powers conferred by sub-rule (2) of rule 81 of the Defence of India Rules, and in supersession of Development Department Notification No. 76, dated the 5th January 1944, published at page 25 of Part I of the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated the 11th January 1944, His Excellency the Governor of Madras, is hereby pleased to make the following order:—

No person shall, during any part of the year, export cotton seed by rail, road, canal or sea from any place in the area comprising the districts of Tinnevelly and Ramnad and the portion of the Madura district south of the Vaigai river to any place outside the said area except under, and in accordance with the terms and conditions of a permit issued by the Commissioner of Civil Supplies, Madras, or any officer specially authorized by him in this behalf.

LENINGRAD IN SPRING

By N. BABIN

AFTER two years of privations, air attacks and artillery bombardments the people have a chance to breathe freely again. A heavy damage was inflicted on the city by the Fascists. The beautiful little towns which surrounded Leningrad are in ruins. Great palaces and remarkable historical relics lie wrecked and disfigured. But people do not despair. With a grim resolution they have set to reconstructing their native city.

Plywood shields covering the damaged walls of buildings are being taken down. Gaping holes are being bricked up.

Leningrad is humming with activity. Not far from the Griboedov Canal stands a tall building with a shell hole in one of its upper storeys. A few days ago girls in grey overalls made their appearance on the scene. Bringing bricks, cement and steel they began to repair the house.

At the next door a group of young people are busy around big shop window. They are in a hurry to remove boards and earth.

GIRL IN COLD

The outskirts of the city. . . . in the wrecked wall of the building ten metres over the ground stands a girl mason. The wall rises under her agile hands. It is cold there and wind is strong but the girl is doing her work. She feels like a soldier on duty.

It must be noted that the houses are not simply being repaired but made better and more comfortable. An army of volunteer builders is growing daily. In their after hours thousands of Leningraders are helping the professional building workers to rehabilitate the dwellings.

The plant worker Kulikova, aided by nobody but her sister, built floors, plastered walls and put window panes in her home. A girl by the name Ksenofontova repaired a flat which had suffered from fire. She had to be carpenter, plasterer, painter, stove-setter and plumber, all in one. When asked what her main trade was, she smiled and said "Wireless operator".

Everyday sees more and more people move in the repaired flats. A large scale rehabilitation work is planned for this year. Roads and streets are to be repaired; parks and gardens replanted and improved; a network of tramcar lines enlarged and trolleybus traffic resumed. Old water-supply lines are being fixed and new ones are being laid. New public baths, laundries and clothing repair shops will be opened.

REVIVAL OF INDUSTRY

Leningrad's industry is reviving rapidly. The output of munitions is being increased and new types of weapons are being put in production. But the city's factories and plants are not confining themselves to manufacturing of war materials. The Red October Factory, for instance, which was at one time converted for war, has now resumed production of pianos.

The city is regaining its position as one of the country's leading cultural centres. Large crowds are filling its theatres, movies and museums. The "Heroic Defence of Leningrad" Exhibition was opened not long ago.

Heavy German guns are emplaced at the entrance to the Exhibition. Krupp built them, but three years ago for the triumphant march of "Nachosten". They stand harmless now; like snakes whose sting has been torn out, like ornaments, like a mute witness of the triumph of Soviet arms.

The Artillery Museum has always enjoyed great popularity among the people of Leningrad. It received new exhibits during the siege including the personnel list of the Izmailovo regiment of guards which contains the name of the great Russian General, Alexander Suvorov, as sergeant of the Fifth Company.

The Kirov Theatre of Opera and Ballet is to return to Lelingrad in the near future. The rehabilitation of the theatre which suffered from enemy air attacks and artillery bombardments is nearing completion. A part of the building which was damaged by German bomb has already been repaired. All the chandeliers, including the famous sixty—pood "Monomakhs Crown" has been restored.

IN STALINGRAD TO-DAY

By ALEXANDER SHEININ

WHEN a visitor to Stalingrad is told that the city now has a population of 250 thousand, he shakes his head dubiously. "Where do they all live", he asks.

A pertinent question indeed. For how can so many people be housed in a city which, to this day, seems to be lying in ruins? The number of rehabilitated houses is still considerably smaller than the ruins which line street after street.

But amid the ruins you may often see a wooden cottage. Such cottages are built by individuals in off hours with funds supplied by the State Bank as a long term loan.

A temporary fabricated barrack line house has been built on the territory of factory settlements as Tractor Works and Red October Works. Living in these barrack line houses, mostly, it is the young people from all parts of the country who have come to rebuild Stalingrad. They live there in rather crowded conditions, but the young workers bravely endure all the privations in this German-wrecked city. Those who defended the city had a much harder time than builders.

Some large brick buildings have also been restored. They house schools, hospitals and municipal departments.

The Gogol street runs through the centre of the city. Before the battle of Stalingrad it was a street with fine tall buildings, hotels and shops. Now it is lined on both sides with soot-covered ruins. But occasionally you come across a window pane flashing in the sun. It is a house being restored, and people are already living in some flats. The people of Stalingrad fix up dwellings wherever possible: in hall ways, wrecked buildings, at surviving walls or even inside ruins.

PEOPLE LIVE UNDERGROUND

On another street in the centre, where not a single building has survived, I notice an iron pipe issue clouds of black smoke. It means people are living somewhere underground. I search a long time until I find the entrance. I descend the earthen steps in the basement. Light creeps in with difficulty through the sole little window at the very top of the wall. When I get accustomed to semi-darkness, I begin to discern rows of iron beds, table, stove, several stools. That is all the furniture of this dwelling which turns out to be inhabited by women working in the Stalingrad plant. To this day thousands of Stalingraders are living in basements, dugouts and tents.

When Peter Varnavsky, worker in the Red October Factory, returned to Stalingrad, he did not find this home; he had to make for himself a temporary home in the dugout.

At the Tractor Works a whole tent town has grown up with the arrival of the warm weather. Here live young builders. Some tents are huge affairs —scores of yards long. Stalingraders call them "foreigners." These tents are gifts to Stalingrad from England.

Thus are the people of Stalingrad housed to-day. Conditions are hard. But people know that the time is not distant when they will move to stone houses with all modern conveniences. They are willing to endure hardships to-day for the sake of tomorrow when Stalingrad will be one of the finest cities in the Soviet Union.

FREE QUININE FOR ARMY FAMILIES

Any one who is a member of a soldier's family can now obtain free quinine to combat malaria.

Application for supplies should be made to the local representatives of the District Soldiers' Board.

WE DEFENDED MOSCOW

By NATALIA LEBEDEVA

THE decree by the Supreme Soviet of the U.S.S.R. establishing a new decoration called "Moscow Defence" medal caused great elation among our personnel. We were reminded of those days of autumn 1941.

I was not working then and only kept my house. My husband, a locksmith, left for the front; I remained alone. Every day brought alarming news. The Nazis were advancing on our native Moscow. Smolensk fell. Then they seized Vyazma and approached Mozhaisc.

I just could not stay at home any more. Something had to be done. I went to the local Soviet and expressed a desire to work for the front. I was advised to go to work near Narofomins to help build fortifications.

Those were hard days near Narofominsk. The enemy shelled us at night time and showered us with bombs by day. Some of my comrades were killed; others wounded, but we would not give in and we laboured with our last strength to cope with our duty and honour. We were heartened by the knowledge that we were helping men at the front by defending our home town —our beloved capital, Moscow.

Most of the people employed here were very young. There were a few of my age.

DAUGHTER OF THE PEOPLE

After two months, I returned to Moscow. I wanted to do all I could to help the Red Army. I understood very well that the enemy was very strong and that, before he could be defeated, we would have to muster enormous forces. I realized that the Red Army could not hope to win without the aid of the people. I am a daughter of the *people* and decided that it was my duty to help the front. I went to work at the plant.

Nearly the entire enterprise was later evacuated to the east. Only a small group of workers and engineers and a few machines remained. They were not idle. They laboured by day and night. Shops were bitterly cold. Very quickly they organized production of important defence items which they soon turned out in enormous numbers—several times exceeding all production quotas.

In another shop we repaired tanks which reached us directly from the front near Moscow and, though most of us had never seen tanks before except on the Red Square during the parades, we quickly learned to overhaul them and do everything the front required us to do.

Some of our workers and their families were busy erecting barricades and digging anti-tank ditches in the suburbs and vicinity of our plant.

The young workers organized tank fighter detachment. After working hours, no matter how tired they were, they practised throwing hand grenades and fire bottles. Many of them left for the front and some, who later found themselves beyond the enemy's lines, joined partisans. Some died deaths of heroes. Others are still smiting the enemy to-day.

None of us doubted that Hitler would no more set his eyes on Moscow than he would on his own ears; we all knew Joseph Stalin was in Moscow with us and that he was organizer of defence of the country and the capital. We all knew where Stalin stands there victory is near.

Then came the great days of December 1941. Every day we learned of fresh victories. The enemy wavered and fled westward.

How long ago, this seems and how near and dear those memories have become to us! Those who defended Moscow are doing good work at plants to-day. Many of them regularly double and treble their labour quotas. I, too, if I may say so myself, am considered a good worker at the plant.

My husband returned from the front. He has lost his right leg but is not idle. He has learnt a new profession and now works as a book-keeper. He and I know that the effort displayed by each worker in his respective job is what ultimate victory depends on. When the day of victory arrives each of us will be proud in the knowledge that, in a measure, it was his or her doing.

RUSSIAN SOLDIER

By V. SAYANOV

I saw soldiers in action during the unforgettable days of winter and early spring 1944. I have seen many faces and entered many towns and villages with the heroes of these great battles. "The heart expands during an offensive", said one soldier to me last year on the Volkhov front. The heart of a soldier, daring and noble, cannot be adequately expressed in words: not even in the Russian tongue; one of the richest in the world. Time will find those missing expressions. The future has a great debt to pay to them who, under the fire, seized blockhouses, forced mighty water barriers, stormed strongpoints of the enemy's defences and everywhere, in fierce battles, in desperate deadlocks, came out victors.

Their days are spent on roads, in battle, always in movement. With sunken eyes and out of wrinkled faces they ramp the muddy roads, sleep on damp earth under accompaniment of whining music of German mines, but how steeled they have become in this crucible of war, how determined!

I recall the evening on a frontline highway. The camp fire was lit on crossroads, soldiers camouflaged it, lay down on snow, took off their high boots, stretched their bare feet to flames, dried their clothes and talked. They spoke of the past and present experiences.

Flames spread over soldiers' pot in fire. A red-whiskered Red Armyman mixed soup, took a spoonful in his mouth and smacked his lips.

HOW TO HATE

The conversation turned to the Russian soldier, to the determination of Russians to win, to themselves and then the red-whiskered fellow said. "The Russian is not always easily moved, but once he gets started he knows no peace until he gets to the bottom of matters. You speak of hatred", he muttered turning to his neighbour. "Hatred is something that runs through the body. I, for example, feel hatred in my feet when I march, and my fingers burn with it when I pull the trigger. That is how a man must hate."

In those few hours by the camp fire the faces of soldiers of the offensive passed before me, those I saw myself, and those I was told about; the faces of men who had unbounded faith in the country, men who hated the enemy: the German robbers and murderers.

Here is one story told me by Major Pritchin.

Before storming the strong enemy point Private Khalyavin took the little Red Flag which had come from the rear camp and swore to establish it on the Russian soil cleared from the enemy. Three rows of trenches, mine fields, block houses, pill boxes, dozens of artillery and mortar batteries—all barred the path of the advancing troops. But the soldiers seemed to be unaware of the danger; they were eager for the battle. And when artillery shifted the fire deeper and deeper in the enemy defences the infantry rushed to action. Khalyavin was in the forefront with the Red Flag tightly clasped in his hand. He was the first to leap at the German trench. Heavy machinegun dispatched bullets in the midst of advancing troops. With a flag in his hands Khalyavin wriggled up to machinegunners and hurled a grenade. Cries and groans followed, and the rattle of machinegun stopped. Khalyavin jumped on the second trench. There he annihilated nine Germans, but the tenth wounded him heavily. The blood of the hero soaked the flag.

Private Dorofeyev, who followed behind, saw Khalyavin stretched flat on the trench.

"Let me dress your wound", he said to his wounded comrade.

"The stretcher-bearers will attend on me" replied Khalyavin quietly. "You take this flag and carry on."

The wounded Russian gave the attacking Russian fighter a symbol of victory. Dorfeyev took the little flag from the weakened hold of his friend and went on. Drofeyev destroyed two blockhouses and fifteen Hitlerites. He too was wounded. Then the Red Flag was passed on to Stepanov who carried the flag to the third line of enemy trenches.

NOTHING IS IMPOSSIBLE

Thus fight soldiers of offensive, thus they gain victories. For them, nothing is impossible. When, at times, one hears of great deed, one is amazed: how was it done, isn't it beyond human strength? Closeby stands the hero blinking in the sun and smiling, as if what was said did not refer to him.

The soldier of the offensive is a man of great deeds and courage. I visited the regiment fighting near Gatchina when the story of the heroism of two men was passed on from batfalion to battalion. One put of the two established himself in the house located in the centre in the enemy's positions and held it for several hours—repulsing all the enemy attempts to dislodge him until the Red Army troops relieved him. The second soldier, seeing that the German blockhouse prevented the advance of a certain unit, decided to attract the fire of the enemy to himself. With machinegun in hand he marched forward in full view of the Germans. The Hitlerites in the blockhouse turned their attention to him. Meanwhile the unit bypassed and captured the strongpoint. The valiant machinegunner was killed, but he had done more than his duty.

Love for their mother country inspires the Soviet soldiers. The enemy is resisting desperately; but the invincible Russian force is growing mightier day by day. The time is nearing when, under the crushing blows of the Russian soldier, the last barriers will likewise crumble up.

WHEN GUNS STARE YOU IN THE FACE

By L. KOROBOV

THIS was in Belo-Russia. In the German rear I heard a lot of talk about the powerful artillery of a certain guerilla detachment. This was told me by partisans and also local villagers. In the capacity of a war correspondent of one of the leading Moscow papers I was so absorbed in my quest that, at times, I paid little attention to the danger, and travelled in the enemy-occupied territory as many as thirty to forty kilometres a day.

One day I finally reached forest village and there met the object of my search.

When I entered the hut a red-haired fellow turned to look at me, and then, evidently taking me for a guerilla of one of the neighbouring detachments, continued to fuss about with gun lock. He must have been very much in need of a part, for he turned to his comrade by his side and told him to let no one in, while he was at work.

As I learnt later, the gunlock was really very important to the detachment. The fact of the matter is that one day two partisans galloped in the village fifteen kilometres from the guerilla camp and with cries of hurrah raced through streets. The crew of German anti-tank gun partaking meal in one of the huts ran out and at the sight of guerillas fled through gardens to the forest. The partisans returned to their village with captured gun. Its only drawback was that it lacked gunlock and could not, for this reason, be used.

Two pathways led to the guerilla village. Local inhabitants who visited partisans were admitted along two paths only, and as it was located on good road, the traffic was lively.

Sentries stopped all passersby on the edge of the village to examine the papers, and while they were so engaged, peasants saw gun posted near the barn.

On two roads surrounding the village people saw many guns and the rumour was spread in the district that the partisans had cannon posted nearly in every barn. The rumour reached the ears of Germans.

From then on the enemy used the road along the way north of the strongpoint of guerillas. The prisoner of partisans related, "Our officers told us that your detachment is well-equipped with guns dropped by Soviet pilots. That is why we abandoned the highway."

When the commander of the detachment repaired the gunlock, he said he would acquaint me with his artillery defences. It comprised one gun minus the lock. The guerilla fighter and two old men on horseback, stealthily dragged the gun from place to place and displayed it prominently in different spots. "During the war" the commander told me, "even a dead gun may help to achieve victory".

SOVIET VICTORY LOAN

By GEORGE H. HANNA

THAT is what the people are calling it, although the Commissariat of Finance actually floated the new loan under a more modest title, the "Third War Loan".

The present internal State Loan is for twenty-five thousand million rubles, and is the largest that the Soviet Government ever floated.

Reports are reaching Moscow thick and fast—so that at the first glance it would seem that everybody already has his name down, and that there is nobody left to subscribe. This, of course, is not the case, for there are still many people living in the outlying districts who would not wish to be left out. From the still-icy Tundras in the Far North to the sunny fertile lands of Central Asia, where this year's first harvest of barley is now being reaped, from the tireless troubled waters of the mighty Pacific to the shell-swept firing line of the west Soviet people are once again digging in their pockets to help in the supreme effort of the United Nations to smash Hitler Germany.

MOSCOW IN LEAD

As far as they are available, the data show that the Moscow region is in lead. The Moscow city and region subscribed three hundred and two million rubles to the Second War Loan floated last year; this sum was exceeded during the first forty-eight hours after the Third War Loan was floated. Collective farmers, whose wonderful prosperity during the past ten years is known to the whole world, are well in the forefront in investing their savings in the State Loan. Individual collective farmers subscribe as much as twenty-five thousand, fifty thousand and hundred thousand rubles; many of them incidentally did not take advantage of the usual arrangement to pay for their war bonds in ten monthly instalments, but brought the full sum in cash when they came to sign the subscription lists.

FINE PATRIOTIC SENTIMENT

Here are a few examples of the fine patriotic sentiment displayed by Soviet farmers: Ivan Yevzanov, manager, collective farm in the bleak Archangel district, called members of his farm together and opened subscription list with fifty thousand rubles in cash. The woman cow-keeper, Yevleva, whose husband has been at the front since the war began, has subscribed ten thousand rubles.

In Azerbaijan, the other extreme of the Soviet Union where farms are bigger and conditions are more favourable, the sums of money subscribed to the loan on the first day of its issue were even bigger. Mamedov Nariman, manager of collective farm, subscribed 315 thousand rubles in cash. Last year, he bought war bonds for the sum of 135 thousand rubles and in between made a big contribution to the country's defence fund. Tlemisov, of the "Taldy Bulak" farm in Kazakhstan brought in his five hundred thousand rubles cash and Mambetov, who manages cattle branch in Kazakhstan bought another five hundred thousand rubles worth bonds for cash.

NABI AMINTAYEV: LEADING PARACHUTE JUMPER

By BORIS KRINITSKY

LIEUTENANT Conolel Nabi Amintayev made his thousand three hundred fiftieth parachute jump and established a new record for the U.S.S.R. and the Red Army. Fortune must, indeed, smile on this dark-haired man with a slim waist and shoulders of an athlete; he has dropped from a total distance of 675 thousand metres in twelve years without receiving a single scratch.

Amintayev is known in army circles as one of the leading trainers of Soviet paratroops. He and his assistants have trained an enormous number of officers and men. Amintayev is an experimenter, besides. His field is human endurance. He has jumped from air planes of all Soviet makes, executed the most intricate figure of descent and tested every type of parachute produced in this country. He has jumped into the sea seventy five times and made 240 night jumps. In an effort to determine the maximum strain the human body can stand, he once baled out fifty-one times in eight and a half hours, dropping a total distance of fifteen kilometers.

With the same end in view he jumped as far back as 1935 from a height of 7,612 meters without oxygen mask. Subsequently, this record was broken by other Soviet parachute jumpers. Amintayev's altitude record is a jump from ten thousand meters with oxygen apparatus. Recalling this plunge he says that the temperature in the stratosphere was fifty degrees below zero when he baled out, but it was sweltering hot when he landed thirty minutes later.

MOST DIFFICULT OF ALL

Most difficult of all his thousand and three hundred and fifty jumps, Amintayev considers the jump he made from plane coming down in tail spin. When he tried to climb out after the fifth or the sixth spin he found himself unable to overcome the terrific pressure of air.

"It was as if a couple of men, both twice as strong as myself, were pinning me down" he said. The pilot had to climb again to three thousand meter altitude before Amintayev managed to wrench himself loose. The current of air shot him some sixty meters to one side at the speed of shell, and if he did not burst his blood vessel, he has only his exceptional physique to thank.

Twenty-five years of his thirty-five, he has gone in for gymnastics and field and track sports. For twelve years he has carefully followed doctors' advice to keep his weight down to seventy-five kilograms, for every kilogram over this average for a man of his size increases the impact upon the landing to a degree where it might cause bodily injury. Only as regards diet does Amintayev ignore his doctors. He eats everything he likes including the highly-seasoned Caucasian shahlyk which, incidentally, is his national dish.

"Do you consider your profession a dangerous one?" I asked.

"Undoubtedly", he replied. Then, after a pause, "In many a case I have not permitted a single one of my three sons to make more than one jump".

"What made you choose parachute jumping yourself?"

"Well, it is pretty thrilling profession, you know," he answered with a smile.

CHOICE OF PROFESSION

Lieutenant Colonel Nabi Amintayev was born and brought up in the cloud-wrapped mountains of Daghestan in the small Lesghian village of Kumukh, situated at an altitude of three thousand meters above sea level. According to him this circumstance played a certain role in his choice of profession. In his childhood he used to scale crags in search of eagles, so that the thrilling sensation of height was not new to him when he made his first jump in 1932.

It is said that a person who constantly risks his life gradually loses all fear of death. The soldier ceases to fear bullets, the anatomist disregards the deadly toxins and the tight rope walker high above the circus arena is less excited than the audience. In the parachute jumper, however, the sense of danger is never dulled. Amintayev told me that, during his last jump, just as during his first, his hand instinctively reached out for ripcord long before the time and he had to exert all his will not to pull it before the watch permitted him.

"That, perhaps, is because we are more dependent on chance than people in any other hazardous profession," he said.

"A parachute jumper can never be sure that his jump will end successfully, not even when he has mastered the technique of baling out to perfection, knows how to conduct himself in air and how to land, and is also fully convinced that his parachute will not fail him." Amintayev proved this to me by the experience he once had.

On that occasion, he jumped from the place flying upside down and opening the parachute in slipstream of plane. The parachute spun around, the cords twisted and the envelope began rapidly to dwindle. The parachutist released his emergency chute but the air current twisted it around the first one and he continued hurtling through the air with almost nothing to retard the fall. Only presence of mind saved him. He pulled the emergency parachute towards him before it had inextricably become entangled in the first parachute. A couple of hundred meters from the ground the parachute finally opened fully.

"That was several years ago," he said. "Much has happened since then and parachute jumping has become a good deal less dangerous."

MIKHAIL SHOLOKHOV

By PROFESSOR VALERY KIRPOTIN

MIKHAIL Sholokhov has Cossack blood in his veins, he is married to a Cossack woman, his childhood and youth were passed on Cossack soil. He has always lived at Veshenskaya on the river Don, and thus kept in closest contact with the Cossack population.

During their brief rule on the Don the German barbarians burned this village, not sparing even the writer's home. . . .

He has given us remarkable pictures of the Don landscapes and expressed with a moving lyricism the Cossack's love for the Don steppes. The leading characters of both his novels "Quiet Flows the Don" and "Virgin Soil Upturned" are Cossacks, and the life of which we find such picturesque descriptions in his books is the typical life of the Don Cossacks on the eve and during the last World War, the Civil War, and under the conditions of Soviet construction. The novels reflect the view that only unity with the people, only complete, self-forgetful and devoted fulfilment of duty to one's country gives moral satisfaction and integrity. The novels, therefore, foster a civic spirit of valour and patriotism.

The author is a deputy to the Supreme Soviet of the U.S.S.R. and is in very close contact with his electors. The Cossacks loved him in the old days as a writer because he made their lives, their courage, their history known to the world. Local people came to him, their deputy, with their troubles; his counsel was needed in domestic affairs and also to hurry on the realization of public measures. If a young Cossack needed advice about choosing his university or other higher educational institution, or the building of a new club had to be speeded up, visitors never failed to find friendly assistance.

Out of the patriotic war new creative conception emerged for Sholokhov.

SCIENCE OF HATRED

In "Science of Hatred," a novelle about this war, Sholokhov exposed the sadistic and thieving propensities of the generation of Germans drilled by Hitler, and showed how the flame of hatred is lit in the peaceful, industrious Russian when he sees Hitlerite murderers of women and children, incendiaries and those who destroy the culture of other nations.

Mikhail Sholokhov is working now on a new novel "They Fought For Their Country." It is, as the title implies, a large canvas of the way in which Russians fought and died and conquered in the war against the brown hordes of Hitler.

ARMY SURGEON ZIBA AKHMEDOVA

By G. KONSTANTINOV.

BEFORE the Revolution the Muslim women in the Caucasus and Central Asia had no rights whatever. They got no education and a majority of them could not read or write.

Under the Soviet power, however, they were given free access to any profession. To-day many thousands among the women of the Soviet east have become engineers, physicians, lawyers, artists, writers and scientists.

MUSLIM WOMEN'S PART IN WAR

In the present war muslim women and girls are defending their country side by side with their fathers, husbands and brothers.

This story is about young army surgeon Ziba Akhmedova, an Azerbaijan girl who has been at the front since the beginning of the war. From early childhood Ziba had a thirst for knowledge but she was compelled to combine her studies with work. She mastered the Russian language, read Tolstoy, Pushkin, Gorky and the modern Soviet literature, as well as works of the best European writers.

Ziba resolved to become a physician and, after graduating from medical institute, she became house doctor at a hospital in Baku. Her speciality was therapeutics.

TO THE FRONT

In the autumn of 1941 Ziba went to the front and took up her duties in field hospital. She had long been interested in surgery and devoted particular attention to the achievements of the Soviet surgeons Vishnyievsky, Burdenko, Bogomolets and others.

This proved very helpful in her work among the wounded and, within several months, she was already performing difficult operations independently.

Akhmedova's hospital was almost constantly subjected to enemy artillery and mortar fire. Ignoring the Red Cross flag, the fascist planes made the hospital a target of their bombs.

Doctor Akhmedova never lost her presence of mind and displayed the most amazing courage in moments of the greatest danger.

Once, when a bullet pierced the wall and whistled over the operating table, Doctor Akhmedova calmly went on with her operation.

The command appreciated the courage of Doctor Ziba Akhmedova; her services have repeatedly won honourable mention and she has been awarded Order of Red Star.

She is not only a skilful surgeon but also a friend and a comrade. She spends many an evening talking to the wounded men and reading newspapers to them by the dim light of a kerosene lamp.

Even after they leave the hospital her patients continue to keep in touch with the young doctor. Ziba receives innuberable letters from her friends back at the front in which they tell her of their joys and sorrows and ask her to extend their greetings to their comrades who are still under her care.

VILLAGE READING ROOMS

By D. DRYNKIN

BIG changes in the life of rural areas in the Soviet Union have been brought on by the great Patriotic War. The political activity of the collective farm peasantry has grown considerably. Collective farmers, both men and women, are greatly interested in the events at the fronts of the Patriotic War, as well as in the happenings in the rear and abroad. They want to know about the achievements of science and technics and the experience of those who secure high crop yields.

To satisfy the political and cultural demands of the collective farm peasantry is an honourable task of village Soviets and political and educational institutions, clubs, village reading rooms, Red Corners and libraries. Local Soviets devote great attention to these institutions to create for them necessary conditions and to guide them daily in their work. This may be illustrated by the example of the Ilovatsk district in the Stalingrad region. There are many village Soviets in this district and their permanent cultural and educational committees are daily engaged in improving the work of the clubs, village reading rooms, Red Corners, and libraries. These institutions report their activities at their meetings and gatherings of active village social workers.

This tends to improve the work of cultural and educational institutions. The district library has been provided with suitable premises and a good reading room. A spacious and convenient house has been provided for the village reading room.

INTERESTING WORK

The Ilovatsk village reading room is now carrying on a great deal of interesting work. There are always plenty of visitors in the room. People come to it to listen to readings of newspapers or talks, lectures and reports on various subjects. Here too in a prominent place hangs a map around which lively talks take place.

Taking into account the great interest of the population in political, economic, international, agronomical, medical and pedagogical subjects, the village reading room organizes evenings of questions and answers in which leading functionaries of the district as well as physicians, teachers and agronomists take part.

The principal theme at one such recent evening was the decisions of the tenth session of the Supreme Soviet of the U.S.S.R. The Ilovatsk reading room is a genuine centre of political and educational work in the village. For this credit is due to the village Soviet and especially to its chairman Serova, a woman who manifests daily care for the village reading room.

KRASNY YAR

The work of the village reading room in Krasny Yar is also well organized. Its hostess, Mozina, has gathered around her a strong nucleus of village intelligentsia to aid her. Besides talks, lectures and reports amateur art concerts are also organized in the room and good work is done by chorus and dramatic circles.

Interesting work is being carried on in the Potemkin village reading room. Here, too, besides talks, readings of newspapers and lectures, excellent entertainments are arranged for collective farmers. The choir of collective farmers and the dramatic circle often give concerts and plays. Wall newspapers are issued regularly in the reading room and also lively leaflets dealing with topics of collective farm life.

There are quite a few such village reading rooms in the district. They attract collective farmers. As soon as the evening sets in men and women collective farmers flock to the village reading rooms, clubs, Red corners and libraries. They come from all parts of the village after their work, spend their hours of leisure in cultural conditions, hear news from the front, and read papers or magazines. The district Soviet and village Soviets do all they can to turn the village reading rooms, Red corners and libraries into genuine homes of culture.

Our district is situated far in the rear, but here, too, all toilers are imbued with the aspiration of the whole Soviet people, give all their strength for complete defeat of the German fascist invaders. To this common cause is subordinated the whole cultural and educational work of the village.

Under the direction of village Soviets active preparations are now being made by village reading rooms, clubs, Red corners and libraries to transfer all their work to the fields where the mass spring sowing began shortly.

SERGEANT GAVE AS GOOD AS HE GOT

When Jap planes machine-gunned and dive-bombed his A.A. gun position in Arakan Sgt. Robert Samuel Beddall, of Falstead, Chatfield road, Ventnor, blazed away in reply for an hour and a half.

Sgt. Beddall has been awarded the M.M. for "exemplary coolness, skill and courage".

TAKING CARE OF SERVICEMEN'S CHILDREN

By E. KINGISEPP

A great concern is shown by the Soviet Government and people for the welfare and education of servicemen's children and war orphans. In the R.S.F.S.R. alone there are over a hundred asylums for war orphans, while six thousand servicemen's children and parentless boys and girls are accommodated in special boarding children's homes. The Children's homes on the collective farms harbour ten thousand children. Dietetic feeding in special dining halls embraces a hundred and eighty thousand children.

A particular solicitude is shown by the trade unions for the well-being of servicemen's children and war orphans. Summer camps and recreation grounds, kindergartens and junior health homes, are sponsored by them on a wide scale. During the mid winter vacations the trade unions were able to accommodate five thousand servicemen's children in the rest-homes and junior sanatoria.

The factory committees provide servicemen's children with clothes, footwear, school books and other supplies, and take the deepest interest in their education and upbringing.

Numerous examples of the factory committees assuming responsibility for the upkeep of war orphans may be cited. Four motherless children, whose fathers are in the ranks, are being brought up at the expense of the union of the local "Krasnaya Zvezda" factory in Kimry. The union of the local "Paris Commune," Moscow factory is bringing up sixty war orphans. These children live in well-accommodated dormitories near the factory, get four good meals a day and are provided with clothes.

Several thousand rubles were recently donated by the Soviet lawyers for establishing a sanatorium for soldiers' children in Stalingrad.

That the Soviet farmers have the interest of servicemen's children at heart is evident from the sizable food relief fund raised in the Soviet country side for the children of fighting men. A fund was initiated by the members of the collective farm in the Chkalov region where, within a few days, 450 poods of grain, 230 poods of potatoes, six thousand litres of milk, 57 poods of meat, 25 goats and six head large-horned cattle were collected.

The Red Star collective farm of the Okishino village in the Yaroslav region had, in 1942, assumed guardianship over twelve children of fighting men. The finest cottage in the farm was placed at the disposal of the children who are surrounded by the loving care of all the farm folk and are well provided for in every respect. At present the same farm has decided to adopt another fifty boys and girls.

In the Tambov region thirty-seven children's homes have been recently set up for two thousand servicemen's children. The expensive maintenance of these homes collective farms share among themselves. Eight new children's asylums are expected to open shortly in the Tula region.

During the days of the Red Army jubilee more love and attention than ever were showered on the children of the country's defenders. On the twenty-sixth anniversary of the Red Army servicemen's children all over the country received gifts. In the Gorky region various factories combined to present servicemen's children with fifteen thousand pairs of shoes, ten thousand knitted garments, thirty-five thousand school sets, fifty thousand toys and hundreds of poods of sweets and cookies. Over a hundred thousand rubles were spent for purchasing junior underwear and top garments.

The prominent people in the theatre world issued appeal to actors and musicians of the country to give junior benefit shows. This appeal immediately found a warm response. One of the first benefit performances was given in the Art Workers' Club in Moscow, the proceeds of which amounted to fifty thousand rubles. Similar benefit shows and concerts are being organized throughout the country. The Union of Soviet Writers' is arranging a Child Benefit Literary Evening. Moscow artists are collecting pictures for auction. The money acquired at the auction will go for the maintenance of servicemen's children.

SINGING AT THE FRONT

By MAXIM MIKHAILOV

THERE is my war-time correspondence: quite a pile lying in front of me. Most of its letters I have been receiving from different sectors of the front—brief epistles written on slips from army pads in hurried handwriting by Red Army soldiers and officers in their spare hours between battle.

I am proud of these letters. Most of them invite me to come and sing to them. I deeply regret that I do not possess the magic gift of being in ten army units simultaneously.

All my colleagues and I think that a performer to-day may wish for no greater honour than to serve those who, with their blood, are defending our native soil and all the beauty and goodness of our culture from the evil devastating forces of Nazi barbarism.

I have toured the battlelines a number of times, and were it not for my permanent engagement in the Bolshoi Opera House in Moscow, I would gladly give far more time to the front. I must say that I have derived the deepest gratification which a singer can hope for from my recitals at the firing lines and my communion with the fighting men.

Several outstanding incidents occurred during these tours that I will never forget.

Last autumn, for example, some of my colleagues and I were the guests of the tank men of Colonel Gotseridze's units.

Arriving in the dead of night we soon discovered that we had not come at a particularly opportune moment. The situation in this sector had become complicated, as the enemy was keen on retrieving the vantage ground he lost to the Soviet units.

All the night the wood where we pitched shook with the thunder of ceaseless cannonade. Forward positions were less than a kilometre away and shells whistled overhead. On no account would the men let us out of dugouts. It seemed incongruous to tremble for my life when boys were fighting without fear of death. When I scrambled out of the dugout the first rays of the dawn were shed in their light. The company was double marching to the battleline and the men gave me a nice, friendly smile. One of the tommy-gunners, just a lad, last in the file hailed me with the words: "We will soon be back for your concert, comrade."

Close in the wake of the infantry I could see in the dim light of the daybreak huge bodies of tanks moving through the woods.

All day long the battle raged. As I watched its progress a wave of gratitude to the sturdy Soviet soldiers was surging in my breast.

I saw men fight to their last breath. The face of a young sergeant distorted with pain from ten enemy bullets that pierced his body is branded in my memory. Alone on the mound above the brook he held his ground against several dozen enemy soldiers. When we reached him he was singing surrounded by the dead bodies of the enemy he smote down.

That day Soviet soldiers had not only beaten back the enemy but pushed forward several kilometres.

The above is one of the numerous incidents I witnessed in the course of my visits to the front. I wish to add that, after every tour I returned convinced more than ever that victory will be ours.

Russian defenders will do their duty to the end. The Red Army soldier, pure and of a brave heart, to-day stands for all the best in our people; patriotic, creative and spirited.

Very soon I hope to be back singing at the front.

WAR DIARY

BRITAIN AND GERMANY

14TH JUNE.—Allied bombers attacked Munich.

15TH JUNE.—United States bombers attacked Hanover and other places in North Germany.

Bomber Command has now dropped 400,000 tons of bombs since the war began. Of this, total 275,000 tons have been dropped on targets in Germany.

16TH JUNE.—Mr. Herbert Morrison, Minister of Home Security, announced in the Commons that the Germans had started using pilotless aircraft against Britain. "A large number was used last night and this morning" he stated.

Dr. Goebbels warned Germans of the hard task lying ahead of them as a result of the Allied landings in France.

Allied aircraft attacked Berlin.

17TH JUNE.—Allied planes bombed Berlin and objectives in Western and North-western Germany.

German robots continued to attack positions in Britain.

18TH JUNE.—Hamburg was heavily bombed.

German pilotless planes raided several places in Southern England.

19TH JUNE.—Germans continued to send more pilotless planes over Southern England. They did some damage.

20TH JUNE.—The Prime Minister Mr. Churchill told the Commons that the Germans had built up heavy concentrations of troops and ships in 1940 to invade Britain, but they did not cross the Channel. "A great deal of it was sunk in ports and then they changed their minds," he said.

Allied planes attacked Hamburg, Politz, Konigsbourg and Brunswick. About 3,000 aircraft were despatched from bases in Britain.

German pilotless planes attacked southern England and eastern Scotland.

* * *

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE ATLANTIC

15TH JUNE.—Mrs. Roosevelt in a special United Nations Day Broadcast declared that all the peoples of the world must be assured of the four freedoms.

President Roosevelt made a statement on the international peace organization.

17TH JUNE.—The Military High Command has ordered "extremely heavy" increase in tank production.

20TH JUNE.—The Vice-President of the United States, Mr. Henry Wallace, reached Chungking.

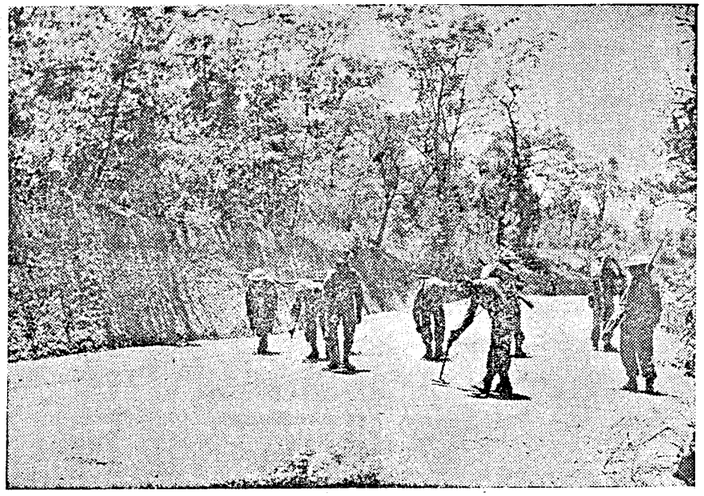
* * *

INDIA, BURMA AND CEYLON

14TH JUNE.—Allied advance northward from Kanglantongbi continued. Molvum Ridge, 18 miles north-east of Imphal, was cleared of the enemy.

15TH JUNE.—In the Kohima sector, there was patrol activity.

16TH JUNE.—In Kohima sector Allied troops took Kidima.



IMPHAL SCENES.—The Ukrul road is tested for Jap mines, before the advance of our troops and infantry.

17TH JUNE.—Chinese 22nd Division captured Kamaing yesterday.

18TH JUNE.—Chinese troops took Gurkhaywa.

19TH JUNE.—Chinese and Chindit troops advanced closer to Mogaung.

20TH JUNE.—Allied forces captured Mao Songsang, Zhamai, Kharasom and Tiangzup.

* * *

RUSSIA AND FINLAND

14TH JUNE.—Russian troops on the Karelian Isthumus continued to advance and occupied several enemy strong points. Thirteen enemy planes were shot down.

15TH JUNE.—The Russian offensive on the Karelian Isthumus continued with unabated strength. The Soviet troops captured Korpikulya. The German News Agency announced that the Soviet High Command has completed its preparations for a new summer offensive.

16TH JUNE.—Advance Russian patrols were at the outposts of the Mannerheim Line. They have captured 70 more towns.

The Finnish Minister to United States, M. Procope and three councillors were handed their passports and asked to leave the United States.

17TH JUNE.—Tension increased on the Finnish left flank with the possibility of Soviet landings on the shore of Lake Ladoga.

18TH JUNE.—The Soviet troops broke through the Mannerheim Line and occupied Byorke, Raito and more than hundred other localities.

19TH JUNE.—The Russian troops extended the breach in the Mannerheim Line to a depth of 30 miles from the Gulf of Finland. The Red Army was within 15 miles of Viborg.

20TH JUNE.—The Russian troops captured *Viborg* and Koivisto. The Finns abandoned Johannes, Kyyroela and Mudlaa.

* * *

ITALY, AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

14TH JUNE.—Allied forces have occupied Narni, Bagno Regio and Latera.

15TH JUNE.—The Allied troops have occupied Orvieto, Acquila and Orbetella.

FOR YOUR RADIO DIARY

MADRAS—JUNE 24.—9-45 p.m.		Fighting Forces.
"	" 26.—9-00 p.m.	Radio Blitzkrieg—Analysis of Enemy Propaganda—By P. R. Ramachandra Rao.
"	" 28.—9-45 p.m.	'The Voice of America'—Relay from Delhi
"	" 29.—9-00 p.m.	Topical Talk.
"	" 30.—9-00 p.m.	'Grow More Vegetables.'

16TH JUNE.—Allied armies captured Terni and Todi.

17TH JUNE.—The Fifth Army troops occupied Grosetto, 120 miles from Rome. Allied troops landed on Elba.

18TH JUNE.—Allied forces landed in St. Giorgio in North Italy. Elba appeared to be substantially in Allied hands. Pianosa Island was occupied by the Allied troops.

General Alexander met the Pope.

19TH JUNE.—The Fifth Army troops took Campagnatico and were 10 miles north of Grosetto. The Eighth Army forces occupied Assisi and entered the suburbs of Perugia in Central Italy. French troops captured Porto Ferraio in Elba.

The new Italian Government under Signor Ivanoe Bonami took over power after approval by the Allied Advisory Council.

20TH JUNE.—Bad weather restricted operations. Eighth Army troops entered Perugia. Allied troops crossed Tronto river and reached the Tessino river.

General George Marshall, United States Chief of Staff, visited Italy, it is revealed.

Elba was completely occupied.

* * *

VICHY, FREE FRANCE AND THE OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

14TH JUNE.—Fierce battles raged in the Tilly-Caen area. Allied troops occupied Toarn.

General De Gaulle landed in Normandy.

Mr. Churchill, answering a number of questions on Britain's relations with the French Committee of National Liberation and General De Gaulle, deprecated discussion of this subject at the present time.

United States bombers attacked Budapest and several Hungarian provincial towns.

15TH JUNE.—The Allied troops were forced to give up Montebourg, Tilly and Toarn. Enemy thrusts in Carentan were repulsed.

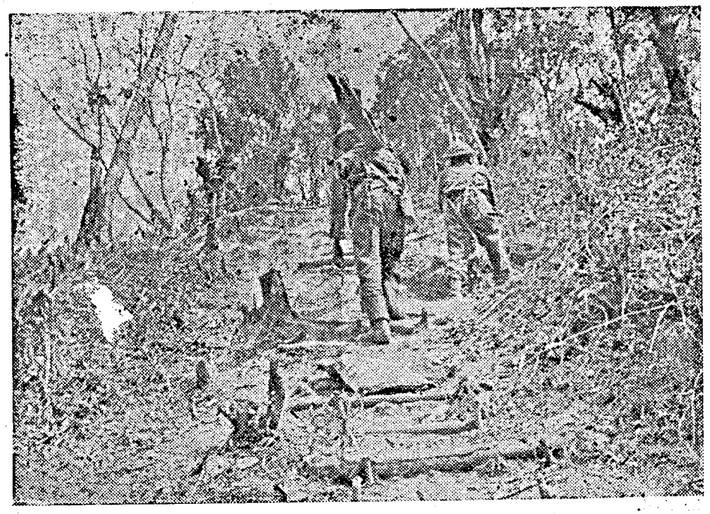
General DeGaulle returned to Britain.

General Eisenhower accompanied by Air Chief Marshal Sir Arthur Tedder yesterday visited Eastern sectors of the beachhead. They conferred with General Montgomery and Air Marshal Coningham.

16TH JUNE.—His Majesty the King visited the battle area in Normandy this morning and returned to Britain at night. The Allies have recaptured Montebourg. American troops have captured Fort Cuinveille. R.A.F. bombers attacked Boulogne, Valognes, Laval, Domfront, LeMans, Fougeres, Mayenne, Vire, Granville and Folligny.

17TH JUNE.—Allied troops captured Saint Jacques deNehow and St. Sanveur LeVicomte. Local advances were made between Caumont and Tilly. Le Havre was heavily bombed.

Allied bombers attacked Vienna and Bratislava.



KOHIMA BATTLE.—Great deeds of gallantry and devotion to duty were performed during the siege of Kohima, which was ultimately relieved. Combatants and non-combatants, British and Indian, deserve equal praise for their defence of Kohima and for the eventual defeat of the Japanese plans.

Stretcher bearers collect wounded from the Kohima box.

18TH JUNE.—American troops have sealed off Cherbourg Peninsula. Canadian troops took a town west of Caen.

19TH JUNE.—Allied troops strengthened their hold on the Cherbourg Peninsula. American forces were within eight miles of Cherbourg. Montebourg was recaptured by Germans.

20TH JUNE.—Allied troops assaulted the outer defences of Cherbourg. Allies re-captured Tilly-Sur-Seulles.

Pas deCalais and Bordeaux were bombed.

* * *

THE NEUTRAL COUNTRIES

15TH JUNE.—The Turkish Foreign Minister M. Menemencioglu resigned. The Turkish Prime Minister M. Sarajoglu took the foreign affairs portfolio also. He said "The possibility will never exist of Turkey's potentialities being used against Britain, Russia or the United States."

19TH JUNE.—The German vessel "Kassel" sailed back to the Black Sea after being refused passage through the Dardanelles under the Turkish Government's new policy regarding German ships.

* * *

THE FAR EAST

14TH JUNE.—The Allied advance in Biak continued.

15TH JUNE.—American Super Fortresses bombed Japan. Tokyo, Nagasaki, Kagoshima, Moji, and Shimonoseki, Kokura, Yawata were the main targets.

"We shall strike at the heart of Japan again and again" said Mr. Robert Patterson, United States Under Secretary for War. "The bombing of the Island of Japan by our new Super Fortresses is just a beginning," he added.

Allied troops landed on the Central Pacific Island of Saipan in the Mariana Group.

The Commander of the United States Naval Forces in the South Pacific, Admiral Halsey, has relinquished his post. He is succeeded by his Deputy, Vice-Admiral Newton.

16TH JUNE.—Bonin Islands, 600 miles from Tokyo were raided yesterday by Allied aircraft. Chichi Yima and Gwo Yima were bombed.

Allied aircraft bombed Truk.

17TH JUNE.—United States troops captured Charan Kanao in southern Saipan. Rabaul was bombed by Allied aircraft. American planes raided Jap bases in Kuriles, Marshalls and Eastern Carolines.

18TH JUNE.—On Biak Island the Japs were driven out of a commanding ridge 800 yards north of Mokmer. United States bombers attacked Truk.

20TH JUNE.—Dublon, Eten and Param in Truk were bombed by the Allied aircraft.

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MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL V. FRIDAY, JUNE 30, 1944 No. 43

Defeat which enemy will not forget

I CONGRATULATE you on the reopening of the vital Dimapur-Imphal road. Not since they overran the Far East two years ago have the Japanese launched so heavy and so desperate an attack against us, but this time you have not only held them, aided by air support, but you have turned to attack and have inflicted a defeat which the enemy will not forget. They wanted to invade India, cut the lines of supply to China and to General Stilwell's American, British and Chinese forces, and thus stop their advance in North Burma

YOUR VICTORY has prevented this. You have flown and marched and fought and battered your way forward through terrible monsoon conditions. Only those who have seen the terrific nature of the country under these conditions will be able to appreciate your achievements and especially those of the infantry

THE JAPANESE know for they fought under similar conditions, and were routed To the south and east of Imphal other Japanese forces are still fighting on. Give them no respite, drive them out as you did the remainder

Admiral LORD LOUIS MOUNTBATTEN in an Order of the Day, on Monday

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[NOTE.—*The summary of news and comments contained in the* MADRAS WAR REVIEW *generally relate to events and statements published till Wednesday, every week.*]

THE DECISIVE BATTLE

"British India can be regarded as liberated and our forces which were fighting in Kohima and the Naga Hills are well into Manipur State. Although there is a lot of fighting to be done before the Japanese are completely eliminated, I believe this to be the decisive battle of the only invasion there has been of the Indian soil since the Burmese armies crossed this same frontier more than hundred years ago."

HIS EXCELLENCY SIR ANDREW CLOW, *Governor of Assam, in a broadcast talk, on Monday.*

❖

KEEP IT UP

"You have inflicted a major defeat on the enemy. It remains now to destroy him. I realize the difficulties of terrain and weather, but I am confident that you can, and will, do it. You are on top. Keep it up. Stay there."

GENERAL SLIM, *Commander of the 14th Army, in a message to troops who fought to re-open the Imphal-Kohima Road.*

❖

ONLY ONE END TO THIS WAR

"With such troops as we have and the Allied Navies and Air Forces, there can be only one end to this war—and that is complete victory."

GENERAL MONTGOMERY, *in a message to General Omar Bradley, Commander of the United States Forces in Normandy, on the capture of Cherbourg.*

MADRAS WAR REVIEW

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VOL. V FRIDAY, JUNE 30, 1944 No. 43

FALL OF "FESTUNG CHERBOURG"

THE capture of the important port of Cherbourg in Normandy ends the second phase in the campaign from the west. This is a great achievement coming as it has done within 20 days after the landings in France. The Battle for Cherbourg resembled a miniature Stalingrad. Ultimately the Americans overcame the fierce and savage resistance of the Nazis. This was made possible by the fact that British and Canadian troops under General Montgomery kept Field-Marshal Rommel's forces on both sides of Caen fully engaged. Two other important factors which contributed to the Cherbourg victory are constant Allied air attacks which prevented Rommel's strategic tank and armour reserves moving to the rescue of the Cherbourg garrison, and the fact that the forces which were landed on the French coast were handpicked and equipped with the most up-to-date and efficient weapons of warfare.

REUTER'S Correspondent with the Americans has, in a despatch, described the "Fortress" of Cherbourg, "From behind a hedgerow deep in the defence ring guarding *Festung Cherbourg*," he writes, "I watched an assault on a ridge important to the defence of the port. I found what the Cherbourg line was made of—steel, concrete, barbed wire, mortars and machine-guns. The German defence ellipse is one of the strongest fortifications the American infantry cracked." He describes a huge concrete pill-box with walls three feet thick and capable of holding 85 men, an anti-tank gun, six machine-guns and a number of other automatic weapons. There were a number of smaller pill-boxes nearby capable of holding 25 men. There were fields of barbed wire around these massive forts which were flanked by giant concrete road blocks. As one officer at General Eisenhower's Headquarters observed, the Battle for Cherbourg was not a push-over for the Allies.

IT is interesting to examine the psychology of the Germans in regard to the *Festung* idea. Not only Cherbourg, but the whole of Europe, was to them an impregnable fortress. The *Festung Europa* idea was publicised for the first time when the Allies wrested the initiative out of the hands of the Nazis who were therefore put to the dire need of building the morale of the people of Germany. This was at a time when the Axis powers were being pushed back in Russia, in the Pacific, in Africa, in Italy and other battle-fields. Goebbels believed that propaganda stressing the existence of a strong and well-defended fortress of Europe would give the Germans a feeling of security and safety. This was a far cry from the boasts of 1941. Goebbels said on December 28 of that year, "The British insular realm is a prisoner of its own limitations". Now the Nazis have found themselves prisoners in their own Fortress!

THUS Nazi propaganda has been forced to bow down to facts and change its tune. Goebbels relying on Hitler's dictum that the masses are asses and can be made to believe anything, has made a somersault in complete disregard of previous statements. He who ridiculed the idea of Britain being an island fortress had to indulge in boasts of Hitler's Europe being a safe and secure fortress. But even this line of propaganda seemed to have its own danger, for assurances of safety were likely to produce optimism and complacency which would be fatal to the German war effort.

SO the line of immediate necessity was adopted by the Nazi Propaganda Ministry. The situation on the Russian front deteriorated, and Goebbels began referring to 1918 and urging the German people to put desperate courage into the war effort. He said that it was mainly a Single Front battle and the Germans could hold on. As regards the operations in Italy, Goebbels told the Germans that it was only a minor sideshow. When Allied air raids grew to the gigantic dimensions of another front in the war against the Nazis and when the news of the R.A.F. raids by night and the American Flying Fortresses by day could not be hidden for long from the Germans, Goebbels began to minimise the losses and suppress the news. But what Goering had guaranteed would never happen was actually happening; the roof of Hitler's *Festung Europa* had been blown off and bombs were raining down from the skies! So Goebbels had to switch his propaganda on to the line of passivity and emotionalism; he described Allied airmen as "merciless", "baby killers", "barbarians", and so on. The idea was to lash the people into courage through fear and despair, and defend their "Fortress" with savage ferocity.

BUT the Germans know in their heart of hearts that the fall of *Festung Cherbourg* is an indication of what will ultimately overtake *Festung Europa*.

THE KING IN FRANCE.—The King held an investiture at General Montgomery's headquarters. In the photograph he is congratulating Corporal J. W. Masfield after presenting him with the Military medal.

RUNNING COMMENTARY

German Robot Planes—Cause of Luftwaffe's inferiority Complex

We have been hearing a good deal of the German robot planes operating over Southern England from the French Coast. It is jet-propelled and launched from a ramp with the aid, evidently, of a take-off rocket. It is not radio controlled and once it is launched the Germans have no control over its further movements. Such attacks would have been launched many months ago, when the Germans wanted to divert the impact of Allied forces on German industries and communications. But before this could be done, the Allies had carried out counter-measures which included the smashing of the chief experimental constructional centre at Peenemunde and the ceaseless pounding of runways on France. This caused a severe set-back to the despatch of pilotless planes, on which HITLER concentrated all his productive energies even at the sacrifice of fighting and bombing aircraft construction. This evidently is the explanation for the great mystery of the *Luftwaffe's* inferiority complex.

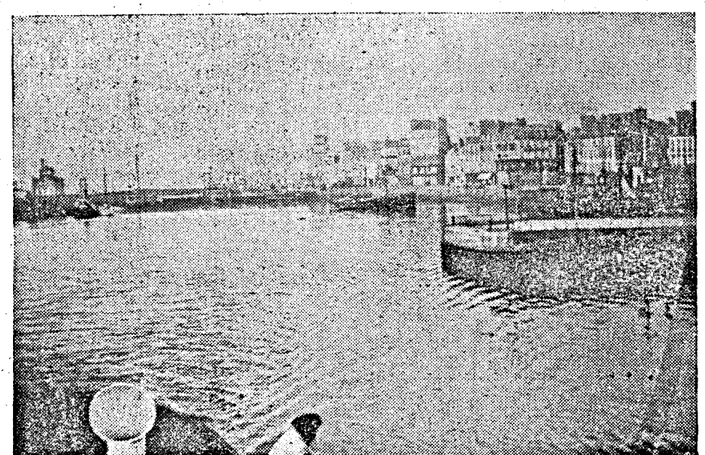
Referring to the pilotless aircraft the Air Ministry says that it is "an unmilitary weapon of chance." It is obvious that the object of HITLER in sending out such planes to Britain is to cause panic and indiscriminate loss of life. "The new German secret weapon," said Captain HARALD BALFOUR, Britain's Under-Secretary for Air, "has been hailed with all the trimmings of totalitarian thuggary. The Nazi radio has excelled itself in sadistic joy, neurotic gloating and an absurd exaggeration of its air weapon. It is the most encouraging sign of the growing mental panic of HITLER, GOEBBELS and the rest." Commenting on the use of the new weapon the London *Daily Express* says, "Each smoking missile that comes through the air over here is one piece of German war output the less to be used against the armies fighting for the liberation of Europe." The London *Times* in a leading article a fortnight ago (June 17) points out that "the aim of these nuisance raids is, no doubt, to shake the morale of the British public; which has never been stronger than to-day."

* * *

Britain faces New Danger with Calm and Confidence

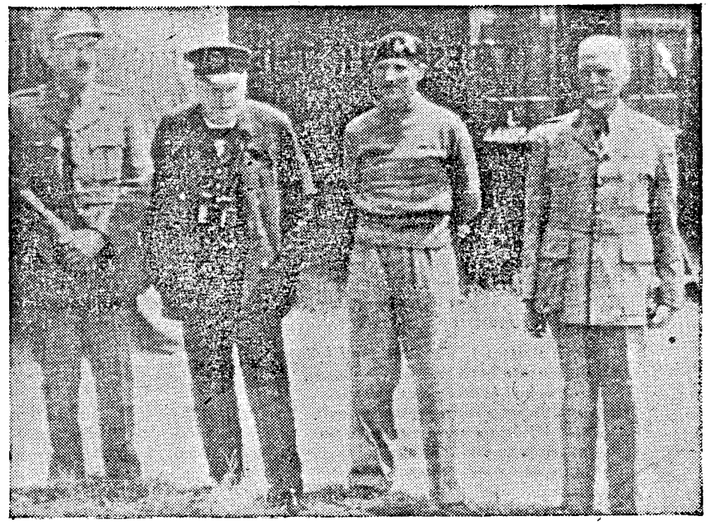
This spirit of the British people facing the new danger with the same calm and confidence with which they faced the battle of Britain was reflected in the cool and confident statement made by Mr. HERBERT MORRISON, Minister of Home Security, in the House of Commons on June 16. He said, "The enemy's effort to use pilotless aircraft has been expected. Counter-measures have already been applied and will continue to be applied with full vigour. Exaggerated importance need not be attached to this new development."

That Britain was expecting attack by such planes was made clear by Mr. CHURCHILL four months ago. "There is no doubt," he told the House of Commons on February 22, 1944, "that the Germans are preparing on the French shore new means of attack on this country, either by pilotless aircraft or possibly rockets, or both on a considerable scale. We have long been watching these with the utmost vigilance." Watching and preparing.



Cherbourg Harbour.

The Axis Powers and their satellites, however, believe that the course of the war will be changed by this weapon. "With this new invention," said the Rangoon radio on June 18, "The Great War has entered its last chapter." The German forces radio military commentator told the German troops last week (June 20) "We are only too well aware that an opponent with such an extensive and up-to-date range of technical equipment as Britain will not leave the last stone unturned in the endeavour to find counter-measures against the new German weapon. Now the dramatic contest between the new German weapon and the new British counter-weapons has begun." The fate of earlier German "Secret" weapons is well known. The Germans have used the acoustic and magnetic mines, rocket bombs and radio control tanks. But effective answers have been found for all these inventions. In the same way British scientists who have so far proved equal to the task of meeting any threat to the safety and security of Britain that the Germans could think of, can be expected with confidence to find a fitting answer to the "new secret" weapon of the Germans which is neither new—for experiments for the construction of radio-controlled aircraft were started as early as 1936—nor "secret" because similar aircraft were used by the Germans against the Allies in Salerno. As for Britain themselves, Mr. MILES, the noted aircraft designer, has published the fact that she had turned down a practical design for a pilotless plane on the ground that it was an "indiscriminate" weapon. This shows that the robot plane was not a pure German invention.

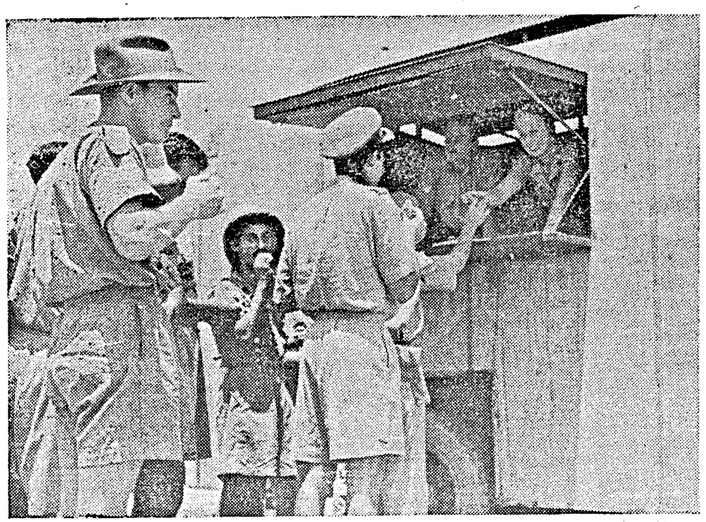


Mr. CHURCHILL IN FRANCE.—Left to right—Field Marshal Sir Alan Brooke, Chief of the Imperial General Staff, Mr. Churchill, General Sir Bernard Montgomery and Field Marshal Smuts.

"Anti-Invasion" Weapon—German Claim examined

The term "flying bomb" now being applied to the German weapon is a better description of it than "pilotless plane," which seems to suggest an aircraft carrying a bomb-load and capable of returning to its base after releasing it. The Germans themselves call the projectiles "dynamite meters." As for the Japanese, the flying bombs seem to have stirred their imagination which is sustained by crude mythology and fire-crack festivals. A bright Japanese propaganda effort is an apocalyptic vision of one of the bombs "racing back the Germany" at the end of a raid! The Germans claim that the flying bomb is an "anti-invasion" weapon. But it has neither prevented the Allied landings in Normandy nor affected the progress of subsequent operations.

It may be asked why were not the flying bombs which are claimed to be an important "anti-invasion" weapon used against troop concentrations and other preparations in Britain *before* the landings. It would seem that HITLER was anxious to use the weapon at, and not before, the right moment. He could not know the right moment because Allied air power prevented him from knowing it and also reduced the scale on which the flying bombs could be used. They are being used



REFRESHMENTS.—Mrs. Constance Morley, Westclif-on-Sea, Essex, wife of a well-kown tea-planter keeping busy distributing fresh home-made tea and cakes to R.A.F. and I.A.F. personnel somewhere on the Burma front. Cpl. S. E. Dove of 33, Blemheim Crescent, North Kensington, is seen helping her.

SESHIAH, THE CURIOUS VILLAGER

(*By* R.G.)

CANTO II

Second Instalment

" Why " said the Party man " we're not
A servile mob, like the old lot.
There've been a lot of changes since
The Mogul was the ruling prince.
Autocracy has gone and we
Claim absolute democracy.
If India's people are to share
A war, they must the war declare."

" And is that so ? And are your fellows
All democrats both ripe and zealous ?"
Seshiah asked (a little quizzical
But not as yet grown metaphysical).
" These Ministers were meant to be
Responsible to you and me,
Or to the members whom we chose
To state our wish by ' Ayes ' and ' Noes '.
But nobody has yet asked me
Or even you if we agree
That Ministers should now resign.
And I for one do not incline
To think they should. If I'm insulted
Because the mob was not consulted
Before the Viceroy, who is found
To be by law and duty bound,
Proclaimed the country loyally
At war behind His Majesty,
How much the more should I resent
A Ministry impertinent
Which, being bound by law to act
For you and me, have proved in fact
They're irresponsible, erratic,
And anything but democratic !"

" But " (so the Party man protested)
" The choice not in the people rested
But in our Party's High Command
Which speaks for the whole Motherland !"

" And is that so ?" Seshiah said
And wagged a disapproving head.
" A Party by the very name
Is just a part, and not the same
As the whole country. How can those
Whom only your one party chose
By oligarchical selection,
And not by popular election,
Usurp the people's place and shout
And order Ministers about ?
Are these our Ministers, or yours ?
Are they to do your Party chores
Or serve the public interest,
For the whole people doing their best ?"

now because it is very nearly too late to use them at all !

* * *

Results of the new experiment —Germans in the dark

As regards the flying bomb itself, it may be observed that though its explosive power is evidently very great its range is apparently limited, and it cannot be directed with any accuracy. The Germans are very anxious to know the results of the use of the new weapon. In a broadcast in German on June 19, the Berlin radio admitted, " We are still in the dark about the weapon itself and its effect on the British people." And the British Government have wisely decided not to dispel this darkness at the present stage ! It is obvious, however, that the missile cannot be directed to any particular military target, such as a factory, a railway line or bridge, a depot or assembly point, and it cannot be compared with the assaults of a strong force of bomber-aircraft, for planned military effect.

As regards its object of breaking down civilian morale by terror tactics, it is only too evident that it has not succeeded, and will not succeed. It may be recalled that the German bomber-blitz on Britain failed to break the British resistance or crack the morale of the people. So HITLER abandoned it and turned to Russia. He thought he could score a swift and decisive success there and then attack Britain with a sufficient bomber force, with better prospects and results. HITLER's gamble in Russia proved his undoing. He not only failed to conquer Russia, but he weakened the strength and power of the *Luftwaffe* as well. Meanwhile the Allies built up more bombers and fighters, and ultimately they outstripped the *Luftwaffe* and left it behind. The problem that faced HITLER was how to get his bombs to Britain without using bombers and pilots who had been beaten once—and would be beaten again. The flying bomb was his solution, and, but for the Allied air attacks on the Pas-de-Calais area, which destroyed the mischief considerably at the source, it would well have been a really dangerous weapon.

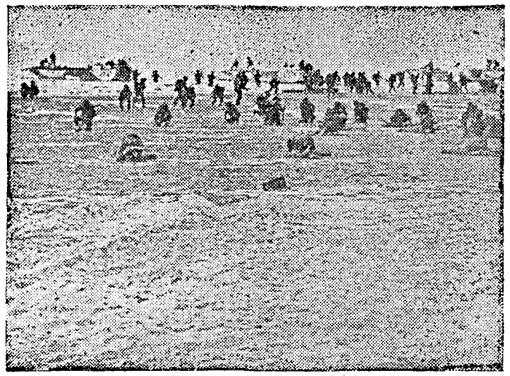
* * *

Misfiring Missiles—Hitler's "retaliation" !

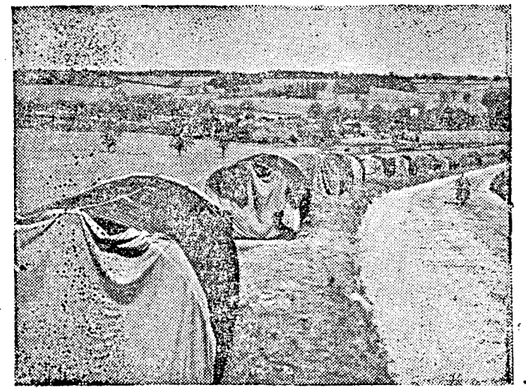
This was evidently the 'retaliation' promised by HITLER and Goering as an answer to the mass air raids by Anglo-American air forces. But the weapon which they have taken years to perfect has already been blunted, and will be eliminated in due course. German propaganda has stated that the flying bomb is only the first of many new weapons to come. This itself was a tacit admission that the new weapon was not going to be a success. They must have known already that what they failed to achieve in the hour of seeming triumph in 1940 by their bomber squadrons, they are not likely to in 1944 by misfiring missiles, when the Allied ring is closing round them from the east, south and west.

THIS IS HOW IT WAS DONE

The greatest assault the world has ever known could not have been carried out successfully without long and expert planning, perfect timing and absolute co-ordination with every man trained to the second in his task. Nothing could be left to the chance of the moment. When the zero hour struck, man and machine functioned with rhythmic smoothness, thanks to months of arduous practice. These photographs taken during one of the many large scale practice exercises show how this co-ordination which has had such results was achieved.

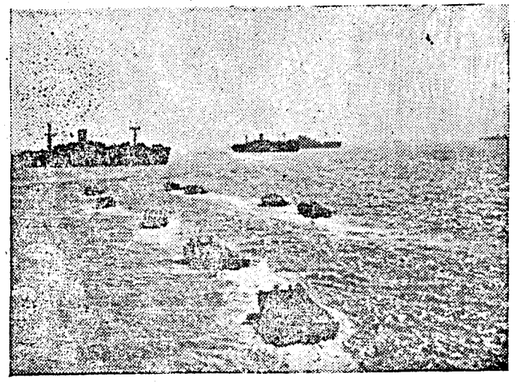


Troops wading ashore under " enemy " opposition.

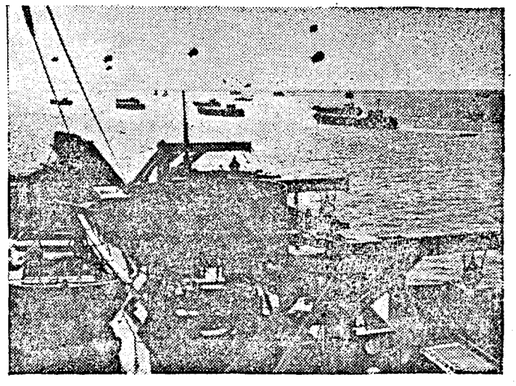


Ammunition stacked along the roadside.

Camouflaged Bren Carriers at the side of a country road.



Landing assault craft exercise from infantry landing ships.



Silhouetted against the rising sun, landing craft on their way to the beaches.

THE POSSIBILITY OF INTERNATIONAL ORDER

By R. GALLETTI, I.C.S.

IT may seem to you who are not members of any Government, nor likely to become members of any Government, a little outside your province to think about the principles of international order, even if you find it interesting as an intellectual exercise. But it is very much your business and mine. We may never be in a position to draft protocols and negotiate treaties and issue proclamations; we may never have to take part in the administrative work required to make good intentions effective; but if there is one thing that ought to be believed in politics it is that no Government can rise much above the level of thinking of the man in the street and the man in the field. Even dictatorial Governments behave in the way that they do because the ordinary citizens they control are not educated to know better; and representative Governments meet at every turn the force of public opinion. So if the public have no opinion about international order, the odds are that there will be no international order; and if the public have stupid opinions about it, the odds are that the organization set up will be either unworkable to start with or made unworkable in a very short time.

INADEQUATE INVENTION

The appalling state of Europe in the last few years before the war was a direct consequence of public opinion being hopelessly wrong on essential matters. You in India need not congratulate yourselves or be smug about having avoided such errors; for in fact the dominating opinion in this country, as manifested in the press and on the platform, was headed in exactly the same direction. It was as though leading men of all parties had looked at Europe and said: "See what a lovely ditch they have all fallen into; let's dig ourselves a ditch exactly like it and push ourselves in!" In particular there were three blunders of the first magnitude after which this country's leading men were running full tilt. One was the One Party State, of which the almost inevitable consequence is the emergence of a tyrannical, overbearing, and probably corrupt oligarchy. But on the side which touches international order, the dogmas of Self-sufficiency and the Independent Sovereign National State were more directly pernicious. I shall not now speak of Self-sufficiency as an economic and political doctrine, except to say that there is no more hope of a stable and peaceful international order among States devoted to self-sufficient policies than there would be likelihood of peace and order in a village or town in which every family insisted on doing everything for itself and regarded it as an injury or an insult if a neighbour asked to be allowed to earn his living by working in its fields or mending its chairs or keeping a shop to sell its goods. To-day I am concerned with the sad mess the world has got into through the cultivation of that useful but inadequate and dangerous invention, the Independent Sovereign National State.

I have nothing against nationalism, for those who know how to carry this strong liquor. I am myself proud to call myself an Englishman, and my Scots friends are even prouder, and possibly with reason, of the name of Scotsman. There was a time when Germans might be proud of being members of the German nation; and there will come a time when a true, strong, united Indian nation will claim the unqualified allegiance of every inhabitant of the country already called India, and local and communal loyalties will find their proper place along with, but not superior to, that allegiance. But to recognize one's nation is a wholly different thing from the undiluted nationalism which makes international order an impossibility. That is the nationalism which says: "My country is sovereign and independent; as a State it will not recognize the community of States; in matters of its own interest it will be its own judge; and it will use its own force at its own discretion."

Now, nations are not individuals, and it cannot be said that what holds good about men individually holds good about States. But just consider what would be the condition of a district or country in which each man and woman took the line which the nations of the world have taken as a matter of course. The condition is quite simply known as anarchy or the law of the jungle; and when it prevails, out go civilization and decency and every possibility of orderly sane living. If there is no law-giver to give law, no judge to judge by it, and no magistrate or policeman to enforce it, there can be no right, no freedom, and no prosperity. Every man—I take the argument from Sir Norman Angell—must say to himself, "I cannot be safe unless I am stronger than any possible aggressor"; and as the possible agressors are saying exactly the same thing, it is as plain as a pikestaff that nobody can be safe; for even the biggest bully can be beaten by two, three or four who combine against him. It is a very simple proposition in logic that *A* cannot be bigger than *B* at the same time as *B* is bigger than *A*; and the balance of power kind of statecraft, though it can juggle the pieces wonderfully at times, fails in the end because you cannot always get the nations into precisely two lots of precisely the same weight. If the stronger lot is aggressive, there is war; and even if the peace-lovers are stronger, the war-lover is apt to delude himself, as the German and the Japanese have done to the ruin of the world, into the belief that he can win, if only by preparing secretly and hitting first when nobody is looking.

WHY THE LEAGUE FAILED

So, if there is to be peace on earth, there must be a plan for international justice. It is not certain that humanity does want peace; at least, the peoples of almost every country have from time to time refused to accept the essential condition—which is, that no State or Government (since Governments are in fact what make the moves) shall be a judge in its own cause. There have been countless peace plans, and the last and most ambitious, the plan of the League of Nations, was the best, in that it provided for the arbitration of disputes between States. But it did not succeed in curbing aggressors who were really ambitious and aggressive. Why?

Various reasons have been stated. One is that it was not worked in the right spirit and no great State would apply the sanctions according to the Covenant when it came to a showdown. A second, which goes a little deeper, is that the sanctions could not be enforced without bringing on war, and if war was to be the only way of keeping peace, then the promise of the League was a snare and a delusion. Against this it was argued that Collective Security would be a reality if the great nations were prepared to apply armed force; the aggressor would be frightened by the show of force and would refrain from aggression. And doubtless if the United Nations had been United Nations in 1939 or 1935 or 1931, there would have been no attack on Poland or Ethiopia or Manchukuo. But Collective Security means readiness for war, and that means armaments; and peace-loving nations which will spend billions of dollars and millions of pounds when finally made to fight will not spend enough to give a maniac dictator a sleepless night while he is merely making his preparations.

I myself, however, say, taking Clarence Streit's argument in "Union Now" and going yet further along the same line of thought, that the trouble with the League and with the proposals for an International Police Force which are now much in evidence is that they rest on a wrong assumption. That assumption is that you can coerce a state with force from outside, and not mean war. You can certainly coerce a state by force; but force applied to a state from outside is war and nothing but war. And what we want is not war but justice. Our mistake is to gaze so fixedly on one method that we forget to look at other, better methods.

THE INDIVIDUAL BULLY

Let us go back to the individual. It is possible to make the individual bully behave himself by beating him into good behaviour. You may have read the story in Kipling's "Stalky & Co." which tells of one such operation. In pioneer settlements in America Vigilantes were a common institution; and they worked on the same principle. In feudal times both in Europe and in India the great chief or baron who made himself obnoxious to his neighbours might be pulled down by a combination of lesser barons. But the interminable squabbling and bickering and bloodshed of the method were poor recommendations; and it is not the way that good behaviour is ensured in the modern state. The first great step forward is when a strong central authority, whether a King or a Governor-in-Council, is in a position to beat down single smaller authorities or combinations of them, and to take from them for ever their power to use force; or a magistrate is in a position to beat down any bully or gang and make it too dangerous for any one man or group to use force. Then it is possible to enforce resort to judges and courts for the determination of disputes, and it is possible to enforce the decisions of the courts and to maintain the law of the land by the King's army, the Sheriff's posse, and the police, when police are at last invented. In this province the process was well displayed when the Poligars of the Deccan were chased from their rock fortresses and the East India Company's Judges, District Magistrates and Superintendents of Police took firm hold. There were still murders and riots, but these were visited with punishment; and the ordinary man might go about his business without fear, and seek justice from an impartial court when he and his neighbour could not see eye to eye.

Now it is a thing that can be learnt from history that to outlaw private force it has always been necessary, to break up armed bodies and apply the public force to the small unit rather than the large. As long as barons were allowed their armed retinues; they were a menace to the King's peace. As long as Chicago gangs were allowed to go round in strong bodies with sub-machine-guns, the police could not prevent bloody affrays and terrorization of the public. But when the law of the land and those who execute it take a strong line against armed bands, then the public force is quickly effective against single man or unarmed groups.

NATIONS NOT INDIVIDUALS

Nations are not individuals, and it is well to repeat it, because the notion that states are the units in the society of nations is the fallacy which prevents us devising the proper machinery for the maintenance of the world's peace—a peace even more important to every man and woman than the King's peace within the state boundaries. You cannot coerce nations, except by war, even if you can do something with economic sanctions. Burke said he did not know the method of drawing up an indictment against a whole people; and with equal truth we can say we do not know how to bring a nation into Court or confine it in a lock-up. You cannot do these things to a nation. But you can do them to the individual citizens of a nation; you can do them to individual ministers—if you have a means of applying the public force against them, It is a number of persons composing a Government which decides to prepare for war; it is a number of persons composing a Government which draws up ultimatums and gives orders to the armies to march. And when there is an international dispute, you will find, if you look closely at it, either that certain men of one country have a dispute with certain men of another country about a piece of land or a right claimed and denied, or else that a Government composed of particular men is following a policy which displeases other particular men forming another Government.

The mischief is done because in the first of these situations the individuals are not left to settle it between themselves, or there is no Court having *jurisdiction over the subject-matter* of the dispute, and the Governments of the nations to which the disputants belong make the quarrel their own; and in the second of these situations the Governments have command both of the existing armed forces and of the whole power of the nations to make and use arms. So, in their smaller spheres, had the Poligars of India and the feudal princes of England and France. And just as it was necessary, if the King's peace was to be maintained, to take away from the feudal princes their power to be judges in their own cause and make good their arbitrary pleasure by force of arms, so it is necessary to take away from Governments, in order that the world's peace may be maintained, these same privileges. The independent sovereign nation-state is an anachronism, and it ought to go.

NATION AND SOVEREIGNTY

Would the loss of the privileges make the citizens of the nations any less self-respecting, happy and free? Nothing of the kind. The citizens of the United States of America are not the worse but the better because the States of the Union were denied by the Constitution and by the great war between the States the power to use armed forces to make good their arbitrary decisions against each other. But unfortunately all over the world, and not least in this country and this province, the ordinary man, and even the intelligent man, does not see the simple point—that for a nation to surrender its claim to absolute sovereignty for the sake of international law and order makes its citizens not less but more free, and the state therefore a better and prouder state. Until you, and others like you, are quite clear on the point, statesmen will

* A lecture delivered at a public meeting held under the auspices of the Madras District War Committee in Madras on Sunday (June 25).

break their hearts and lose their reputations in vain, even if they see the next point.

That also is illuminated by American experience, but can be made clear out of English or French or Indian experience. An International Police Force is not going to be a success if it is an army to fight wars. It can only succeed if it is a police force genuinely and truly, that is, if its function is to uphold the world law promulgated by the world legislature and declared by the world courts against the individuals or groups that *break or wish to break it—not against* nations. It must be able to arrest and indict the individual or the Government as a corporate body and bring them if necessary before the world court for trial. So its relation to national police forces must be like that of the American Federal Police to State Police, or the C.I.D. to local police. Its particular field of action must be marked out, but within that field it must be guaranteed co-operation and not opposition from national police forces. How this is to be done is a problem both difficult and delicate, and very well worth every intelligent man's examination. I have not the time to enter into detail and pass to one last point—the third vital requisite of international order.

If an international police is to enforce the decrees of world courts and maintain the provisions of world law against Governments, those Governments must not have it in their power—any more than the poligars and barons and Big Shots in the end had it in their power—to defy the public force. Therefore *all national armies, navies and air forces must go, root and branch, lock, stock and barrel, bag and baggage.* The only exception that can be made is a small force for each nation, comparable to the American States National Guards, the ornamental Bodyguards of Princes, or the Malabar Special Police, sufficient to furnish pomp when it is needed, to back up the regular police when internal disturbances become dangerous—and to keep the force in tribal or uncivilized areas—but no more. It is an error to disarm before there is a world law and world courts (of which, incidentally, there should be not one but many—probably one in each great state); but when there is a world law and world police to execute it, it would be fatal not to disarm completely.

NON-VIOLENCE AND VIOLENCE

Let those who preach non-violence remember this—that every day affairs remain non-violent only because there is a public force to prevent the violent being violent. Non-violence between nations likewise requires that all international forces should be gathered out of the hands of state Governments and entrusted to an impartial authority over all Governments. Until that is done, the violent nation can be curbed only by violence. This war is being fought to curb violence beyond all precedent. But unless men of goodwill and good brains now give their minds strongly to discover the truth about international organization, this will not be the last war. On the other hand, there is no need to despair. The problem of democratic self-government in large countries looked hopeless to the Greeks and Romans but was solved by the invention of representative institutions: the problem of internal peace may have seemed hopeless to Akbar as to earlier monarchs, but was solved by the invention of the rule of law. *Now is the time to invent the institutions* which will *solve the problem of international* peace, even if men as clever as Aristotle and Todar Mall think it insoluble. It is up to you to think, and, further, so to act now that the world recognizes Indians as men of courage and wisdom, whose thought merits respect, and whose words are not a woolly blathering.

THE RAID ON JAPAN: EYEWITNESS' ACCOUNT

CORRESPONDENT Roy Porter, broadcasting from Chungking on his return from the smashing Super-Fortress attack upon Japan's vital iron and steel centre at Yawata, said that the attack was evidence that Japan was unable to provide adequate defence for her factories there. Porter went over the target in one of the first three bombers employed. Here is his story:

"The first plane flew into the target in almost complete blackness. By the time the second Super-Fortress was over the target, searchlights on the ground and anti-aircraft fire started.

"We took off from a base in western China carrying large loads of bombs and gasoline. We arrived over the target at exactly 11:09½ p.m. It was at that moment our bombs plunged downwards right on the Japanese marks. The two minutes preceding, however, were rugged. In the first place the alarm had already been given by the first two planes. The searchlight batteries were full on. Enemy anti-aircraft was blazing below. Even before we approached the target area, we had to weave and dodge our way in.

"It wasn't too bad at first but steadily got worse as we flew steadily east toward the target, the Imperial Steel and Iron Works of Yawata. Flak began to spray the ship. Weaving searchlights picked us up time and again, only to lose us almost immediately. Then it happened! A field battery caught us in its huge savage arc. From that time on, until we outran the beacons, the whole cabin was lit up. A white spatter on the nose of the plane told of a bullet hit; a dull thud on the right was a piece of shrapnel, as we found out later. We just turned and turned. Those faithful engines kept right on going without a moment's hesitation.

"One strange thing we encountered over the target, as so many other planes did, was the absence of Japanese night fighters. We didn't see a single one. All this time—which were seconds, comparatively, but hours, proportionately—ack ack was bombing and searchlights poking along the nose into the ship. Other crews were not so lucky, because as the long line of B-29s began to string out the Japanese had more time to organize their defences. The enemy had got planes into the combat area and a fight was on.

"We only stayed about 10 minutes over the outer defences but it seemed 10 times that long. We entered the bomb run as the Japanese themselves lit up the target and searchlights still played on the planes. There were no half-measures in that combat last night. We were to kill or destroy, or be killed or destroyed. The bombs went down toward the target. When the bombs dropped on the target, seconds later (that seemed hours before they became days in length) the plane pointed its nose up and roared away into the darkness westward toward China."

While taking his IQ test, a draftee was asked: "What does RFD stand for?" He looked blank for a moment, then visibly brightening, replied: "Ranklin Folano Doosevelt.

• • •

A man drew a lucky elephant in a sweepstake. He had three wishes; so he rubbed the elephant once and asked for a thousand pounds. The money dropped right into his hand.

He rubbed it again and asked for something that money cannot buy—a crate of bananas. This appeared instantly.

Then he thought he had better ask for something that would benefit the whole of humanity, so he said: "I'd like to kill Hitler."

The next post brought his calling-up papers.

M.A.R.S.—A NEW SERVICE IN THE INDIAN ARMY

By LIEUT.-COL. R. G. TRIGGS

DURING my service in the Army, I have had the good fortune to be stationed in Madras three times. The first time was in 1925; then I came here as a Subaltern in the Lancashire Fusiliers. I find it interesting to compare those days with these; for instance, in those days, there was no Madras Radio Station, there were no talkies; we had silent pictures then, with small orchestras which, I remember always played exactly the same tunes for travel films, love scenes, and cowboy pictures, sometimes, with amusing results as you can probably imagine. There was a business boom on then, there was plenty of money about and plenty to spend it on.

When I was again stationed in Madras in 1936 there was no business boom but the shops were filled with the good things of life, and living was easy and spacious. There was plenty to do and plenty of time to do it in. We had a visit from an Australian Cricket XI, and I have with me now a cigarette case, which I prize very much; it was given to me by the Madras Cricket Association for my services as Honorary Secretary for the Cricket Matches, which were played at the Madras Cricket Club Ground at Chepauk. So much for the past.

MADRAS WAR EFFORT

In 1944 I find myself somewhere in the Madras Presidency again. The many good friends which I made when I was here before, both Indian and British, are now, like myself, middle aged. Most of them, to a greater or lesser degree, are helping the wonderful war effort, which was, and is being made in Madras.

Many have joined the services, and some have probably had duties similar to mine which have taken me, by train and aeroplane, all over the country, from Peshawar, in the North, to the tip of India, in the South, and from Karachi, in the West, to Assam, in the East. If you could take a concensus of our opinion I think you would find that we should all say that nowhere in India is so much done and so well done for the Services as is done here in Madras! May I say that we are not ungrateful.

The nature of the Battalion I command is one that would never have been even dreamed of before this war started. It would have been regarded as a Battalion in the imagination of H. G. Wells. It is called an *Indian Military Air Raid Service Battalion*, and is largely composed of officers and men who formerly belonged to the Fire and A.R.P. Services in those parts of India from which the Air Raid threat has now receded. The men come from all parts of India and speak thirteen different languages.

A HAPPY BATTALION

But that does not worry us; we are a very happy battalion. *Every man is a volunteer. These men come from the comparative comforts of their civil jobs, to life in the Army under canvas.* During the floods our camp was washed away. One or two of the weaker ones quailed a bit but the vast majority proved their mettle once and for all by treating the whole thing as a joke. The sign of a good soldier!

We have been honoured by visits by His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief General Auchinleck, the Honourable Defence Member, Sir Firoz Khan Noon (now a member of the War Cabinet) the Army Commander, General Beresford-Pierse and the Engineer-in-Chief, Major General Roome.

Now I would like to tell you a little more about the Battalion itself. First of all it is not the only one of its kind. I cannot say how many there are, but their origin came about in this way. When the threat to the West of India disappeared because of the defeat of the Axis Powers in the Middle East, the Government of India realized that this would release a large number of officers and men trained in fire fighting and A.R.P. work. It seemed a waste of good training and men, not to use them. So the idea of "A.R.P. Battalions" for *service in re-occupied countries* was mooted. Volunteers were called for, the response was encouraging and so the Indian Military Air Raid Service Battalions were formed. *The first of such Battalions in any Army in the world.*

UP-HILL FIGHT

We started with two officers, my second-in-Command and myself. The recruits poured in, they had to be housed, clothed, fed and trained. It was an up-hill fight. The floods came—we had to move. The Battalion's life went on. We started our own shop and used the profits for games, musical instruments, gramophones and records, sports gear, etc. We have since started gardens to help in the Grow More Food Campaign.

Mobile Canteens have visited us from the Joint War Charities and the Indian Hospitality Committee; we shall always remember them. Lady Hope has visited us on two occasions; she has our gratitude.

Whilst the men were being trained in the Camp, the Officers were going through a special course at the O.T.S.; they did well. And whilst I am on the subject of training I simply must take this opportunity of thanking the Controller and the Madras A.R.P. Staff for the help they have always so willingly given us.

Now I would like to say a word or two about the role and duties of a M.A.R.S. Battalion. I have frequently been asked 'What does a M.A.R.S. Battalion do'! Well we all know the story, which is now a chestnut, of the German Commentator who announced "The enemy was over the Reich in great force last night. We shot down 257 of his planes—one of our towns is missing." *That is the sort of situation that we hope to alleviate in certain places where we once had friends and where we hope to have friends again.*

I have recently returned from a conference in Delhi where the administration, composition and role of these Battalions was revised. They are now to be administered by the Engineer-in-Chief, India Command; *they will be Indian Engineer Battalions, and the men will be known as Sappers instead of Sepoys.*

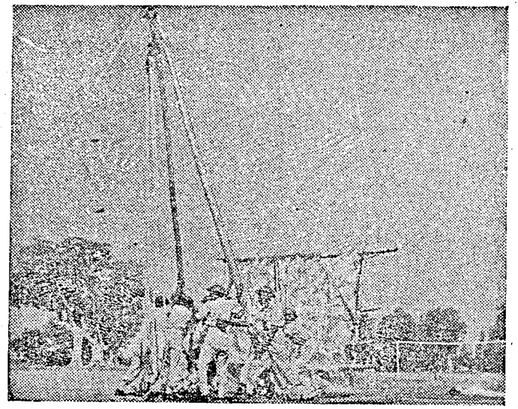
"BULLDOZER" SECTION

I won't bore you with a detailed description of the composition of a Battalion, but the rough outline is this. There is a Mechanical Excavator section, more popularly known as the "Bulldozer" section. There is also a Bomb Disposal Section.

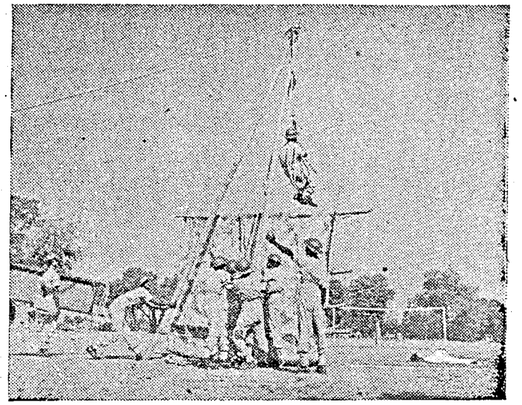
Then we have the companies each of which is self contained so that it could tackle a job on its own. We have Fire Platoons, Rescue Platoons and Mobile Aid Posts. The Fire Platoons are officered by men who have had actual blitz experience in Great Britain.

(*Continued on page 16.*)

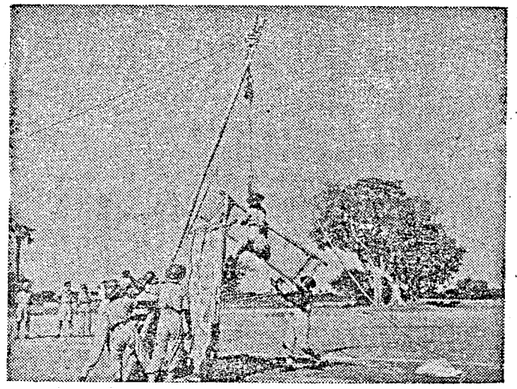
MILITARY AIR RAID SERVICE BATTALION



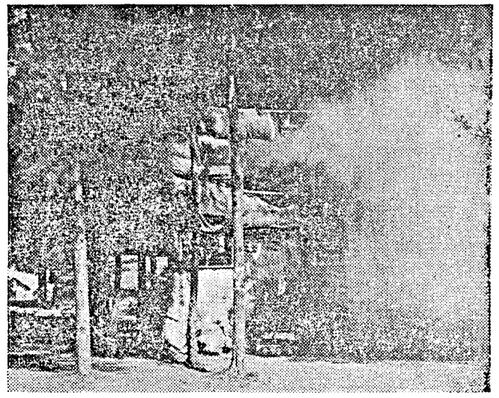
Erecting sheer legs to effect rescue of a casualty from a "high and damaged wall."



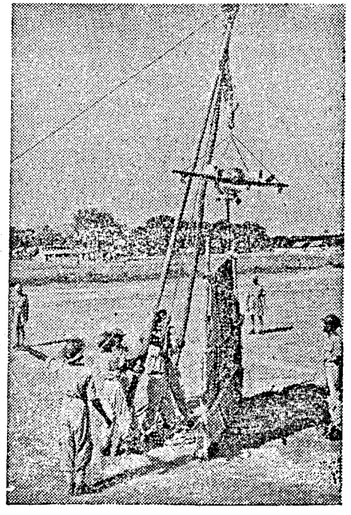
TRAINING.—A Rescue man goes over.



The second rescue man goes over.

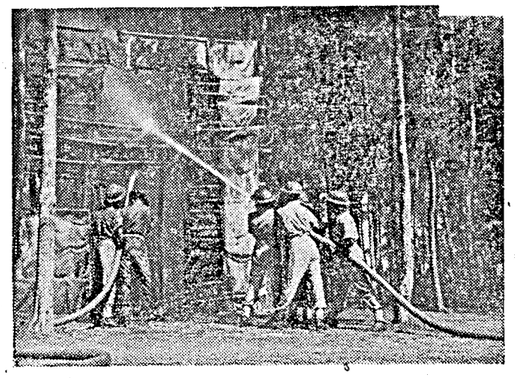


JUNGLE FIRE.—A hut or basha catches fire.

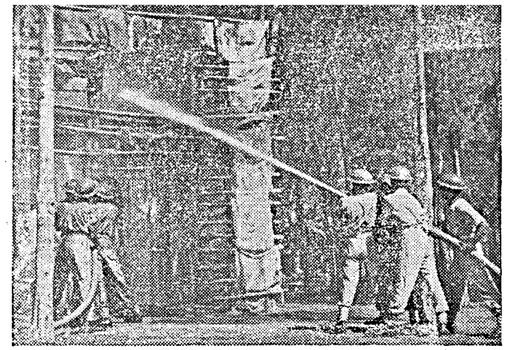


Left.—*The casualty, after first aid treatment, is "luffed" to safety.*

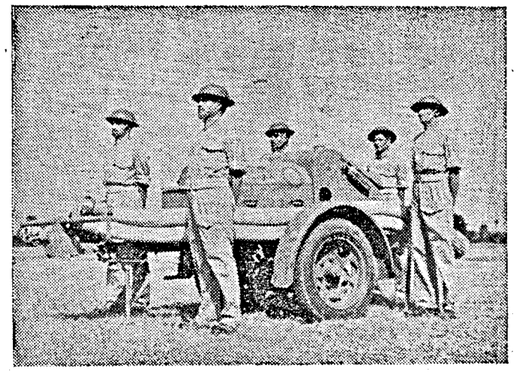
Right.—*RESCUE FROM THE FIRE.—Lowering an unconscious man from a hut.*



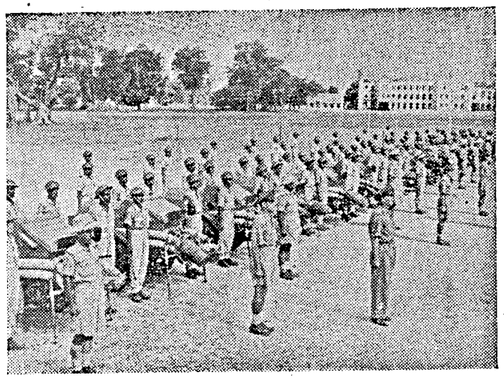
BASHA FIRE—Dealing with the flames quickly to prevent spread.



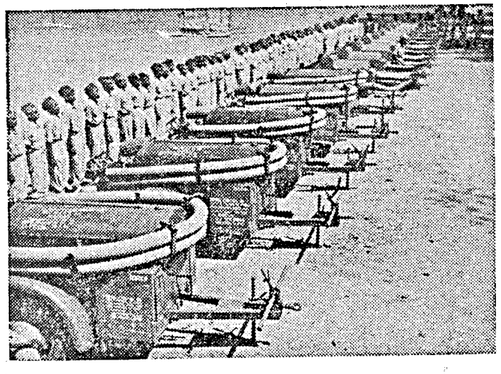
The shape of things to come—A fire in a jungle habitation.



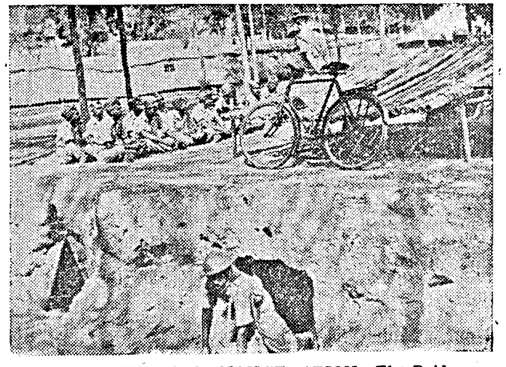
PUMP-DRILL—A fire-crew from Bombay.



FIRE PLATOON LINE-UP—Fire crews from South India.



A fire platoon awaiting inspection.



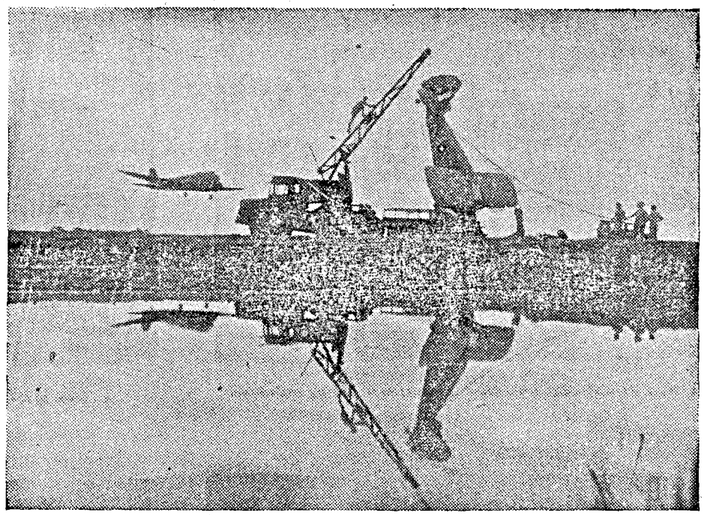
TRAINING BY DEMONSTRATION—The Raid Reconnaissance personnel.

(*Continued from page* 11.)

These Fire Platoons are equipped with Trailer Pumps capable of immense output, and it would have to be a pretty big fire to stand up to them.

Next we have the Rescue Platoons which are Officered by men who have been trained at the Civil Defence Schools in India. Each Rescue Platoon is provided with lorries fitted up with blocks and tackle, shores, picks and shovels, acetylene cutters, etc., the Platoon also has ambulances. All fire and rescue personnel are trained in First Aid and are capable of dealing with cases of shock, burns, bandaging, etc. The men also get trained in Field Engineering including the use of explosives.

Lastly we have the Mobile Aid Post which is commanded by a Subaltern of the Indian Army Medical Corps. The men are trained Nursing Orderlies, who are capable, among other things, of preparing a tent or a small room as an operating theatre.



Flying conditions on the Burma Front at this time of the year are at their worst. This picture shows *part of a forward airfield after a monsoon storm and the salvaging of an aircraft upset during the terrific deluge.*

THE BATTALION'S JOB

I am often asked if we are armed. The answer is definitely, "Yes"!

Generally speaking it is the job of these Battalions to provide Debris Clearance, Bomb Disposal, Essential Demolition, Fire Fighting, Rescue, and Mobile First Aid Services in re-occupied towns, and urban districts in Burma, and other places, after their capture by the armed forces, and before the establishment of Civil Defence Services by the Civil Administration.

These Battalions are organized and equipped to provide—

(*a*) Debris clearance parties, including Mechanical Engineering Detachments.

(*b*) Parties for essential demolition of unsafe structures and to limit progress of fire.

(*c*) Fire fighting parties.

(*d*) Parties to deal with unexploded bombs.

(*e*) Rescue parties for removing casualties and corpses from debris.

(*f*) First Aid treatment of casualties.

(*g*) Ambulance Service for evacuation to hospitals.

(*h*) Disposal of corpses.

(*i*) Disposal of dead and wounded animals.

"WE ARE COMING BACK"

Apart from their efficiency for war, the men are receiving educational instruction and are learning trades that will help them when they return to civil life. They have good food and plenty of exercise. They elect their own committees to run their own shop and their own messing. They are happy, fit and keen.

We have already had opportunities to prove our usefulness and the results have been most satisfactory. For instance at ports the men have unloaded hospital ships and loaded hospital trains. They have extinguished fires for villagers. And have carried out a number of other jobs.

If there should be any of our friends in Burma or elsewhere listening to me now—and I believe we have many such friends—I would like to say this to you; we are coming back, and when we do, we shall not only rid you of the perfidious Jap, we shall also bring with us means of protecting you against him, and from the treachery he undoubtedly stands for.

—*A talk broadcast from A.I.R., Madras.*

JAP SWORD IS GURKHAS' TROPHY

A beautifully worked Japanese sword, over 200 years old, which once belonged to a Japanese prince of royal blood, is the latest war souvenir to adorn a Gurkha regimental centre.

The sword was captured by a Gurkha havildar after a fierce battle between one of the units of the regiment and the Japs inside Burma.

"The sword belonged to a high ranking officer, although we could not find out who. We don't know any more of its history, except what a Japanese authority told us."

KEEPING SOLDIERS FIGHTING FIT

Instructors of the Army School of Physical Training and the physical and recreational training schools in India are showing the modern Indian soldier how a strong physique can uphold his offensive spirit.

To keep "fighting fit" the soldier must be alert, quick-acting and resourceful. He must have strength, endurance and agility. He must be able to swim in full equipment, to row a boat and to cross all obstacles, whether man-made or natural. Towards these ends the syllabus of modern army physical training is continuously aimed.

Peace-time gymnastic apparatus has been largely replaced by rifles, logs, ammunition boxes, shells, stretchers and other equipment used in the field.

Recreation, as an aid to the maintenance of morale, has received its full share of attention. Team games are evolved to exercise the greatest number in small spaces and combat activities such as boxing, wrestling, and close combat play a big part.

THE MAN WHO BROUGHT RUSSIA THROUGH

STALIN AND HIS GREAT ACHIEVEMENT

ONLY Joseph Stalin fully knew how close Russia stood to defeat in 1942, and only Joseph Stalin fully knew how he brought Russia through.

But the whole world knew what the alternative would have been. The man who knew it best of all was Adolf Hitler, who found his past accomplishments turning into dust.

Had German legions swept past steel-stubbern Stalingrad and liquidated Russia's power of attack, Hitler would have been undisputed master of Europe, looking for other continents to conquer. He could have diverted at least 250 victorious divisions to new conquests in Asia and Africa.

But Joseph Stalin stopped him. Stalin had done it before—in 1941—when he started with all of Russia intact. But Stalin's achievement of 1942 was far greater. All that Hitler could give he took—for the second time.

At the beginning of 1942, Stalin was in an unenviable spot. During the year before he had sold over 400,000 miles of territory at the price of saving most of his army. Gone was a big fraction—how large only he knew—of the precious tanks, planes and war equipment which he had been hoarding for years against the Nazi attack. Gone was roughly one-third of Russia's industrial capacity, on which he depended for replacements. Gone was nearly half of Russia's best farmland.

With all this gone, Stalin had to face another full-weight blow from the Nazi war machine. For every trained soldier the Germans had lost in the previous year's battles, he had probably lost as many and more. For every bit of valuable experience which his soldiers and commanders had gained, the Germans had had the opportunity to gain an equal amount.

MAGNIFICENT WILL

Stalin still had the magnificent will to resist. With reduced resources, Stalin tackled his problem, trying to pick abler leaders for his Army, trying to improve its resistance, trying to maintain the morale of his people, trying to extract more aid from his allies.

Only Stalin knows how he managed to make 1942 a better year for Russia than 1941. But he did. Sevastopol was lost, the Don basin was nearly lost, the Germans reached the Caucasus. But Stalingrad was held. The Russian people held. The Russian army came back with four offensives that had the Germans in serious trouble at the year's end.

Russia was displaying greater strength than at any point in the war. The general who had won that overall battle was the man who runs Russia.

In his birch-panelled office within the dark-towered Kremlin, Joseph Stalin, an imponderable, soberly persistent leader, worked at his desk 16 to 18 hours a day. Before him he kept a huge globe showing the course of campaigns.

There are streaks of grey in his hair, new etchings of fatigue in his granite face. Stalin was 64 on December 21, 1943. But there is no break in his hold on Russia and there is recognition of his abilities by nations outside the Soviet borders.

For his armies Stalin coined the slogan: "umiraite, no ne otstupaite" (Die, but do not retreat). It had been shown at Moscow that a strongly fortified city can be held as a strong point against attack by mechanised forces. Stalin chose to make Stalingrad another such point. While Germans and Russians were booting each other to death in the bombpocked streets, Stalin was organising the winter offensive which burst into the Don basin with the fury of the snow-storms that accompanied it.

To keep his home front intact, Stalin had only work and black bread to offer. He added a promise of victory and called to his people to sacrifice collectively to preserve the things they had built collectively.

In his 25th anniversary speech Stalin emphasised that the most important event in foreign affairs, both for war and peace, was Allied collaboration. "Our aim", he said, "is not to destroy all military force in Germany, because any intelligent man will understand that this is as impossible in the case of Germany as in the case of Russia. It would be unreasonable on the part of the victor to do so. To destroy Hitler's army is possible and necessary."

—*Condensed from "Times"*

THE SWORD OF STALINGRAD

THE city of Stalingrad has developed five-fold since the Soviets came into power, 27 years ago. And until the panzers lumbered in, spitting their destruction ahead of them; until the Nazi dive-bombers started their 2,000 sorties a day; until the heavy artillery of the Wehrmacht began its six months of almost ceaseless barrage, Stalingrad was one of the loveliest cities in the world.

It had, in the last quarter of a century, become the most modern of all the busy Volga towns. In the centre of one huge, beautifully spacious Stalingrad square is a fountain surrounded by statues of children dancing. From this square used to run a wide street of typically European-looking offices and shops, much like the modern shops in Rotterdam's Coolsingel—also flattened by ruthless Nazi attack.

Five hundred yards away, this street led into another once-lovely square, on one side of which still stands the shell of Univermag, Stalingrad's proudest department store.

Here Field-Marshal Paulus had his Headquarters. Here he waited with the last 100,000 remnants of the half a million army which had begun the siege, until the Russian shelling of the town that had been the scene of their most brilliant battles 26 years before became so terrifying that the Nazi commander had to ask for an armistice. Here finally ended a battle which has now become known in every corner of the civilised world as "the epic of Stalingrad". Here 330,000 Germans were lost to Hitler, 90,000 of whom were taken prisoner, 23 of them generals, 2,500 of them officers.

So ended the epic of Stalingrad. The eyes of the freedom-loving world had watched anxiously throughout those six weary months, during which the shelling was so terrible that a Stalingrad soldier afterwards told a journalist, "Normally I should have put a bullet through my own head rather than endure this, but I and everybody here knew we must stick to it because the whole Russian people and the whole world were expecting it of us." And no nation was so full of admiration, no nation was so grateful to those heroic defenders as the people of the British Isles, who had themselves stood up to the full weight of the Nazi attack from the air two years before.

BRITISH ADMIRATION

The world knows how the British admiration and respect for the inhabitants of Stalingrad, for the men of the Red Army, and for the people of the Soviet Union have been symbolised in the gift of a steel sword by King George VI.

For such a gift of honour, only the finest work in the world would be good enough. So Britain called in bespectacled 83-year-old Tom Beasley, a master-craftsman who has made thousands of swords—swords for five reigning monarchs, scimitars for the Shah of Persia, swords for Abyssinian warriors—all beautiful, highly-finished, proud examples of a craft. "But none," said Tom Beasley, "a prouder job than this."

Thousands of British people saw the sword before it was sent off to the Soviet Union. In the port of Liverpool alone, it was examined by keenly interested citizens at the rate of 4,000 an hour. In Edinburgh, Scotland, 24,500 people saw it in two days. In Glasgow, 58,843 people in three and a half days. In Cardiff, 9,538 persons in one day.

All over the United Kingdom it was admired, and the interest was not so much in its shining beauty, as in the deeds and the people to whom it was to be presented,—because every Britisher was proud to make such a symbolic gift to a people whose spirit is such that within a few months of the liberation of the rubble that had been a fair, prosperous city, 8,082 dwellings had been restored or built in the city; thousands of people had been moved out from dugouts, trenches and tents, many of them had built their own homes on their own beloved soil; 42 schools had been restored, 10 hospitals, 11 polyclinics, 8 children's health centres, a hundred kindergartens and creches and 20 miles of water mains.

The Sword of Stalingrad is a two-handed fighting weapon, 4 feet 2 inches long, with a broad and convex two-edged blade of the hardest tempered steel. On this brightly-shining blade, in English on one side, in Russian on the other, is inscribed a message which speaks the thoughts of a nation:

"To the steel-hearted citizens of Stalingrad—the gift of King George VI, in token of the homage of the British People."

Bonds of friendship between the two peoples have been forged in blood and steel. When the victorious armies of the United Nations, striking jointly from the East and from the West, finally drive into Germany itself, they will follow a path carved out for them by the defenders of Stalingrad, whose gift-sword points direct to the heart of the Nazi Fatherland.

MARSHAL ZHUKOV

MARSHAL ZHUKOV who is of peasant stock was born in 1897. He served for three war-years in the Imperial Army as ensign in a Cossack Unit. He joined the Red Army in 1918 and served as a subaltern under Timoshenko.

He studied at the Red Army officers' Academy where Shaposhnikov and Voroshilov were his teachers.

During the years 1931 to 1933 he graduated at the Frunze Military Academy and in 1937–38 he commanded the 6th Cavalry Corps.

In 1940 he was made G.O.C., the Kiev military district and was for some time Chief of the General Staff.

In 1941 he was appointed U.S.S.R. Deputy Commissar for Defence and in October when Moscow was threatened, he was charged with the outer defence of the city.

In August 1942, he undertook the command of the Southern Army group. In December 1942, he represented the General Headquarters of the Supreme Command in the general leadership of the offensive. He organized the defence of Stalingrad and Grozny and under his management the encirclement of the German troops at Stalingrad was completed.

He was associated with Marshal Voroshilov in the relief of Leningrad. In January 1943, Zhukov was made a Marshal of the Soviet Union.

Marshal Zhukov, Hero of the Soviet Union and wearer of the Order of Lenin is a great fortress and defence expert. In 1940, as Chief of the Soviet General Staff, he helped Marshal Timoshenko and he organized the Red Army tactics and training. He is a ruthless and exacting commander believing that the battles must be won at the headquarters before they are won on the field.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE RUSSO-GERMAN WAR

1941

JUNE 22: Germany invades U.S.S.R.

JULY 12: Anglo-Soviet Agreement signed in Moscow, for mutual assistance against "Hitlerite Germany" with no separate peace.

JULY 20: M. Stalin becomes People's Commissar for Defence of the U.S.S.R.

SEPT. 19: Germans occupy Kiev.

OCT. 8: Russians announce evacuation of Orel.

OCT. 16: Russians evacuate Odessa.

OCT. 20: Soviet Government reported at Kuibyshev: Stalin remains in Moscow.

OCT. 24: Germans capture Kharkov.

NOV. 1: Germans capture Simferopol, capital of Crimea: Marshal Shaposhnikov announced new Russian Chief of Staff.

NOV. 14: Russians drive back enemy north and south of Moscow.

NOV. 22: Germans enter Rostov.

NOV. 26: Marshal Timoshenko advances 70 miles in Ukraine, threatening enemy flank at Rostov.

NOV. 28: Russians retake Rostov: German army in disorderly retreat.

DEC. 10: Russians take offensive along whole of Eastern Front.

DEC. 16: Germans in retreat along entire Eastern Front: Failure to take Moscow.

DEC. 19: Hitler takes over personal command of German Army on the Russian front.

1942

JAN. 18: Marshal Timoshenko advances 65 miles in new offensive.

FEB. 24: Russians encircle 16th German Army, numbering 96,000 in Starayarussa district.

MARCH 1: New Russian offensive in Crimea.

MAY 13: Russians launch offensive in Kharkov sector.

MAY 26: Twenty-year Anglo-Soviet Treaty signed in London, providing full collaboration during and after war.

JUNE 10: Von Bock opens new German offensive.

JULY 1: Germans capture Sevastopol fortress, town and harbour.

JULY 27: Russians announce evacuation of Rostov.

AUG. 9: Russians continue withdrawal in Caucasus following German advance.

AUG. 21: German advance along Caucasus continues: Heavy fighting in Stalingrad sector.

SEPT. 16: Heavy fighting on outskirts of Stalingrad.

SEPT. 23: Russian counter-offensive north-west of Stalingrad.

OCT. 18: Severe fighting in Stalingrad area.

NOV. 22: Russians announce opening of offensive at Stalingrad.

NOV. 29: In Stalingrad Russian attacks are maintained: 66,000 prisoners, 1,397 tanks and about 2,000 guns captured since November 19.

DEC. 16–20: Russians open offensive on a 60-mile front in middle Don sector: Over 13,500 prisoners captured.

DEC. 31: Main German forces in full retreat in face of Russian drive south-west of Stalingrad.

1943

JAN. 1: Russians capture Velikiye Luki after heavy fighting.

JAN. 3: In Caucasus Russians capture Mozdok and Malgovek.

JAN. 18: At Leningrad the siege is raised.

JAN. 30: Russian victory at Stalingrad: Field Marshal Paulus and 16 Generals of the remaining forces captured.

FEB. 2: More German forces capitulate at Stalingrad.

FEB. 8: Russians capture Kursk.

FEB. 12: Russians capture Krasnodar, capital of the Kuban.

FEB. 14: Russians re-capture Rostov and Voroshilovgrad.

FEB. 16: Russians capture Kharkov.

MARCH 12: Russians occupy Vyazma.

MARCH 15: Russians evacuate Kharkov again.

JULY 5: Germans launch offensive in Orel, Kursk and Bielgorod sectors.

JULY 15: Russian counter-offensive in north and east of Orel.

AUG. 4: Russians capture Orel.

AUG. 6: New Russian offensive in direction of Kharkov.

AUG. 23: Marshal Stalin issues Order of the Day announcing that Kharkov has been taken.

AUG. 30: Russians capture Taganrog of Sea of Azov.

SEPT. 1: Liquidation of German army surrounded at Taganrog.

SEPT. 17: Stalin announces capture of Briansk.

SEPT. 25: Special Order of the Day announces Russian capture of Smolensk.

OCT. 7: New Russian offensive: Dnieper crossed at 3 places.

OCT. 23: Russians capture Melitopol.

OCT. 27: Russian break-through between lower Dnieper and Sea of Azov.

NOV. 6: Kiev again in Russian hands.

NOV. 13: Russians capture Zhitomir.

NOV. 19: Red Army evacuates Zhitomir in face of German counter-offensive in Kiev salient.

NOV. 26: Red Army captures Gomel.

NOV. 29: Mr. Churchill presents Sword of Stalingrad to M. Stalin at Teheran.

DEC. 14: Germans announce new Russian offensive.

DEC. 15: Trial of Germans accused of atrocities opens at Kharkov.

DEC. 31: Russians recapture Zhitomir.

1944

JAN. 4: Red Army patrols cross the old Polish-Russian border: Germans in disorderly retreat.

JAN. 6: Rapid Russian advance in the Ukraine.

JAN. 8: Troops of the Second Ukranian Front under Gen. Koniev capture Kirovograd.

JAN. 12: General Vatutin captures Sarny, 35 miles west of pre-war Polish frontier.

JAN. 27: Leningrad completely freed from German blockade.

FEB. 3: Red Army 6 miles inside Estonia.

FEB. 8: Troops of the Fourth Ukranian front under Red Army General Tolbukhin capture Nikopol.

FEB. 13: Russians capture Luga, the last German stronghold in the Leningrad sector.

FEB. 17: Liquidation of German forces trapped in the Kaniev pocket—52,000 killed, 11,000 taken prisoners.

FEB. 22: Krivoi-Rog captured by Russians.

MARCH 18: One thousandth day of the Russo-German war: German armies in retreat in all sectors.

MARCH 26: Red Army reaches Rumanian border.

APRIL 3: Russian troops enter Rumania after crossing the Pruth.

APRIL 8: Russians reach Czechoslovak-Rumanian frontier: German defeat at the Carpathian foothills: Red Army's land siege of Odessa begins.

APRIL 10: Odessa back in Russian hands.

APRIL 11: Kerch captured by Russians.

APRIL 13: Russians capture Feodosia, Simferopol and Eupatoria.

APRIL 14: Death in Kiev of Gen. Vatutin.

MAY 9: Russians capture Sevastopol: 20,000 Germans killed, 24,000 taken prisoners: whole of Crimea liberated.

MAY 20: Two hundred and fifty thousand ton convoy, one of the largest ever sent from Britain reaches Russia without loss of a single merchant ship.

WAR DIARY

BRITAIN AND GERMANY

21ST JUNE.—There was slight increase in German air activity over Southern England and parts of Scotland.

More than 1,000 bombers attacked Berlin yesterday and to-day. Other places bombed include Hanover, Brunswick and Macklenburg.

22ND JUNE.—More 'flying bombs' were shot down in Southern England. United States troops have captured several of the sites from which the Germans launched their flying bombs.

Last night industrial objectives in Ruhr and Rhineland were bombed. Berlin was attacked heavily by the Allied aircraft.

The first shuttle bombing trip from Britain to the Soviet Union has been made by bombers of the American Eighth Air Force.

23RD JUNE.—More of new robots were launched against Southern England. Allied bombers continued to attack launching ramps for pilot planes in the Pas de Calais area.

The Minister of Home Security, Mr. Herbert Morrison, in the Commons ridiculed the German statements about damage inflicted on Southern England by pilotless planes. These attacks had no material effect on the war effort, he said "and little damage of national importance has been caused."

Allied bombers in great strength attacked objectives in Germany including Hamburg.

24TH JUNE.—It is revealed that three enemy U-boats were sunk by the combined action of the British ships and aircraft.

There was lull in attack by flying bombs on Southern England.

25TH JUNE.—Over 1,000 planes bombed 10 pilotless plane sites. There was slight German air activity over Southern England.

Berlin was heavily bombed.

26TH JUNE.—Flying bombs were over Southern England and caused some damage and casualties.

Allied bombers attacked Hamburg.

27TH JUNE.—Casualties and damage were reported due to German air activity over Southern England.

Mr. Churchill answering a question on World Peace Plan, said that all the United Nations will be consulted.

Captain Balfour, Under Secretary for Air, said in the Commons "My own personal view is that the enemy is very powerful and it will be a long time before we have Germany finally beaten."

* * *

INDIA, BURMA AND CEYLON

21ST JUNE.—Allied troops captured Njip, Maram, Chiantso and Tiangzup.

22ND JUNE.—Chinese forces have encircled Mogaung.

23RD JUNE.—The whole of Kohima-Imphal road is now open. North-west of Bishenpur, Allies repulsed two enemy attacks.

Miss Macdonald, 292, Skelling Thorpe Rd., Swanpool, Lincoln, one of the 8 R.A.F.N.S. sisters in India, attending to F/Sgt. Sushil Kumar Ghosh, Indian Air Force of Faridpore district in the ward of a mobile hospital somewhere on the Burma Front.

A special communiqué issued by S.E.A.C. says that Allied naval units of the Eastern Fleet carried out an air-strike against Port Blair on Wednesday morning.

24TH JUNE.—Chindits occupied Sawngching. Heavy fighting took place on the outskirts of Mogaung.

25TH JUNE.—Allied trops entered Mogaung.

26TH JUNE.—Bitter fighting continued at Mogaung. Mopping up continued east and west of the Kohima-Imphal road. The 5th Rajput Rifles captured "Lone Tree Hill," east of Palel.

27TH JUNE.—It is announced that the Allied troops have completely captured *Mogaung*.

* * *

RUSSIA AND FINLAND

21ST JUNE.—The Russians launched a new offensive against the Finns at several points beyond the town of Viborg and advanced six miles beyond the city. The Russians have occupied more than 300 inhabited localities and the towns of Medvezhegorsk and Voznesene.

22ND JUNE.—The Germans have lost on the Soviet Front over 7,800,000 officers and men in killed and prisoners, up to 70,000 tanks, 60,000 aircraft and over 90,000 guns in these three years of war.

23RD JUNE.—The Russians launched an offensive in the sectors north-west and south-east of Vitebsk. They advanced nine miles and the railway between Vitebsk and Orsha was cut.

24TH JUNE.—The battle for Vitebsk raged fiercely. The Russians advanced 12 to 18 miles north of Lodeynoye Pole and occupied more than 200 localities.

25TH JUNE.—Vitebsk was isolated. Soviet troops captured Chausy. The German defences in the Bobruisk direction were broken. The Russian troops captured Senno, Bogushev, Babinovichi, Ivamkovo, Zaozerye, Bolshaya, Klyushkino and about 350 localities.

26TH JUNE.—Russians have captured *Vitebsk* and *Zhlobin*. Soviet forces had broken through Finnish positions between Viborg Bay and Tali at two points.

27TH JUNE.—The Red Army reached a point more than 40 miles west of Vitebsk. Troops of the Third White Russian Front captured Orsha.

* * *

ITALY, AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

21ST JUNE.—Rains hindered operations. The Eighth Army pushed 3 or 4 miles beyond Perugia. Indian troops occupied Pipa and Cintella Darno.

22ND JUNE.—Allies captured Camerino and Umbra.

24TH JUNE.—The Eighth Army seized Monte Gioga and Corciano.

25TH JUNE.—The Allied troops occupied Follonica, Monte Rotundo, Malio, Sarteono, Pescia, Castelvieto, Pedrola and Torniello.

26TH JUNE.—The Fifth Army captured Piombino. Allied armies maintained their pressure on the enemy and advanced in many places.

27TH JUNE.—Eighth Army troops captured Chinsi. It is revealed that Field Marshal Smuts made a three-day visit to the Italian front. He met General Alexander and also General Maitland Wilson, Supreme Allied Commander of the Mediterranean.

Mr. Churchill made a statement in the Commons on British, Dominion and Indian casualties in Italy.

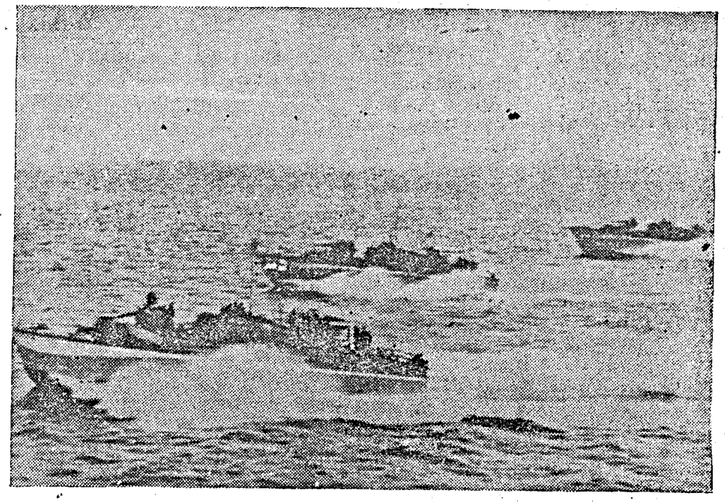
* * *

VICHY, FREE FRANCE AND THE OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

21ST JUNE.—The Allied troops have surrounded Cherbourg. The Allied forces have captured Onchy, Vasteville, Valognes, Les Pieux, Couville, Rau Ville la Bigot.

Launching sites of pilotless aircraft between Abbeville and Calais were attacked.

22ND JUNE.—Fighting for the liberation of the great port of Cherbourg has begun.



British motor torpedo boats returning just after dawn from anti E-boat patrol off Cherbourg.
(Radiood from London to Cairo and flown to India.)

King Peter of Yugoslavia and Prime Minister Dr. Subasic conferred with Generals Alexander and Sir Maitland Wilson, in Italy.

23RD JUNE.—Allied pressure on Cherbourg continued. Ploesti and Gingin in Rumania were bombed.

24TH JUNE.—Fighting around Cherbourg was heavy. Steady progress was maintained by the Allies. British troops captured Saint Honorie.

25TH JUNE.—Allies have captured Cherbourg. German Generals Salley and Stegman were killed.

General Koenig, Commander-in-Chief of the French Forces in Britain, has been vested by French authorities with the command of the French Forces of the interior.

26TH JUNE.—Fighting continued in some strong points in Cherbourg.

Allied bombers attacked Vienna.

27TH JUNE.—After the capture of Cherbourg, Lieut.-General Carl Von Schlieben, Commander of the Cherbourg garrison and Admiral Hennecke, Sea Defence Commander of Normandy, were taken prisoners. Allied troops took Chauex and Fontenay. The German casualties since the beginning of the invasion are estimated to be 70,000.

* * *

THE FAR EAST

21ST JUNE.—A fierce naval battle raged in the Mariana group in the Central Pacific. It is reported that the Japanese fleet has moved into a position east of the Philippines. In the last few days 600 Jap planes were destroyed. American troops captured Borokoe and Sorido aerodromes on Biak Island. American aircraft carried out new attacks ranging from Kurile Islands to Truk and the remaining Jap bases in the Marshalls.

22ND JUNE.—A major portion of the Jap fleet has been smashed in the battle between the Marianas and the Philippines. The Jap fleet broke off the engagement and fled during the night.

23RD JUNE.—It is announced that United States submarines have sunk 16 more Jap ships in the Pacific.

24TH JUNE.—Marshal Chiang-Kai-Shek and Mr. Wallace have issued a joint statement.

The total Jap losses in the Marianas campaign were 44 ships sunk and two probably sunk; 47 ships damaged and 638 planes lost.

25TH JUNE.—Allied bombers destroyed 22 Jap planes in an attack on Yap.

26TH JUNE.—The United States troops captured Mount Taputchan.

Lieut.-General George Kenney has been appointed Commander of the newly created air army, "Far Eastern Air Force" with headquarters in Australia.

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FOR YOUR RADIO DIARY

MADRAS—JULY	1.—9-45 p.m.	Fighting Forces.
,, ,,	3.—9-00 p.m.	The Sword and the Plough Share: In Britain.
,, ,,	4.—9-45 p.m.	Topical Talk.
,, ,,	5.—9-45 p.m.	'The Voice of America'—Relay from Delhi.
,, ,,	6.—9-00 p.m.	Common Cause.
,, ,,	7.—9-00 p.m.	Financing the Future—Insurance. By C. M. Kothari.
,, ,,	7.—9-45 p.m.	World Affairs—Relay from London.

REGISTERED NO. M 4345

MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL V. FRIDAY, JULY 7, 1944 No. 44

Courage is of no use without Learning

GENERAL SIR CLAUDE AUCHINLECK

COURAGE and physical strength in an officer these days are not enough. An officer must have education as well, otherwise he cannot make himself efficient. If he is not efficient I cannot, and will not give men's lives into his hands, for our men are too good, and too precious to be wasted through faulty leadership

BUT do not forget that just as courage is of no use without learning, so also learning by itself without courage, physical fitness self-control, discipline and self-respect will never make a leader

I would like to say to you that in union lies strength. In a great country like India, and even in one Province of it such as the Punjab, there are many different kinds of people. All kinds go to make this world

IF this district, this Province and this country are to go forward, toleration and a spirit of give and take are needed and must be practised by all of us. We need all our strength if we are to win through and we should not waste it in quarrelling with each other

General Sir CLAUDE AUCHINLECK
Commander-in-Chief, India, in a speech at the War Board Conference

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[NOTE.—*The summary of news and comments contoined in the* MADRAS WAR REVIEW *generally relate to events and statements published till Wednesday, every week.*]

FOR FINAL VICTORY

"Though China is faced with unprecedented difficulties and danger, I am convinced that intensified Allied aid will enable China to win a final victory."

—GENERALISSIMO CHIANG KAI-SHEK, *in a cable to* PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT *on the occasion of the American Independence Day, on Tuesday, July 4.*

❖

FESTIVAL OF FREE MEN

"The Independence Day is the festival of free men. The idealism of America, the power of her industry and the courage of her children, whose blood flows on the shores of Europe and Asia—all this is known to our nationals and respected by them. The people of France will observe the American Independence Day because the same will for independence has always united us in the days of darkness and the days of glory. May the traditional friendship, which links our two peoples and our two Republics, be inspired by these sentiments in future, as they have been in the past."

—GENERAL DE GUALLE, *in a message to the American people, on Tuesday, July 4.*

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ALREADY PROVED THEIR WORTH

"Indian ships and their crew have already proved their worth in this war. Men from the shores of India together with those whose homes are situated a thousand miles and more from the sea coasts, have come to learn the ways of the sea and how to ensure the safety of their homeland. India's naval forces have expanded to more than twenty times their strength in ships and men since 1939. Many new weapons have been introduced and new branches opened."

—COMMODORE A. R. CATTRAY, *in a speech, on Saturday, July 1.*

MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

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"G. C."

A signal honour has been done to the Province of Madras—not in the power of an eminent official or a business magnate or a leader of a cause, nor by way of the by-yearly honors' lists themselves—but separately, and to Madrassi soldier of Viceroy's Commission rank.

According to the B.B.C., the first George Cross ever awarded to the Indian Army has been conferred, alas! posthumously, upon Subedar Subrahmanyam of Chingleput district. When first we heard the story of his magnificent self-sacrifice on that mountain road in Cassino we took the liberty of printing a letter to his father, Subedar-Major and Hon. Lt. Kannayiram expressing not only the gratification of this journal at the military recognition of his son's gallantry but also our admiration for the class which he adorned and which hitherto has received too scanty notice in the annals of the "Martial Races" of India.

To-day, not only Subedar Subrahmanyam's unsurpassed heroism, but also His Majesty the King's gracious recognition of it by this unique award, will give new heart to the lakhs of fine young men who have sallied out from this Province to do their duty by their history and their country. In this event the Madrassi soldier, in the generio sense, is vindicated, and while extending again our sympathy to the late Subedar's family we also congratulate them on his, and their, contribution to the lasting renown of the fighting man of the Province.

Our public will learn with approval that the Executive of the Governor's War Fund have made a grant of Rs. 5,000 to the hero's widow Srimathi Shanmughavalli Ammal; that both the son and daughter of the late Subedar will receive educational concessions from Government, and that Government themselves, in recognition of the high distinction conferred on the late Subedar, are to bestow a grant of Rs. 7,500 upon his family. Perhaps most gratifying of all will be the personal telegram and letter sent by His Excellency the Governor to the late Subedar's widow congratulating her on the confirment of this honour and observing that not only does this afford well-deserved recognition of the late Subedar's heroism but also honours "the Presidency as a whole, whose military glory he did so much to revive."

CHERBOURG AND CAEN

THE Germans have suffered a heavy blow in the fall of Cherbourg, but German propaganda has been making attempts to minimize its importance. When the final attack on Cherbourg took place, Berlin began saying that it had only a " literary importance " for the defence plans of the German Command! That this is arrant nonsense is clear from the fact that though the loss of Cherbourg, by itself, would not bring about the collapse of the general enemy position in Normandy, its being in Allied hands would certainly serve the purpose of an invaluable supply base for the Allied armies, which is much better than getting supplies ashore on open beaches. Referring to the importance of Cherbourg, a Berlin broadcast said on June 23, " The fortress which was only a sea-fortress under the French army has been built up, during the last four years, into a formidable land bulwark as well by the German army. Its centre has a multiple ring of very strong installations built round it." When news reached Berlin that Cherbourg must be presumed lost, a spokesman of the German Ministry of Propaganda, in a home broadcast, declared that the defenders " fought until they had no ammunition left." But at the time this was regaled for consumption to the Germans at home, the German troops in Cherbourg were still putting up resistance!

"Ports decide success or failure."

NOW Berlin tells the world that the Allies cannot use the harbour for some time to come as the Germans have demolished it. Though it is true that harbour installations have been wrecked, the damage done will soon be dealt with by Allied engineers who have already shown, in the Mediterranean, their capacity for rapid rehabilitation of damaged ports. As it is, the Allies have already found themselves in possession of a deep water anchorage protected against weather. After the harbour is brought back into working order, the huge weight of Allied power will begin to be felt by the Germans. Referring to the advantage of such harbours, the German commentator Martin Hallensleben said on June 9, three days after the great assault from the west began, " If a combined preparation on the scale of the Anglo-U.S. invasion is to succeed, the quick capture of suitable sea ports is an essential condition. Ports decide success or failure for the side which is forced to bring men, supplies and materials across a sea, particularly as the present operation calls for large and spacious ports." Cherbourg is such a port.

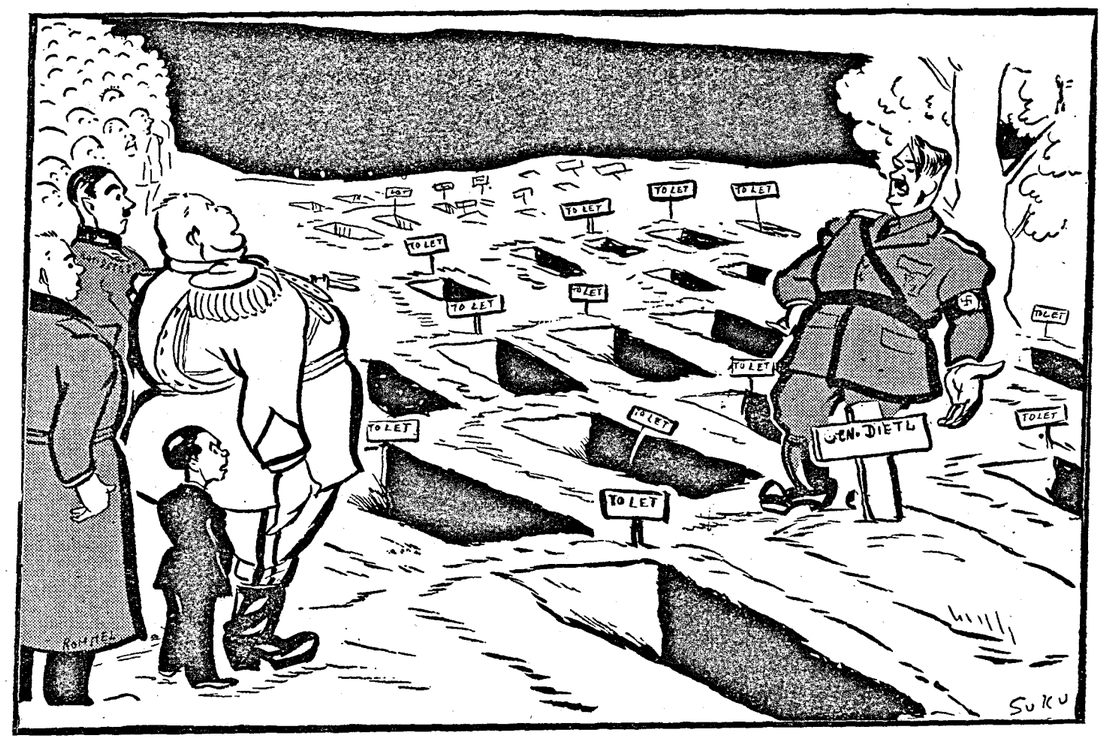
IT may be asked why the Germans did not concentrate the full weight of their strength on retaining this great port. The answer is to be found in the fact that they were faced with a problem of choice between Cherbourg and Caen—and they chose the latter. It may again be emphasized here that the spectacular success of the American troops at Cherbourg was due, in a large measure, to the fact that British and Canadian troops did well the less dramatic but vitally important task of engaging in the Caen region, at a critical time, the most powerful elements of Field Marshal Rommel's forces. It was the drawing off and then holding the enemy's strength around Caen which strategically made possible the capture of Cherbourg by American troops.

Problem facing the Germans

COMMENTING on the fact of Germans being placed in a position of having to choose which place they would concentrate on defending and which they would let go after some stiff resistance, the military commentator of the London *Daily Mail* wrote on June 22, " This strategy is going to win the war for the Allies, for the problem which faces the Germans in Normandy faces them all over Europe. It is a problem that cannot be solved, for it means the employment of wasting efforts to meet ever-increasing liabilities." Now the Germans are concentrating on Caen, which is the central pivot of their defence strategy on the Allied left flank. Both the British and the Canadian forces are attacking in an area where Rommel has massed the bulk of his seven Panzer Divisions, after linking up on the high ground between Carpiquet, 3 miles west of Caen, and Verson, 2½ miles to the south.

THE Battle for Caen is now on in right earnest. Bitter fighting is raging. The Germans are fully conscious of what is in store for them, for if Caen follows Cherbourg, they would have to retreat some 20 miles to the south to another similar " hinge "!

LEBENSRAUM FOR UNCONDITIONAL SUPPORTERS!



In a speech to the German people on the occasion of the funeral of General Dietl, Hitler described Dietl as a true and loyal friend and appealed to the Germans to give him the same unconditional support which Dietl gave him.

—*Specially drawn for the* MADRAS WAR REVIEW

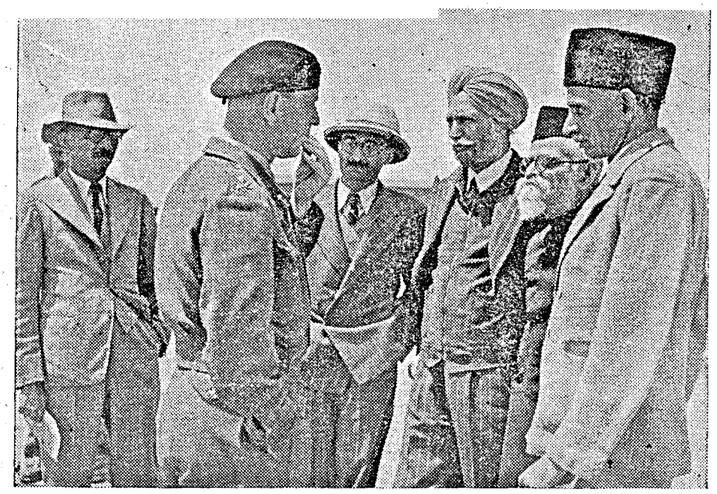
RUNNING COMMENTARY

Assam Governor on his visit to Kohima

In a talk broadcast last week from the Calcutta station of the All-India Radio, His Excellency Sir ANDREW CLOW, Governor of Assam, who recently paid a visit to the Kohima battle front, declared, " British India can be regarded as liberated and our forces which were fighting in Kohima and the Naga Hills are well into Manipur State." Although there was a lot of fighting to be done before the Japanese were eliminated, His Excellency believed this to be the decisive battle of the only invasion there had been of the Indian soil since the Burmese Armies crossed this same frontier more than 100 years ago. If our forces had lost Kohima, the important communications in the Assam valley would have been threatened, and it would have taken a long campaign to recover the town, which would have created serious difficulties elsewhere. But this had happened quite differently, and the Kohima victory, His Excellency pointed out, " had been followed by rapid progress in clearing the road to the south, while other forces were moving on lines further east and getting astride Japanese lines of communication."

Sometime earlier Sir ANDREW CLOW recounted his impressions of the visit to Kohima in an interview to the 14th Army Observer. He told him, " Revisiting Kohima after the victory our forces have won there has been an inspiring experience. Everywhere there are signs of the hard struggle to evict the Japanese, but the line of battle has now been rolled so far away that the Nagas are bringing their women and children back to what is left of their homes." His Excellency observed that there was every reason for hoping that the Province of Assam would very shortly be clear of the enemy and that all our forces on this front would be free to concentrate on Manipur.

It was announced on Monday that the 14th Army troops have captured Ukhrul, an important key position in the Japanese defences. This was a nodal point of communications and base for administration and supply of the Japanese 15th Division, dominating the approaches from Imphal westwards and the way down to the Chindwin eastwards. With the fall of Ukhrul, it is pointed out, another part of the Japanese plan for the invasion of eastern India has crumbled.



Members of the Viceroy's Defence Council recently toured the Middle East, where they were given a warm welcome. Their visits to Indian units in the field and at bases were carried out with a freedum from formality which the troops very much appreciated.

Members meet an Officer Commanding an Indian Armoured Formation. Rao Bahadur N. Sivaraj, Member, National Defence Council, and Regional Leader (Depressed classes) of the National War Front, is seen in the extreme left.

Enemy's Chief objectives—Jap Commander's Order of the Day

It may be recalled that the chief objectives of the Japanese incursion into India were the capture of Imphal and the neutralization of General STILWELL's threat to North Burma. If Imphal was captured the Allied threat to North Burma would have automatically been eliminated; for, the possession of Imphal would have given the Japanese control of the strategically important Manipur Road, and this would have enabled them to disorganize the communications through which supplies and reinforcements were carried to General STILWELL's forces. Further, the capture of Imphal would form the acquisition of a forward base on Indian soil. The Japanese thought that, with the Allied air bases removed farther inland, they would be able to use their safely-established position in Burma to instigate internal trouble in India.

That on such lines were their thoughts running is clear from an Order of the Day issued by the Commander of the 15th Army to his troops 4 or 5 months ago. He said (Feb. 20, 1944):

"This operation will engage the attention of the whole world and is early awaited by a 100 million of our countrymen. By its very decisive nature, its success will have a profound effect on the course of the war, and may even lead to its conclusion. Our mission is thus of the greatest importance, and we must expend every energy and talent in the achievement of our goal."

The Japanese plan succeeded—only up to a certain point! They advanced with great speed, got astride of the Imphal-Kohima Road, came within reach of the Assam-Bengal Railway, and laid siege to Imphal, after cutting off all its routes of supply by land. They also temporarily held up the advance of General STILWELL's forces in North Burma.

Tokyo's fantastic victories and ficticious annihilations

These temporary successes encouraged them to claim fantastic victories, and fictitious annihilations of our divisions. Tokyo claimed the capture of Kohima on March 30 and that of Imphal on April 6, and said: "The fall of Imphal has deprived General STILWELL's forces of further reinforcements and supplies." Tokyo itself admitted that this claim was false by later saying: "The fall of Imphal is imminent." It was led into a further absurdity on May 27 when it said: "The surrender of Imphal is only a matter of time. The Allies have virtually to choose between unconditional surrender and complete annihilation."

The Japanese tried their very best to take what they had set their hearts on, but their failure to do so does not mean that there is not sufficient kick left in them to resume their attacks on the approaches to Imphal after regrouping their forces and replacing their casualties. But the magnitude of the Allied achievement consists in the fact that they have recovered the Imphal-Kohima Road and have continued their advance into North Burma. The capture of Kamaing and the breakthrough into Mogaung show the complete failure of the enemy to achieve anything.

Apart from the fighting quality of our troops, two other factors were responsible for this failure, namely, our air superiority and the part played by General LENTAIGNE's Chindits. Our air supremacy kept our farflung forces supplied and kept up strategic and tactical bombing. As for the Chindits, they dealt a blow to the enemy's rear communicatione and advanced from behind, thus making it impossible to complete the encirclement of the Japanese forces. All this has been made possible by the co-operation of Americans, Chinese, British, Indian and tribal forces, fighting side by side as comrades in arms.

GEORGE CROSS FOR LATE SUBEDAR SUBRAMANIAM

The first George Cross to be won by an Indian soldier has been awarded posthumously to Subedar Subramaniam, Madras Sappers and Miners, of Keelwotivackam village, Chingleput district, "for conspicuous gallantry in performing hazardous work in a very brave manner" in Italy. He already held the I.D.S.M. won in North Africa last year.

On February 24, Subramaniam was in charge of a mine-clearing company ordered to search for a missing Jamedar who was believed to have walked into a minefield near Mignane. Subramaniam was operating the mine detector when a small explosion occurred. Realizing that someone had trodden on an anti-personnel mine and that within four seconds, the canister would blow up into the air and explode, he rushed without the slightest hesitation towards the mine and flung himself on top of it, at the same time trying to knock his comrades aside. The force of the explosion was largely neutralized by the Subedar's body and six lives were saved as a result. The Subedar succumbed to his injuries.

"This act of unsurpassed bravery on the part of the Subedar, done in an instant without the excitement of battle, is beyond all praise," says General Sir Harold Alexander, who signs the citation. "The fact that he took this action and so deliberately gave his own life to save that of his friends, shows that Subedar Subramaniam possessed qualities of the highest order. His heroism was in accordance with the highest traditions of the Indian Army."

INDIAN AIR TRAINING CORPS, MADRAS UNIVERSITY THIRD PASSING OUT PARADE

A third batch of 30 Air Training Corps Cadets of the Madras University have completed their course. At a ceremonial parade on Tuesday morning the successful candidates were reviewed by group Captain Howard. Certificates of proficiency were awarded to the candidates, the best cadet of the course being E. N. Ramdoss from Trichinopoly.

The successful candidates who are recommended by the University authorities will go straight to the Officers' Selection Board for the Indian Air Force.

General Montgomery snapped in a mood of great satisfaction during a tour of visits to frontline troops in Normandy.

Major-General C.E.N. Lomax, C.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., Commander of the 26th Indian Division.

SESHIAH, THE CURIOUS VILLAGER

(*By* R.G.)

CANTO II—*Third Instalment*

"Good gracious!" said the Party man
"It is our democratic plan
To which it seems you now object.
How could the people's vote select
True leaders of this mighty nation?
We do not muddle in such fashion;
But, since when all is said and done
The Party and the folk are one,
We let the Party choose committees
To stand for Provinces and cities,
And these Committees choose a few
To vote; and these elect anew
Each several year the self-same band
To be the voice of our great land;
So what the Working Caucus cries,
However many say it lies,
Must be the people's very word,
Or else Democracy 's absurd."

"You jest, you jest" Seshiah had
Begun to say, "The joke's not bad- -"
"I do not jest" the other spoke,
"What I have said is not a joke."

"Why, if in fact you do not jest,
It is no joke, I too protest.
You claim us all to represent
But now you tell us what is meant
Is that we have no voice at all
In anything political.
A handful of you arrogate
All wisdom and all power, dictate
Like gimcrack Fuehrers, portly Duces,
To others, whom you treat like poochies.
In this great land of forty crores,
Not more than thirty lakhs are yours;
And looking closer at that lot
You find that twenty lakhs are not
Disposed to spin a charka daily,
Or entertain an outcaste gaily,
Or make an effort to appease
The strife of grim communities.

But one man joins because he fears
You'll bring his house about his ears;
Another, tired to death of babble,
Would rather buy the Party label
Than be from morn till evening hounded
And with your impudence confounded;
A third has heard you have a saint
To lead you, and his meek complaint
About the Tahsildar or Karnam
And other matters which concern him
Will get attended to when great
Sri So-and-so is chief of state.
Four annas is not much to pay
For being a sheep on Judgment Day;
And if salvation costs a groat,
And nothing more, who'd be a goat?
I know some very worthy souls
Who were, before you swept the polls,
Strong pillars of the other camp:
Rather than stay out in the damp
And watch you pinch the loaves and fishes
And other more luxurious dishes,
They pocketed their pride and all
Their principles political,
Paid down four annas and became
True bearers of your Party name!"

PLANNING AND MOUNTING

THE following sketch of some of the problems involved in the planning and organization which had to be carried out by the British General Staff and Administrative Staff before the landings in Western Europe could be undertaken is not to be regarded as a comprehensive or official record of this immense task involving, as it did, much work whose nature cannot yet be revealed. The picture which it tries to present is simply that seen by an individual officer of the War Department who had facilities for observing in some part the work performed by many branches of the staff—*quorum pars minima fuit.*

The story, it must be appreciated, is told exclusively from the angle of the British Army. The reader is asked to bear in mind throughout that the assault was conceived and organized essentially as a combined operation involving naval, land, and air forces, whose plans had to be closely integrated at every stage. Furthermore Allied forces, as well as British, were involved.

Much combined planning, both inter-service and inter-Allied, was therefore necessary, and to this aspect of the preparations for the attack brief but (it is hoped) sufficient reference is made.

This is an account whose aim is to convey some idea of the magnitude of the problems which had to be overcome, both in the general advance planning of the assault before the appointment of the Supreme Commander, and, more particularly, in the training, organization, and provision of maintenance for the British elements in the United Nations' liberation forces.

PLANNING THE ASSAULT

A. THE GENERAL STAFF SIDE

The great design for the landing in western Europe as an essential part in strategy aiming at the destruction of Germany's military power may be said in one sense to have been conceived at Dunkirk. From that day onwards a direct offensive against the enemy from the nearest, and therefore most advantageous, Allied base became the ultimate goal of all those whose responsibility it was to rebuild and re-equip the British Army, and to plan the eventual course of military operations against Germany.

For over a year after Dunkirk the patent disparity between the British Army's resources in men and material compared with those of the enemy made the study of offensive operations against the Continent little more than an academic exercise. At the time of the evacuation there was only one fully equipped division in Great Britain; except for the veterans of the campaign in France, the training of British troops was far from complete, and the immediate necessity was to reconstitute in Britain formations capable of coping with the threat (which then seemed a probability) of an attempted invasion of Britain by the enemy. Moreover, apart from defensive needs at home, means had to be found for securing against enemy attack the vital link in the British Commonwealth's communications represented by Egypt and the Suez Canal. Men and material from Britain, India, South Africa and the Antipodes had to be found first for General Wavell's victorious campaign in East Africa and Libya during the winter of 1940–41; then, in April 1941, substantial military assistance had to be sent to Greece; and in the summer of that year the necessity of forestalling enemy threats to Syria and Iran involved a further call upon Britain's still limited resources. Finally, large reinforcements had to be sent from Britain to the Middle East for the second Libyan campaign which began under General Auchinleck against the now greatly strengthened Axis forces in North Africa in November 1941. In short, during the twelve months which followed Dunkirk, the conception of a British return to the Continent in armed force appeared to be receding from the realm even of long-range practicability.

BRITAIN GAINS ALLIES

Two major developments in 1941, however, radically altered the long-term strategic picture which the planning staffs had to consider. First, in June, came the German offensive against the U.S.S.R.—an event which meant that a large part (and, as events proved, a major part) of Germany's land forces would no longer be available to oppose landings in the West. The second new factor was the entry of the United States into the World War after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbour on December 7.

On a short view the extension of the war to the Far East brought about by Japanese aggression was not conducive to preparations for a western European offensive. The defensive campaign which had to be waged in Malaya and Burma called for urgent (though, unhappily, unavailing) reinforcements from the United Kingdom to the slender garrisons on the spot; later, the frontiers of India had to be strengthened by British forces, and Japanese conquests in the South-west Pacific necessitated the diversion from the European theatre of Australian forces which would otherwise have been available for the campaign against Germany.

On the other hand, taking a longer view, the entry of the United States into the war imported a factor without which decisive operations against Germany in western Europe seemed likely to remain in the sphere of wishful thought. That is, in the planned expansion of the United States Army there came potentially into being an Allied strategic reserve, on whose basis, it was felt, preliminary planning for a western European campaign could begin. In the closing days of 1941, the Commander-in-Chief, Home Forces (then General Sir Bernard Paget), the Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Fighter Command (then Air Marshal Sir Sholto Douglas) and Admiral Lord Louis Mountbatten, then Chief of Combined Operations, were charged by the British Chiefs of Staff with the task of working out, as joint commanders, plans for operations designed, within the limits of practicability, to draw off German forces from the Eastern front, and eventually to recreate for Germany the threat which the German High Command had always dreaded—the two-front war.

PRELIMINARY STUDY

At this stage of General Staff planning, much careful and valuable work was done during 1942 in the examination of all the many factors which should influence the choice of areas in which lodgment could be effected, having regard to the potentialities and requirements of land, air and sea forces. The more, however, that the available resources in men and materials for the assault, build-up and maintenance were studied, the more irresistible did the conclusion become that, though bridgeheads might be secured, there was inadequate assurance that they could be maintained against counter-attack by major enemy forces, or, still less, that lodgments could be exploited sufficiently to have any worthwhile impact on the course of the war. In midsummer, following the conference between the Prime Minister and President Roosevelt at Washington, it was decided that, having regard to then available Allied resources, it would be strategically sounder and more profitable to give priority to operations in the Mediterranean—a conclusion reinforced by the new threat to Egypt which had been created by Rommel's counter-attack and advance as far as El Alamein in the early summer of that year.

The consequent reinforcement of the British Eighth Army for the victorious offensive which began under General Montgomery at El Alamein in October 1942, and the simultaneous despatch of the British First Army in conjunction with the United States Second Corps to French North Africa, inevitably meant a lengthy deferment of the

THE ASSAULT

project for operations in the West. Nevertheless, the preliminary planning which had been done under the aegis of the joint commanders (with whom Admiral Sir Bertram Ramsay on the naval side and the commander of the United States Army in Europe had now been associated) was far from wasted. It was at this time obviously impossible to make detailed operational or administrative plans: Sufficiently precise information of the enemy's probable strength in the West on dates far ahead, or of exact shipping resources which could in the event be allotted to the operation was still lacking. Tactically, however, much had been learnt by minor raiding attacks which had previously been mounted by the Chief of Combined Operations, and much more was learnt by the larger scale combined operations at St. Nazaire in March 1942, and at Dieppe in August of that year. In addition, the operations against Madagascar in April 1942 and the landing in North Africa in November of that year, though they did not present anything like the problems involved in a landing on Western Europe opposed by German troops, furnished valuable material for the more detailed working-out of administrative plans in the way of assembly and maintenance of expeditionary forces.

Furthermore, an immense amount of information had been collected by the Intelligence Staffs regarding the West wall, its defences and the topography further inland. Much work had also been done on the preparation of the necessary maps for operations on the Continent. The immensity of the work involved may be judged from the fact that many millions sheets of maps had to be produced covering all parts of Western Europe likely to be involved in the operations. In meeting this demand the Survey Department of the War Office had to employ practically every firm in Britain whose plant was suitable for map printing. Elaborate steps, moreover, had to be taken to ensure that no individual draughtsman or printer was aware whether or not he was dealing with a zone selected for attack.

By the end of 1942 it may in fact be said that though many tactical, administrative and technical "snags" were still destined to emerge, the British General Staff had a clear picture of the basic factors which must be considered in any proposed landings in Western Europe. In particular, the problems both of assault and maintenance complicated by the tide factor in offensives which might have to be sustained for a considerable period across beaches, led to the conclusion that for a combined operation on a scale unprecedented in history, against coasts which the enemy had had years to fortify, it would be necessary to provide in immense numbers special landing craft and other naval weapons and equipment, including troop-carrying aircraft; and, further, that the very substantial assault forces required must be organized and trained to a degree in which no army had ever been trained for a task in which familiarity with equipment and repeated rehearsals would alone offer assurance of adequate mobility in assault and follow-up.

At the Casablanca Conference early in 1943 it was decided to give first priority to clearing the Mediterranean Sea Route, and endeavouring, by operations against Sicily and the Italian mainland, to knock Italy out of the war. It was clear that our existing resources in specialised landing craft would be largely absorbed by these operations. It is pertinent to recall that at that time the toll taken by enemy U-boats in sinkings of Allied shipping was still sufficiently serious to place a limitation upon the ship-building facilities which could be made available for such specialised landing craft. It was, therefore, recognized that the opening of operations in the west would have to be deferred until 1944. It was, however, decided that active preparations should be commenced forthwith, and that a firm plan should be made as soon as possible.

PLANS TAKE SHAPE

As a result of these decisions a new chapter in the preparation for the opening of operations began at the end of March 1943; a British General Officer, with a General of the United States Army as his Deputy, was appointed Chief of Staff to a future Supreme Allied Commander. He was provided with a planning staff consisting of both British and American officers of all three Services (Navy, Army, Air), was given a forecast of the resources that would be available early in 1944, and was instructed to submit plans for effecting lodgments on the Continent in certain conditions.

As has been shown, this new Headquarters did not start from scratch. It had already to its hand a very considerable mass of preliminary planning material prepared by the staffs of the joint commanders and could count on having available not only a considerable force of British, Canadian and United States troops for the assault, but the promise of additional forces to exploit lodgments once made.

The first task of the combined staff was to select the most advantageous areas in which to effect a lodgment. This was a question of achieving a correct balance of advantage from the points of view of Naval and Air protection and of capacity of the available beaches and ports. The next task was to decide on the relative size of the assault, follow-up and build-up formations that could be organized with the resources, particularly in a landing craft and transport aircraft, given in the forecast. Consideration had also to be given to the physical capacity both of Britain as a concentration base and of British ports of embarkation, for, though the potential combined Allied resources in men and material could be regarded as almost infinite, these capacities, as well as the available numbers of assault craft, placed certain limits on the size of the assault forces which can be allocated for any one landing.

The plan, as evolved, was submitted to and closely scrutinized by the British and United States Chiefs of Staff and was finally approved by the Prime Minister and the President at the Quebec Conference in August 1943. After that, the Chief of Staff was instructed to proceed with active preparations for the implementation of the plan pending the appointment of the Supreme Commander. One of his first tasks was to convert his Planning Staff into a fully integrated operational and administrative headquarters for the Supreme Commander, when appointed. This was accomplished by the end of the year. In the meantime, active administrative preparations in conformity with the approved plan were accelerated, and much work was done in connection with the training of the forces, the co-ordination of supporting action by Air and Naval forces prior to and on "D" day and the development of the offensive after beachheads had been secured.

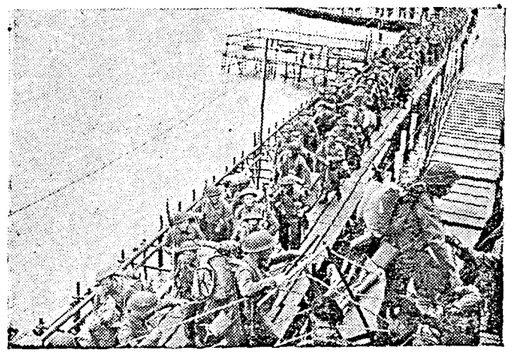
TACTICS FOR ASSAULT

An assault on an enemy-held coast differs from an offensive against enemy positions in a land theatre in that the assaulting troops arrive in the face of the enemy in abnormal, bunched, tactical formations imposed on them by the vessels in which they are carried. Further the attack cannot be preceded by the normal artillery preparation. In consequence, craft must be designed to give the best possible deployment on the beach and means must be devised to replace the fire support which the assaulting troops cannot themselves provide.

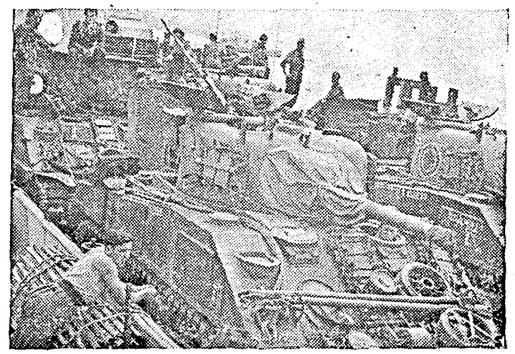
The tactical problem grows more complex as the size of the assaulting force increases. An Infantry Battalion can be transported in a simple type of landing craft from which troops can wade ashore, but their transport cannot be so landed, nor can tanks, or artillery. Hence the evolution of the manifold types of special landing craft and landing ships designed for the transport of infantry, tanks, vehicles, guns and stores. Differing widely in size these crafts—in whose design the Admiralty and Combined Operations Headquarters collaborated—had all a common functional purpose, namely, the most rapid deployment of assault force and of its supporting weapons and material.

(*Continued on page* 12)

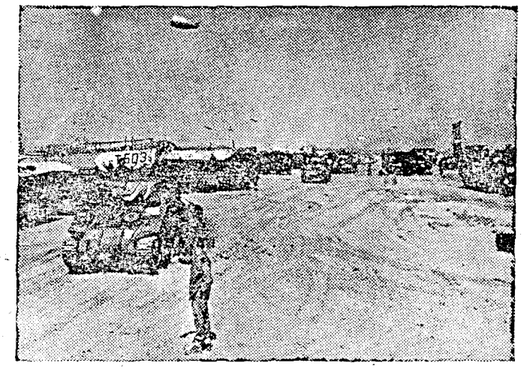
PREPARATIONS FOR INVASION



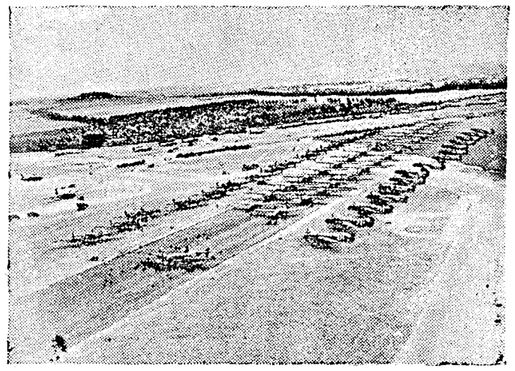
A long line of British troops coming aboard an infantry landing craft at an English port.



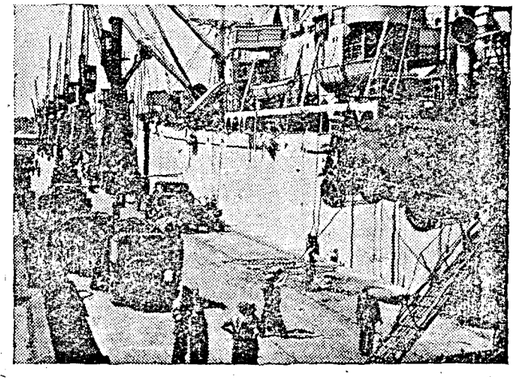
Sherman tanks and equipment stowed aboard a tank landing craft at a south coast port in preparation for their journey across the channel to France.



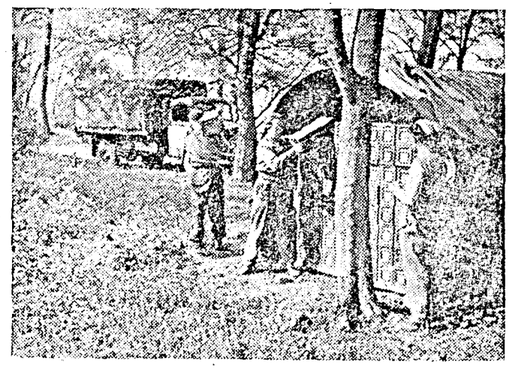
Tanks and equipment being unloaded on the beaches. Note the British waterproof wading equipment on the leading tank. A high proportion of British and American tanks are fitted with such equipment.



Part of the Royal Air Force air armada before it set off for the French coast on the evening of June 6.



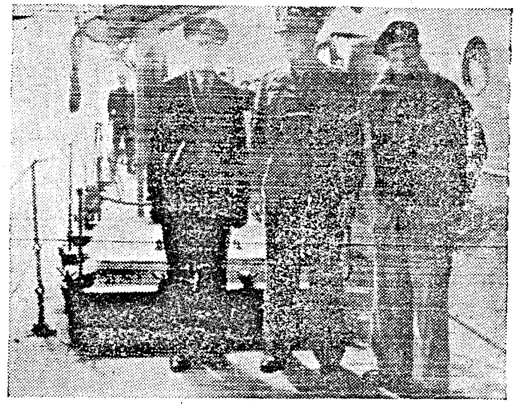
Transport of a famous British Division being loaded aboard Liberty ships.



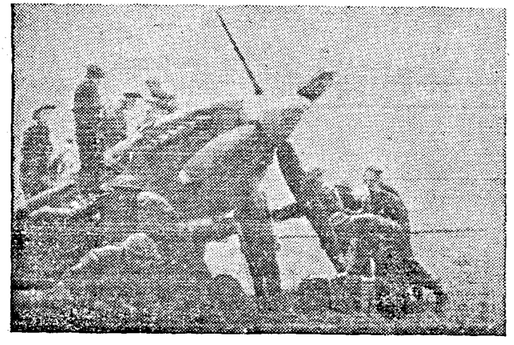
Picture shows *where children once played, ammunition is now stacked among bluebells in a wood.*

SCENES FROM SECOND FRONT

Members of Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service have arrived in Normandy. A truck load on the way to their station.

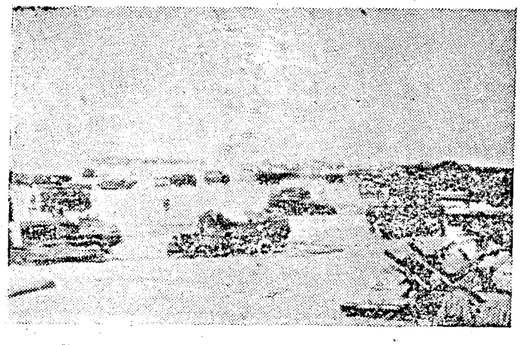


Allied chiefs meet aboard H.M.S. Apollo *off the invasion beaches. General Eisenhower (Centre), Admiral Ramsay* (Left) *and General Montgomery* (Right).

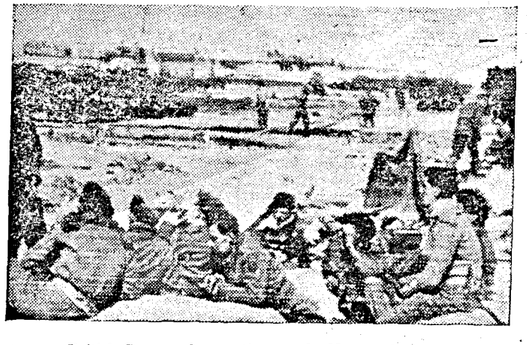


Refuelling some of the first R.A.F. Spitfires *to land in Normandy.*

The Deputy Supreme Commander Air Chief Marshal Sir Arthur Tedder and the Allied Naval Commander-in-Chief Admiral Sir Bertram Ramsay in a "Duck" watching Allied aircraft over the assault area during their visit to the Normandy beaches.



Normandy beach clogged with British Forces' equipment.



British Commandoes resting on the Normandy beach.

(*Continued from page 9*)

For an operation dependent upon the effective use of assault craft, equally specialized training of the assault forces was essential. During 1941 and 1942 a number of Training Centres had been established for the training of forces taking part in raids and in such operations as the landings in North Africa and Madagascar. But it became abundantly clear to the Combined Staff, early in the summer of 1943, while the plan was still being prepared, that much more would be needed for European operations. In consequence, and with the active co-operation of the civil authorities, a number of special Training Centres, for the use of both British and American forces, were organized on the coasts of Britain, involving the clearance of many square miles of populated countryside so that live ammunition could be used by Navy, Army and Air in combined exercises. Here higher training on the Battalion. Brigade and Divisional basis was carried out to supplement the initial basic training given at the old Combined Training Centres.

It was not merely assaulting infantry who had to be rehearsed in their tactics and made familiar with the use of many special weapons, which have been developed—a "Back-Room" story which cannot yet be told. In the various Training Centres R.E. personnel found replicas of every known defensive device used by the enemy and practised their destruction, learning in their turn the use of equipment whose nature at this stage cannot be described. Similarly Signal Units were rehearsing in the improvisation of the most satisfactory communication nets for a beach landing, while drivers of tanks and supply vehicles became practised in methods of embarkation and in driving vehicles from assault craft on to the beach. Finally, all the tactical problems involved in so loading craft that men and material could disembark at the right time and in the right tactical order on the beach had to be worked out and the lessons learnt in the Mediterranean and Pacific mastered.

Pari passu with the training of seaborne assault forces the training of British Air-borne Forces, both parachutists and glider-borne brigades proceeded intensively. Apart, moreover, from the organization of Air-borne Formations with their specialized weapons and methods of supply, much work had to be done in devising and perfecting means of co-ordinating on the army's side the necessary link between the ground forces and air support.

THE SUPREME COMMANDER

The plan elaborated by the Combined Staff was naturally subject to final revision and approval by General Eisenhower, who assumed in January 1944, the appointment of Supreme Commander. A further examination was then carried out to check and revise the original forecast of resources made in 1943.

On this final firm basis the Army Staffs of various levels, right down to units, worked out their detailed plans in collaboration with corresponding Naval and Air Staffs. It was during these last few months that the final intricate co-ordination of action by all three services was completed down to the last detail.

It remained for the Supreme Commander to make the final decision as to the precise date of the assault and to give the word to set in motion the whole intricate machinery which had been built up during the preceding years, some idea of which is contained in the following account of the administrative side of the plan.

B: THE ADMINISTRATIVE SIDE

The layman might easily suppose that in an operation such as the assault on Western Europe the Administrative Staff are brought into the picture only after the General Staff, under the direction of the Force Commander, have worked out in more or less final form the plans of attack. Actually, as has already been indicated, this is not so. In the planning of the operation, even in the earliest, most tentative stages, intimate contact between the General Staff and the Administrative Staff was essential in order that strategic and tactical intentions might be tested step by step by the yard-stick of administrative feasability.

Not only so. Years ago, when European operation was still an optimistic idea rather than a definite project, the staffs responsible for the availability of "material" in the widest sense, had to plan designs and arrange provisional demands on production schedules. Weapons, and equipment, transport, ammunition, food and petrol were all fields in which long prestimation of the needs was necessary, while plans had to be devised, far ahead, by the Transportation Branch, whose responsibility it would be to rehabilitate port and railway communications in the rear of the attacking forces.

With this in mind, let it now be assumed that the operational plan has taken provisional shape. That is to say, the General Staff are now in a position to answer the three questions on which the Administrative Staff must base their own planning. These three questions are: Where? When? and In what numbers? It is for the Administrative Staff to supply the answers, from a multiplicity of angles, to the further question: How?

The first stage in administrative planning for the actual operation was the "Q" appreciation—that is, a study dealing with all the movement and maintenance problems involved in the plan of attack. This is prepared by the Movements and Operations Branches of the Quarter-Master General's Staff. In relation to a projected operation, these Branches are responsible for co-ordinating the various activities of "Movements" of Supply and Transport, and of the Provisioning Branches of the various arms and services, which have to be fitted into the master plan.

SPEED AND REGULARITY

The object which the Administrative Staff had to keep in mind may be stated in simple terms. It was to place the assaulting force in a position to attack the enemy and to ensure the synchronization of its impact on the enemy with a smooth flow of supporting reinforcements of men and material. The attainment of this object—assuming that supplies of weapons, ammunition, vehicles and food have been organized in advance, together with the requisite shipping tonnage for an amphibious operation—involved a task of planning and organizing which falls into four phases:—

(i) Formations must be concentrated in an area reasonably adjacent to the points at which they are to embark for the overseas theatre. This area must be cleared to some extent of its normal military population.

(ii) The concentrated troops must then be moved into marshalling areas, where they are divided into assault troops, first reinforcements and follow-up "residues" and then split into unit parties and craft loads for embarkation.

(iii) The assault flight, with the "follow-up" wave and a steady increment of "build-up" reinforcements on their heels must be transported by sea to the target area.

(iv) The force which secures the bridgehead must be sustained by a maintenance flow of ammunition, supplies and stores of all kinds. In relation to each of these phases, the essence of administrative planning was to secure an even regularity of movement and to avoid bottlenecks; and this, in turn, depended upon foresight and organization, in relation both to the capacity of the beach-head—complicated in Western Europe by the magnitude of tides—and the rate of "lift" which could be attained, having regard to shipping tonnage available and both railway and loading facilities in the United Kingdom base.

For example, faulty calculations might lead to an awkward bottleneck if more troops or supplies arrived offshore than could be disembarked within the period planned for their unloading. Such a development would obviously throw out of gear the estimated speed of shipping "turn-round", on which the build-up of the Force depends. Similarly, the planned rate of flow of personnel to embarkation points must be regulated to conform precisely with the readiness of craft on which to embark. Again, the flow of reinforcements, both men and material, a break in whose smoothness might jeopardise the very existence of a landing force, is conditional upon "marrying" exactly the

projected numbers of troops or tonnage with the rolling-stock and harbour berths at 'Movements' disposal. It must be remembered, too, that in all shipping plans provision had to be made for estimated return movement of casualties, prisoners of war or refugees.

As an illustration of the need for absolute accuracy in planning and execution on the administrative side, it might be pointed out that the unforeseen addition of 50 men to a particular rail movement might mean the addition of an extra coach to the planned train; that this addition might make the train-load too great for the locomotive's capacity; and that, in consequence, the time-table of a whole series of connected rail and shipping movements might be thrown out of gear.

MAINTENANCE THE CRUX

Before, going, however, into the arrangements which have to be made for the concentration, marshalling and embarkation of the assault and following forces, it may be convenient to consider at this point in somewhat greater detail the crucial problem of maintenance after the first objective of the assaulting forces—the capture of a beach-head—has been achieved. It is on the successful implementation of maintenance plans—subject, as they are, to every imaginable kind of interference from acts of God and the King's enemies—that the operation, on the administrative side, really depends; and these plans began to be executed long before the assault force was concentrated for its task.

In relation to maintenance, the first need is to predict, in the light of past experience, what the probable needs of a numerically expanding force are likely to be, within a period of, say, seven days, having regard to the estimated nature of the operations, in terms both of projected rate of movement and expected intensity of fighting. This estimate, upon whose soundness much depends, is made in the first intance by the branches of the Force Commander's staff concerned with provisioning the various arms of the service. They have before them, as a firm basis for calculation, the numbers of men, tanks, guns and vehicles which it is hoped to land day by day; but though ration requirements (i.e., food) are a relatively simple calculation, estimation of the probable expenditure of ammunition and consumption of petrol involves highly expert judgment, and the minimum requirements in the way of Ordnance replacements and spares of all kinds, and of such engineering stores as, say, bringing material, call for a very exact appraisement both of probable enemy resistance and of the nature of the terrain. Still more difficult, and subject to even more incalculable factors, is the task, which has next to be performed, of estimating requirements for, say, the next two or three weeks. But this estimation in advance is essential to enable the various branches of the Quarter-Master General's staff of the War Office to organize the complex movement of supplies, ammunition and stores from United Kingdom depots to the fighting men in the bridgehead.

SEA TRANSPORT

Acceptance, of course, of the provisional estimates by the Expeditionary Force of requirements for the first two phases of the operation depends upon the availability of shipping of the requisite types. In considering the planning which had to be done by the "Movements" Branch of the Quarter-Master General's staff (in intimate association with the Ministry of War Transport) before the shipping factor in the supply equation could be finally "fixed", it is necessary to go back a long way in time. First, a decision had to be taken in the light of the preliminary "Q" Appreciation as to which types of shipping, other than the special assault vessels operating under the White Ensign, would be required both for the conveyance of "follow-up" and "build-up" personnel, and for the transport of maintenance supplies and stores. The conclusion was soon reached that for the assault stages of the attack it would be necessary to rely predominantly on coastal shipping. That is, vessels would have to be employed whose draught would enable them to get as close in shore as possible, and whose size would not make them unduly vulnerable to attack by enemy aircraft, submarines, or surface vessels.

This decision taken, two questions had next to be examined. First, what proportion of the total coastal shipping in this country could be taken up for the operation without either placing an intolerable burden on internal rail transport, or depriving essential services, such as river-side power stations, of necessary supplies of coal? Secondly—again having regard both to the minimum needs of civil industries and services geared to the war effort and to naval requirements—how many loading berths could be made available and to what extent could the existing availability of berths be supplemented by the construction of special "hards" or other improvised berthing facilities on the coast? Finding the answer to this question involved a long and meticulous reconnaissance both of ports and beaches.

Next, loading facilities having been provisionally ascertained, plans had to be marked out in detail for the movement of coastal ships, after requisitioning, to the selected ports and other points of loading. Factors which had to be borne in mind at this stage of planning were that small coastal ships have widely different ranges of voyage practicable without refuelling, and very different draughts, both when empty and when loaded with commodities of different types. Moreover, in the "marrying" of ship and port, a further complication was that Allied Continental shipping, which formed a considerable proportion of the available fleet, had so far as possible, for administrative reasons, to be concentrated in single ports, rather than be widely dispersed, for loading.

The positioning and routeing of the fleet provisionally fixed, the final work of planning which had to be perfected might be described as an interpretation of the fleet's gross tonnage in terms of potential discharging capacity at the beachhead. It must be remembered that two ships of the same tonnage will often have very different dead-weight capacities, varying according to the ship's construction, and type of hold and deck space in its design. Not until many elaborate calculations had been made, checked and re-checked, was it possible to arrive at an approximate figure of the numbers of men and tonnage of stores which could be brought to the vicinity of the bridgehead on the heels of the assault, while the rate of discharge to the beach depended upon a further factor—the varying capacity from the ship to shore of D.U.K.Ws. and the "dumb" and power-operated barges which also had to be procured and adapted in advance for landing purposes.

Simultaneously, of course, with the planning outlined above, long-range plans for the direction and movement of ocean-going shipping, affecting routes all over the world, had to be made—remembering always that, even during the peak of the assault, Britain's general war imports must be maintained and the needs of American forces provided for. As these plans, however, related to the future progress of the campaign rather than the initial stages of attack, and as the planning and executive authority (once the relevant military data had been provided) was the Ministry of War Transport, they fall outside the scope of this story.

FROM DEPOT TO SHIP

When shipping and beach capacity for the first stages of the assault was balanced against the estimated maintenance requirements of the Force, some adjustments between the two had naturally to be made, and these in turn sometimes required revision of the original apportionment between different kinds of supplies and stores. When eventually the various branches of the staff of the Force were given a firm allocation of tonnage available on a sequence of dates for their special requirements, they notified the War Office Branches responsible for the provisioning of their particular arm of the service, specifying the quantities of different categories of supplies which should make up their tonnage allocation. The Provisioning Branches, having ascertained what the loading ports were to be, then decided which depots were to meet the requirements.

After that, the organizational task reverted to the Quarter-Master General's Branch: that is, movements had to plan the exact time-table and routeing which stores should adhere to in their passage from depot to loading port. This aspect of administrative planning involves in the first instance the building-up of skeleton time-tables for use between every depot and every port. These, when filled in, give details of the depot, times of special trains' departure from the depot and arrival at the port, the code number of these trains, the maximum number of wagons each can pull, and the route by which the journey is to be accomplished. The immensity of the organization required can be judged from the fact that for the mounting of the

landing of the First Army's expedition to North Africa over 1,000 special trains had to be provided in this country, as well as over 15,000 additional wagons on regular freight trains.

Stores for maintenance in the first phase of the operation were naturally pre-loaded, the shipping being dispersed as a precaution against enemy attack in many ports. At this point complex administrative problems arise. Not merely are the cargoes destined for disembarkation at a number of different points in the bridgehead or bridgeheads, but, for the first few days of the assault, when numbers of fighting men, guns and vehicles are increasing as rapidly as possible and the volume of maintenance shipping is subject to certain limitations, it is vitally important that the flow of supplies should be evenly balanced as between different categories. That is to say, a situation must not arise in which on one day nothing but ammunition arrives, so that the troops remain hungry; nor will the operation work smoothly if on the next day there is a glut of rations but an acute shortage of, say, materials which the Royal Engineers require to overcome tactically important obstacles.

Hence, for the early phases of the maintenance of the bridgehead, every ship had to be loaded with a mixed cargo—so much food, so much ammunition, so much signals equipment, so many engineering and ordnance stores, and so much water and medical supplies, not forgetting the fact that the Army is responsible for transporting for the Royal Air Force materials needed at any airfields captured or constructed. Furthermore, in planning the arrival at the bridgehead of various ordnance and engineering stores, priority had to be determined in relation to the degree of importance of tasks foreseen.

Finally, an additional factor which the administrative planners had to bear in mind was that the vessels employed would inevitably not all be of the same capacity. Thus, though three vessels might begin unloading at the same time, the cargo in the last hold of vessel No. 1 might be ashore a day or more before the unloading of vessel No. 3 was complete, so that if allowance were not made for this factor, the evenly balanced inflow of supplies of different categories would be dislocated.

Bearing always in mind that an adequate margin for loss by accident or enemy action has to be provided, it will be seen that even on broad lines the task of organizing the pre-loading of maintenance shipping for the first phase of a sea-borne attack is complex. In detail, it calls for an immensely elaborate organization. A single pre-loaded ship may include many hundreds of categories of different sorts of supplies and stores. Originally these would be assembled in a multiplicity of specialized depots; hence, many months before the assault it was found to be advisable to pre-stock carefully sited depots, organized on what be termed a "Departmental Store" basis, covering the widest possible range of essentials. Thus the complexity of rail and road movement was to some extent reduced. Even so, however, the cargo for one relatively small pre-loaded ship might emanate from, perhaps, 20 different "departmentalized" depots in the United Kingdom.

Crated in accordance with a packaging technique perfected by the experience of nearly five years of war, the supplies duly moved from depot to loading port, some by train, others by road. As loading proceeded, it was often found that last minute modifications to the plan were required, since it is practically impossible to foresee with precise exactitude how many packages of different shapes and sizes and weights, say 500 tons, will go into a particular ship of that theoretical capacity! Thus, particular stores, shut out from one ship, might have to be rushed to another ship in a different port.

So much for pre-loading of planned maintenance. For the second phase of the operation the organization of supplies and their movement from depot to port also had to begin long before the first of the assault troops set foot on enemy soil. After that, though volume of traffic grows, and places an increasing strain on transport, the problem is simpler in that, gradually, uniform cargoes can be loaded, and eventually daily shipments will depend upon periodic notifications from the force of its requirements.

THE FORCES MATERIAL NEEDS

After this sketch of the general framework within which the detailed planning for the maintenance of the assault Force had to be worked out, it may be convenient next to consider the various material requirements whose provision had to be arranged for and whose movement had to be co-ordinated. Responsibility in this field—excluding the R.A.M.C.'s province—is divided between the Supply and Transport Branch, Ordnance and the Provisioning Branch of the Royal Engineers. The first-named branch is responsible for seeing that the force receives not merely food and water, but also the petrol to enable it to move and fight. The Ordnance Corps and the Royal Engineers' Provisioning Branches between them cope with all the other material needs of a fighting force except medical supplies.

The immense problem of the general procurement and co-ordination of food supplies for the British Army, whether located at home or in its many overseas theatres, falls outside this story. It is also impossible to deal here with the part played by the Ministry of Food through the Merchant Navy in conveying food from all quarters of the globe, and in balancing the needs of the civilian population with military requirements greatly increased (in terms of United Nations' "food strategy") by the despatch of large United States Forces to Western Europe. The intention of the following paragraphs is to indicate briefly the nature of the special planning and advance organization which had to be carried out to meet the particular needs of an opposed landing in western Europe.

In connection with any operation starting from Britain and involving the deployment of a force in a theatre overseas, the Supply and Transport Branch of the staff has to plan and organize the provision of the R.A.S.C. supply units which will eventually form the link between the base port across the sea and the soldier in the front line. These units include port organizations concerned with the unloading of vessels, the base supply depots and their forward distributing depots up the lines of communication, together with field bakeries and butcheries and their vehicles. The scale on which these units must be planned depends obviously on the size of the force, and whether the projected theatre can reasonably be relied upon to provide both water and such foodstuffs as fresh vegetables and potatoes.

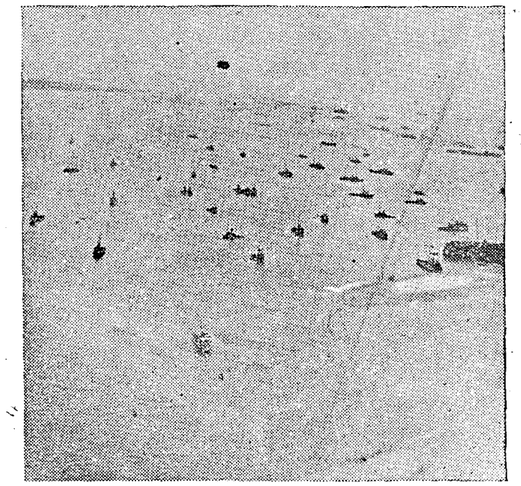
The procurement of the bulk supplies which will eventually flow into this mechanism overseas, the building-up of reserve depots from which they will be drawn in Britain, and the advance notification to movements of the tonnage for which rail, road and water transport will be required—all this involves long-range planning of meticulous accuracy. In particular, it must be borne in mind that whereas reserve depots of ammunition and other ordnance and engineering stores can be built up over a long period with simple safeguards against deterioration by weather, many bulk foodstuffs are definitely perishable goods, so that the turnover and replenishment of stocks must be arranged for to prevent wastage.

So much for the long-range planning required for the eventual maintenance of a force overseas in respect of rations in addition to which, it should be appreciated, the Supply and Transport Branch is also responsible for the provision of those hospital supplies which give sick or wounded men suitable "comforts" in their diet. In the case, however, of opposed landings, involving the deployment of large forces, and their maintenance for possibly a considerable period over beaches, a factor which the Supply and Transport Branch had to reckon with in their arrangements is that, particularly in the early phases of the operation, it would be essential to conserve shipping space and to devote as much deadweight capacity as possible to the conveyance of personnel, fighting vehicles, weapons, ammunition and special operational equipment. Field bakeries, the butcheries, with their cold storage plants, and the field kitchens which units must take forward with them if bulk supplies are to be converted into satisfying daily menus, are bulky and require much shipping space. Hence, for the present assault, to an infinitely greater extent than that necessitated by any earlier overseas operation in this war, it was realized by the Supply and Transport Branch that, for a considerable period, maintenance of the force across the seas must depend upon types of rations economical in shipping and vehicle space, and involving the minimum of cooking. To meet such operational needs much thought and experiment had been put into designing different forms of packed rations, regard being had both to their nutritional value and to their immunity

(Continued on page 16)

ALLIED LANDINGS IN NORMANDY

The scene at the Supreme Headquarters Allied Expeditionary Force Press Conference at the Ministry of Information when Lieutenant-General Whiteley released the communique to the Press telling them about the landings.



A photograph taken from the air of a part of the huge Armada as the gigantic fleet of warships, transports, landing craft and supply ships awaited the signal which launched the assault for the liberation of Europe.

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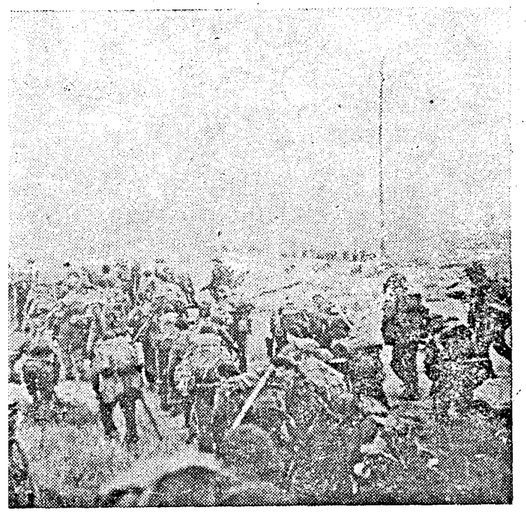


A scene on the beach as the troops proceed inland.

The first German prisoners-of-war from the beachhead in a Prisoners-of-war Camp.

(*Continued from page* 14)

from damage in the peculiarly difficult conditions accompanying and immediately following beach assaults.

SPECIAL RATION PACKS

Here it may be useful to interpose a brief description of the different types of ration packs which will figure as mute dramatis personae in this story of the supply arrangements for the attacking force.

First comes the 24-hour ration pack. This is designed specially for the day of the assault, and is issued separately to each man together with a Tommy cooker and its patent fuel. It has a high calorific value (4,000 calories), though its gross weight, in a waxed cardboard container, is less than 2¼ lb. It comprises pressed blocks of pre-cooked dehydrated meat and of rolled oats with sugar and fats, together with a compressed block of tea, sugar and milk powder. (The meat and oatmeal blocks can be gnawed dry if water is not available.) Other ingredients are chocolate, boiled sweets, chewing gum, sugar tablets and meat extract cubes.

Then, there is the composite pack, familiarly known as the Compo. Made up in seven different types, the Compo pack comprises different assortments of canned meat, fish, vegetables and fruit, jam and margarine, sweets and chocolate, biscuits and cheese, tea-sugar-milk powder, salt, cigarettes, matches and soap. Having a gross weight of about 64 lb., it provided one day's ration for 14 men with a calorific value of 3,590 calories per man per day. Somewhat similar in composition, but made up in two, three or five men packs according to the size of tank crews is the reserve ration pack carried in armoured fighting vehicles for emergencies.

Next, there is self-heating soup and cocoa, brought rapidly to boiling point by igniting chemicals in a tube-shaped cylinder within the tin; and, finally, the "Bag" ration, which consists of sweet biscuits, chocolate and chewing gum—the first two commodities to be consumed by troops while waiting for embarkation, the last designed as a remedy for sea-sickness.

In the making of the Compo pack on which, except for the first stages of the assault, the Expeditionary Forces, will rely until (it may be many weeks ahead) utilization of bulk supplies can be organized, it will be appreciated that heavy demands on the tin-plate industry were involved—one instance of the help which the civilian population have given by self-denial to the assault.

MEALS FOR THE ASSAULT

With these types of ration in mind, we can proceed to a brief review of the more detailed supply planning which had to be put in hand when the operation's administrative project had definitely crystallized. This planning falls logically into four phases—the concentration, the marshalling, the sea passage, and the maintenance of a force in a bridgehead.

The plan adopted for the feeding of the force in the concentration area was that units should draw and cook their own rations in the normal manner, supplies being obtained from depots in the various Home Commands concerned. Though, however, the total number of troops which had to be supplied in the United Kingdom was not affected by concentration, the re-distribution in the location of divisions and other formations involved considerable problems. For example, special trains for the conveyance of potatoes from certain areas had to be arranged for to cope with the increased demands of certain Home Commands. Special arrangements for the supply of meat had also to be made with the Ministry of Food. By the time concentration was complete, all formations had also to be supplied by Command depots with a pre-determined number of days' Compo rations to be carried in their vehicles, first or second line.

The next supply arrangements which had to be organized were the provision of rations to be specially cooked and supplied to troops during their stay in the marshalling area—the period of stay being estimated to vary from hours to a considerable number of days. In the marshalling area all troops were to be issued with their landing rations, consisting of two 24-hour rations, complete with Tommy cooker, a normal emergency ration, a tin of 20 cigarettes, and a water-sterilizing outfit. They had also to be issued with the "Bag" ration for consumption during the move to the embarkation point or while awaiting to embark.

Next, plans had to be made and implemented for victualling the assault craft and "follow-up" ships, other than those for which the Navy or the Ministry of War Transport would be responsible. Two sets of rations had to be placed on board, those to be consumed during the passage (careful allowance having been made for unforeseen delays) and those consisting of a reserve ration to be touched only in case of emergency.

Finally, the pre-loading of rations and hospital supplies on the general principles already described for the maintenance of a force in a bridgehead had to be fitted, with the demands of other arms and services, into the general "Movement" picture. As Supply Reserve depots of food are normally less specialized—i.e., more comprehensive in their range of stocks—than those of Ordnance, or the Royal Engineers, special "invasion" depots did not need to be organized in quite the same way but in view of the strain which it was foreseen there would be on rail transport immediately before and during the early stages of the attack, plans had to be worked out whereby, through a careful selection of depots, rail movements could be reduced and simplified.

The part played by Home Commands in implementing the plans in relation to concentration and marshalling areas is reviewed in later paragraphs. To assist Commands in that task, however, special supply detachments had to be organized and lent both to marshalling areas and to personnel embarkation points. Other R.A.S.C. detachments had to be located, at the many ports in which maintenance supplies were to be loaded, in order to ensure that no hitches occurred and that, so far as is humanly possible, no oversight or omission should lead to a fighting man going into action hungry.

WHEELED TRANSPORT

Though it is still as axiomatic as it was in Wellington's day that an Army marches on its stomach, the magnitude of the role now played by mechanical transport in the maintenance of armies is sufficiently well-known to need little fresh emphasis. The design and planning of the Army's road transport services are cared for, like the supply of food, by the Supply and Transport Branch of the War Office in conjunction with the R.A.O.C. In terms of vehicles, few branches were required to begin at an earlier date their planning for the landings.

In the first place, even in relation to what might be termed normal supply vehicles, the production programmes had to be settled and put in hand years before the attacking force was finally assembled with all its transport. Not merely was it necessary for the Supply and Transport Branch to make long-range provisional, but forecasts of the numerical strength of the force which might be employed, since different types of supply vehicles are more suitable for one country than another, it became necessary (long before the decision as to the target areas of the assault was taken) to make provision, in planning demands on production programmes, for the more likely eventualities.

A further problem which had to be solved was that involved in the decision (taken for reasons already described) to use small coasters predominantly in the maintenance of the bridgehead for a considerable period. This decision, with its inevitable reaction on the availability of internal rail transport both for service and civilian needs, meant that great dependance must be placed on inland road transport for the conveyance of supplies to loading ports before and during the progress of the landings.

Years ago, it was foreseen by the Supply and Transport Branch that the policy (whose soundness no one questioned) of economizing in the consumption of petrol by concentrating freight traffic so far as possible on the railways, even for short journeys, might result in such a curtailment of civilian road industry that this industry would not have the necessary resilience to cope with the sudden added strain of assault needs. In collaboration, therefore, with the Ministry of War Transport, steps had to be taken long in advance to safeguard against such an eventuality without the adoption of measures which would result in uneconomic petrol consumption. It became, in short, one of the Army's responsibilities to try to ensure that the civil road industry would be able to play its part in the maintenance of the attack in circumstances in which it would be necessary to concentrate military vehicles to an increasing extent on the actual movement of the Expeditionary Force, with its supply train, overseas.

Finally the question arose of foreseeing the special types of vehicle which would be required for this particular operation, and of developing their design and production. Certain vehicles, such as the tank transporter, may be said to have been developed primarily for use in the campaign in North Africa,

but Western European eventualities were even in this case also prominently in mind. The vehicle, however, which has place of honour in the special provisions made by the Supply and Transport Branch for operations in Western Europe is the D.U.K.W., that is, the amphibious lorry, whose function it is to transport personnel and supplies from ship to shore and to convert itself instantly on reaching the beach into a land vehicle. The use made in operations against Sicily and the Italian mainland of a considerable fleet of D.U.K.W.'s was essentially a rehearsal for an assault on a much larger scale against the West of Europe—the purpose to which they owe their original conception.

For the manning of D.U.K.W.'s extensive water-training of R.A.S.C. personnel was necessary, while special motor boat companies operating fast launches had to be organized for work in connexion both with beach and port unloading. In addition, like all unit drivers, the drivers of normal R.A.S.C. supply vehicles had to have systematic instructions in manœuvring lorries through comparatively deep water from assault craft. Finally, in connexion with the operations of airborne divisions, the task fell to the Supply and Transport Branch of organizing and training special teams for the expert work of stowing, and ejecting from aircraft, supplies needed for the maintenance of troops engaged in airborne assault.

"JUICE"

In the maintenance both of fighting and supply vehicles—to say nothing of special equipment vehicles and of the amphibious D.U.K.W.'s and other ferry craft—the provision of petrol, oil, and lubricants is an essential element for which the Supply and Transport Branch of the War Office is also responsible. As in the case of food and road transport services, the operational planning for assault had to be interpreted at an early stage of planning in terms of P.O.L. requirements, which, even in the early phases of the operation, may represent over one-third of maintenance tonnage. Between bulk reserves, moreover, held in the United Kingdom and the fighting and other vehicles operating in the bridgehead, an elaborate chain of organization had to be planned and made ready by the Supply and Transport Branch.

First, a forecast had to be made of requirements in petrol containers, not merely for the assault, but for a considerable period thereafter. Means would probably not exist at first of landing bulk supplies direct from ship to lodgment areas. Consequently, reliance would have to be placed on packed P.O.L. For this purpose, so far as petrol is concerned, it was decided that the staple means of conveyance in the early stages of the assault (so far as the final stage of transport up to units is concerned) in all stages of operations, should be the 4½ gallon Jerrican—a model based on the container used by Rommel's Army in North Africa.

The next step in the planning of P.O.L. supplies for the assault consisted in the selection, very many months ago, of sites for reserve depots of pre-packed containers in the United Kingdom, factors governing their selection being accessibility to the designated loading ports and suitability from the point of view of protection against enemy air attack. Of the many depots built up by the Supply and Transport Branch for this purpose some have a capacity considerably exceeding 30,000 tons of packed containers.

Then came the planning of the supplies immediately required by the attacking forces. For the early phases of the operations, P.O.L. had to be pre-loaded, like other supplies, in accordance with the previously agreed estimate of requirements. But in the case of P.O.L., the Supply and Transport Branch also had to devise means whereby D.U.K.W.'s and ferry craft plying between ship and shore should be assured of adequate supplies of fuel and lubricants.

The picture of organization, planning and training in this field requires to be completed by a brief reference to the creation of special R.A.S.C. petrol units, whose duties range from the filling of containers to their repair from the driving and maintenance of the bulk petrol vehicles (which in due course replace the Jerrican in the rearward areas of a theatre of operations) to the conveyance of oil from ocean-going tanker to shore and the operation and maintenance of bulk installations and reserve depots.

"WARLIKE" AND ENGINEERING STORES

The next main category of the Force's material needs which has to be considered is the immense range of "Warlike Stores" which come within the purview of the Royal Army Ordnance Corps. These include not merely ammunition of all types, but stocks of clothing and accoutrements, Signals equipment, certain Royal Engineering stores, replacement tanks, guns and other weapons, together with a multitude of spares required for the maintenance and repair both of "fighting" and other vehicles. The total range of Ordnance stores held in this country runs into more than half a million different items—a figure sufficient to illustrate the complexity of the organization required in building up the chain of supply between the Ordnance depot in the United Kingdom and the individual fighting man on vehicle in the front line.

It would be inappropriate here to attempt to give a complete picture of the Ordnance organization planned for the various stages of the overseas lines of communication which it is hoped eventually to establish. This is a story which can well be kept for later telling. So far as the initial phase of the assault on Western Europe is concerned, the immediate task of Ordnance was two-fold. On the one hand, special "invasion" depots, together with transit depots, had to be organized from which to draw, both for pre-loaded "build-up" craft and for the immediate needs of the assault brigades, those items from the encyclopædic Ordnance list which, it was judged, would be operationally essential for opposed landings.

This done, and the flow of Ordnance stores to loading ports organized in accordance with a Movements time-table, the next task was to devise and equip a special organization to operate as a "first flight" of maintenance on the beaches. This organization takes the form of the Ordnance Beach Detachment, whose task it is to deal with what is known as the assault Force's "Landing Reserve." This consists of specially prepared boxes of stores which can be easily handled over beaches and contain estimated essentials, i.e., weapons and parts of war equipment which units must be able to rely upon during the initial assault.

As the bridgehead grows in size, the "Landing Reserve" is gradually built up into a wider range of Ordnance stores, entitled a "Beach Maintenance Pack." Thereafter the development of the projected Ordnance supply chain depends upon the course taken by operations.

A further point of organization required for the initial assault was to ensure that every unit and formation would be aware of precisely what Ordnance stores would arrive in beach-heads at various stages, so that transport should not be sent back from fighting units on fruitless errands.

The provision of certain stores is the responsibility of the Royal Engineers and not of the Royal Army Ordnance Corps. These mainly comprise either stores of engineers' origin used by other arms—for example, crawler tractors (bulldozers)—or heavy constructional engineering machinery and transportation material, such as, lighters, cranes and rolling stock. The organization planned by the Royal Engineers for the despatch and unloading of these stores resembles that already described in the case of Ordnance.

THE R.A.M.C.'s PART

The picture of the Services which cater for the needs of the assault Force would not be complete without reference to the plans which had to be made by the Army Medical Department for dealing with casualties.

It does not fall within the scope of this account to describe the eventual elaborate organization planned for the evacuation of casualties when the extent of liberated territory becomes sufficient to permit the establishment in the overseas base of General Hospitals, with its normal "forward" system, going up, through Casualty Clearing Stations, Divisional Field Dressing Stations to Advance Dressing Stations, Casualty Clearing Posts and Regimental Aid Posts. For this organization much planning and pre-arrangement of equipment and transport by air, road, rail and sea, was necessitated, while numerous hospitals in Britain had to be cleared, so far as it was deemed necessary of civilian patients in order to meet estimated military needs.

(*To be continued*)

WAR DIARY

BRITAIN AND GERMANY

28TH JUNE.—There was considerable German air activity during the day.

Flying bomb installations in Pas de Calais and Paris area were attacked by Allied aircraft.

"A considerable number of launching sites for flying bombs have been located and destroyed" declared Sir Archibald Sinclair, Minister of Air, in the Commons to-day. Sir Fredrick Pile, Commander-in-Chief of the Anti-aircraft Command also made a statement.

Allied bombers attacked Saarbrucken.

29TH JUNE.—German flying bombs continued to attack places in Southern England.

About 2,000 Allied planes attacked four aircraft factories, one synthetic oil refinery and a number of other military and industrial targets in Central Germany.

30TH JUNE.—Flying bombs came over Southern England and caused damage and casualties. Royal Air Force heavy bombers continued their attack against flying bomb installations in Northern France.

Mr. Churchill made a six-hour tour of anti-aircraft gun sites.

1ST JULY.—Flying bombs were again over Southern England and caused damages and casualties. Allied aircraft attacked flying bomb installations in Northern France.

2ND JULY.—The Germans sent flying bombs over Southern England. Casualties and damages were reported. Flying bomb installations in Northern France were attacked. Mr. Churchill will make a statement on the flying bombs this week.

Hitler spoke on the occasion of the funeral of General Dietl.

3RD JULY.—Lord Halifax, British Ambassador in Washington, returned to England.

A record weight of well over 56,000 tons of bombs were dropped during June on targets in Germany and occupied territory by Royal Air Force.

4TH JULY.—Pilotless planes activity over Southern England was on a considerably reduced scale to-day.

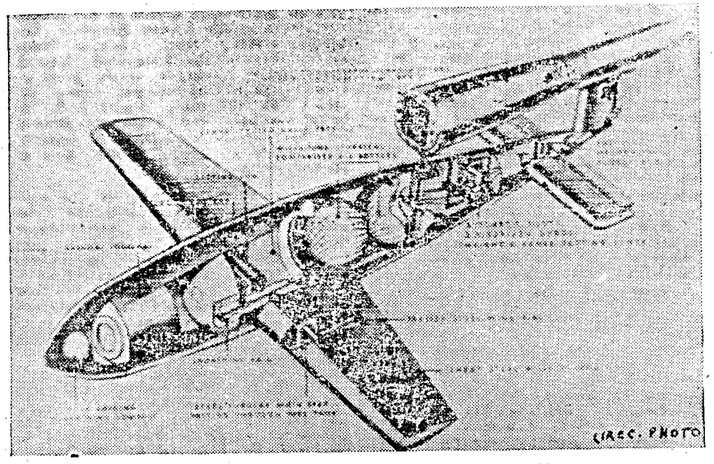
Allied bombers attacked objectives in Ruhr.

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE ATLANTIC

28TH JUNE.—United States Army and Navy Forces and merchant marine shipping overseas received reverse lend-lease in excess of 500,000,000 dollars from the British Commonwealth of Nations during the first three months of 1944.

29TH JUNE.—The United States Under-Secretary of War, Mr. Edward Stettinius said that Britain had agreed to the establishment of a new haven for war refugees in Lybia.

30TH JUNE.—The World Monetary Conference began at Brettonwoods (New Hampshire) with representatives of 44 United and Associated Nations.



Provisional sectional drawing of a German flying bomb.

President Roosevelt signed legislation pledging the United States to the Japs from the Philippines and to grant the Islands their full independence as soon as normal Government functions can be restored. The legislation permits the United States to acquire air, land and naval bases in the Philippines.

3RD JULY.—The United States Vice-President, Mr. Henry A. Wallace left China.

• • •

INDIA, BURMA AND CEYLON

28TH JUNE.—In Myitkyina, the Chinese took another strong point in the southern sector of the town. They also captured Namti, six miles north-east of Mogaung.

The Flag Officer Commanding the Royal Indian Navy, Vice-Admiral Godfrey was received by His Majesty the King at Buckingham Palace.

29TH JUNE.—In the Myitkyina area, the Chinese destroyed several strong points.

30TH JUNE.—Chinese troops advanced in the south sector of Myitkyina. Air and ground action to dislodge Jap remnants in east of the Kohima-Imphal road was in progress.

Direct land communications between India and China is expected to be re-opened shortly. Chinese forces on the Myitkyina front and those on Salween front are now only 64 miles apart.

1ST JULY.—Allied troops captured Sareikhong, 20 miles north-west of Imphal.

2ND JULY.—Allied troops were within 4 miles of Ukhrul.

3RD JULY.—Allied 14th Army columns continued to press towards Ukhrul. A series of attacks in the Myitkyina area were repulsed.

It is estimated that about 17,000 Japs were killed in North Burma campaign in the last eight months and 10,000 square miles of territory wrested from Japs.

4TH JULY.—The 14th Army troops captured *Ukhrul*.

LAST MONTH . . .—

1ST JUNE.—Allied forces took Malakawng.

4TH JUNE.—Allied troops entered Rome.

6TH JUNE.—Second Front begun.

8TH JUNE.—Allied Army captured Bayeux.

12TH JUNE.—Americans took Carentan.

15TH JUNE.—Allied bombers attacked Japan.

16TH JUNE.—His Majesty visited Normandy.

17TH JUNE.—Allies landed in Elba.

20TH JUNE.—Russian troops captured Viborg.

21ST JUNE.—Big Naval battle raged in Central Pacific.

25TH JUNE.—Americans captured Cherbourg.

26TH JUNE.—The Red Army captured Vitebsk and Zhlobin.

27TH JUNE.—Mogaung completely in Allied hands.

28TH JUNE.—Soviet troops captured Mogilev.

29TH JUNE.—Russian forces captured Bobruisk.

30TH JUNE.—The World Monetary conference began at Brettonwoods.

RUSSIA AND FINLAND

28TH JUNE.—The Russians captured *Mogilev*, Sokolov, Bykhov, Lepel, Osipovichi and other places.

The Finnish Government officially announced last night that Germany had promised all armed help needed by the

(*Continued on page* 20)

GRATEFULNESS FOR GIFTS

WE give below excerpts from a few of the letters received by the Honorary Secretary, Joint War Charities Supply Depot, Government House, Madras, from Madrassi Units serving in other parts of India and overseas. They show how much the gifts sent from Madras are appreciated by men away from home.

FROM A MADRAS SAPPERS AND MINERS UNIT:

"The sweets have been issued out to the various platoons and have been greatly appreciated by the men, as they seldom receive sweets in such quantities. It is a comfort to them to know that they are being constantly in the minds of people from their own country."

FROM A MADRASSI ENGINEERS BATTALION:

"On a recent visit to Madras one of my officers called on you at the Joint War Charities Supply Depot. He has just returned and brought with him the 50,000 cigarettes, foodstuffs, sports goods, clippers, books, etc., which you so kindly gave him for distribution to the men of this Battalion.

In asking Capt. Henney to try to purchase sports goods, etc., of which we are very badly in need as they are quite unobtainable here, I had no idea that the Madras War Fund would so generously supply them free.

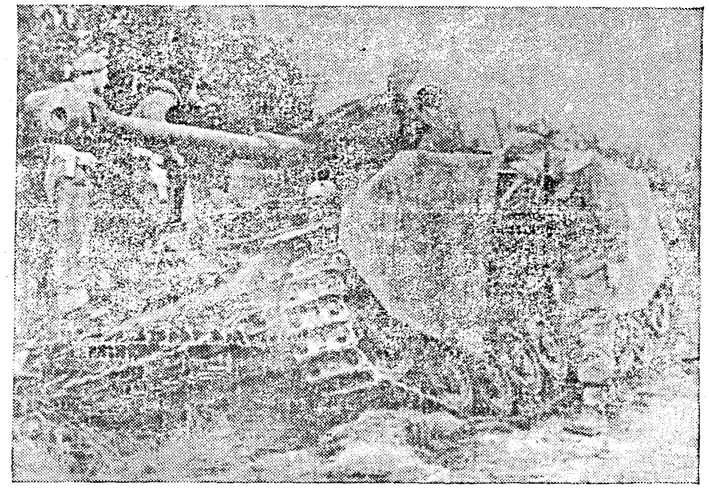
It is, indeed, most generous and I can assure you that your gift is most deeply appreciated by all ranks of the Battalion, who already, in 1942, were the recipients of similar gifts from your Fund."

FROM A UNIT OF MADRAS ENGINEERS:

"I am writing to express the most grateful thanks of this Unit for the receipt of the 500 writing pads and 200 lb. curry powder which the Governor's War Fund has so generously sent this Battalion.

I have distributed the writing pads and these work out to one per two men. In view of the very great shortage of writing paper at present available, I would like you to know how very greatly this gift is appreciated by all Indian Ranks who spend a large proportion of their spare time in writing home.

As regards the curry powder, the situation as regards rations of



A German tank knocked out by a British anti-tank gun near Bayeux. Cr. 9326.
(Radioed from London to Cairo and flown to India.)

condiment powder has improved since December, but the curry powder that you have sent seems to be of a much better quality than anything we receive in rations. I am keeping the whole consignment as a reserve for any future feast days or to use in the event of any further deficiency in rations.

Will you please accept and pass on to all concerned the most grateful thanks from all Indian Ranks of this Battalion for this most generous gift?"

FROM AN M.T. CENTRE:

"Yesterday five large packages were delivered to my centre together with a no charge invoice No. 3182, dated 13th June 1944. The goods have been checked and agree with the items on the invoice.

It is difficult for me to express the feeling of Southern India troops in this part of India when they receive the types of amenities to which they are accustomed in the south. It is difficult also to pass on to you their feelings when they know that the people from their own districts are thinking of them in such manner as to provide this type of facilities for them to enjoy themselves away from their homes. Will you please convey to the members of the committee and all those responsible for the organization of which you are the Honorary Secretary, my sincere thanks on behalf of all the Madrassi classes in this Centre for the gifts which have so generously been made."

FROM A MADRAS SAPPERS AND MINERS TRAINING BATTALION:

"To-day my unit received from you a very lavish gift of amenities. That they will be appreciated by my Sappers goes without saying, for they are all games which are in great demand.

On their behalf and on my own behalf I wish to thank you and all those people whose subscription have helped to make these gifts."

This yarn is by Walter Winchell, the famous American columnist :—

American airmen who have been bombing Germany are a little tired of the sameness of German *communiqués*. They've cooked up this one for Dr. Goebbels: "A huge swarm of American and British bombers, intent on their usual mission of bombing hospitals and churches in the Reich, was intercepted and completely destroyed to-day by a small number of German fighter planes. Springing to the defence of helpless civilians the *Luftwaffe* pilots shot down more than 300 of the giant attacking planes, and let the remaining fifty so badly injured that they were unable to return to their bases.

"None of our gallant German planes or pilots was injured.

"One of our cities is missing."

(*Continued from page* 18)

Finns for them to continue the war against Russia. It is stated that Nazi troops have entered Helsinki, the capital of Finland.

29TH JUNE.—General Zhakharov's troops in White Russia captured *Bobruisk*, *Petrozavodsk*, the capital of the Karelian-Finnish Republic and many other places.

It is announced that in the fighting in the third White Russian Front, Soviet Army has killed 33,000 Germans and taken 20,000 prisoners.

The United States Secretary of State, Mr. Cordell Hull declared that the question of a possible break in the Finnish-American relations was being considered.

30TH JUNE.—Soviet troops captured Vetrino, Desna and other localities.

The United States broke off diplomatic relations with Finland.

1ST JULY.—The Russian troops captured *Borisov* and crossed river Beresina at several points.

It is revealed that the Commander of the German Army in Finland, General Dietl died.

2ND JULY.—The Soviet forces cut German communications from Minsk to Brest-Litovsk and Luninetos. Russians captured Kovschinza and Plissa and Slutsk, Krasnoze, Vilckya.

German troops occupied Aaland Islands.

3RD JULY.—The Soviet army captured the capital of White Russia, *Minsk*.

The Red Army troops captured Glubokoye, Dokshitsy and over 400 other localities.

4TH JULY.—The Russian forces captured *Polotsk* and some other places. A new all-out Russian offensive was launched on the Karelian Isthumus.

* * *

ITALY, AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

28TH JUNE.—The Allied troops captured Montieri, San Vincenze, Sasseta, Chiusina, Gioiella and Porto.

29TH JUNE.—The Allied troops captured *Castagneto*, Monticiano, Lafoce, Fratta Vechchia, etc.

30TH JUNE.—Forces of the Fifth Army captured Castiglione Del Lago and Monte Pulciano.

1ST JULY.—Troops of the Fifth Army reached the outskirts of Cecina and they were only 6 miles from Siena. Florence had been declared an open city.

2ND JULY.—The Fifth Army troops occupied Cocina. The Eighth Army Forces occupied Forrita di Siena, Monte Techio, Valfabbrica, Macerata and Recanati.

3RD JULY.—Allied troops captured *Siena*, Oriono, Sinalunga, Fojano, Nocera, Osino, and Loreto and Lucignano.

Mr. Henry Stimson, United States Secretary for War, landed in Italy.

Colonel General Von Mackensen, Commander of the 14th German Army has been removed from his command.

4TH JULY.—The Allied troops captured Lucignano, Monte Varno, Cortona, Severin and Matelica.

* * *

VICHY, FREE FRANCE AND THE OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

28TH JUNE.—The Allies captured Tourville. The Allied troops crossed river Odon. Heavy fighting continued around Caen. Allied air attacks on enemy objectives in France continued. The Vichy Minister of Propaganda M. Henriot was assasinated in Paris last night.

29TH JUNE.—Allied troops captured Tessel, Bretteville, Menanoir, Grainville and Mondrainville. There was heavy fighting north of Caen. American troops launched an attack in the direction of St. Lo. Fresh landings were made in Normandy east of Orne and occupied Cabourg.

It is revealed that General Eisenhower held an important conference this week at which Mr. Churchill and all Second Front Commanders were present.

A lend-lease agreement between the Government of the United Kingdom and the Polish Government was signed to-day.

30TH JUNE.—Allied hold on the crossings of river Odon was strengthened. Americans launched an offensive against Contentin Peninsula. North of Caen Allied troops achieved local gains.

Germany was negotiating a new agreement with the Vichy Government. The French Cabinet met to discuss important matters.

1ST JULY.—Allied troops strengthened their positions on both flanks of the Odon river. All enemy attempts to break in were frustrated in the Caen-Evrecy sector.

2ND JULY.—Rommel kept up continuous counter-attacks against the Tilly-Caen salient but they were all repelled. It is reported that Allies have taken 42,000 prisoners.

Allied bombers attacked Budapest.

3RD JULY.—American troops opened a new offensive along a front of more than 20 miles in the West Coast of Normandy. British forces occupied Bretteville.

There is serious trouble in Denmark due to strikes. Budapest in Hungary and objectives in Rumania were bombed.

3RD JULY.—Four weeks after the invasion the Allies hold a bridge-head of 1,100 square miles running for 125 miles along the coastline of Normandy and 111 miles along the zig-zag front and extending to 22 miles inland at its greatest depth. Enemy casualties is estimated to be one lakh.

4TH JULY.—American troops captured St. Jores and St. Ramy de Landes. Canadian forces captured Caripquet, 3 miles west of Caen. British troops captured. Verson.

United States' bombers attacked a number of German aerodromes in France.

* * *

THE FAR EAST

28TH JUNE.—Most of the southern part of the Japanese Islands including Tokyo are now within the range of American fleet operations according to a statement made by Mr. James Forrestal, United States Secretary of the Navy.

American bombers attacked Takao in Formosa Island.

29TH JUNE.—It is announced that Australian troops have occupied the whole of the Hansa Bay area, in New Guinea. United States troops continued to advance in Saipan.

30TH JUNE.—American forces advanced beyond Mount Tapotchan in Saipan. Allied troops penetrated deep into Jap territory north of Magicienne Bay.

1ST JULY.—Allied planes attacked Tinian and Rota. During June 247 Jap aircraft 5 destroyers, 14 merchantmen and 95 barges were destroyed in South-West Pacific.

2ND JULY.—Jap positions in Dilli, New Britain and New Guinea were bombed by the Allied bombers. Americans pressed forward along the entire front on Saipan Island.

3RD JULY.—Allied aircraft attacked Bokroe island.

4TH JULY.—It is revealed that American forces landed on Noemfoor Island on Sunday and captured Kamiri aerodrome and also Garapan, capital of Saipan in South-west Pacific. Allied aircraft attacked Chichijima in Bonin Island and Iwojima in Volcano Islands.

FOR YOUR RADIO DIARY

MADRAS—JULY	8.—9-45 p.m.	'Fighting Forces.'
" "	10.—9-00 p.m.	Radio Blitzkrieg—An Analysis of Enemy Propaganda—By Rao Sahib A. Gopalaswami.
" "	11.—9-45 p.m.	Topical Talk.
" "	12.—9-45 p.m.	'The Voice of America'—Relay from Delhi
" "	13.—9-00 p.m.	A Continent in Revolt—Norway.
" "	14.—9-45 p.m.	World Affairs—Relay from London.
" "	15.—" For the Fighting Forces."	

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MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL V. FRIDAY, JULY 14, 1944 No. 45

WELL DONE

GENERAL MONTGOMERY

THE battle has been fierce. Much has been achieved. Our gains have been definite and concrete. The Allied armies in Normandy have good ground for solid satisfaction. We have taken 54,000 prisoners. We have given the Germans tremendous pummelling. We are firm and secure. Well done Well done, indeed

GENERAL MONTGOMERY, in a broadcast to his troops in Normandy, on Tuesday, July 11

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[NOTE.—*The summary of news and comments contained in the* MADRAS WAR REVIEW *generally relate to events and statements published till Wednesday, every week.*]

BE PREPARED FOR LONG AND BITTER FIGHTING

"I do not completely write off the possibility of a crack in German morale somewhere along the line. But in a country so completely dominated by Gestapo methods, it is false to base any real expectations on the hope that Germany will crack internally. The Allies must be prepared in all their operations right round the European perimeter for long and bitter fighting. The fighting will be of the most strenuous character and there will be heavy losses. The present general picture of natural optimism must be sobered by the very definite consideration that the Allies will have to fight for every foot they gain—both in local areas and in the broad strategic field."

—GENERAL EISENHOWER, *Supreme Allied Commander, in a statement in London, on Tuesday, July 11.*

❖

AN INSPIRATION

"On this the seventh anniversary of your country's resistance against the brutal and unprovoked attack of the Japanese aggressor, the entire American people do honour to the spirit of the Chinese nation. Through seven long years, the people of China, under your steadfast leadership, have dedicated themselves to the cause of freedom with heroism and determination, undaunted by increasing trials and sacrifices. China's example has been an inspiration to the United Nations. The rising tide of victories in Europe and the Far East is hastening the day when the Chinese and the Allied armies will sweep the invader from your country, and China will assume her rightful role in the common task of building peace and prosperity for all. We rejoice in the deep understanding and friendship between our two peoples, long tested by years and now proven, and cemented on the field of battle. That friendship and close fellowship among the United Nations must be the basis of fundamental goodwill, and mutual trust. That can alone assure the future welfare of mankind."

—PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT *in his message to* MARSHAL CHIANG KAI-SHEK, *on the occasion of the Seventh Anniversary of the Chinese War against Japan's Aggression.*

MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. V FRIDAY, JULY 14, 1944 No. 45

RUSSIA: THE STRAIGHTENED HORSE-SHOE

THE Red Army is marching from success to success. Referring to the pace of its progress, *Reuter's* Military Commentator says that it is now exceeding the fastest German blitz either in France in 1940 or in Russia in 1941, and points out that within a week's time it may reach Riga, Memel or Koenigsberg. Already the Red Army has crossed into Latvia and is fanning out beyond the border, and it is stated that the speed of its advance has created new records for the Soviet-German War. At this stage, let us retrace our steps and see what happened in White Russia, where the Germans were strongly entrenched.

WHEN the Red Army launched its offensive against German positions in White Russia on June 23, a day after the third anniversary of Hitler's attack on Russia, it was roughly 150 and 120 miles away to the north-east and south-east respectively of Minsk, the capital of White Russia, and it faced a chain of fortresses at Vitebsk, Orsha, Mogilev and Zhlobin. In the north, Vitebsk was captured by the forces of General Bagramayan. Five German infantry divisions were reported to have been encircled in this area. In the south of the German White Russian line, General Zhakarov successfully widened the breaches east of Mogilev, and another Russian column advanced towards Bobruisk and captured it on the seventh day of the offensive.

Dittmar's Doubt

WITHIN five days of its offensive the Red Army had taken Lepel, 80 miles north-east of Minsk, and Osipovichi, 60 miles to the south-east. In other words, it advanced 70 and 60 miles respectively on two sectors in six days. The greatness of this advance lies in the fact that the Red Army took in its stride the chain of strong German fortresses which we mentioned above. This spectacular Russian advance kept the Germans guessing whether the Soviet operations in White Russia represented a large-scale offensive or not. On June 29 Lieutenant-General Dittmar was still wondering "whether or not this Soviet offensive on the central sector of the Eastern Front could be considered a large-scale offensive".

THIS wonder was due to the fact that the Germans considered the southern part of the Soviet front as very important covering, as it does, the approaches to the Hungarian plain and to Rumania with its oil wells, which were always very important, and which are now more important than ever after the smashing of many synthetic oil plants in Germany by Allied bombers. It was the expectation that the Russians would launch a large-scale offensive only in the south that made Dittmar doubt whether the advance in White Russia really constituted the Red Army's major effort this summer. The Germans were secretly hoping that the Red Army's blows this summer would not synchronize with the opening of the great Allied assault from the West and they therefore switched a considerable part of their armour to Italy and Normandy. They thought if at all Russia launched the offensive it would be only in the direction of Lwow and Bucharest.

Calculations Upset

THEIR calculations were completely upset by the hammer-blows of the Red Army in White Russia. Soviet strategy in this area developed into a bold enveloping movement against Minsk. The forces under Marshal Rokossovsky and General Zhakarov converged from the south-west and north-east respectively towards the White Russian capital, and captured it.

THE capture of Minsk, which is the gateway to Northern Poland and the Baltic States, may be stated to have straightened the northern bulge of the fighting line. Before the Red Army's offensive in White Russia began, this line began in the north, in Esthonia, about 80 miles west of Leningrad, and zigzagged down to a point north of Vitebsk in White Russia. Here it curved inwards like a horse-shoe turned on its side, and then bulged out the other way, towards the Rumanian frontier, away from Russia, and then curled back again to Odessa, the Black Sea port. The straightening of the bulge would be helpful to the advance of the Red Army due west to Brest-Litovsk and Warsaw with their left flank protected by the Pripet Marshes.

ALREADY, the Soviet successes in the central or the White Russian sector have had serious repercussions on German positions immediately above and

below the present fighting area. In an Order of the Day issued last night (July 13), Marshal Stalin has announced the capture of Vilna, the German base covering the approaches to East Prussia. The capture was made by troops of the Third White Russian Front, which liberated the capital of the Soviet Lithuanian Republic by the strategy of encirclement. The importance of the City lies in the fact that it is a communication centre linking White Russia, Poland and the Baltic States. It is the southernmost of the Pskov-Dvinsk-Vilna chain of German fortresses guarding the three Baltic Republics, and is about 90 miles from the East Prussian frontier and 190 miles from Koenigsberg.

The Russian Flood

THE fall of Vilna seems to have unnerved the Germans, for the German News Agency declared, "The situation is serious. All is now at stake. The Russian flood threatens our holy German land." The threat has come nearer to Germany, because the Red Army's task was rendered much easier than before by the opening of operations on the Western Front, Allied advance in Italy, the establishment of American air bases on Soviet soil, and the great flow of Anglo-American aid. The flood is gathering strength and momentum, and in due course, it will reach the land of the Nazis and make them rue the day they started this war.

RUNNING COMMENTARY

China in her Eighth Year of War—"Inspiration to United Nations"

The Sino-Japanese war has entered on its eighth year last week. In a telegram to Marshal CHIANG KAI-SHEK, President ROOSEVELT has paid a great tribute to China. "Through seven long years," he said, "the people of China have dedicated themselves to the cause of freedom with heroism and determination, undaunted by increasing trials and sacrifices." He added, "China's example has been an inspiration to the United Nations." Referring to the course of military operations, President ROOSEVELT observed that the victories in Europe and the Far East were hastening the day when the enemy would be swept from China.

It is of interest to roughly trace the course of different battles in the Chinese theatre of war. First let us take the Kwangteh Battle. Kwangteh is a communication centre situated 85 miles south-east of Nanking. The Japanese launched a large-scale drive in Anhwei with a view to preventing the Chinese troops or guerillas from concentrating sufficient forces to threaten the Japanese stronghold in the triangle formed by Nanking-Shanghai-Hangchow. The Chinese withdrew first and then, when the Japanese communication lines were sufficiently extended, they struck back. The Japs were forced to withdraw. This was in October 1943.

The second is the Changteh Battle. Changteh is the gateway of Changsha, the Capital of Hunan. In November last year, the Japs drove south from the Yangtse towards Changteh and succeeded in encircling the city by using paratroops, artillery and aircraft. The siege of the city lasted for ten days.

GENERAL MONTGOMERY HOLDS PRESS CONFERENCE IN NORMANDY—General Montgomery speaking to War Correspondents when he held his first Press conference after the landing in Normandy.

The Chinese 57th Division which was defending it against great odds was reduced to 300. Changteh fell on December 3, but six days afterwards the Chinese under the command of HSUEH YUEH launched a counter-attack, and drove the Japanese out of Changteh back to their original positions. This happened on December 21, 1943.

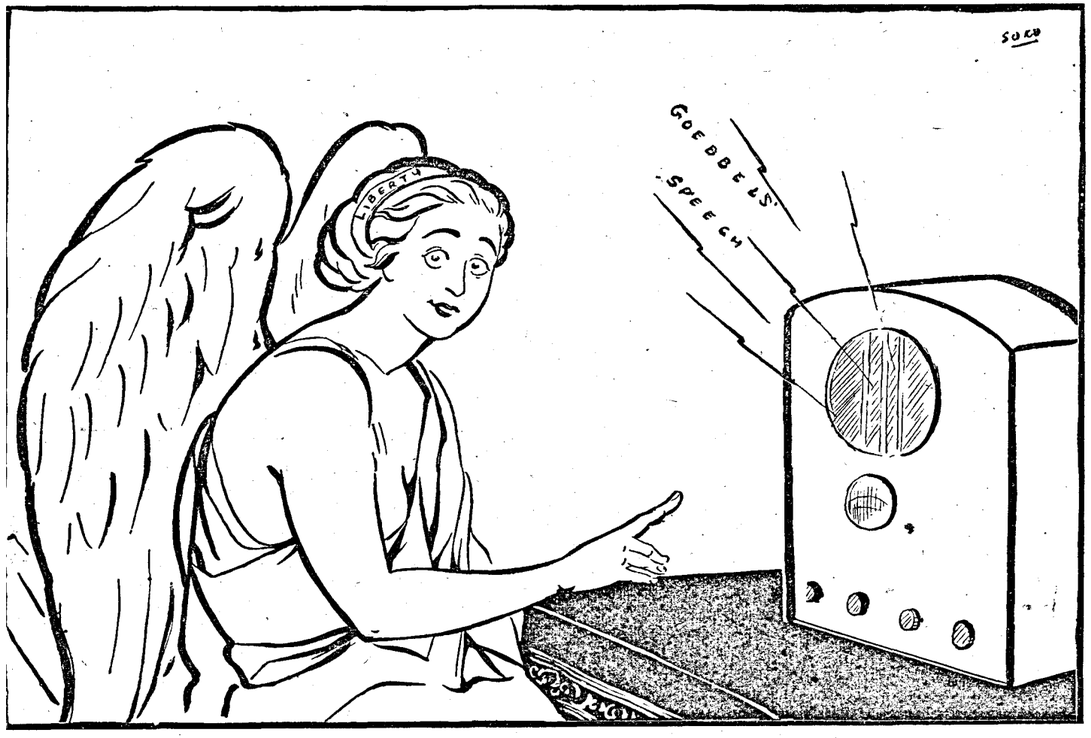
* * *

Honan Battle—General Chennault's Air Support

The Honan Battle is the third in our series. The Japanese opened an offensive in the Honan area at the end of April 1944, with the object of opening up a direct line of communication with Hankow and obtaining the gateway rail line to the Province of Shansi by capturing the Tungkwan Pass. They failed in both their objectives on account of the counter-offensives of the Chinese. But the issue of this battle is still hanging in the balance. The successful defence of the Chinese in the Honan area has been due to the air support given by General CHENNAULT's combined Chinese and American forces. Unless the Japs are able to neutralise this air support they cannot achieve anything here.

The fourth battle that deserves our attention is the Canton-Hankow

HARK! THE KNELL OF NAZISM!



—Specially drawn for the MADRAS WAR REVIEW

Railway Battle. It is the biggest and most determined effort of the enemy since 1938 to improve his position in China. The enemy has a threefold object to achieve in this battle. He wants to open rail and other communications between the Yangtse Valley and the Canton-Hongkong area and close the wide corridor from the Fukien Coast into Western China, as eventually the Chinese forces can establish contact with the British and American sea-borne forces on the South China Coast; he also wants to ensure that Japanese defence positions in South China are reinforced and supplied by other ways than coastal shipping, which is vulnerable to air and submarine attacks. This battle is very important to the defence of the Japanese home islands, because from air bases in this area the Allies can strike Japan. That is why the enemy is trying his best to take Hongyang, the biggest American air base in Hunan.

Yunnan—A diversionary Battle

The fifth battle is a diversionary battle opened in the Yunnan area by the Chinese so as to divert the enemy's strength from North Burma. Another object is to effect a junction with General STILWELL's forces so that the proposed land communications with China along the Ledo Road could be more swiftly gained and securely held. The Chinese have made a fair progress in this battle.

As we look back and then look ahead, we see that in her eighth year of war, China still continues to have her will to resist wholly unimpaired. This marvellous spirit of resistance against aggression is being helped and sustained not only by Allied aid to China, but also by Allied successes in other theatres of war.

"Sacking" of Rundstedt—Implications of Change in German Command

Why did HITLER "sack" his Supreme Commander in Western Europe? A possible reason is that Field Marshal VON RUNDSTEDT has failed to throw back the Allied Expeditionary Force into the sea, as German propaganda boasted, would be done. A more likely reason seems to be that this was made an excuse to get rid of an anti-Nazi. Though he is the best all-round German Commander, he is regarded as the most prominent anti-Nazi among the senior officers and the only one who might possibly try to overthrow HITLER. It seems that two years ago he came to the conclusion that Germany would be defeated. His anti-Nazi outlook did not, however, affect his desire to save his military caste and force from destruction. He had always been surrounded by fanatical Nazis—his lieutenant, ROMMEL, being one of

THE SICKLE

(*By* R.G.)

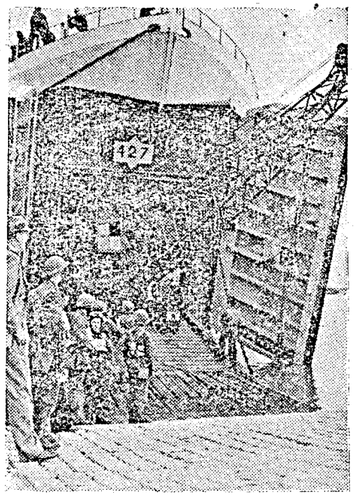
They sowed the seed endurance
And now their sickle reaps
An overflowing harvest
Where the dead soldier sleeps
And living brother keeps
His legacy, revenge.

The sickle for the reaping
Is sharp with pain and hate:
A million shattered homesteads
Add all a nation's weight
To strokes as strong as fate.
Fast fall the sheaves.

The hands that hold the sickle
Shall not grow soft nor tire
Until the harvest's gathered:
Whetting its edge of fire
Not rest nor ease desire
The workers in the field.

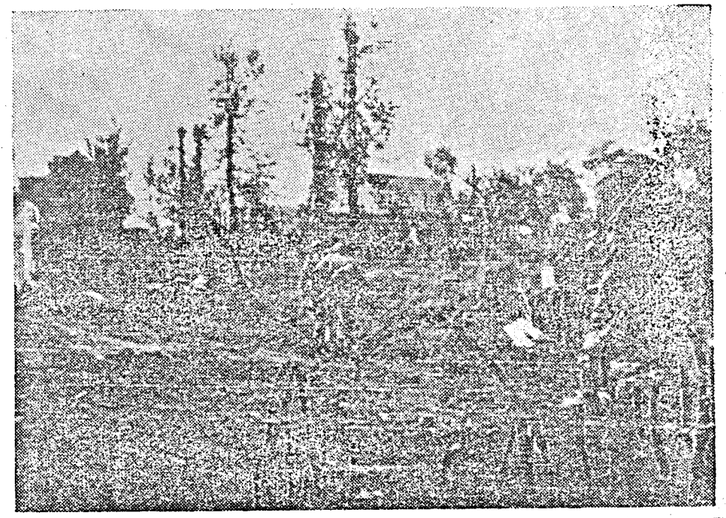
Clean to the utter margin
The blade shall tumble down
The ruffians and the robbers
That ravaged farm and town
And cities of renown.
The blade is sharp enough.

Endurance was the sowing;
The crop is punishment.
The steady-swinging sickle
Shall not its wrath relent
Till justice is content
With executed doom.

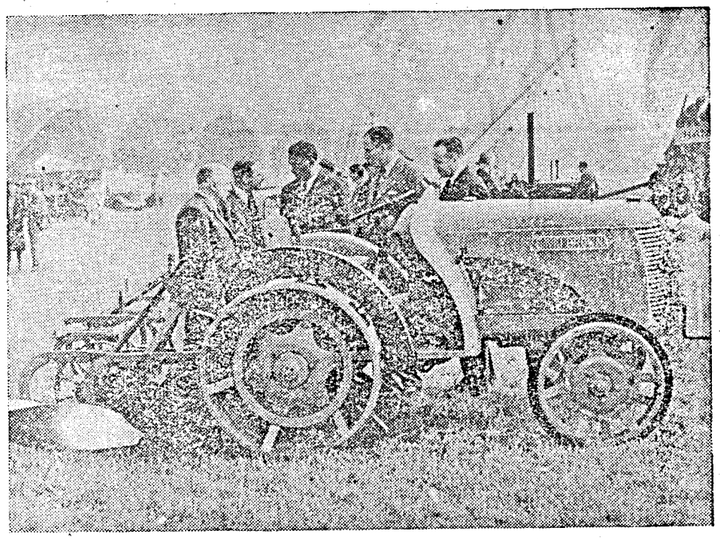


HEAVY EQUIPMENT FOLLOWS THE ARMIES TO EUROPE.—Rapidly following the weapons of first attack some hundreds of cranes, tractors, bulldozers, etc., to speed up the unloading and stacking of material on the beach-heads. Mr. Oliver Lyttelton, inspects the loading on to an L.S.T. of a caterpiller crane with a 60 feet jib at a secret base in Britain.

them. Now the dismissal of RUNDSTEDT is intended to strengthen the Nazi party's grip over Germany, though obviously he was the scapegoat for the failure of German plans for western front operations.

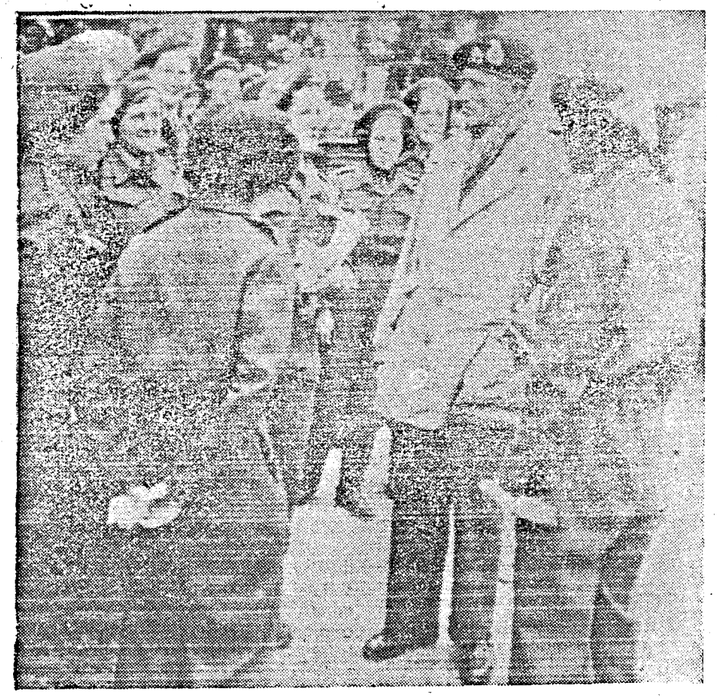


British infantry advance past an exposed spot as they consolidate the previous day's gains on Tilly-Caen road. German snipers were active here.



INDIA'S REPRESENTATIVE IN WAR CABINET VISITS AGRICULTURAL DEMONSTRATION.—Sir Firoz Khan Noon, one of India's Representatives in the War Cabinet, recently saw a demonstration of agricultural machinery at the Oaklands Farm Institute, Hertfordshire. Himself an agriculturist, Sir Firoz Khan Noon when received by the members of the Hertfordshire War Agricultural Executive Committee, spoke to the agricultural engineers of India's need for agricultural equipment and the necessity for making it to suit India's requirements.

Sir Firoz Khan Noon, accompanied by members of the Hertfordshire War Agricultural Executive Committee, inspects agricultural machinery.



General Montgomery talks to nursing sisters at a hospital near Bayeux.

Mr. and Mrs. Churchill watching a fighter overhead during a tour of southern England anti-flying bomb defences.

SESHIAH, THE CURIOUS VILLAGER

(*By* R.G.)

CANTO II—*Fourth Instalment*

The Party Member gave a scream--
"Foul mouthed fellow, don't blaspheme!
Our Party is a sacred thing
Whose praises Press and angels sing;
To worship it is true religion,
To criticize is blindness Stygian.
Our leader from Himalayan blunders
Builds great designs and greater wonders
Than all the seven that excited
The ancient world; and our benighted
Poor country will become a Zion,
No more exploited by the lion,
When every man his charka owns
And cries aloud in feeling tones
'Party-ki-jai! Party-ki-jai!'"

To which Seshiah made reply
"You say you have the recipe
For perfect freedom: that may be--
I only know that at this time
There's nothing in the least sublime
In what you do: in fact your fuss
Is just a bit ridiculous
Not many years ago, recall,
Your leaders were the first to bawl
And say the British were a scurvy
Riff-raff of cowards weak and nervy
Because they would not fight to save
The Abyssinian from the grave:
You swore you could not stand aggression
And international oppression,
And made the whole wide world suppose
You were the first of Fascism's foes.
Now that the British lion turns
And with a righteous anger burns
Because his tail is too much twisted
From having wagged but not resisted,
And you no longer are denied
The chance to prove you truly cried
For international righteousness,
The chance to help sweep up the mess--
What do you do, you pretty fellow?
You show yourself not black but yellow!
And dodge responsibility
To fight for all men's liberty.
Good Sir, good-bye; and may I never
Be so dishonourably clever."

PRELUDE TO PEACE

SOMEBODY, I cannot remember who it was, coined a good phrase when he referred to "The Tyranny of Words." There are so many high-sounding phrases, glibly employed in our ordinary everyday conversation, which become household words, and yet only touch the fringe of the vast problems which they set out to describe. In this category we can, I think, place the terms "Post-War Reconstruction" and "Rehabilitation." I am not at all sure that the title of this talk, "Prelude to Peace: Rehabilitation" isn't rather contradictory. Let me call my dictionary to my aid. Prelude "suggests that which is preliminary or introductory to a larger or more important work or movement." So far so good, but if, in this context the word "Prelude" means anything, it means that we are dealing with subjects which arise while we are still at war and before peace has been declared. Now what does my admirable dictionary say about "Rehabilitation"? "To invest or clothe again with some right authority or dignity; to restore to a former capacity; to reinstate." Obviously, therefore, a post-war problem. But don't we want to do more than "restore to a former capacity"? Were pre-war conditions so enviable that we want to revert to them? So I am going to take libertics with the text and deal more with reconstruction than with rehabilitation, so far as one can deal in 15 minutes with a problem which will probably take a generation to solve. There is a grain of truth in the apocryphal story of the lady who, at a dinner party, was heard to say to her husband "Really George, I've never been so humiliated in my life, everybody has a post-war reconstruction plan except you." This subject is such a vast one that I rather sympathize with George, but we all of us can think of things which we should like to see disappear in a post-war world.

FREEDOM FROM WANT

Now it would be stupid to imagine that after the war we shall emerge into a better world in the twinkling of an eye. There will be much heavy going and many mistakes. Who do you think has the biggest claim to live in freedom from want, to my mind the greatest of all freedoms. Obviously the serving sailor, soldier or airmen. They are fighting and dying for you and me. Do you remember that tragic slogan after the last war and the assurance given to our fighting forces that they would return to "a land fit for heroes to live in"? An admirable concept, but it remained a concept. Mind you, we don't want a world fit for heroes to lounge in; neither would our service men want it, for idleness and happiness are not synonymous terms. But we do want employment for our ex-service men which will guarantee them against the spectre of want.

PROBLEM OF EX-SERVICE MEN

How shall we stand as regards our ex-service men in this Presidency? Madras has supplied more men to the army than any other province except the Punjab, and there are at the present time rather more than a quarter of a million Madrassis serving with the forces. The "Grow More Food" Campaign will survive the war—it will be madness if it does not—and it should be able to absorb a considerable number of men. There are large numbers of Madrassis at present driving motor transport—the figure would surprise you. On the assumption that competition between road and rail is a thing of the past, though it may yet rear its ugly head again, there should be plenty of employment available. Roads will require to be built and existing roads re-conditioned and here again is employment for many, but co-ordination between road and rail is essential. It may be taken for granted that industry will expand after the war, but new machinery may not be readily obtainable, and what to do with our returning technicians is a problem. There are doubtless a number of post-war plans, irrigation schemes and what not already being considered by Government, and industry and commerce will unquestionably expand, but there is a need for some organization which will tide the returning service man over the period between demobilization and the finding of employment.

As regards the Indian Navy and Air Force the question is not so acute. Both these services are in their infancy (though both have proved themselves to be lusty children) and it may well be that most of their existing personnel will elect to carve out a career for themselves after the war in one or other of the services.

ANOTHER SIDE

But post-war reconstruction has another side to it than looking after the returned soldier, and the ultimate aim is the raising of the standard of living of the millions of this country. This must necessarily be a gradual process and experience has already shown that amongst the illiterate populace changes are regarded with the eye of suspicion. The urge to earn more money and thus improve the standard of living is absent, and the labourer's chief desideratum is leisure. There is a pathetic contentment which has little thought above subsistence, provided subsistence is combined with ample leisure. Sufficient food, sufficient clothing and a roof are all that is looked for; better food, better clothing and better housing seem to be beyond the labourer's ambition.

By SIR ROBERT DENNISTON, *Kt.*

There are many changes one would like to see in a reconstructed world and one or two of them spring to my mind. There are two classes of the community whose lot I should like to see bettered, hospital nurses, and school teachers. The nurse's case shrieks to High Heaven for redress. She works long hours for the most meagre of wages and it is to me a most devastating thought that so noble a calling should be so parsimoniously rewarded. After all the nurse's job is to relieve suffering and to save life and a high degree of training and efficiency is called for. At the present time the ridiculously low standard of wages acts as a deterrent to recruitment, and it seems not unreasonable to ask that those responsible for the preservation of life should themselves receive a living wage.

The moulding of the character of the young is, you may think, a matter of some importance, and Germany has shown us what can be done when you "catch 'em young." It is true that the young Hun is a horrifying product of a revolting system but he has been trained on the wrong lines. Cannot as much be done if the youth of a country is trained on the right lines? Then why should not the people who train them—the school masters—be paid a salary in accordance with the importance of their task. I heard of a case the other day, not in this Presidency, where the headmaster of a school was drawing the same salary as one of my office peons.

—REHABILITATION

THE COST

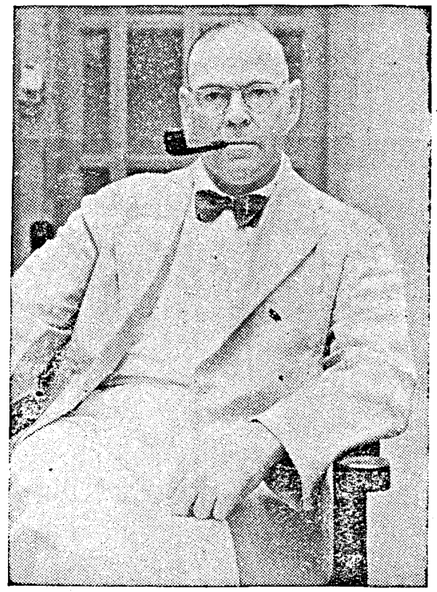
It is all very well, you will say, to generalize like this, but think of the cost. Of course the cost will be immense, but if this better world is to come about something will have to be done. In war time Government announces a new loan and in half an hour it is over-subscribed. Cannot something of the same kind be done in peace time? I believe there is no more important factor in the future of the world's well-being than the training of the world's youth.

Another thing I should like to see in this country is the abolition of the man-propelled vehicle. There are jobs for beasts of burden and there are jobs for human being, and the pulling or pushing of hand-cart does not, to my mind, come within the latter category.

I often reflect on the outlook of the young Indian in search of employment, and sometimes wonder if a somewhat more robust approach to his prospective employer would not serve him in better stead. It has been my fortune, whether good or bad I will leave you to decide, to receive some thousands of applications for employment, and almost without exception they might have been written by one and the same person. Seventy-five per cent of them start "with due respect and humble submission" and 99 per cent of them use the word "Humble." What is there to be humble about in searching for employment? To earn one's own living should be a source of pride rather than of humility. I suppose this anæmic formula dates back to the days of the old East India Company. By the same token I perjure my soul every time I write to a Government official and tell him "I have the honour to be his obedient servant". I have the greatest respect for the Government official, but I don't regard it as a particular honour to write to him and have probably not the slightest intention of obeying him. He, in his turn, thinks it no honour to reply to me (if he did I should get his reply quicker) and would laugh at the notion of obeying me. Isn't it all stupid? What has this, you will say, to do with post-war reconstruction? Very little I admit, except that I do not regard the retention of a red-tape factory as a pre-requisite to post-war prosperity.

TIME FOR INITIATIVE AND DRIVE

If ever there were a time for initiative and drive it will be after the war, and there will be room for trustful and ambitious young men. There are so many who, once they have obtained employment, are content just to be employed. I am fond of a parable which illustrates the difference between the clerk and the manager—the man of no ambition and the thruster. A clerk is one who knows a great deal about a very little and he goes on knowing more and more about less and less until finally he knows practically everything about nothing. A manager is one who knows a very little about a great deal, and he goes on knowing less and less about more and more until finally he knows practically nothing about everything. Silly, I know, but think it over.



SIR ROBERT DENNISTON, *Kt.*

Other countries have given careful thought to the health of the youth of the Nation, and playing fields are things which might well be in the forefront of the minds of those who are occupied with post-war planning. But surely, some may say, sports are not sufficiently important to merit a place in any scheme of reconstruction. I will refrain from quoting the appropriate Latin Tag, but physical fitness is a not unimportant factor in the youth of a nation, and the comradeship of the cricket field and the football ground does more to develop character than the speeches of all the politicians put together.

LAUGH AT YOURSELVES

And as a panacea for all ills I would recommend all individuals and all Nations to learn to laugh at themselves. Then we shall all think less of prestige and face saving and become quite respectable human beings. Can I act up to my own precepts, you may ask. I will tell you a story. In the early days of the war a young gentleman of advanced views condescended to look upon me as his employer. In the course of censorship routine certain of his letters were intercepted and as the result of the views therein expressed he left the country. A long time afterwards I discovered that in one of his letters he had described me as "Kind but mentally negligible." Perhaps he was right.

—A talk broadcast recently from A.I.R., Madras.

This is an American propaganda notice: —

Our forefathers did without sugar until the thirteenth century, without coal fires until the fourteenth century, without buttered bread until the fifteenth century, without potatoes until the sixteenth, without coffee, tea and soap until the seventeenth, without pudding until the eighteenth, without gas, matches and electricity until the nineteenth, without canned goods until the twentieth, and we have had automobiles for only a few years. . . .

Now, what was it you were complaining about?

* * *

The American soldier didn't like the food set before him in a restaurant near Piccadilly Circus. The meat was overcooked, the greens waterlogged, and reheated potatoes lukewarm.

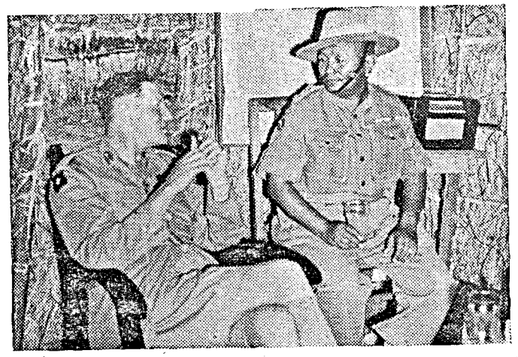
He called for his bill, leaving a barely-touched plate on the table. The aged waiter was shocked.

"Wasting food like that!" he said. "Don't you know that food will win the war?"

"May be," retorted the American. "But who's gonna get the enemy to eat here?"

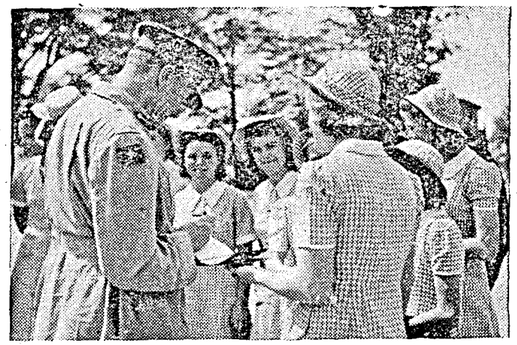
C.-IN-C. VISITS JUNGLE TRAINING UNITS

Indian troops, training in some of the country's wildest jungle, have just been visited in their forest camps by the Commander-in-Chief, India, General Sir Claude Auchinleck. The Commander-in-Chief met many officers, V.C.Os. and N.C.Os. and talked to large numbers of troops on their work.

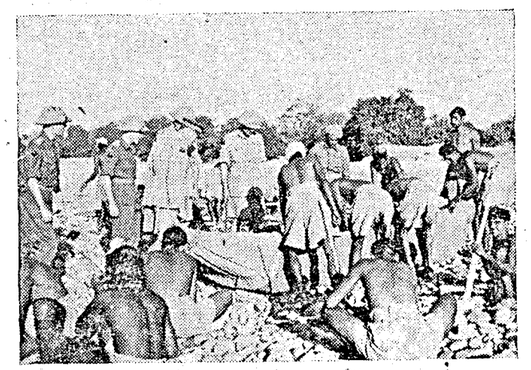


The Commander in-Chief chats with Subedar-Major Lakpa Tshering Lama Bahadur, I.O.M. of Tenth Gurkha Rifles.

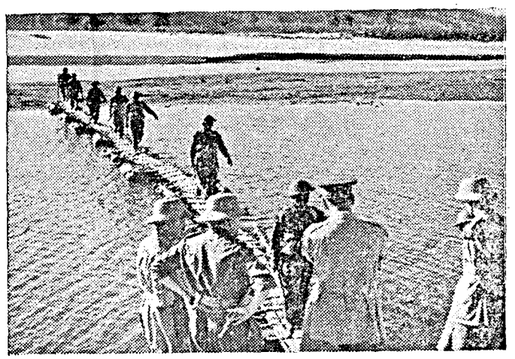
The Commander-in-Chief visited a service canteen and talked to some of the men.



The Commander-in-Chief signing autograph books of the girl prefects at the Lawrence Royal Military School at Sanwar.



The Commander-in-Chief watching troops learning how to improvise boats and rafts from their groundsheets and bamboo.



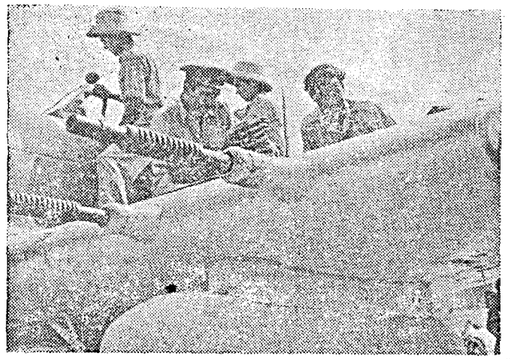
The Commander-in-Chief watching soldiers crossing a river on a pontoon bridge which they have improvised from groundsheets and bamboo.

INDIAN AIR FORCE OVER BURMA

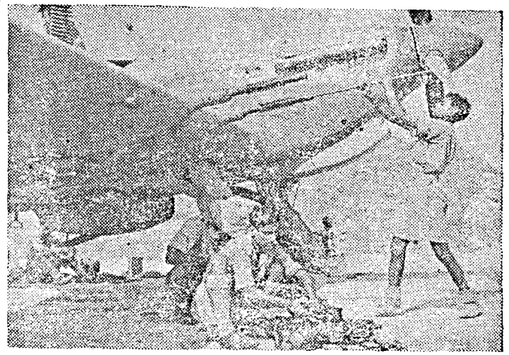
Pictures "exclusive" to *Madras War Review.*

The Indian Air Force has played a very prominent part in the recent operations on the Burma Front. It has been of immense help in pounding the enemy positions as well as in carrying supplies to our forces.

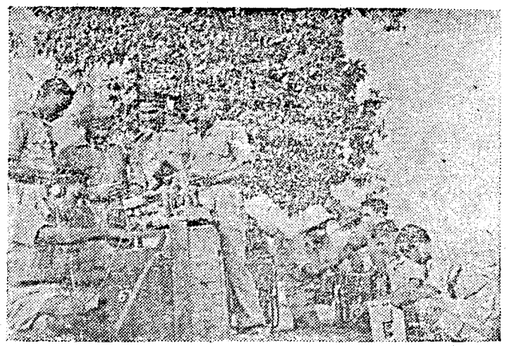
F/O Rao, F/Lt. Herbert P. Gnanolivu the squadron's M O., and F/Lt. R. Raja Ram, all of Madras, with Bonzo, the pet of the squadron.



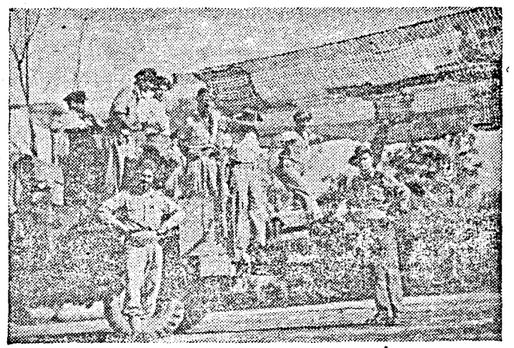
An Indian Air Force Hurricane Squadron. Here F O Surendra of Bangalore checks the ammunition load d by the armourers AC P. M. Nair (Malabar), LAC C. V. J. Rao (Bangalore), AC P. Narasimhulu (Madras) and AC Kekre (Nagpur).



Armament of the "Hurries" have to be regularly and carefully serviced when machines return from a sortie. Here ground crew are engaged in cleaning and re-loading the cannons.



Beneath the spreading mango tree mechanics repair radios. Left to right: AC Hamza from Malabar, Sgt. Narasingham from Madras, Cpl. Mani Singh from Rawalpindi. P/O Z. A Aziz from Jullundur, signal officer with seven years service, AC Rangiah from Andhra, Sgt Gopalan from Coimbatore, Sgt Joseph from Karachi, LAC Rozario from Bombay. AC Asirvatham from Madras and LAC Satwant Singh from Ferozpur.



Flight crew arrive at their respective "pens" ready for a sortie. In the group are seen men belonging to different provinces of India and their high spirits are reflected in their cheerful faces. They are eager for action.

ANTI-HOARDING AND PROFITEERING ORDINANCE

By MR. C. C. DESAI, I.C.S.

WHEN the Ordinance was first promulgated, it was the general, if not universal, belief that it would remain a mere paper legislation and that such an omnibus control could not but prove ineffective and impracticable. Difficulties there were and still exist. It would be foolish to ignore them or even to minimise them, but it can be said, without undue optimism, that the fears and misgivings which were entertained at that time have by experience been found to be exaggerated. You would naturally expect me to give you some facts in support of my view and I propose to do so in this talk.

Newspapers bear testimony that cases of hoarding and profiteering are being daily reported, investigated, detected and tried all over the country. There has been no discrimination, racial, political, communal or otherwise, in the selection of persons against whom the law has had to be set in motion. Firms which have been prosecuted include European firms of Calcutta, Lahore and Delhi and some leading Indian firms of Delhi, Lucknow, Lahore, Peshawar, Calcutta, Madras, Cawnpore, Ahmedabad and Bombay. We were told that the pubic would not be forthcoming with complaints but fortunately this fear has also been proved to be wrong. We are daily receiving complaints from the public, including many ladies and they have obviously not fought shy of lodging information and difficulties of attending courts as witnesses have not deterred victims of profiteering from handing over the guilty greedy. It is not that we receive complaints only from Government servants; it is not that we receive complaints only from Europeans; in fact, we receive complaints from all classes of people, Indian as well as European, rich as well as poor, individuals as well as firms. The Press, which is highly critical of all Government controls, has been extremely sympathetic and helpful in giving publicity to, and in mobilising public opinion in support of, the control measures.

INTERESTING CASES

I have culled a few interesting court cases to show the tightening grip of the Ordinance. In the United Provinces alone, in a single month 217 cases were instituted under the Ordinance. Of these 199 have been decided so far, 168 resulting in convictions. Punishments in the United Provinces have been deterrent and the result has been more reasonable prices in the United Provinces area. In Delhi, 95 cases were registered during a period of 10 weeks. Of these, 28 have already been sent to courts. In some of them, the offenders have been sentenced to varying terms of imprisonment, while in others, heavy fines have been imposed. In a single month, the Bombay Government sanctioned 35 prosecutions under the Ordinance. They included cases of overcharging, refusal to sell, failure to issue a cash memo, and failure to exhibit price lists. The cases were drawn from all over the Province.

Most of the cases decided relate to profiteering. A fine of Rs. 1,000 was imposed on a shopkeeper of Bareilly for charging four annas extra on a packet of cigarettes. A cycle dealer was sentenced to a fine of Rs. 1,200 for charging twelve annas extra for a cycle tube and for refusing to issue a cash memo. A retail dealer in Bombay was fined 3,640 pice for charging *one pice* extra on a box of matches. In another case of overcharging by one pice, a fine of Rs. 700 or in default 2 months rigorous imprisonment was imposed. A merchant at Ferozepur was sentenced to 6 months rigorous imprisonment for selling a piece of leather at double the control price. A dealer in Calcutta has just been sentenced to 3 months rigorous imprisonment for selling some tins of Black and White cigarettes at Rs. 16 per tin against the controlled rate of Rs. 1-14-0. The convictions of the Assistant Manager and Saleswoman of a European firm at Calcutta, for selling a fountain pen at above the controlled rate resulted in the Assistant Manager being fined Rs. 500 and the saleswoman being fined Rs. 100. An agency report from Lucknow recently said that the Ordinance was being rigidly enforced by the authorities over there. Three cases of arrests in a single day were mentioned. At Gorakhpur a boy of 14 figured as the principal accused in a case of profiteering. He was found guilty, but was released under the First Offenders' Act on execution of a bond for better behaviour in future. The proprietor of the shop was awarded a sentence of 4 months and a fine of Rs. 1,000. The offence was the sale of a tin of cigarettes at a profit of more than 100 per cent. It is significant to add that the plea of the proprietor that he was absent from the shop at the time of the sale was of no avail to him. The proprietor of an electrical concern at Madras was sentenced a fortnight ago to undergo 3 months rigorous imprisonment for selling electric bulbs at profits ranging from 450 per cent to 600 per cent. The proprietor of another firm was sentenced to a similar term of imprisonment on a similar charge. The trying magistrate observed, "The accused sold his goods three weeks after purchase at prices which were atrociously in excess of what he had paid. The object of the Ordinance is to put down precisely this sort of gross anti-social conduct."

OFFENCES

Refusal to sell goods and to issue a cash memo are offences under the Ordinance. Observing that refusal to sell was an intolerable offence as it meant that the customer must either yield to the greed of the profiteer or go without the article, a Delhi Magistrate sentenced a dealer to a fine of Rs. 1,000. The dealer had quoted an excessive price for a gramophone record album and on demand of a cash memo, refused to sell the album at all. Similarly, a cycle dealer in another town was arrested for refusing to sell cycle spare parts which he had in stock. A dealer in Cawnpore was sentenced to pay a fine of Rs. 200 for refusing to issue a bill.

And remember, shop assistants who aid and abet the guilty profiteer and who really act as the agent or the tool of the proprietor, will not escape punishment. A shopkeeper and his assistant at Calcutta were found guilty of selling a tin of boot polish for Rs. 1-8-0 as against the controlled price of As. 9. They were fined Rs. 500 and Rs. 100, respectively. The practice under the Ordinance is to prosecute both the proprietor and the salesman, one as the principal accused and the other as the abetter. I hope the cases related by me are sufficient to carry conviction in any quarter as to the earnestness of Government to enforce this control rigidly and relentlessly.

PRICES HAVE FALLEN

Ceiling prices have been announced under the Ordinance for a large number of consumer goods, such as woollen cloth, fountain pens, cycles and cycle spare parts, photographic materials, cigarettes, artificial silk yarn, cartridges, electric bulbs, razor blades, radio valves and parts, boot polishes and more recently, silk cloth. Prior to the promulgation of the Ordinance, prices had soared more than 300 per cent for almost all these items; they exceeded even 500 per cent in the case of boot polishes, woollen goods and cartridges. The Ordinance aimed at checking this tide of price inflation and at bringing about an appreciable reduction in prices in order to afford relief to the average consumer. The Ordinance has not been without its effect. The upward trend of prices has been definitely arrested and in many cases there has been a fair fall in prices. I have collected figures showing the percentage reduction so far effected over peak prices in the case of a number of items of which ceiling prices have been fixed under the Ordinance. The average reduction in cycles and cycle parts has been 36 per cent; in fountain pens 53 per cent; in woollen goods 54 per cent, in razor blades 55 per cent; in cartridges 55 per cent and boot polishes 62 per cent over the prevailing pre-Ordinance prices. Although these results could not but be viewed with satisfaction, I am free to admit that the current prices are still far above the pre-war levels or above the increases which have been allowed to take place in such countries as the United Kingdom, Australia, Canada and South Africa. It is not possible to attain the results achieved in those countries in view of the delay in starting this campaign against profiteering. It would be futile to try to force the prices down too far or too fast until the supply position improves and secondly until there is a corresponding fall in the cost of living all-round.

SQUARE DEAL FOR ALL

The intention of Government, let me emphasise here, is, as announced by the Honourable Member in charge of the Department of Industries and Civil Supplies, at the time of the promulgation of the Ordinance, to operate the law in consultation with all interests concerned, particularly the trade and the consumers. We want a square deal for all. It is obvious that although the bulk of the mercantile community has been guilty of gross profiteering in the past, it serves a vital purpose in the economic life of the country. Without their advice and co-operation no control could be effective, howsoever strong and vigilant the enforcement machinery may be. Accordingly a number of advisory and consultative trade panels have been constituted. They relate to wireless sets, books, woollen goods, silk fabrics, toilet goods, wines, fountain pens, and arms and ammunitions. Two new panels relating to cycles and optical goods have recently been formed. More will be set up as the necessity for them is felt. Government have also set up a Central Consumers' Council composed of prominent non-official men and women.

PUBLIC CO-OPERATION

So far I have spoken of what Government is doing to control the tendency at hoarding and profiteering. I wish, however, to emphasise that all these efforts of Government would be of no avail unless public co-operation is forthcoming and fortunately for us it has been made available in larger and larger measure, wherever we extend our operations. Our biggest headache, of course, is the blackmarket. Here too, public consciousness and public co-operation are the best solvent. The public can co-operate firstly by refusing to buy anything at uncontrolled price except in a grave emergency, and secondly, by giving information of every case in which an unreasonable or uncontrolled price has been charged. Constant vigilance against anti-social elements should be the public watchword. To prevent leakage of goods into blackmarkets, Government is likely to adopt in the near future a system of controlled distribution of goods, imported as well as indigenous. Consumer goods will be distributed to reliable traders so as to obviate chances of their leakage into blackmarkets or of profiteering. When the scheme is actually launched, I shall explain it in greater detail in my next talk. But blackmarkets will still persist in respect of old stocks. After all, blackmarkets exist in all countries, including even those where public opinion is highly organized. I cling to the belief, even at the risk of being caricatured as an optimist in the Press, that, given public co-operation and public awakening, blackmarket can be reduced to minimum dimensions, in which state it could well be ignored.

AN UPHILL TASK

Such are the facts and I have let them speak for themselves, because there is no better corrective to facile optimism or cynical despondence than hard, proved facts. I have toured extensively all over the country from Shillong in the East to Peshawar in the West, gathering first-hand the reactions of the different interests concerned. There is no gainsaying the fact that the grip of the Ordinance is getting tighter and tighter. Ours is an uphill task, but there will be no relenting, and the Ordinance will be evoked to the requirements of the country, without let or hindrance, without fear or favour.

—A talk broadcast recently from A.I.R., Bombay.

MADAME CHIANG KAI-SHEK

YEARS ago, on being asked what was her ambition in life, a moon-faced Chinese girl replied straightaway that she wanted to be a doctor. The questioner must have been a little perplexed, for it was an astonishing reply for a Chinese child at that time. To-day, though not as a doctor, she is known and respected the world over as Madame Chiang Kai-shek, First Lady of China.

Youngest daughter of "Charlie" Soong, a Methodist Minister, Mayling Soong was sent to America for her education. She spent 10 years in the United States.

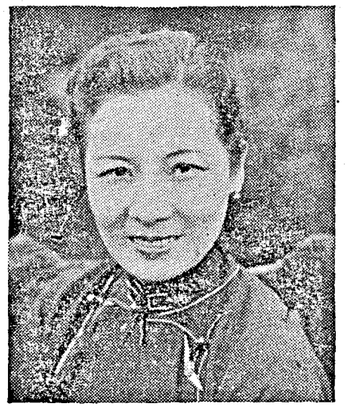
Returning to China in 1917, Mayling was engaged for some time in social work in Shanghai. She was also on the Film Censorship Committee and the Child Labour Commission, the first Chinese to be invited to do so by the Municipal Council.

It was in Shanghai that General Chiang Kai-shek met her and decided to marry her. But her mother's opposition stood in the way. It took 10 years to overcome it and they married in 1927.

Since then she has been his help-mate, confidant, guide and mentor—and his constant companion. She helped him to launch the New Life Movement, aimed at the moral, social and cultural uplift of the masses. She led campaigns to wipe off the old evils of dirt, opium and poverty, and stirred up civic consciousness and social responsibilities. It was hard work, but she never flinched.

Madame Chiang was in Nanking when Chiang went to Sian to suppress a revolt and was kidnapped and held prisoner by Marshal Chang. "As I have made up my mind to sacrifice my life, if necessary, for my country please do not worry for me," he wrote her, "I will never do anything to make my wife ashamed of me."

The thought of freeing him uppermost in her mind, she flew to Sian.



MADAME CHIANG KAI-SHEK.

Handing over her revolver to their Australian adviser, W. H. Donald, she asked him to shoot her in case they captured her. Chiang was moved to the verge of tears by her courage.

She has braved the worst bombing raids. Once she was thrown clear off her car and lay unconscious in the mud with a broken rib. Nothing, however, daunts her. Seven years of war and she is still at her husband's side, organizing resistance, helping to beat back the ruthless aggressor. And Chinese women have rallied to her call in one great war effort—not only in munitions, hospitals and auxiliary services, but in farming, education, development of industries and natural resources and similar constructive work.

To-day, the child who wanted to be a doctor is helping to heal the war wounds of a nation and to withstand and throw out the ruthless foe.

LONDON ON "D" DAY

By DAVID LOW

A press photographer told me that on "D" Day his assignment was to take pictures of public reactions in London to the news of our successful landings. "After all", he reflected, "in Germany they used to announce the momentous doings of Hitler's war machine with fanfares of trumpets".

Well, he started with the Stock Exchange, he found it pretty much as usual for wartime: a sprinkling of subdued gentlemen carrying on some subdued dealings, no picture. So he went to Leicester Square and Piccadilly Circus, no picture there either. Both places looked strangely empty, which only goes to show how used we've grown to see London full of Yanks and what a hole they leave when they suddenly vanish.

Well, my friend took a taxi, and went to Westminster Abbey a handful of people, no picture. What is this—the famous English phlegm? My photographer friend saw that he hadn't the right idea, so he went and photographed the ducks on St. James's Park Lake.

It seemed that everybody was going about his or her business just as though we were not at the beginning of a crucial phase in history. Bigger queues for the newspapers and later for the news cinemas, but otherwise one might have concluded that nobody was particularly interested.

As a people we entered this war reluctantly, with disgust, cursing Hitler for having laid the job on us with no escape. If we had to do it we had to learn to do it thoroughly; we made mistakes: we had disasters. We've dinned into one another, day and night: "Don't be complacent, don't be complacent". Small wonder then now that we are a bit guarded in our expression of emotion.

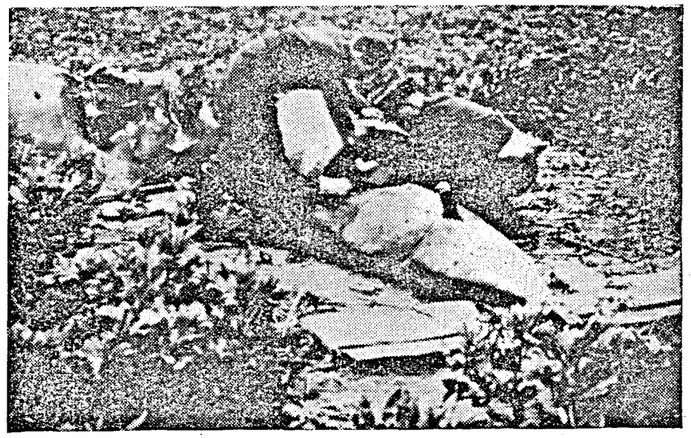
—Condensed from a recent B.B.C. talk.

"NOT AN EFFECTIVE MILITARY WEAPON"

GOVERNMENT have wisely taken the nation into their confidence without delay on the subject of attacks by the so-called new weapon which the Germans have launched, writes *The Times*. It adds:

Provided that the pilotless aeroplane stays its course without accident or interference, radio operators can count with fair certainty on bringing the missile aeroplane down on a particular county or large city, but that is the limit of their powers.

Failing close and frequent observation of the fall of these contrivances—a difficult, hazardous and costly task for the depleted and hard-pressed Luftwaffe of to-day—it is clearly a matter of pure chance if the enemy inflicts any military damage whatever by this form of attack. Since he will naturally endeavour, to obtain all possible information of its results in order to improve his technique and impart some precision to his missiles, it is essential that he should learn nothing.



British fighter pilots examine a German flying bomb shot down in southern England.

LIMIT OF EFFECTIVENESS

Militarily, therefore, the new weapon cannot have the slightest effect on the course of the war. It may inflict a certain degree of loss and injury on the civilian population, but that, so far as can be foreseen, is likely to be the limit of its effectiveness.

The aim of these nuisance raids is, no doubt, to shake the morale of the British public which has never been stronger than to-day and to comfort the German people who, with vast devastated areas in all their great industrial cities and with defeat overtaking them on every front, are urged to cling to the hope that some new weapon may save them from overthrow, which they are at last beginning to foresee.

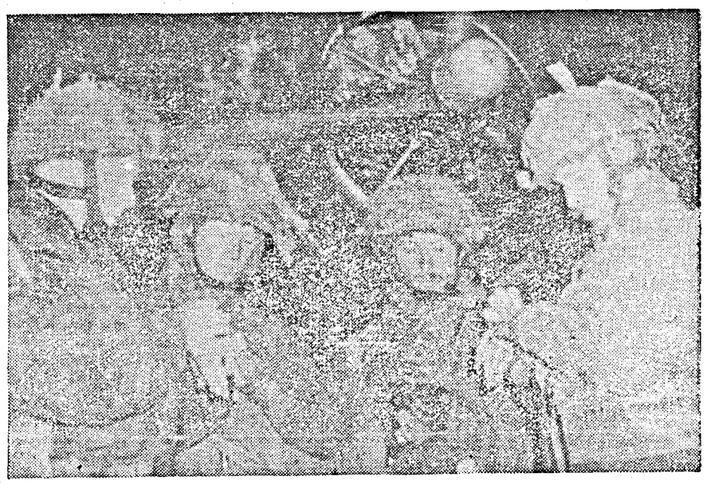
It is certainly strange that the Germans should have chosen this stage of the war for their experiment. To suppose that the British people, cheered by successes of the Allied forces—and not least their own—on every front, and above all by the successful landings in France will be in any degree shaken by sporadic and random attacks not to be compared with those which they suffered in 1940-41, alone, their allies defeated, their maritime lifelines threatened, is to court derision. The attempt will only increase British determination to make an end of the system which has sedulously employed military terrorism as the chief instrument of its tyrannous political aims.

WILL HARDEN ALLIED FIGHTING TEMPER

It can have no effect on the progress of the Allied armies in France, except that it will harden their fighting temper. It will be rightly interpreted in Allied and neutral countries for what it is—the last exhibition of venom against the island which has stood between the aggressor and his plans.

The Allies have sought in all their air attacks—of which the raid by American Super-Fortresses on Japan is the latest and particularly daring and brilliant example—to inflict maximum military damage. They have understood—the Germans still do not—that terrorism, all other considerations apart, though exercised by the unsparing use of the deadliest German weapons—and the pilotless bomber is not one of these—has had no more at least than a brief and temporary effect on the course of the war.

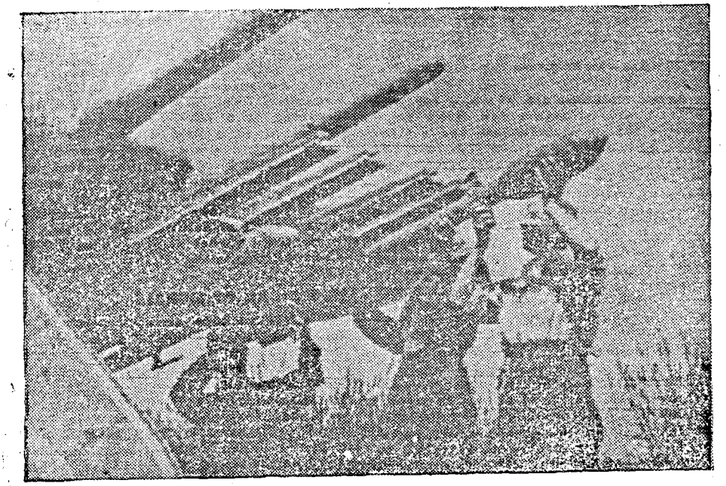
Thus the ruthless and deliberate bombing of Rotterdam may have hastened by a few days the surrender of the outweaponed and isolated Dutch army, but its only effect on the spirit of the Dutch people was to kindle the deep and abiding anger and resolve to hold out against the usurper by every possible means. That has been the universal reply throughout Europe to the calculated brutality of German methods.



British air-borne troops who made the first landings set their watches before taking off.

ALLIED AIRFIELDS IN FRANCE

By GEORGE FYFE



Royal Air Force ground crew bombing up a Typhoon with rockets on an airstrip in France.

THE Allies are no longer compelled to carry out all their operations from English bases. They are flying from airfields that are in immediate proximity to the enemy.

In effect, the Second Tactical Air Force has opened a fresh beachhead—of the air. This means that the water barrier has been overcome.

Until now all our fighters operating over the Cherbourg Peninsula had to make a comparatively long journey to reach the battle area. Two hundred miles, representing a round trip, were a factor of some importance.

Squadrons which up to a few days ago had to set forth daily from England are now on the spot. They can get in the sky and deal with any urgent call without an instant's delay.

Pilots who took off to-day as usual from an English airfield would find they had no need to return to their starting point. By landing on an airfield in France that has been made for all practical purposes a replica of the one they had left at home, they were overseas for the duration.

This big achievement has been made possible by the gallant R.A.F. servicing commandos, aided by an R.A.F. regiment and other important units like the R.A.F. Signals. On the day of the landings servicing commandos made swiftly for their objectives. Picked men of the R.A.F. Signals performed a remarkable job of first-class importance. Nothing deterred these resolute men.

SPEED AND SKILL

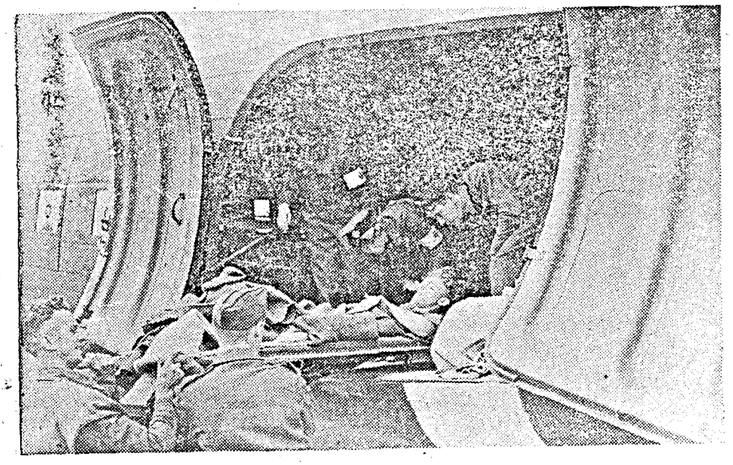
The speed with which they acted and the skill with which they took advantage of their opportunity paved the way for all that has followed. Never previously in air warfare have ground forces put up a more magnificent show on behalf of pilots.

To appreciate the extent of our achievement in establishing airfields so quickly it is necessary to bear in mind the vast complicated organization of a modern air station. In peacetime it might have taken weeks or months to transfer it. In war it has been done within a few days, without the slightest interference with the smooth running of the machine.

Ability to operate from the new airfields is a very practical demonstration of the superiority we have gained and no one could be prouder at being chosen to lead in this new set-up than the small army of Canadian pilots concerned. They belong to a crack fighter sector and all are members of the Royal Canadian Air Force.

Spitfires were selected as the best possible type of aircraft for the work in hand. These pilots, one or two of whom played their part in the Battle of Britain, have noteworthy records. With a highly experienced commander in the person of Group Capt. W. R. MacBrien at their head, with wings led by some of the greatest air fighters of the war, they are as fearless as they are efficient.

Daily Telegraph.



R.A.F. TRANSPORT COMMAND EVACUATE THE WOUNDED FROM FRANCE—Aircraft of R.A.F. Transport Command fly supplies to France and return to Britain with battle casualties.

Picture shows an army stretcher case being loaded into an R.A.F. Douglas Dekota transport for the air journey to England.

The Nazi leaders were playing contract bridge in Hitler's mountain retreat.

"Three diamonds," said Goering.

"No bid," said Goebbels.

"Five diamonds," said von Ribbentrop.

"One club," said Hitler.

"Pass"

"Pass"

"Pass."

MOUNTING THE ATTACK

[*This is the continuation of the article "Planning and Mounting the Assault" published in the last week's issue.*]

We have so far surveyed briefly the elaborate planning and organization which had to be carried out in order to ensure that when the Assault Force had effected a landing, its reinforcement and maintenance should not suffer from any failure of supplies. Before going on to a description of the actual administrative mechanism which had to be put into operation to launch the assault, a word must be said about the work which had to be performed by Home Commands and Districts (the basic military organization in Britain) in connection with the preparation of the "springboard"—that is the concentration and marshalling areas from which the Expeditionary Forces would proceed to their allotted embarkation points.

TASKS OF HOME COMMANDS

In the first place, Command staffs had to arrange for the provision of requisitioned buildings or tented camps—involving much work by the R.E. and Pioneer Corps—for the reception of each "invasion" division on its arrival in the concentration area. On completion of its journey, undertaken partly by road and partly by rail in accordance with the timetable arranged by "Movements" and involving the provision of staging camps for road parties en route, each division had to be provided with special instructions, giving a guide to all local supply depots and welfare facilities.

In the concentration area, as already stated, formations drew supplies and did their own cooking in the normal way, but an immense amount of detailed work had to be done by Commands in executing the plans for feeding greatly increased numbers of troops and in seeing that all discrepancies in equipment and stores were made good, all boots "vetted", and all vehicles brought up to full-scale. At this stage, moreover, the waterproofing of vehicles had to be carried out—an aspect of assault organization which may appropriately be dealt with at this point, and which brings us to the work of yet another branch—the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers.

WATERPROOFING

As already indicated, an essential part of the plan of attack was the assault of beaches and the maintenance of the attacking Force over them for an indeterminate period. This meant that many thousands of mechanical vehicles had to be waterproofed. Secondly, mechanical provision had to be made for the employment of numerous special weapons designed for the assault; and, lastly, steps had to be taken to ensure, so far as is humanly possible, that the progress of the mechanical equipment of the attacking forces from concentration area to marshalling area and from marshalling area to embarkation point was not impeded either by the breakdown of vehicles or by road blocks caused through damage to vehicles by enemy air attack.

Though the solution to the first problem—the landing of vehicles over a beach—was found in the single word "waterproofing", the development of the technique of waterproofing presented intricate problems which the Directorate of Mechanical Engineering had to solve.

As all motorists are aware, a car with a reasonable clearance can safely negotiate a shallow water-splash and a standard 3-ton lorry, provided it is carefully driven, can proceed through freshwater of greater depth. For the purposes, however, of an amphibious operation, not merely was it necessary to scope with the corrosive effects of seawater, but tanks and other vehicles would have to be driven ashore from landing craft through water which might be rough and whose depth might well exceed the capacity of a vehicle not specially adapted.

The problem of waterproofing, moreover, must not be thought of solely in terms of normal fighting and supply vehicles. The task had also to be accomplished of waterproofing the vulnerable contents of an immense list of special vehicles ranging from office trucks to self-propelled artillery.

Many hundreds of R.E.M.E. personnel had to be dispersed in concentration and marshalling areas to deal with water-proofing and the task of urgent recovery and repair of vehicles which might develop mechanical faults or be damaged by enemy action on the way to the embarkation point. In addition, much work, of which it is not yet possible to write, had to be done by the R.E.M.E. for many months past in making special modifications to vehicles required by the plan of attack, and in the fitting to specially adapted vehicles of special weapons and devices for use in the assault.

After this digression, it is time to return to the sea-ward movement of the attacking force, with whose well-being Home Commands and Districts had still much to do.

To be ready for the movement of troops from their concentration areas to the marshalling areas in which preparation for embarkation had to be done, an elaborate traffic control system had to be worked out by Commands and Districts. Along each main road control points had to be established—linked by telephone with ambulance posts and vehicle recovery posts (for breakdowns), and with Civil Defence Headquarters, in case enemy action should render any road temporarily impassable. In the Commands concerned, the strength of the military police had to be more than doubled for traffic control duties, and each man "on point" had to be specially trained and briefed for his task.

Finally, when Movements set going the flow of formations from concentration to marshalling areas, Command Headquarters had to work out details, a day ahead, for all the road convoys and rail parties involved. This planning was done in a control room at each Command Headquarters, where civil police, railways and all sides of Civil Defence were represented. Provision had to be made for many contingencies the breakdown of vehicles necessitating replacement from Command stocks; casualties of personnel, through accident or sickness, which must be made good from a specially organized local reinforcement pool; the bombing of a convoy; the last minute mislaying of a field dressing or small, but essential piece of equipment. In the Control Room, an illuminated map showed the progress of every convoy along the road in its passage to the demarcation line between concentration area and marshalling area—a line represented by what are known as "Road Convoy Regulating Points".

THE WORK OF SIGNALS

This is perhaps an appropriate place at which to interpolate a not on the immense work which had to be done by the Royal Corps of Signals in preparing for the assault. They had not to meet the demands of the British Army, but also had to plan and execute (with the loyal collaboration of the G.P.O.'s depleted staff), the greatly expanded network required for the U.S. Forces in the United Kingdom, and for the communications of Supreme Headquarters. This involved the putting into operation, since 1942, of thousands of new circuits, and the installation of millions miles of telephone wire.

Of particular importance, in order to ensure that no bottlenecks developed through faulty communications, was the provision of an elaborate communications network in the concentration and marshalling areas. At the Headquarters of each marshalling area, a considerable telephone exchange had to be established, with a smaller exchange in each subsidiary headquarters in the camp. Moreover, as a means of giving instructions to troops as to marshalling arrangements, the Signal Corps had to provide and man many scores of static and mobile loud-speaker equipments in the marshalling area.

MARSHALLING THE FORCE

The reasons why special marshalling areas had to be provided for the operations have already been adumbrated, but call now for perhaps fuller explanation. In the case of the despatch of an army on a long overseas voyage which is to end in an attack (for instance, the expedition of the First Army to North Africa), large ocean-going transports are employed, on some of which a complete Brigade can be accommodated. The final tactical dispositions of the troops for an assault performed by landing craft are, in fact, made on board ship. For shore-to-shore attacks, however, the tactical leading of the assault craft has be done before embarkation.

This principle, as has been shown, is that the first wave of the assault should land as far as possible in the form of self-supporting combat teams. Furthermore, even in the case of following "flights", it is desirable that risks from enemy action during the passage should

be spread by distributing among the assault craft infantry, gunners, sappers, and so forth, so that whatever casualties might occur during the passage—it would still be a "balanced" assault force, its parties trained to regroup quickly into their own formations, which reached the enemy shore. And this applied also to subsequent "build-up" personnel and material.

Accordingly, the function of the marshalling area mechanism—known popularly to Movements staffs as the "mincing machine"—is to break up units (battalions armoured squadrons, batteries and so forth) into unit parties, varying numbers of which will make up a craft load.

Many months before 'D' Day for the assault was even approximately fixed, much work had to be done in the planning and organization of the mashalling areas, whose various sizes depended on the capacity of the embarkation area they were to serve. Their sites had to be selected—not too far from embarkation points to cause mechanical difficulties for water-proofed vehicles; their lay-out must be as inconspicuous as possible to the eyes of reconnoitring enemy aircraft, yet not so small as to cramp movement or cause congestion unduly vulnerable to enemy air attack. Many problems of sanitation and water-supplies had to be overcome, and many new roads built or improved, before work began on the construction of the many tented and hutted camps which were required. In this work and in the construction of camps and vehicle standings, the number of Pioneer Corps personnel employed ran, at the peak, to many thousands.

"HOTEL SERVICE"

It will have been noted that, as they pass into marshalling camps, formations and units lose their identity and become simply "parties", the serially numbered components of craft loads. That is, they are no longer self-supporting as they were in the concentration area: they lack means to draw and cook rations. Each camp, therefore, had to be provided with a staff drawn from troops of Home Forces, to provide the men of the assault Force with "hotel service", as well as to control their tactical movement. A single camp, capable of containing, say, 2,500 men at one time had to be manned by a "hotel staff" of a dozen officers and 400 other ranks, including 60 cooks—not a large number when it is remembered that troops would be entering and leaving the camp at all hours of the day and night and that meals on arrival and departure would be called for, as well as the regular service of three hot meals a day.

Within the camp, apart from the small Control Staff of officers and other ranks working under the orders of Movements, guides had to be provided, no matter how carefully each camp was signposted; for units would frequently arrive in the dark, and the essence of the mounting scheme was that not a moment's unnecessary delay should occur. Special huts or tents capable of containing a large map model had also to be installed for "briefing". Then, too, in the marshalling areas, as well as in the concentration areas, a carefully balanced organization was necessary for providing casualty replacements either of men and material, and for the issue of various rations—"Lending", "Emergency" and "Bag"—described in an earlier section. Here, too, arrangements had to be made for the early despatch to the assault forces of special packs devised by N.A.A.F.I. to meet needs until Expeditionary Force Institutes could be established overseas.

THE MECHANISM OF MOVEMENT

As has been shown, the staffs of Home Commands and Districts were responsible, within the centralized Movement plan, for executing movements in detail from concentration areas down to Road Convoy Regulating Points. From there to the marshalling area, Movement Control—a local embodiment of the Q (Movements) Branch of the War Office—became responsible for the reception of troops into the marshalling camps, their conversion into craft loads and the movement of these craft loads to embarkation points. Two further subdivisions ("Sector" and "Embarkation") of Movement Control were responsible for traffic at the "hards" and for embarkation of the Force and its assault vehicles into craft, for each of which a Unit Sheet and Ship Sheet had to be devised and prepared in advance. The Unit Sheet would show the battalion, battery or squadron Commander exactly how to split his unit into parties for embarkation in different craft, while the Ship Sheet would show the craft load Commander (who is to be distinguished from the naval Commander of the vessel) exactly what unit parties would go to make up his command.

To co-ordinate the whole movement, not merely from marshalling area to craft, but seawards right from the concentration area, an Inter-Service organization was devised bearing the name of "Build-up Control". This body had three constituent elements—three heads and antennæ. One was "Turnround Control"—a naval staff organization whose responsibility was the execution of "Build-up Control's" plans in terms of assault craft and shipping movement; the second was "Movement Control", with its marshalling area, "Sector" and "Embarkation" subsidiaries. The third was a detachment of the staff of the Force Commander, whose task it would be to acquaint the Force Commander with the progress of movement, and convey his wishes to the other constituents of "Build-up Control". Their job—a day-long, night-long labour based on a great pin-pointed map showing hourly dispositions of assault craft, freight and personnel ships, naval escorts, and locations of concentrated and marshalled troops—was to execute the Commander's intentions within the limits of movement practicability.

For the first "flight" of the assault, craft could, of course, be pre-loaded at comparative leisure in accordance with plans (known as "loading tables") prepared long in advance by Brigade and unit staffs, showing detailed tactical loading requirements to fit the needs of the plan of attack. In the case, however, of the "follow-up" and "build-up" forces, a flexible mechanism—much trickier for staffs—had to be evolved to permit of variations required by the development of the battle overseas, or untoreseen shipping losses. Accordingly, though a provisional priority list for the despatch of successive formations would have been drawn up before the event in accordance with the Force Commander's wishes, a system (in which spare marshalling sub-areas played a leading part) had to be devised for controlling and, if necessary, modifying movement as the situation demanded. It is over this system that "Build-up Control" have been exercising unremitting supervision; and the job which it has to perform will continue for many days as the assault forces pass on their journey from concentration camps in the green fields of England to the dust of battle across the sea.

THE LANDING

After the sea passage, the landing—led by the first assault waves of infantry and sappers, and followed by supporting troops. Behind them again, would come the "follow-up" forces and the leading convoys of maintenance ships whose pre-loading has been described, and on board which are specially trained R.E. personnel organized by the Transportation Branch for the working of derricks and ship-to-shore barges.

Meanwhile, on shore an elaborately planned organization would have begun to take shape, consisting of Beach Groups and their various detachments. These detachments—sailors, soldiers and mariners—include personnel whose task it is to erect signs identifying each beach, marking on each the safe limits of landing and indicating wrecks, unexpected shoals and other obstructions. Other parties would immediately reconnoitre areas for the disembarking troops to assemble and reform in tactical order, and for vehicles to be sorted out. All these areas have to be marked by standardized signs.

At the same time, other parties would be setting up signal centres with wireless communication to the forward troops and to the Assault Force headquarters. Then would come the stores—Ordnance, Engineering, R.A.S.C. and Medical. For each of these a particular section of the beach would have been pre-allocated, its location being roughly determined beforehand from maps and aerial photographs.

The whole of the organization of the beach would be under the control of the officer designated—the "Beach Commander". He lands immediately after the first wave of the assault troops, and is responsible for seeing that each specialized section, either of personnel or stores, finds, as it lands, its right place in the beach area, and that it does not impede other sections as they come in and start on their tasks.

It was here, on beaches swept by enemy fire, in an assault against the strongest defence system ever constructed, that the test had to come of the efficacy of months and years of

planning, training, organization and rehearsals. The design born in the minds of men who saw the beaches of Dunkirk sink despondently below the horizon had in due season become an actuality. A British Army had begun its return to a Continent where, thirty years ago, British soldiers had striven with Allies in the cause of freedom.

POSTSCRIPT

The record, however, would be incomplete if a tribute were not paid to the many men and women, not in the Regular Army, who contributed to the preparations for the attack.

PLACE AUX DAMES

Personnel of the A.T.S. serving with the R.A.S.C., R.A.O.C., and R.E.M.E. were responsible for much of the work which had to be done in building up of reserve depots and assault depots in Britain, and for the despatch and transport of stores from depot to ship. On them—to give only a few instances—fell many tasks in the packaging of stores, in making vehicles with identification signs, and in installing and testing wireless sets and other electrical equipment. Heavy calls, too, were made on A.T.S. personnel in the course of the great expansion of signal communications in the United Kingdom which arose from the needs of the assault. Finally, to give one more example, 90 per cent of the staff of the Army Blood Supply Depot was drawn from A.T.S. personnel, who worked night and day shifts during the past six months preparing special containers and outfits to be dropped by parachute.

THE HOME GUARD

Long since, the Home Guard, formed originally to co-operate with the Regular forces in resisting an expected enemy invasion, had begun to fulfil a new function—that of releasing regular forces for operations overseas. The part which the Home Guard has thus played by supplying gun teams to supplement the regular personnel of heavy A.A. batteries, and by manning certain coast defence artillery, is familiar.

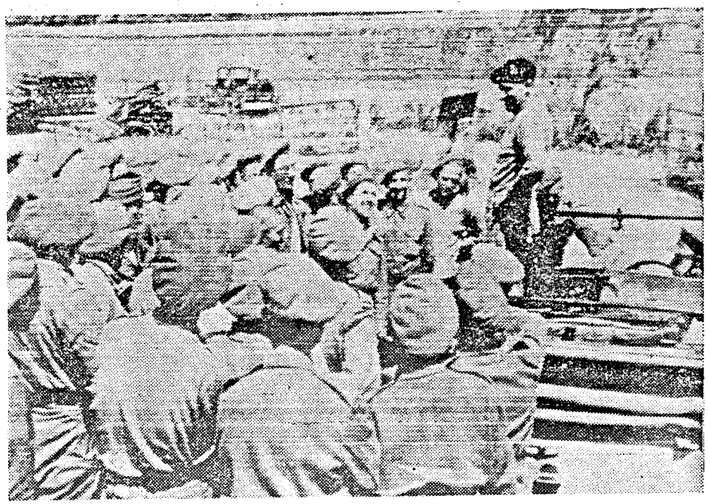
During the mounting, however, of the attack on Western Europe, there fell upon the Home Guard a special responsibility. The possibility always existed that the enemy might endeavour, by air-borne attack on concentration areas or loading ports, to bring about a dislocation of our preparations at a moment when the Expeditionary Force was being marshalled for its special purpose and was therefore not grouped tactically for defence, and when many trained men in the Home Forces divisions were temporarily diverted to special roles in speeding the mechanism for the despatch of the assault Force.

This meant that, while the assault was being prepared, the Home Guard in the areas of Britain particularly concerned had to be on extra duty in very many different ways. It would be impossible to give a generalised picture for each town and village. In one large town the Home Guard might be largely employed on rocket batteries. In another, their principal task might be to guard a railway viaduct or big ammunition store. In yet another it might be to patrol a stretch of open moorland suitable as a dropping zone for a small air-borne attack.

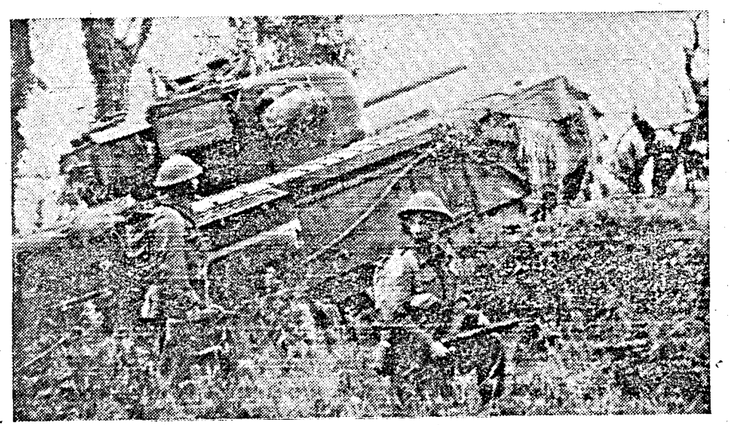
All this state of readiness and training could only be achieved by careful planning and administration. To organize an instrument of defence out of the spare time of thousands of men of different occupations, leaving them free and fit to carry on essential work, was not easy. It was done.

ONE AND ALL

When attention turns from A.T.S. and Home Guard to others who contributed to the mounting of the assault, comprehensive mention becomes impossible. There were the civil police on whose shoulders added security tasks were laid, the N.F.S. and the many Civil Defence workers. There were the merchant seamen, railwaymen, road and transport drivers and dockers, without whom the army could not have been despatched. There were the farmers who, unprotesting, gave their land for training and rehearsal; the G.P.O. staffs who gladly shouldered increased toil; the anonymous millions who cheerfully accepted billetting of troops, bans on access to cherished coasts, restricted train facilities and domestic coal shortages caused by the mobilisation of so much coastal tonnage for the assault.



General Montgomery stops his car for a roadside talk with British pioneers working near Louvers and gives them the latest news of the battle.



A Churchill tank covering infantry crashes through a hedge during the British attack between Tilly and Caen on June 28.

WAR DIARY

BRITAIN AND GERMANY

5TH JULY.—German flying bombs continued to hit places in Southern England.

Hitler had a conference with his officers.

6TH JULY.—Mr. Churchill made a statement about the flying bomb.

Flying bombs continued to attack places in Southern England. Allied aircraft attacked flying bomb bases.

American bombers attacked targets in North-West Germany.

Field Marshal Von Kluge took over the Supreme Command in the west from Field Marshal Von Rundstedt.

7TH JULY.—Flying bomb raids on Southern England continued.

Allied aircraft attacked objectives in West and Central Germany.

8TH JULY.—German flying bombs continued their raids on Southern England.

Berlin was heavily bombed last night. About 114 German planes were destroyed.

Dr. Goebbels in a speech said "The German nation is in danger."

9TH JULY.—The Germans sent more flying bombs over Southern England and London area. The battle against flying bomb menace continued.

Britain's Civil Defence system was operating against flying bombs like 'clock-work' said Mr. Herbert Morrison, Home Secretary.

Last night Royal Air Force bombers attacked objectives in Ruhr.

10TH JULY.—General Eisenhower made a statement on the flying bomb.

Mr. Churchill and President Roosevelt issued a joint statement on U-boat warfare.

Allied aircraft raided Buer last night.

11TH JULY.—Flying bombs continued to attack places in Southern England.

General Eisenhower made a statement on the task ahead.

Last night Berlin was bombed. More than 1,100 bombers attacked Munich to-day.

* * *

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE ATLANTIC

7TH JULY.—The United States Acting Secretary of War, Mr. Robert R. Patterson, said that America and Britain are building up a fire power "on and over Europe" four times greater than Germany's.

11TH JULY.—President Roosevelt indicated at his press conference that he would accept renomination and would serve a fourth term if elected.

* * *

INDIA, BURMA AND CEYLON

5TH JULY.—There was scattered fighting at points around Ukhrul.

It is revealed that Admiral Mountbatten paid a visit to the Assam-Burma front.

A recent photograph of Marshal Tito with his Chief of Staff, Major-General Arsa Yovanovich.

6TH JULY.—Japs withdrew from Siruhi, Shongphel and Dongsum.

7TH JULY.—Japs still holding out in the northern outskirts of Ukhrul offered fierce resistance.

8TH JULY.—There was great enemy activity east of Palel.

9TH JULY.—The Japs abandoned Shorbung, Preyatemei and Nagatan.

10TH JULY.—All organized enemy resistance at Ukhrul ceased.

11TH JULY.—A considerable number of small battles took place in the Ukhrul area. Allied troops captured Ougshim. There was heavy fighting near Chepu.

* * *

RUSSIA AND FINLAND

5TH JULY.—The Red Army forces captured Molodechno.

6TH JULY.—The Russian troops captured Kovel and Rakov.

7TH JULY.—The Red Army pushed towards Vilna.

8TH JULY.—The Soviet troops captured *Baranovichi*, Lyubcha, Gorodische and 150 localities. There was street fighting in Vilna.

9TH JULY.—The Red Army captured Lida. The liberation of Baltic States began. Russian troops captured several towns in Lithuania.

10TH JULY.—The Soviet troops captured Lunintes, Solnim, Pitkaranth.

11TH JULY.—The Red Army crossed into Latvia.

* * *

ITALY, AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

5TH JULY.—Despite German resistance Allied progress continued.

Pilot Officer C. J. Barton, Royal Air Force Voluntary Reserve, who has been posthumously awarded the Victoria Cross for conspicuous bravery in pressing home a bombing attack on Nuremburg.

6TH JULY.—The Eighth Army threatened the road to Florence.

7TH JULY.—The Fifth Army occupied two-thirds of Rosignano.

8TH JULY.—Allied troops completely occupied Rosignano and Castellina.

British submarines sunk 11 enemy vessels during recent patrols in the Mediterranean and Aegean waters.

9TH JULY.—The Allied troops captured Volterra.

10TH JULY.—The Eighth Army's ring round Arezzo was tightened.

It is revealed that General Alexander paid a short visit to Britain to consult Mr. Churchill and the Military Chiefs.

It is announced that the Italian Government in returning to Rome.

11TH JULY.—The Eighth Army pressure along a hundred-mile front made new penetrations north-east of Siena. The Polish troops tightened the ring round Ancona.

* * *

VICHY, FREE FRANCE AND THE OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

5TH JULY.—American troops entered La Haye du Puits.

6TH JULY.—Allied troops gained ground in Foret de Mont Castre, east of La Haye. Americans captured three villages in Cherbourg area.

7TH JULY.—United States troops opened an attack across the Vire river and also captured Aire. The battle for La Haye du Puits continued.

General De Gaulle reached Washington. He declared "The year 1944 will not pass without the last German in France being killed, captured or chased from our soil."

8TH JULY.—The British launched a great attack north-west of Caen. Three villages Herouville, Gruchy and Buron were captured. Americans captured St. Jean.

9TH JULY.—Allies captured Caen and La Haye du Puits.

10TH JULY.—The British troops captured Brittevilla Sur Odon and Mesnil. The American forces captured St. Enag.

General De Gaulle made a statement on his talks with President Roosevelt.

11TH JULY.—The Allied troops captured Louvigny, Hant Verney and Le Mesnil-Angot. The Germans stiffened their resistance in several sectors.

President Roosevelt said that the United States has decided to recognize the French Committee of National Liberation as *de facto* authority and Government in liberated areas of France pending elections.

* * *

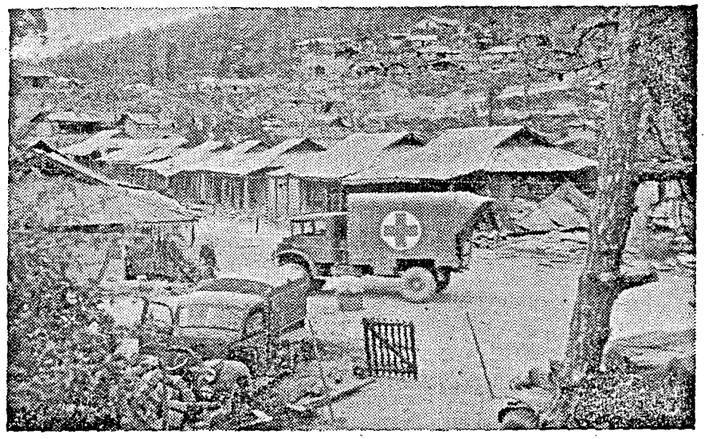
THE FAR EAST

5TH JULY.—United States planes bombed Puogima and Hahajima. Allied advance continued in Saipan and Noemfoor.

The United States Navy Secretary announced that 17 more Jap ships were sunk in the Pacific by United States submarines.

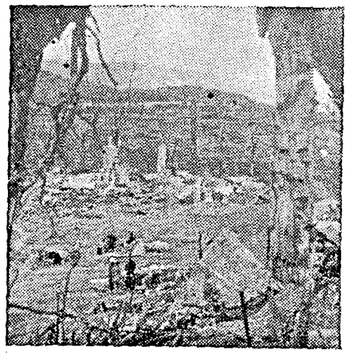
During recent patrols in far Eastern waters, British submarines have sunk 9 enemy supply ships.

6TH JULY.—It is announced that Americans captured Koransoren airfield in Noemfoor on 4th July.



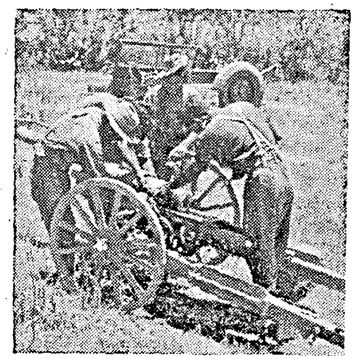
THE KOHIMA BATTLE.—War has swept through beautiful Kohima, now a mass of ruins. The Naga village captured by British and Indian troops after six weeks' fierce fighting is an example of the devastation.

The deserted Naga village of Kohima. corrugated iron houses and shops lie in ruins.



FIRST PICTURES FROM BATTLE-SCARRED KOHIMA.—Grim evidence of the bitter fighting that raged through Kohima on the Assam Burma front is brought by these pictures, first to come out of the frontier town recently recaptured from Japanese hands.

A general view of the District Commissioner's destroyed bungalow.



MORE JAP GUNS CAPTURED ON IMPHAL FRONT.—British and Indian troops are fighting stern battles against the Japs in the difficult country adjoining the Imphal plain. Accurate gunnery has helped our infantry to capture many Jap strong points.

Re-assembling a captured Jap 75 mm mountain gun after removal from a hill.

7TH JULY.—Super Fortresses attacked Sasebo, Yawata and Omura in the mainland of Japan.

United States troops occupied Manim Island off Noemfoor on July 5.

Japanese forces have begun a general retreat on the Hunan and Honan fronts. President Roosevelt made a statement on war against Japan.

General Chiang Kai-shek issued a message to the nation on 7th anniversary of the war against Japan. Mr. Churchill and President Roosevelt sent greetings.

8TH JULY.—The American forces continued to advance in Saipan. American planes attacked Guam, Rota, Truk, Atoll, Milli, Jaluit, Taros and Wotje.

9TH JULY.—The conquest of Saipan was completed. Organized enemy resistance ended.

10TH JULY.—Allied bombers attacked Guam, Pota and Tinian islands yesterday.

10TH JULY.—President Roosevelt and Vice-President, Wallace conferred to-day for two hours at Washington. After leaving the White House, Mr. Wallace said: "We had a very lengthy and important conference about China." He described the situation there as "very grave."

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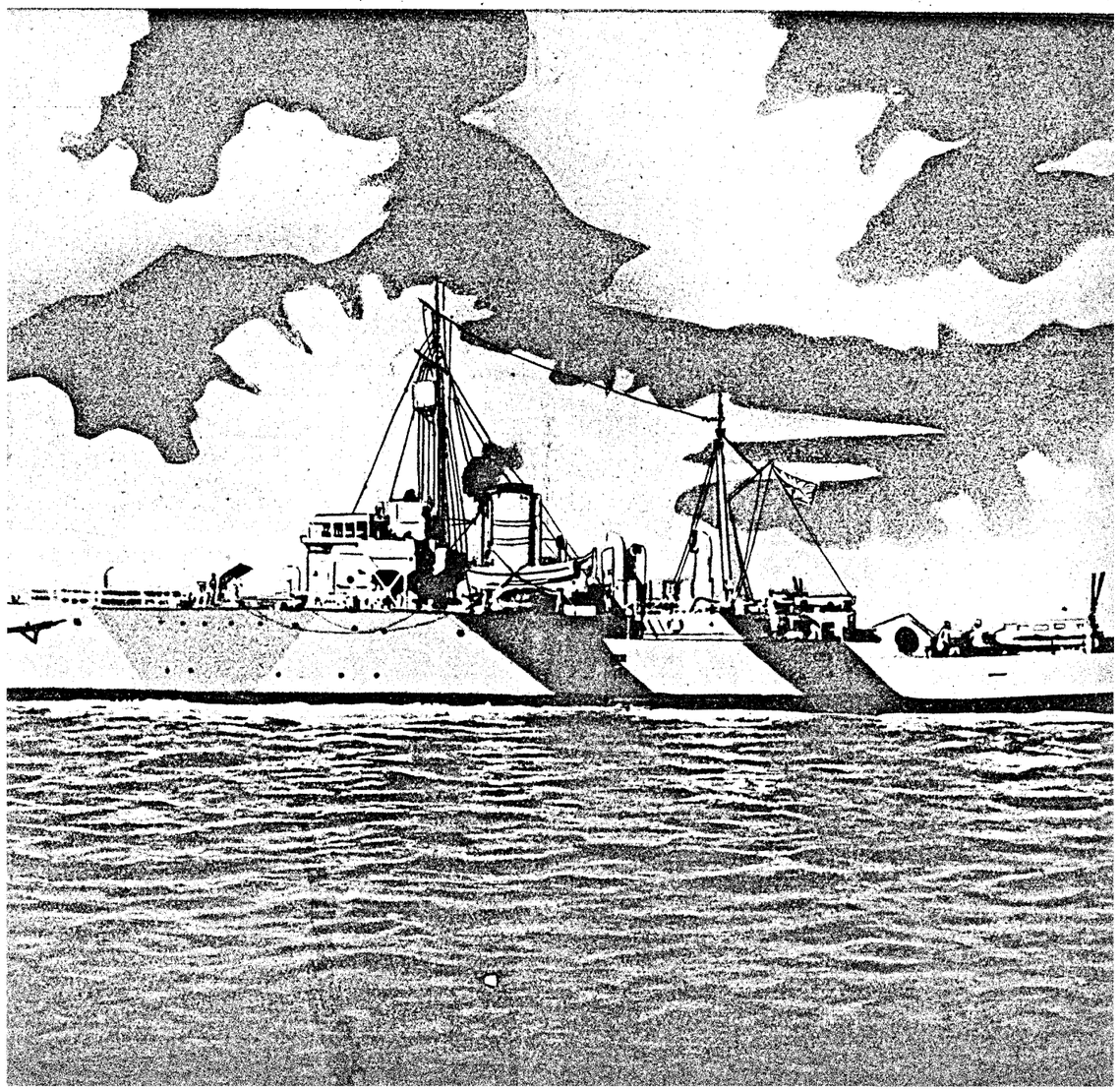
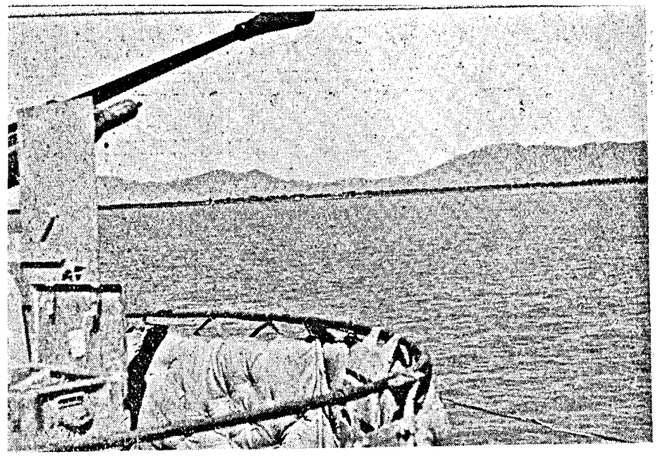
MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

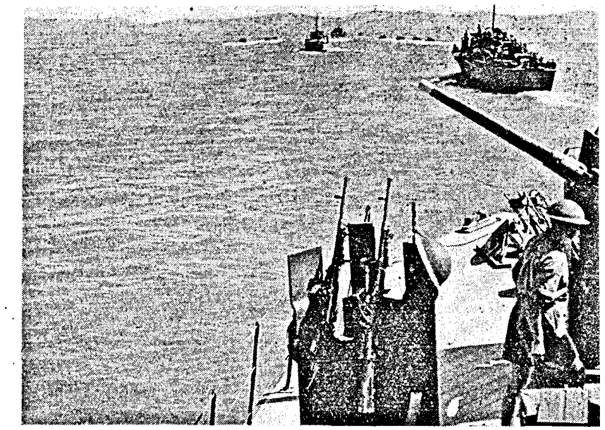
VOL. V FRIDAY, JULY 14, 1944 No. 45



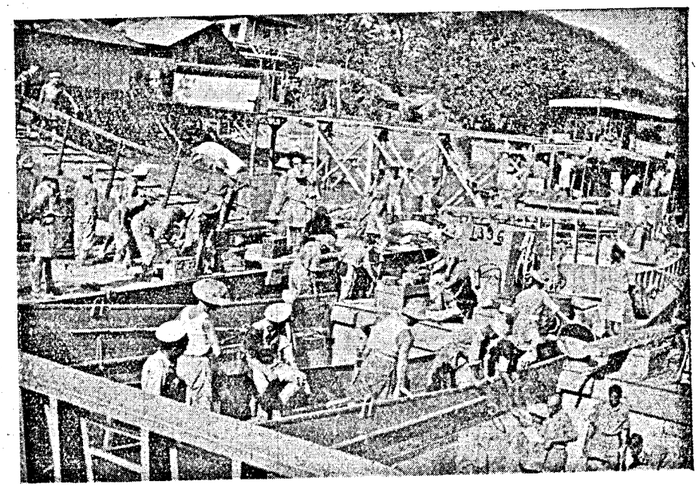
During the Great Arakan Battle



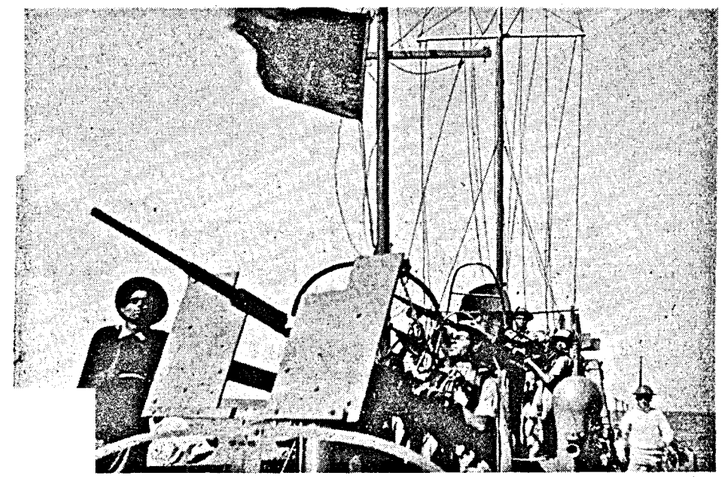
Indian ships patrolling the Naff River. In the background are the Ngakyedauk Pass and Maungdaw.



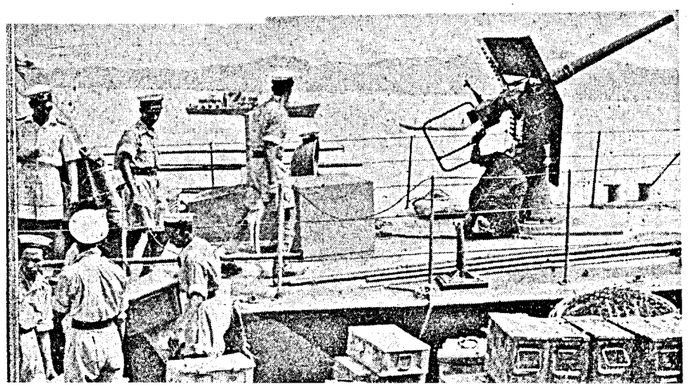
Allied troops raiding Japanese positions in Arakan are escorted to landing beaches by ships of the Royal Indian Navy.



Indian troops placing their equipment in landing craft.

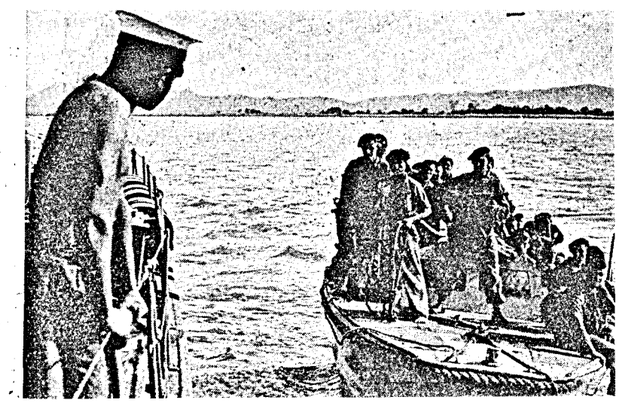


"Action Station" in H.M.I. ship off the Burma Co

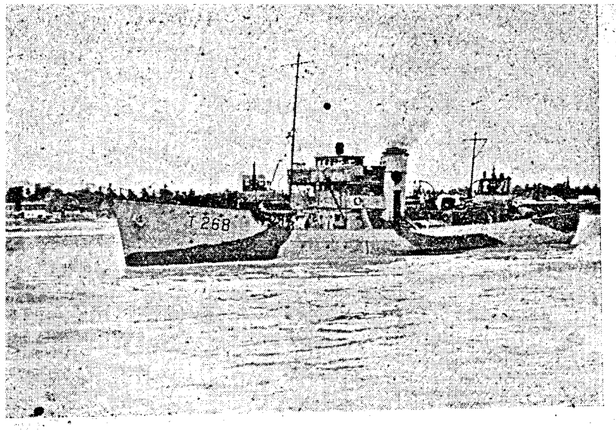


Ammunition and stores being taken aboard.

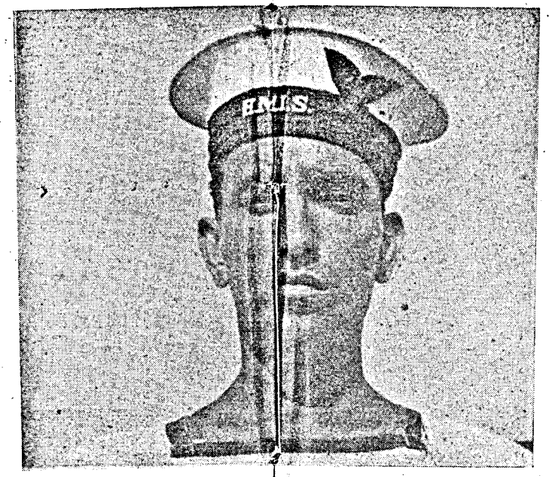
Allied troops returning to ship after raiding Japanese positions.



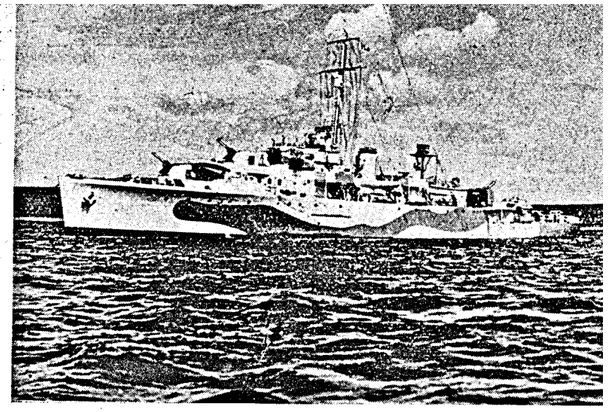
R.I.N. Ships and Sailors



H.M.I.S. "Madura", one of the many Basset trawlers now in service with the Royal Indian Navy.



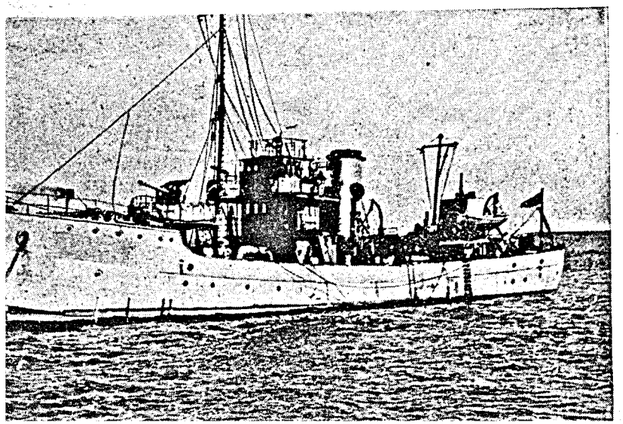
Telegraphist N. Hussain.



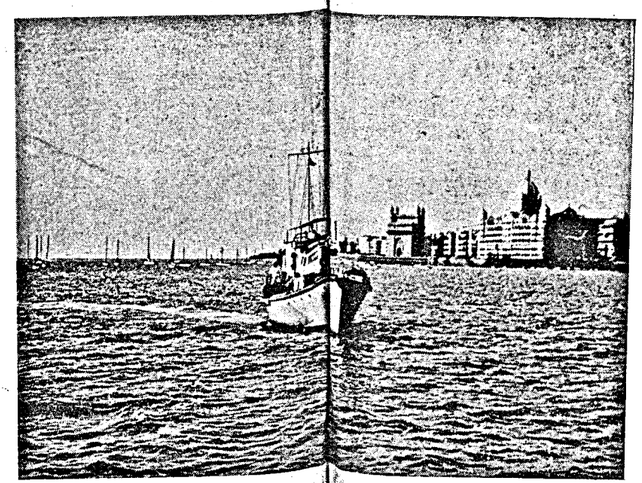
A sloop—H.M.I.S. "Narbada", has in recent months been engaged in convoy escort duties in European waters.

Petty Officer Abdul Majid Khan, from Poona.

A midshipman from Delhi area learning the use of a sextant.



H.M.I.S. "Poona", a warship of the Basset class, equipped for escort duties, mine sweeping and anti-submarine work.

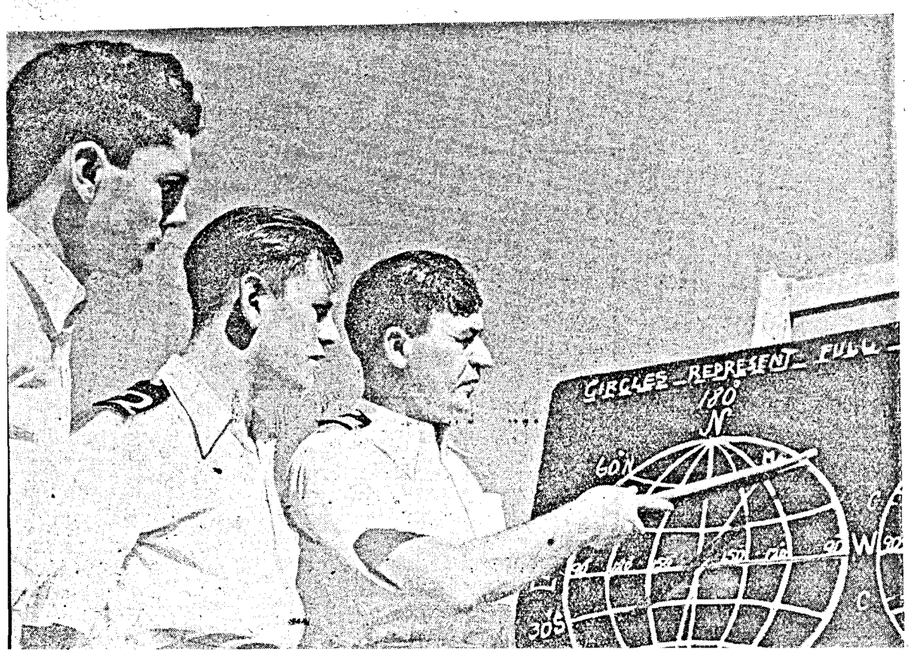


An armed motor launch under way in Bombay Harbour. This class of ship did useful work in the operations off the Arakan Coast.

An armed motor launch—one of the "little ships" of Coastal Forces that did useful work in the operations off the Arakan Coast.

NAVAL OFFICERS IN THE MAKING

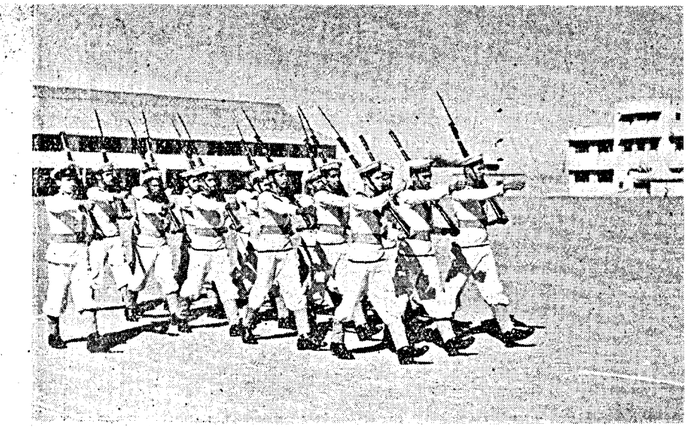
FIRING A. CLOSE RANGE ANTI-AIRCRAFT GUN.



INSTRUCTION IN THE NAVIGATION CLASS.

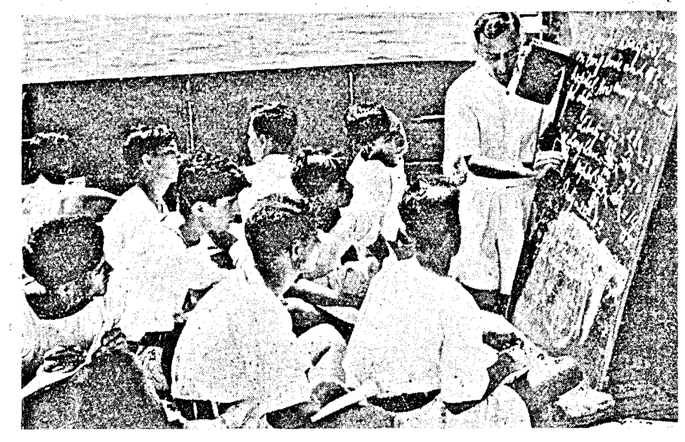
Smartness and Discipline

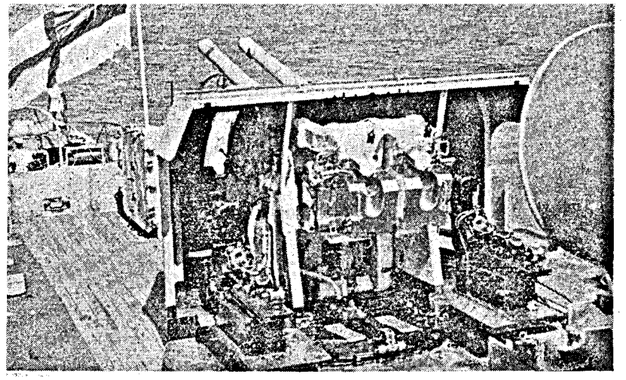
On the parade ground ratings acquire the smartness that impresses the public on ceremonial occasions and—more important—the discipline that makes them efficient fighters.



Indian ratings cleaning guns.

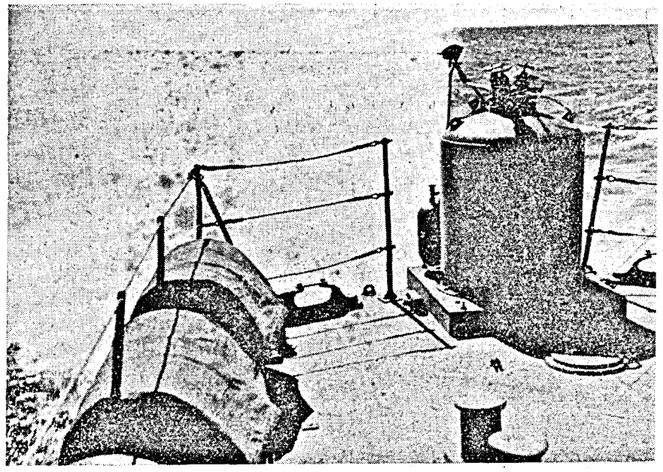
Education receives careful attention in the R.I.N. Eager to learn, ratings give the schoolmaster close attention.





The Convoy arrives

A Mediterranean Convoy whose escort included a warship of the Royal Indian Navy, arrives safely at its destination. In the foreground is seen the White Ensign fluttering in the breeze.



A smoke screen being laid.

R.I.N. Day

The Royal Indian Navy has expanded to more than 20 times its strength in ships and men since 1939. Its ships have assisted in operations in widely-separated theatres of sea-warfare, including the Atlantic, Mediterranean, Red Sea and Persian Gulf, Indian Ocean and Dutch East Indies and Burma waters.

The Royal Indian Navy Day was celebrated on July 9th, and this Special Souvenir is issued to commemorate that occasion.

The Editor, "Madras War Review," expresses his grateful thanks to R.I.N. authorities for supply of illustrations.

REGISTERED NO. M 4345

MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL V. FRIDAY, JULY 21, 1944 No. 46

ONE OF THE GREATEST DEFEATS

ADMIRAL MOUNTBATTEN

☆

ON my return from visiting your front, I want to express my admiration for the fine fighting spirit and high morale I found throughout your ranks. For nearly four months now with the forces already severely tried you have been fighting a major battle. The severe casualties inflicted on the enemy have contributed to one of the greatest defeats the Japanese Army has suffered in its history. The fine fighting qualities you have shown make me confident that you will push on until you have completely destroyed the Japanese forces

ADMIRAL MOUNTBATTEN, in an Order of the Day issued on Saturday, July 15

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[NOTE.—*The summary of news and comments contained in the* MADRAS WAR REVIEW *generally relate to events and statements published till Wednesday, every week.*]

THINGS ARE GOING VERY WELL

"When I spoke to officers on the eve of D-day, I told them that if the Allies do their stuff properly, they will have Germany out of the war this year. I still hold to that. I believe that it is quite likely it will be out of the war this year. Things are going very well, generally speaking. Great victories on the Russian fronts with immense numbers of Germans being written off are very excellent. Everything is going well ; yet you know as well as I do, that the German who is fighting us is a very great fighter defensively."

—GENERAL MONTGOMERY, *in a broadcast from Normandy, on Monday, July 17.*

❖

JAPS WILL BE OUTNUMBERED

"Fresh United Kingdom forces will be fighting in the Pacific theatre this year. Though the transfer of the main British effort must await the defeat of Germany, large and powerful forces will become available this year and the planning of the whole British effort is being vigorously pursued. The Japanese who are already greatly inferior in sea-power will be outnumbered several times over. When the full weight of the British and American land and air forces is brought to bear, the Japanese will be defeated as decisively as Hitler."

—MR. JOHN CURTIN, *Prime Minister of Australia, addressing the House of Representatives, on Monday, July 17.*

❖

TWO MAIN WORRIES PLAGUE JAPAN

"Two main worries plague Japan. She knows many air ports have been built for the purpose of coming to Japan and she realizes that the United States' Navy is sinking so many ships that sea communications are almost impossible."

—MR. KUNG, *Chinese delegate to Bretton Woods Conference, in a statement on Sunday, July 16.*

MADRAS WAR REVIEW

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BURMA : INITIATIVE IN OUR HANDS

ADMIRAL Mountbatten who recently returned from a visit to Central Burma, has expressed his admiration for the fine fighting spirit and high morale of our troops, who inflicted on the enemy one of the greatest defeats he has ever suffered. The Supreme Commander of South-East Asia Command is confident that our troops would push on until they completely destroy the Japanese forces. This confidence is abundantly justified by the fact that within the course of ten days two important Japanese positions have been captured by our forces. Mogaung fell on June 24th and Ukhrul on July 3rd. In the former the enemy has lost a very important base for the defence of Central Burma, while the latter means that one more line of threat to the coveted Imphal has been wiped out. In the fighting east of Imphal, Allied harassing forces have been inflicting heavy casualties and taking many prisoners.

THE position of the Japanese in Burma as a whole has been deteriorating rapidly and large numbers of Japanese troops have surrendered with little or no fight. The general position now is that our troops have been consolidating their recent speedy advances and mopping-up isolated enemy resistance in a number of places. The Dimapur-Imphal road has been completely cleared of the enemy, but it may be expected that there may be encroachments from enemy stragglers east of the road, but this need not be considered as a problem of any importance in view of the monsoon rains. Further, the mopping-up operations of our forces will eliminate any trouble from the stragglers.

AS regards the Tamu-Palel area which the enemy wanted to use for the development of an attack on Imphal, our forces have been making appreciable progress and certain positions of vital importance to the enemy have been captured. This strengthens the impression that the enemy may be abandoning this area altogether.

THE capture of Ukhrul has resulted in a rapid retreat of the Japanese forces who have abandoned their artillery equipment. Allied forces who have been following the main body of Japanese troops from the Ukhrul area have again contacted their rearguards some miles south-east of Ukhrul on the track to an exit from the Manipur hills to the Chindwin.

IN the Bishenpur area, our troops have captured the village of Ningthoukhong Khakhunou, another strong Japanese base five miles south of the town, after a heavy artillery bombardment. The village is on the western edge of Lake Logtak and was a stumbling block to the advance of our troops southwards from Bishenpur on the Tiddim road. Enemy forces are withdrawing from north of the Silchar track and a similar withdrawal is likely from the south also.

IN North Burma the capture of Mogaung has been followed up by our forces advancing both east and south and capturing the railway station of Namti, which the enemy evacuated leaving much valuable material, and Loilow. In the Myitkyina area Allies have been consolidating their gains. Though fighting continues the strength of the enemy has been reduced.

VIEWING the situation as a whole we find two broad reasons for the sudden withdrawing movement on the part of enemy. The first is his increasing difficulties in bringing supplies and reinforcements. The very heavy casualties that have been inflicted on the enemy in the different areas is another reason for the retreat. The supply difficulties were referred to by a Japanese Officer who had returned from the Imphal front two months ago in a broadcast from Tokyo. He said, "The enemy received supplies through the air route while our men continued battles eating a handful of supplies of barley and gram for food . . . The primary cause of difficulty in maintaining supplies to the operational areas lies solely in our inferior air power. . . . . I once saw a plane which looked like our own. The happiness of our men was indeed immense." This was the situation in May. Since then, the enemy's position has considerably worsened.

AS for the casualties suffered by the enemy, it may be noted that according to a report recently published 40,000 Japanese were killed during the last four months on the Burma front. The loss is so big that it must have caused serious anxiety to the Japanese High Command.

IT will thus be seen that the enemy's defeats in North Burma and in the Manipur area have been so costly that he may not be able to regain the opportunity which he once had. That opportunity will never come again. Our forces which have had experience of Japanese tactics and strategy can be confidently relied upon, as Admiral Mountbatten said, to completely destroy the enemy in due course.

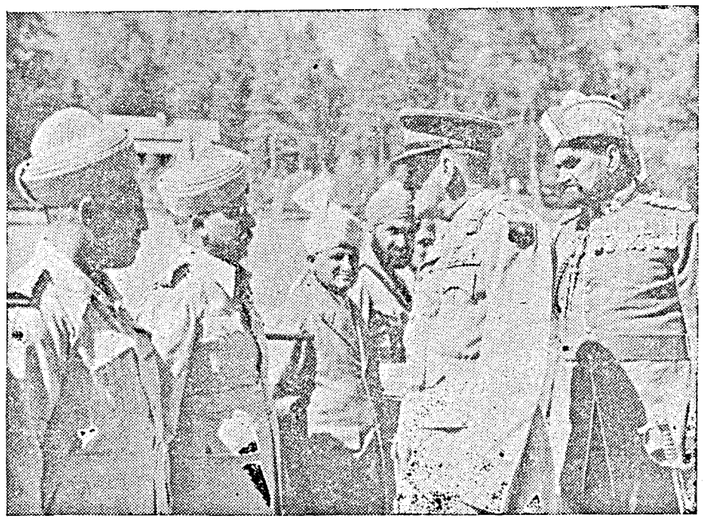
Their Majesties the King and Queen and Princess Elizabeth hear accounts of Pas de Calais attacks from Royal Air Force Bomber Crews just returned, during visit to Bomber Command Airfields.

RUNNING COMMENTARY

Red Army's Drive to East Prussia—Why Germans withdrew from Kovel

The Red Army is advancing straight towards East Prussian border. Its drive towards the Reich frontier has brought about a "fortification fever" in the border lands, and a general order has gone out from the Germans to the remaining population to dig—for "victory". The double threat to Brest-Litovsk, the gateway to Warsaw and the main bastion of the Curzon line and the 1939 demarcation between Germany and Soviet Russia, from Marshal ROKOSSOVKY's forces has assumed serious proportions and *Izvestia* has foreshadowed a gigantic battle on the border of East Prussia. The German News Agency reported on Tuesday that the Russians have opened a new major attack in the Kovel area and that their offensive is aimed at Brest-Litovsk. "The whole front from Tarnopol *via* Lutsk to the Kovel area," adds the News Agency, "is now on the move."

Kovel stands at the south-eastern edge of the Pripet Marshes on the highway from Kiev through Lublin to Warsaw. It is a very important road and railway junction, which came into considerable prominence about the middle of March when Marshal ZHUKOV began his great spring offensive. When the Germans announced a few days ago that they had evacuated Kovel, the news was received with considerable surprise, for Kovel was considered as an anchor, on which the Germans would try to fastentheir new line with a view to having a continuous battle-line from the Baltic to the Black Sea. The Red Army did not launch a major attack on this front after Marshal ZHUKOV's offensive between the Pripet Marshes and the Carpathians subsided during the first half of April. Why then did the Germans evacuate Kovel which seriously compromises the German hold or Lwow itself? There is only one explanation: the German High Command's anxiety to cut its losses and retreat to the shortest and strongest line available, namely, the line of the Memel River, the Polish Bug, Lwow, the Carpathians and the Lower Danube. The German Command must have felt that north of the Pripet Marshes there was absolutely no hope of re-establishing the German front in White Russia, particularly in view of the fact that south of the Pripet Marshes the Red Army was developing an ever greater offensive. They have been anxious to keep their armies of the north and centre intact



C-IN-C'S NORTHERN INDIA TOUR.—Garrison Companies, military Schools and tribesmen's Conference were visited by the C.-in-C., General Sir Claude Auchinleck, besides his usual round of unit inspections, during a long tour of northern India which he has just completed. He met many officers and men and presented several decorations. Captain Tikka Khan, an ex-orderly officer to George V, introduces the C.-in-C., to retired soldiers of one of the Punjab Regiments at Bhurban.

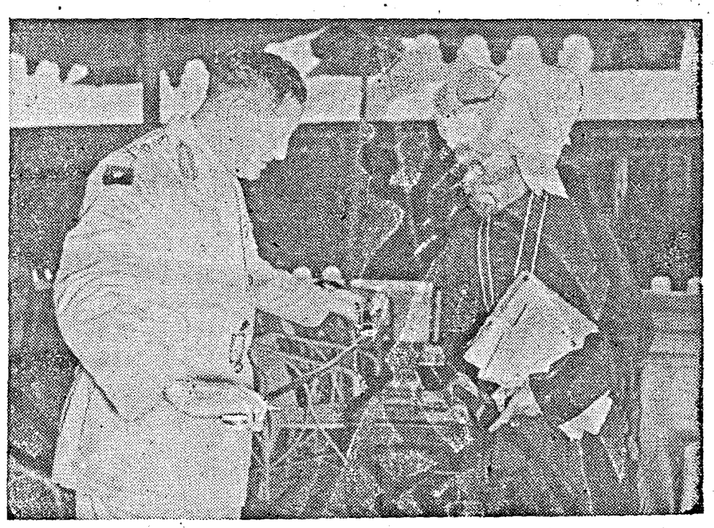
till they reach some such line so that they can at least defend East Prussia, Silesia and Ploesti for some time longer. The Military Correspondent of the *Daily Telegraph* has described the German move as a step in a far-reaching process of disengagement.

* * *

Fragmentation of German Central Front

What was it that happened in White Russia? It was not so much a German retreat but a catastrophic fragmentation of the German central front in the East. It was quite different from any reverse suffered by the Germans so far. The Germans knew quite well that a mighty offensive was about to be launched last month between Vitebsk and the Pripet Marshes, for their commentators were themselves giving out warnings about Russian preparations in that area for some time. They ought to have normally built up a defensive line reinforced by reserves to meet the Soviet threat. Instead of doing that, they transferred their reserves to the south where they anticipated an even bigger offensive. It was not a question of choice of alternatives for the Germans, as they had no other option except to thin out their defence of a vital sector in front of Minsk, because of their fear of even great dangers elsewhere. They thought that the defences between Vitebsk and Zhlobin and the difficulty of terrain would break the momentum of the Red Army's attack and help them to carry out an organized withdrawal in the same way as they did from the Leningrad sector back to Lake Peipus and Pskov. But they were mistaken.

The increase of total Allied pressure and the multiplication of the number of pressure points have upset the German plans to shuffle their strength to suit varying situations on different fronts. Hitherto they were rushing troops up and down the Russian front—from Denmark to Italy behind a screen of fortifications, but breaches have been created in their fortified screen. The Atlantic Wall in Normandy, the Gustav and Hitler lines in Italy and the "hedgehog" fortresses in Russia have all been pierced, and it is now increasingly dangerous for the Germans to weaken any sector relying for its safety on concrete fortifications. This has been shown clearly in White Russia. It is a development of the greatest significance that the Germans have been forced to accept a Russian offensive, which threatens to expel them from



The Commander-in-Chief examines the golden sword presented to him by the Dhund War Committee.

BIRTHRIGHT

(*By* R.G.)

I will give, says the world, six feet of earth to all
Or a little more, if one is over-tall,
To rest their bones or ash.

And to the coward and the petty soul
I will give no more than this universal dole,
Save goods and gear and cash.

For the poor in spirit shall be poor indeed,
The starveling heart shall like a beggar feed
On palaces, pelf and trash.

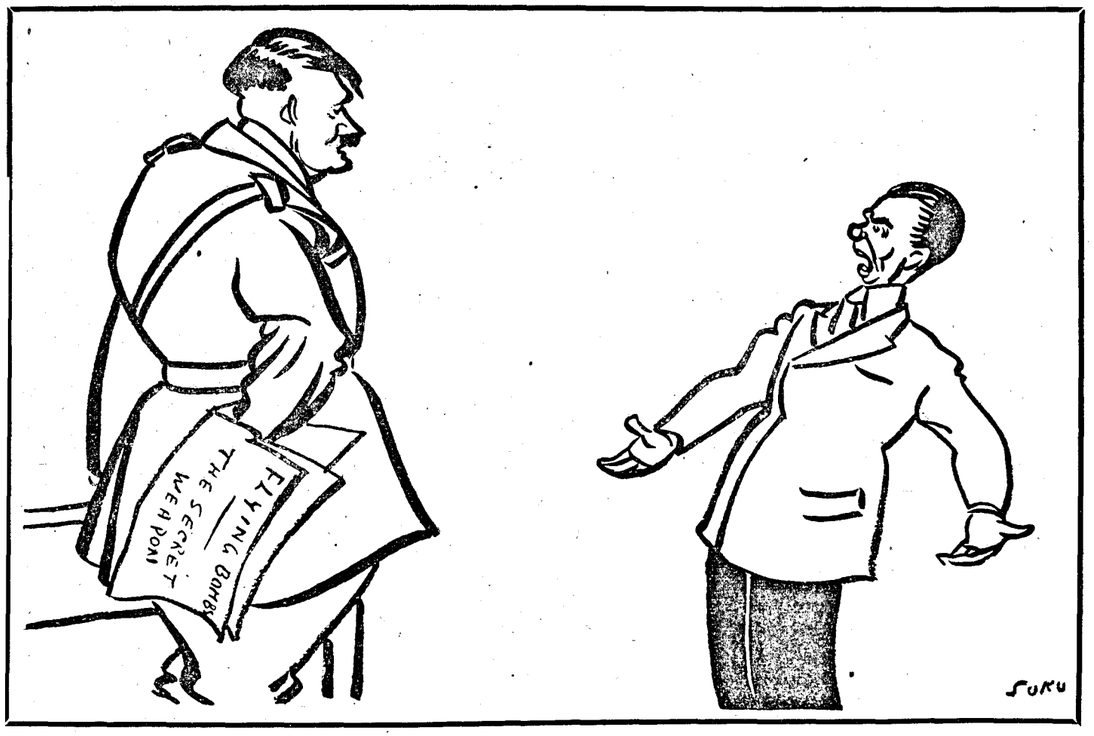
But to the heroic and generous I will give
My wealth and store, the power to soar and live
Like cloud-born lightning-flash.

I will give their own heart their hunger to assuage
And storming beauty in their very rage
And music in armour's clash.

They are the heirs of peace, masters of wars,
Lords of the sounding seas, land's avatars
Wielding Time's fateful lash.

I give them all: for even as they die,
With nothing in their hands save victory
Or hope forlorn and rash,

I yield to them (says the world) my grace and glory,
My might and majesty, my jewelled story,
To lie with their bones and ash.



Goebbels—The unintelligent British do not understand the deadly nature of the flying bomb, in spite of my very convincing arguments. .. Idio ts!

—Specially drawn for the MADRAS WAR REVIEW

Central Poland, the Baltic States and East Prussia, with little armour and less air support because of great dangers impending in France and from Lwow to the Baltic Sea. This marks the beginning of a process which would inexorably lead to the ultimate collapse of the Germans.

DUTCH AIR SQUADRON IN CEYLON

The story of how the Dutch Squadron which formerly belonged to the marine Luchtvaartdienst in Ket oosten, the Royal Netherlands naval air force in the Far East, brought their *catalinas* from Australia to Ceylon in the weeks following the Japanese occupation of the Dutch East Indies can now be told for the first time.

It was in March 1942 that the squadron, which had been much depleted as the result of the terrific battle of the Java seas, was forced to evacuate Tjilatjap, the last remaining base to reach Ceylon with four damaged catalinas, and these formed the nucleus of the squadron. Meanwhile, news reached the commanding officer that others of his old colleagues, together with five catalinas, were in Australia and he decided to instruct them to fly the machines across the Indian Ocean to rejoin the squadron. "At that time no catalina had ever made this long sea crossing non-stop, but I felt that it was just within the capabilities of the aircraft," he said, "anyhow, I very much wanted both men and planes at that particular time." He went on to say how he anxiously scanned the horizon on the day the flying boats were scheduled to reach Ceylon.

"At last I saw one coming and it made a good landing," he said, "but I was anxious about the fate of the others;" however, all five arrived. The great flight had been achieved successfully. Soon other catalinas were brought from the United States and Dutchmen from other parts of the world came to join the squadron.

Since coming to Ceylon the members of the Dutch squadron have flown something like 18,000 hours on Anti-Submarine patrols convoy escort duties and all the other jobs that come under the heading of general deconnaissance, in addition to taking part in some of the rescues which have been achieved by flying boats in this part of the world.

SPIT PILOTS

For the past year a number of Indian pilots have been in Great Britain training to fly spitfires. They are the first Indians ever to fly these famous machines.

"I talked with three of them when I was on the North West Frontier recently," said an Indian Air Force Public Relations Officer. "They were the first to return to this country and were very proud to have been selected to learn to fly the Allies' best fighter.

"These three will soon be on operations on the Frontier, but all of them hope it will not be long before they are posted to the Burma Front. Then they hope to be back on 'Spits' which they think is the finest fighter ever designed. Their ambition is to fly the latest model Spitfire—the Mark 14—against the Japs.

"Meanwhile they do nothing but talk of the hospitality they found everywhere in the United Kingdom. They're glad to be back in India, but—they had a grand time over there."

S. H. A. E. F.

By ALAN MOOREHEAD

A FRIEND of mine who has been down to General Eisenhower's headquarters says that it is a very unpretentious affair indeed just a nondescript building which you would pass by without noticing except for the military police prowling about.

The inside is not very impressive either. My friend estimated the general's room at about 20 feet square and apart from the usual wall-maps the only things that really caught his eye were an exceptionally large walnut desk, a loudspeaker and a radio table, two overstuffed chairs and a couch. There is also a fireplace. And the general has a private exit to his garage.

Just outside this room there is a modest series of ante-chambers containing two women secretaries, one American, the other English and two officers, Lieut.-Colonel Ernest R. (Tex) Lee (American aide-de-camp), and Lieuttenant-Colonel James Gault (British), and various others.

OPERATIONS ROOM

The whole place evidently is in pretty sharp contrast to the marble halls where the dictators plan their campaigns.

My friend was not permitted to penetrate into the joint operations room, from which the signal for the invasion to start will be given, and from which the whole battle will be directed.

This has been built on more ambitious lines—special ventilation and lighting, a telephone system which can link up the commanders with Washington, or even our bombers over Berlin, and, of course, special guards on the door.

This underground room, which probably none of us outside the High Command is ever going to see, is the heart of the military organization known as S.H.A.E.F.—Supreme Headquarters of the Allied Expeditionary Force (pronounced *shay-ff*)

It is not a new idea, since we tried out a combined command in Algiers. Finding the thing worked on the Mediterranean, Eisenhower transported it over here on a much larger scale.

THE THREE

In the last resort S.H.A.E.F. boils down to three men, two Americans and one Englishman—Eisenhower at the top, Lieut-General Smith, his Chief-of-Staff, and Tedder, the deputy Commander-in-Chief. All three are supposed to be everything rolled into one—soldier, sailor, airman and politician.

Under these three come five other men who have their own headquarters elsewhere, but who regularly get together for conferences in the Joint Operations Room.

These are Montgomery who will lead the British, Bradley who will lead the Americans, Crerar who will lead the Canadians, and the two British service chiefs, Leigh-Mallory of the Air and Ramsay of the Navy.

Of these eight top men, you will see then that one is Canadian, three are Americans and four are British. That is the general idea of S.H.A.E.F.; alternate British and Americans through the Commands.

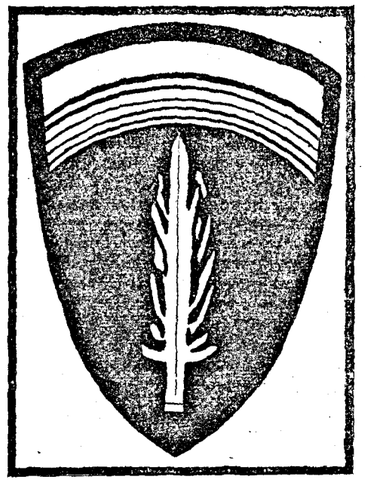
As yet, S.H.A.E.F. has not quite got around to designing its own uniform, but it has a special badge. A purist might find the design a bit exciting, but the Army likes it and the symbolism is impeccable.

This is how an American colonel explained it to me: "The flaming sword here is the Sword of Liberation. The black background is Nazi oppression. The rainbow at the tip of the sword contains the colours of the United Nations. And then finally this bit of blue at the top—well, that represents the tranquillity we are going to bring to Europe."

Like most of the other staff officers, the colonel was enthusiastic about S.H.A.E.F. It is all too easy, of course, to talk about "an atmosphere of optimism" and "perfect co-operation" and all the rest of it; actually, as far as I have been able to find out, it's true.

A good many people in the Algiers set-up (including officers I have known for years during the desert campaigns) have been brought back here largely because they have the experience, but partly because they have learned to work fluently and amicably with men of another nationality.

There was a kind of purge down in Algiers some time ago. British and American officers who could not get along together were removed. Eisenhower's line was, "You may be a good officer for another job, but you are no good in this headquarters." The general was blunt about it in the last conference he gave to war correspondents before he left Italy.



The flaming sword badge of S.H.A.E.F.

EISENHOWER'S PERSONALITY

Eisenhower has, I suppose, the most friendly face I ever saw on a general, and the most friendly voice; but he caused a silence in the room when he suddenly burst out with: "I want to make this clear. I won't have on my staff any American officer who cannot get on with the British: and I won't have any British officer who can't get on with the Americans. That goes for correspondents too. I won't have any correspondent who writes anything that disturbs our relations."

There was something else which threw these S.H.A.E.F. officers together. In the early days in Algiers, when things were going wrong both politically and militarily, the Allied Command was being criticised pretty strongly from both America and England. This had the effect of uniting the responsible British and Americans in Algiers. Although they did not say so, it was quite clear that their attitude was: "Here we are working 16 hours a day and trying to fight a battle and all we get is abuse from home."

At any rate, a new kind of atmosphere, not British or American, but something in between, was created, and has now been imported here. Probably the key to the whole thing is Eisenhower's personality.

For the rest the organization of S.H.A.E.F. is mostly a vast development of what we had in the Mediterranean. Underneath the supreme headquarters the command is split into a dozen different departments, notably: Operations, Supply Intelligence, Personnel (this includes welfare of the troops), Engineers, Civil Affairs (an elder brother of A.M.G.O.T.), Adjutant-General, Psychological Warfare and Public Relations (or Press and propaganda), Medical, Signals and the Headquarters Command.

All these departments have generals at the top, and, at the moment, they are scattered about all over Britain.

Communications are the big thing. S.H.A.E.F. has to be able to plug into every unit in the combined Services, and so the radio and telephone systems have run into millions of pounds.

S.H.A.E.F. also keeps a fleet of cars and a nine-carriage special train to get senior officers around the huge command.

It also has, in addition, a squadron of aircraft. There is a growing tendency for the top men to run a big transport plane that will carry a jeep. In this way they save time in travelling between airfields and outlying units. The planes themselves are fitted up as offices and sleeping quarters.

Then, finally, the whole headquarters is so adjusted that it can pack up and move across to Europe when the time comes. Wherever the army goes S.H.A.E.F. will eventually follow until the day when the German armistice terms are brought into the joint operations room. (—*Contact*).

It had rained heavily all day and the camp was completely flooded. Going his rounds just before "Lights Out," the sergeant caught two of the men washing in the floodwater.

"What d'you think you fellows are doing?" he bawled to them. His voice brought an officer on the scene.

"What's the trouble, sergeant?" he asked.

"Why, these dirty beggars are washing themselves in the water they're going to sleep in!" was the disgusted reply.

* * *

Recruit: "Shall I mark time with my feet?"

Sergeant-major: "My dear fellow, did you ever hear of marking time with hands?"

Recruit: "Yes sir, clocks do it!"

SESHIAH, THE CURIOUS VILLAGER

(*By* R.G.)

CANTO III—*First Instalment.*

The months went by and gallant Poles
Lost all they had, except their souls:
Across the North Sea some Norwegians
Betrayed their honour and allegiance
And to our language added Quisling,
A word less savoury than brisling:
The Danes, poor folk, were simply squashed,
By Nazis bossed or firmly Boched:
The Belgians and the valiant Dutch,
Who trusted (but not very much)
In their neutrality, were crushed
By aeroplanes and panzers, rushed
Across their land, while Hitler brushed
Aside the promises he'd made
To keep them from seeking timely aid.
When they resisted, trying hard
Their land and liberty to guard,
The Fuehrer was a bit annoyed
And measures suitable employed,
Of which the nun-like parachutist
Was probably the best and cutest;
But what gave special pleasure to
The Goering—Goebbels—Himmler crew
Was bombing Rotterdam, a spot
Well worth a visit, with a lot
Of high explosive, till a quarter
Was only so much bricks and mortar.
The French and British armies tried
To stem the Nazi flood, and died
In many places gallantly,
But never gained a mastery.
They had not practised hard enough
To grapple with the Nazi tough.

In combat man to man they might
Have fought a more than equal fight:
But Nazis came in large machines
In tens and dozens and fifteens
And filled the air with bombers diving
More numerous than bees at hiving,
And all the roads with ranks and ranks
Of spitting armour-plated tanks,
While Allied generals, mustering all
Their armament mechanical,
Found they could not at any point
Produce a soundly-welded joint.
The stuff was good, but what to do?
Both tanks and planes were far too few.
As some one said in a debate,
Venturing the brutal fact to state,
We sent too little and too late.
And so, being rolled up right and left
And of the Belgians quite bereft,
Our forces did what still they could
And got while the going still was good:
And by a tricky piece of work
Evaded capture at Dunkirk.

Seshiah heard the news in patches,
In bits and snippets, fits and snatches.
But since he could by force of habit
Like any conjurer with his rabbit
Extract from fragments of the news
The solid facts and tastier views,
He saw the picture half-complete
Of irretrievable defeat.

STRATEGIC BOMBING AND LAND BATTLES

THE Allied air offensive against Germany itself, the strategic bombing of the great industrial centres and war factories, continued during the period of preparatory and tactical bombing in occupied France, Belgium and Holland. This has been very necessary, if only to prevent any recovery from the far-reaching effects of the great bombing offensive of 1943 and early 1944; it was essential, as it still is essential, not to allow the German war industries a breathing space.

This was all the more important because the damage to the enemy's forward supplies and communications would have a far more serious effect if the German war factories were prevented from making any adequate recovery. Krupps of Essen, for example, was gradually being repaired. It was Germany's largest single heavy engineering and armaments plant, and if it could again produce locomotives and shells the ammunition dumps destroyed in Northern France could be more easily replenished, and the 450 locomotives, destroyed or seriously damaged during two months' bombing of the French and Belgian railways from the beginning of March to the beginning of May, could more easily be replaced.

HEAVY ATTACK ON ESSEN

A major attack on Essen was therefore made by Bomber Command of the R.A.F. on the night of April 26 and Krupps works were reduced to the state in which they had been left after the attack on the night of July 25, 1943, the last and most destructive of a series of attacks on Essen during the main battle of the Ruhr.

Similarly the destruction done on forward airfields in France and the Low Countries would be the more effective since the United States Strategic Air Force and Bomber Command of the R.A.F. continued their attacks on aircraft factories and centres of the aircraft industry in Germany. Strategic bombing of Germany was an indispensable preliminary, and accompaniment, to air attack on the supplies and communications of the German armed forces in the West. At the same time this tactical bombing was only one of many forms of offensive action, on all fronts, which was prepared for, sustained and supported by the air attack on Germany itself.

Some idea of the strain to which the German war industry has been subjected may be obtained from a raid assessment in terms of loss of man hours, of Bomber Command's 96 major attacks on 29 industrial towns in Germany from March 1 to December 31, 1943. It is estimated that these attacks cost the enemy 2,400,000,000 man hours, or 1,000,000 man years. Assuming the whole of this loss to have fallen on the towns attacked this is actually 36.1 per cent of the whole industrial output of these 29 towns, which included Berlin, during the nine months of attack, or 30 per cent of their potential output during the whole year. These figures are certain to be an absolute minimum, because they have been reached without taking into account certain factors, such as loss of production resulting from administrative disorganization, which cannot be measured.

NAZI WAR OUTPUT REDUCED

The 29 towns attacked were not, of course, selected at random from among all possible target towns, but were bombed because they contained the highest proportion of essential war industries. They manufactured, for example, more than half the electrical engineering products, machine tools, and rubber products; and only just under half the aero-engines, made in the whole of Greater Germany. So, during a critical year, the forerunner of a yet more critical period, on the above assumption, Germany was deprived of four months output from every single industrial worker not only in the largest but also in the most vital industrial centres. In the spring of this year, about three months later than the period for which these figures have been worked out, it was estimated that production in Berlin, the enemy's largest manufacturing centre, was at least 40 per cent below what it was a year ago.

These figures do not take into account the loss of production caused by shortage of manpower resulting from the absorption, as it has been estimated, of at least 3,000,000 men into the active and passive defence of German cities.

Actual shortages of weapons on the battle fronts are not always easily detected for the obvious reason that the enemy's first reaction to such a shortage will be to assume a defensive strategy and in many cases defensive tactics. There can be no doubt that shortages resulting from Allied air attack have played a great part in forcing the enemy on to the defensive on all fronts, by sea, air and land. But there has also been evidence in recent months that the enemy is finding it increasingly difficult, as a result of bombing to keep up the tank strength of his Panzer divisions.

The enemy's shortage of aircraft, as a result of the United States bombing of the enemy's main aircraft works and of the R.A.F.'s bombing of the towns in which factories making aircraft components were concentrated, is too obvious to need emphasising.

A most important strategic consequence of the Allied bombing of Germany, and one which should have immediate significance at the present time, is the effect which it has had on the structure and disposition of the German Air Force. In 1942 the Luftwaffe was a well balanced force with an efficient proportion of bombers to fighters. The bombing of 1943 made this impossible, as it also deprived the German armies in Russia and the Mediterranean of the greater part of their air cover and close support.

LUFTWAFFE—A DEFENSIVE AIR ARM

The Bomber Command's part in the dislocation of the German Air force and in changing it from an efficient weapon for co-operation with land armies to a largely defensive arm has been to cause the enemy to build and maintain a force of many hundreds of twin-engined, highly specialized night fighters for the protection of Germany against night bombing. In order to do this the Germans have had to convert large numbers of twin-engined bombers into night fighters, and recently the Germans have even been forced to get trained bomber crews to man the night fighters.

At the present time this has two consequences. It means that almost half the enemy's fighter strength on the Western front consists of highly specialized aircraft which are of little use for anything except defence against night bombers; these twin-engined fighters cannot stand up against single-engined fighters in day time and could only be used as a desperate expedient for army co-operation work. And it also means that instead of a large and efficient bomber force, at a time when this would be of the greatest value to support the German army in the field, the enemy now has a force which is both small and relatively inefficient. The effect of maintaining this very large force of night fighters on the enemy's production of single-engined fighters must also be of great consequence; it has occupied a large part of the enemy's industrial resources at a time when he was in great need of day fighters.

CALCUTTA OPENS FIRST SERVICE ART CLUB.

That there is a wealth of artist talent among servicemen is shown by the popularity which has attended the newly formed Services Art and Handicrafts Club in Calcutta.

There were over 300 exhibits, depicting soldier-painters' work, at the first services' art exhibition held at the club. Many entries came from forward areas.

The paintings and sketches covered a variety of topics, many of them portraying Indian scenes. The critics were impressed by the quality of the exhibits, which had a note of spontaneity and freshness about them.

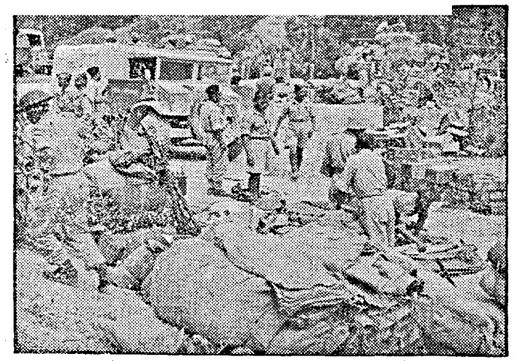
One of the best was "Cedars-Darjeeling" by Cpl. Geoggrey Holdsworth, "Langdale", Kirkstall Lane, Leeds, in water colours. He was in peace time a lithographic artist and designer and was at Leeds School of Art. Other striking exhibits were "Market Darjeeling" and "Paddock Calcutta" by Lieut. Norman Peace, R.N.V.R. of 3 Beechlown, Epsom Road, Guildford, Surrey. Lieut. Peace was in peace time an artist and an A.R.I.B.A.

The Club room at the Government School of Art, Chowringhee, has become a popular meeting ground for soldier artists. There are pictures to study and a library is being built up.

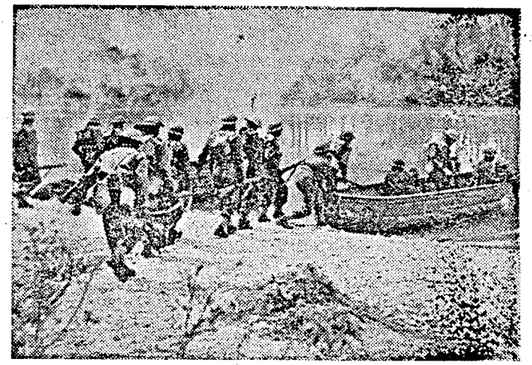
Artists' materials are on sale at the club room as well as at the amenities store. Art classes for beginners and for advanced students, are held. Postal tuition is also provided for those in remote areas.

The club has plans for exhibitions throughout the summer—Bengali folk art, war paintings and other subjects—have been suggested—and progress to hold another services' art exhibition in the autumn.

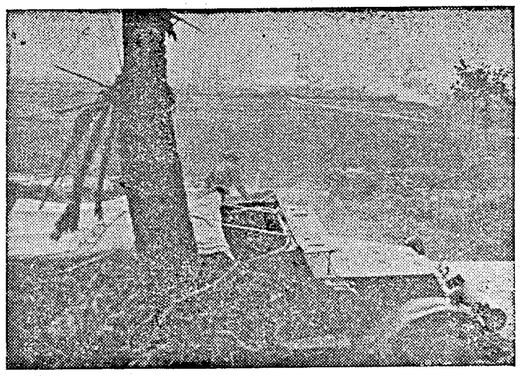
PICTURES FROM THE ITALIAN FRONT



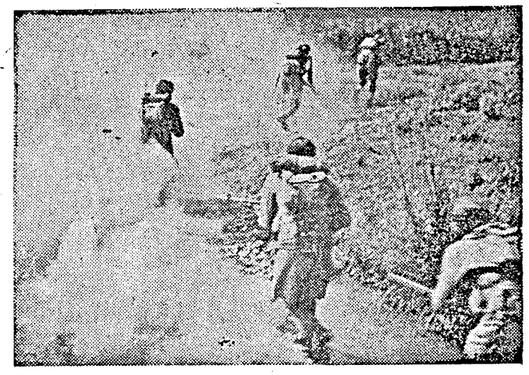
The German armies in Italy are in full retreat. Tanks and Indian Troops are seen massing for the Allied advance.



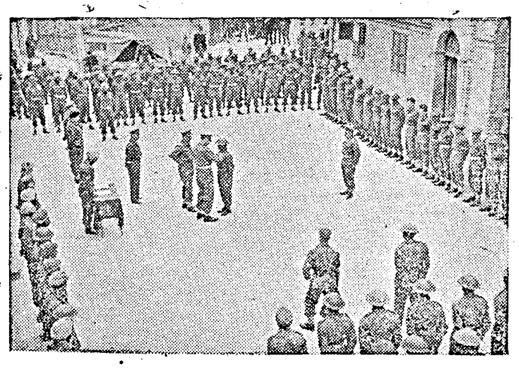
Crossing a river under cover of a smoke screen and machine-gun fire.



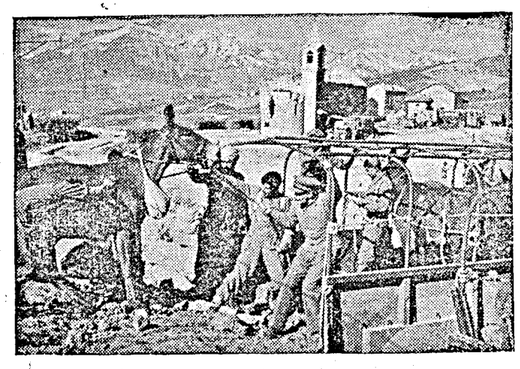
A terrific artillery barrage preceded the Infantry assault against strong points of the Gustav Line.



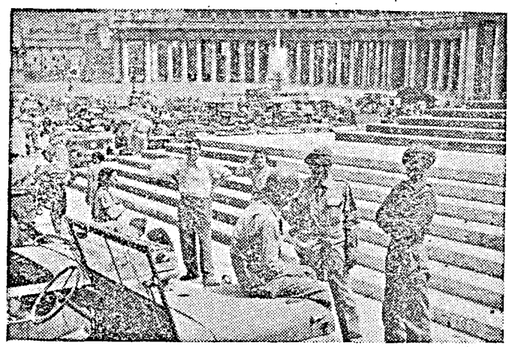
Sikhs advancing under cover of smoke.



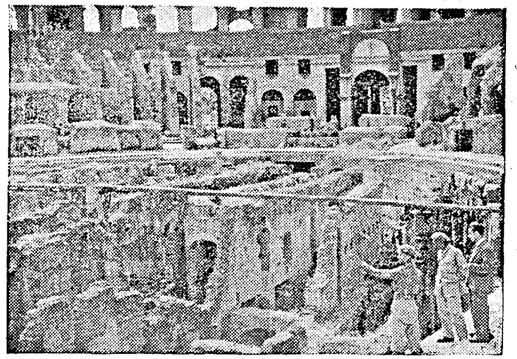
Here are some of the men being decorated by Lieutenant-General Alfrey.



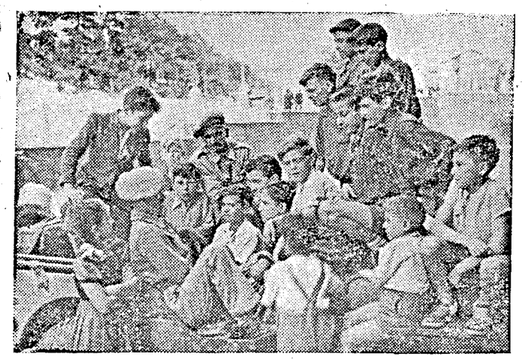
The mule's life in Italy is a hard one but the R.I.A.S.C. mule companies have done sterling work in carrying supplies.



They chat with a United States Army Driver in St. Peter's Square.

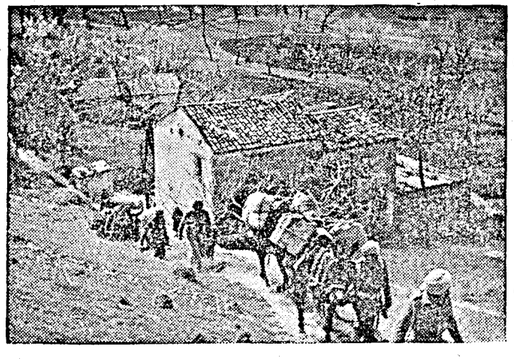


Sher Mohammad points out Interior of Colosseum, not damaged by bombing or shelling, to his friend.

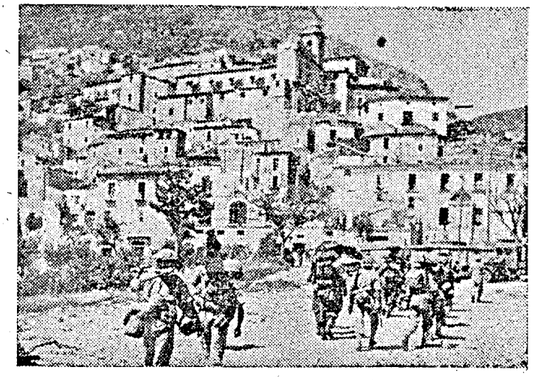


They make friends with Roman children.

Indian Troops feed hungry Italians.



As the Indian troops push forward in Italy gaining new heights, all supplies are brought up by the mules of the R.I.A.S.C.



THE BATTLE FOR ROME.—Mahrattas enter the town of Castrocielo in the Liri Valley after it had been occupied by a North Indian Regiment.

BRITAIN'S LIGHT NAVAL FORCES' ROLE IN LANDING OPERATIONS

THREE times S.H.A.E.F. communiqués have mentioned desperate attempts by German E-boats to break up convoys of supplies on the way to France. Every time "they were intercepted by light coastal forces and damaged before they could make good their escape."

The story of Britain's light naval forces, the greatest speedship fleet the world has ever seen, is one of the most dramatic stories of the war and also the story of one of Germany's most humiliating defeats.

The 1940 personnel numbered some 200 men; now it numbers some 20,000, 99 per cent of whom are volunteer reserve.

In the words of the late Commander Hichens, R.N.V.R., "I have under me two solicitors, an insurance agent, a tea planter, an artist, a professor, an would-be politician, and a lot of men too young to have done anything before the war." But to quote M. Maisky, "the sea is the natural element of the British; on it they are unbeatable."

The story begins with the last war. As a contemporary newspaper commented, the M.T.Bs. are a purely British product, first evolved in England during the war of 1914–18 and continuously developed since. It reflects great credit on those firms who have devoted themselves to their design and construction.

Research, in the years of retrenchment and the unilateral disarmament which followed, was kept alive by such men as Sir Henry Seagrave, who gave his life and Sir Malcolm Campbell, who risked his in the improvement of these crafts.

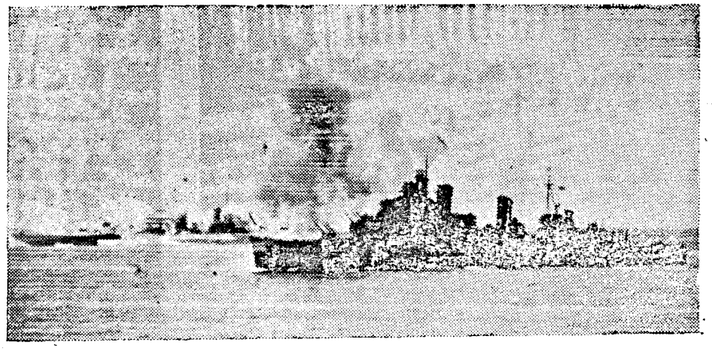
THE FIRST FLOTILLA

It was not until 1935 that the Admiralty undertook the construction of the first motor torpedo boat flotilla on the designs of Hubert Scott Paine, equipped with the 500 h.p. Napier Sealion engine and with a speed of 35 knots.

Meanwhile, orders from abroad poured into British shipyards. Thorneycrofts built several different types, one for the Defence Department of the Philippines, and Vospers of Portsmouth undertook orders from Greece and Sweden.

An interesting description was given in 1939 of an M.T.B. built by the British Powerboat Co., 70 feet long, fitted with three 1,000 h.p. Rolls Royce Merlin engines and heavy armament—the first clear impression of the great striking power of these new craft.

Meanwhile, the Germans were hard at work, concentrating with typical scientific thoroughness, on the light craft which together with the U-boats were designed to destroy the Royal Navy.



H.M.S. Glasgow *firing alongside U.S.S. Quincy during a recent action.*

The depth of their failure is indicated by the deadly reputation of the British boats. E-boat commanders are awarded the Iron Cross for three engagements against them. The E-boat alley has now been called "coffin alley" by the Germans.

THREE MAIN CATEGORIES

These "Spitfires of the Sea" include three main categories:

M.T.Bs. used for the one purpose of attacking enemy shipping—the smallest and fastest vessel capable of carrying a torpedo, with a cruising speed of some 40 knots.

M.G.Bs. are "destroyers of the coastal forces," about 100 feet in length, with heavy armament, attacking at a range of 300 to 100 yards.

M.Ls., or motor launches, are used for mixed defensive and offensive work. Launch is an unfortunate name for a ship that can go under its own power to St. Nazaire, fight a terrific action and make the return journey still under its own power, not the sort of name for a pocket Leviathan that packs the punch like that.

In January it was announced that these small ships had fought 230 actions in one year, sunk 72 enemy vessels and severely damaged 30 more, a score which includes cruisers and destroyers.

The *Manchester Guardian* wrote: It is a stirring task these little ships accomplish as they dash into the assault and out again by darkness. It is a feat of great physical endurance to stand up to the buffettings inflicted by these impetuous cockle-shells at sea.

This heroism is now playing a great part in the successful reinforcement of Allied armies in France.

INDIA'S SAILORS LEARN AS THEY FIGHT.

Thousands of Indian young men and boys are completing their education—free of charge—in the Royal Indian Navy. Whether ashore or afloat, they combine schooling with their naval duties. Artificers receive instruction beyond the Intermediate standard of the Indian Universities, and all ratings can take the equivalent of a Matriculation course.

At the outbreak of war there were only a dozen schoolmasters in the Royal Indian Navy. To-day, there are 200 highly qualified schoolmasters. In 1939, lessons were given only in the Bombay Naval Dockyard. Now there are first-class educational facilities in all the major establishments. There are no fewer than 90 R.I.N. schoolmasters in Bombay alone. A number are serving afloat, and 15 others are attached to recruiting centres.

Instruction is imparted in both English and Hindustani. Educational examinations are held throughout the Service every year, and about a thousand candidates volunteer to appear at each. To secure promotion, a rating has to qualify both professionally and educationally.

On enrolment, schoolmasters must themselves "go to school again" before they take up their duties. They attend a course lasting five months and including such subjects as wireless, nautical astronomy and navigation, tides, compass errors and corrections and field training.

Most of the schoolmasters are rated as Chief Petty Officers, though nearly 35 schoolmaster appointments are at the present time held by Warrant or Commissioned Officers. Entrants must be graduates between the ages of 21 and 35; they are enrolled for eight years on Active Service and five years in the Fleet Reserve. Preference is given to Science graduates or to Arts graduates with Mathematics as one of their subjects.

HOW LANDINGS ARE MADE

By A BRITISH NAVAL OFFICER

FROM the great assault ships, several miles out to sea, are launched the tiny boats which take in the first troops. With these columns come the support craft and flak craft for laying a curtain of fire in front of our men landing on the beaches.

Also with this wave come the craft which carry the naval beach commandos.

As the first amphibious tanks stream on to the land, firing as they go, the clearance units get to work. Bulldozers and other heavy machinery clear the foreshore; smashing down steel and concrete barricades and treating barbed wire as though it were cotton.

Meanwhile the naval beach parties are putting up flags to mark the limits of the beach and to show which passages have been cleared for the following craft.

Within a very short time, if the initial landing has been successful, communication is established with the flagships at sea and a strict and accurate time-table of landings is being adhered to.

The beach masters have surveyed the shallow water and know the best spots for beaching the various types of craft. These are flagged in. They unload as quickly as possible and retire to make room for the ever-increasing numbers waiting their turn to beach.

At this stage, the beaches may still be under machine-gun fire. Certainly the enemy will be shelling them, but the landings go on in ever-increasing tempo. As the Army pushes inland, overwhelming the defences, larger craft start coming to the shore. These are the tank landing craft, the infantry landing ships which disgorge hundreds of men, and the craft which land such things as vehicles, guns and spare ammunition.

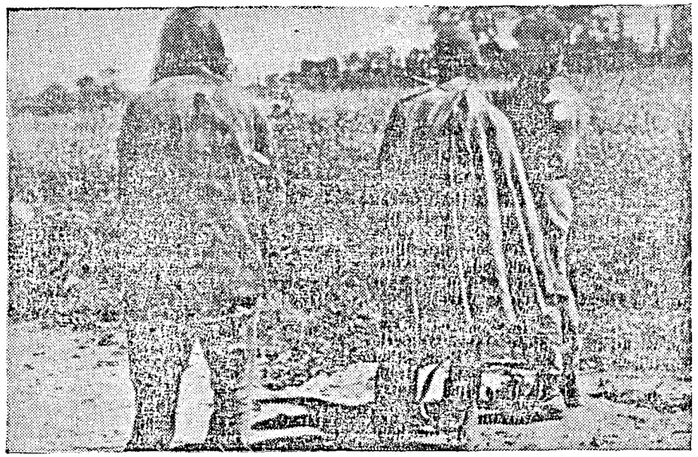
In a few hours, thousands of men are put ashore and with them thousands of tons of material. At this stage everything is mobile. What is not packed in tanks or vehicles, is carried on men's backs.

This is the first wave. The second follows hard on its heels—such things as mobile kitchens, food, more ammunition and, of course, more and more men and guns and tanks. This is how an Army is gradually built up on shore. From small beginnings it grows in a matter of hours to a fighting machine of great power—and every item of euipment and every man is put ashore by the Navy.

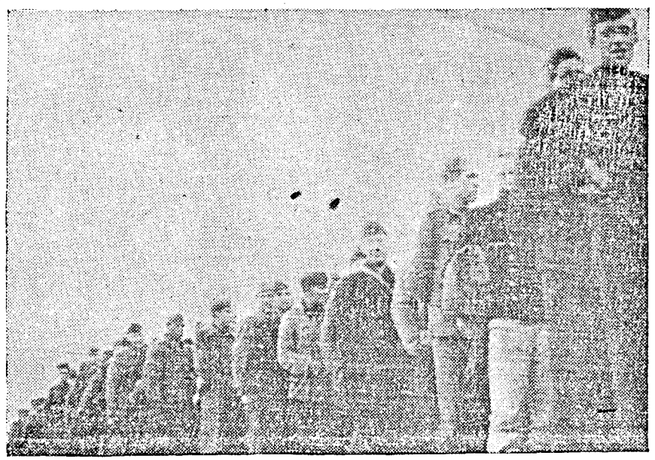
One of the best stories being told inside Germany is about a man who stands for hours in a queue waiting to buy some clothes at a local store, and the queue doesn't get any shorter.

Suddenly he goes wild with rage and shouts: "Queues, queues, queues alll the time! Who is to blame? It is Hiter! I will go and kill him!"

He rushes off, and after great difficulty finds Hitler's house. Of course, there's a queue there, too.



Officer of a Commando unit gives final instructions to two camouflaged snipers off to watch a German-held house on the edge of Breville.



Enemy ground crews taken prisoner in Normandy. They include Poles and Czechs conscripted by the Germans. (A radio photograph.)

GENERAL THANKS ASSAM REGIMENT

After their memorable show at Garrison Hill and Hospital Hill a battalion of the Assam Regiment was given the task of defending the right flank of a division on the spur below the village of Pulebadze. They did their job so well that they have now received a message of congratulations from the Divisional Commander, writes an Indian Army Observer.

The message, addressed to the Commanding Officer of the battalion says: "I am writing to you to express my warm congratulations and thanks for the valuable service which your battalion has rendered during the time that it has been operating with my Division.

"I should be glad if you would convey to all ranks of your battalion how much I appreciate the keen way in which they have carried out their constant patrolling in thick and difficult country and their success in ultimately clearing the small but strong Jap position located on the spur above them. I congratulate your battalion."

LANDING SCENE

By LIEUTENANT HOWARD FRENCH *of Britain's Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve*

What is a landing scene like? What are the feelings of the men in a mighty assault fleet as the operation begins?

Some idea may be gained from this graphic description of one of the final assault exercises conducted off the Coast of England. It was written on board the flagship from which the operation was directed.

NEVER before in the history of the Royal Navy has so spectacular a Fleet sailed from this port.

East and west, as far as the eye can see, there are small craft, tank landing craft, infantry landing ships, flak ships and destroyers—thousands of ships filling the whole sea, thousands of White Ensigns, the flag of Britain's Navy fluttering in the evening breeze.

Here is the latest form of sea power, demonstrated in unforgettable strength. And this is only one force. From other ports similar forces, thousands strong are converging on their landing points.

Earlier in the evening we had anchored off the coast and for hour after hour watched landing craft of every description steam past to take their position in the convoy. Then as dusk was closing in, we took our place and the giant convoy steamed into the darkness. Not a light could be seen, not a sound heard but the pulse of many engines.

Gradually the soldiers in the flagship drifted off to bed. Their task would start at dawn and they needed all the sleep they could get. In all the other ships it was the same. The Army slept by their guns and tanks, while the Navy guided them through the night, alert and watchful for any attack by the enemy.

But no attack came. Nor did enemy surface units attempt to interfere during the night. Unexpectedly it was a quiet passage.

With the first flicker of dawn, a flight of Spitfires wheeled over the convoy like seagulls in quest of a morning meal. I was standing at the rail with an Royal Air Force Officer.

"I know what you're thinking," he said. "Where's the rest of the air cover?"

Without waiting for me to reply he added: "The aircraft are there all right. Some so high you can't see them with the naked eye. Others out to sea waiting to intercept the Luftwaffe before they have a chance of attacking us."

Almost as he spoke, more aircraft droned over us towards the beaches. It was still too dark to see. These were the bombers going into pave the way for the landings. From then on wave after wave of fighters and bombers whisked across the sky to the beaches.

Then came the landing craft, column upon column of tiny craft headed by flak ships and support craft. By this time we could just make out the coastline and once again the picture was of ships, ships everywhere.

Soon signals began coming in. Beach obstacles had been cleared. The first wave of infantry were landing. In face of reports of accurate shore fire, smoke-screens were being laid and the picture was cut off. But the signals kept coming in. On the bridge the Admiral and his staff were checking the time-table. This was a dress-rehearsal—the last chance to correct mistake in a programme depending for success on timing accurate to the minute. From the smiles on their faces it seemed that all was well.

Later I went ashore. By this time, the Army headquarters was established behind the beaches. Radio units had dug themselves in and were sending off their messages. The beaches were churned to fine dust by the tracks of many vehicles, and still men and materials were pouring on to the shore.

The beaches themselves looked as though a tornado had swept across them. Steel obstacles lay in pitiful heaps of twisted wreckage. Concrete pillars had been blown into heaps of twisted rubble.

For some time I watched the landing craft coming in. One after the other they touched down and men came pouring out as though from a factory at lunch time. Each man was carrying a pack. At this stage, I was told every item of equipment is either in a vehicle or on a man's back. Mobility is the key to success in this phase of the operation.

All the morning, as the sun rose over the thousands of yardarms, the ferry service to the beaches continued. And in six hours thousands of men, their tanks and lorries, ammunition and food trundled into the country behind the shore.

The first phase of the operation was drawing to a close. The empty craft were drifting off to reload. Soon afterwards we followed them. The senior officers of the three services held a conference and discovered any possible source of error. For the rest of us, the tension dissolved. The operation had gone according to plan.

TRAINING FOR ASSAULT LANDING

GIVEN fully trained soldiers, very careful special training is still needed for an assault landing.

This type of operation has the following peculiarity: the assaulting troops arrive in front of the enemy's positions in unnatural and bunched tactical formations, imposed on them by the vessels in which they must travel, and they arrive without any of the supporting fire normally available for an assault. In consequence, craft must be designed to give the best possible tactical deployment from the moment of landing, and craft and methods must be invented to replace the fire support that the assaulting troops cannot provide for themselves.

The problem grows more complex as the size of the Force increases. An infantry battalion can be carried in assault landing craft, ordinary motor boats with very little armour. But their transport cannot. If the attack is merely a raid and the troops will re-embark within, say, 24 hours, the lack of transport will hardly matter. If they are to stay on shore and move inland, they will need their transport. Likewise they will need tanks and artillery. That will necessitate the use of larger craft and more supplies; and that will, in its turn, affect the plan of attack.

The attacking force will also need air support, and bombers will need fighter protection. That will lead to the demand for the early capture or construction of landing strips. That, in its turn, will affect the nature of the equipment and of the specialist troops to be landed and their priority in landing. So the story proceeds. Every increase in the size of the force brings in its train problems of supply and of priorities. And all these vitally affect the training of every man.

These problems have been solved. Let us look at the training through which the men have gone.

The training of an assault division was generally done on the basis of brigade training. Altogether there were nine training centres available in Britain for British and United States' troops. All these involved clearing many square miles of populated countryside, so that live ammunition could be used during the training.

On arrival in the training area, the first training stage was on a platoon level. One landing craft used for training carries 35 men. These 35 men had to be built up into a combat team and made completely familiar with their weapons and the method of their use against wire, mines and strong points. The team would be strengthened by the inclusion of special weapons or methods of attack. From there, the training would advance to company training, followed by battalion training. In each phase there would be a full exercise, using landing craft, and with "live" fire.

In all these, one of the points emphasized would be the balance between individual initiative by the men and control by their leaders. Finally, there would be a brigade exercise, again under full field conditions, with the problem of proper control of the operation paramount.

At the same time, the specialists would be rehearsing their tasks. At these schools the Engineers would find replicas of every known defensive device used by the Germans, and would practise their destruction. Tank crews

would work out their drills for waterproofing their vehicles and become perfect in the none too easy methods of loading their tanks on to landing craft, and the swift dive into the shallow water when approaching the beach. And the signals units would be working out the most satisfactory communication nets.

All that could be considered as basic training. Every division taking part in the assault has rehearsed its actual task at least once over similar ground and much more frequently on scale models of the section of coast they were to assault.

The purpose of these combined training centres was not only to train soldiers as units but to train them as part of a combined team. Consequently, all the Naval and Royal Marine crews of the small landing craft have also passed through them, to see at first hand how their work tied in with that of the army and to become familiar with the army methods of organization. The beach units which control the landings as they take place are mixed teams of soldiers and seamen.

GETTING IT RIGHT TO THE MINUTE

By LIEUTENANT LANCE DALZIEL

Large and small-scale rehearsals held in secret along the coast of Great Britain preceeded the landings. These rehearsals were carried out in all weathers and were just part of the months of careful planning. Here is the story of some of these preparations.

IN October 1943, after the strategical and tactical plans for the landing operations had been made, naval staff officers of the various landing forces involved began their task of planning in detail.

It meant arranging for thousands of men, tanks, vehicles and ammunition to be landed on the beaches at times accurate to the minute. It meant landing naval beach parties, to clear not only the shore, but also the shallow waters approaching it. It meant estimating how long they would take to do their job, and how soon the craft could start beaching in quantity.

To land the men and material required by the Army meant convoys of many hundreds of craft ranging from small boats to huge assault ships, destroyers to bombard the coast and destroyers to protect the convoys. Plans had to be made to marshal all these craft so that the Army should get the material it wanted in the order in which it was required. On top of that flak ships, gun ships and various other support craft had to be off the beaches to back up the first assault wave.

It was a gigantic task. Nothing on such a scale had been attempted before, though the experience of landings from North Africa to Anzio was available to draw upon.

As the planning officers began to bring the mass of detail into order, the first craft began to steam towards the practice beaches. Small scale rehearsals were carried out, at first with empty craft. Then the Army was brought in and combined exercises in brigade strength took place. So it went on, until in the early months of this year, big-scale landings were being practised.

At each exercise the planning officers stood by with stop-watches. Tank-landing craft, motor-transport craft and infantry-landing ships rehearsed disgorging their cargoes on beaches until they could do it exactly in the time required.

One of the planning officers, Commander A. C. Duckworth, R.N., of Ardingly, Sussex, who was with the Eighth Army in the Mediterranean, said:

"Accurate timing is one of the most vital factors in making a successful landing. It is essential to know exactly how long it takes each type of craft to unload."

One reason why this knowledge is essential is because plans have to be revised, in the light of intelligence concerning enemy movements, right up to the last possible moment.

A gun may not be put out of action. The enemy may make a last minute change in his troop concentrations. These factors have to be taken into consideration, and last minute alterations have to be made in the landing plans. This is the reason why the plans can never be regarded as completed until the landing has actually taken place.

The staff planning officers go to sea with the fleets, advising the senior officers, correcting and revising the plans they have been living with, even sleeping and eating with for many months.

Britain's Navy never regard their task as completed, for so long as there are Allied troops on shore they have to be supplied with an ever-increasing amount of stores as they progress inland.

STATE FORCES REGIMENT'S TROPHY.

A brass tumbler belonging to an officer of an Indian State Forces regiment fighting on the Imphal front would not stay in captivity with the Japs and returned to our lines within 20 days.

Before moving forward the officer put the tumbler in a dump but a cook took it with him to the forward area, where the Japs seem to have stolen it during a battle, writes an Indian Army Observer.

When a battalion of the regiment successfully attacked Sokpao 20 days later they found a tumbler on the possession of a dead Jap officer.

They identified it by the number stamped on it, and from that day it has adorned their mess table.

DOGRAS HAVE KILLED 400 JAPS VETERANS OF THE BURMA FRONT

With at least 400 Japs killed and many more times that number wounded, with but light losses to themselves, the 17th Dogra Regiment can say that it has well and truly measured the Japs and beaten him in recent months. And this is the record of one battalion of the regiment only.

No unit of the Indian Army can claim a longer record against the Jap than that of this battalion of the Dogras, seasoned as they are by tough campaigning in the initial battle of Burma, the rigours of 18 months' fighting in Arakan and the difficult conditions of the monsoon fighting on the Imphal front.

This battalion has won a D.S.O., five M.Cs., three I.O.Ms. and four I.D.S.Ms in the Burma campaign, a firm reminder not only of their valour but of the importance and military significance of the operations in which they have taken part. Theirs is a story which will bear telling again in the villages and farms in the foothills of the Himalayas, in Kashmir and in the Northern Punjab, where the brave surefooted Dogras have their homes.

It was with the famed Fifth Indian Division, on the Arakan front, that their adventures began. Already Dogras had earned a reputation for tough defence and fierce attack; now they were to take the battle to the enemy and make him suffer ghastly casualties.

After other successes the Dogras cleared the first road block on the Imphal to Kohima road and were part of the force which met the British troops who had smashed through from the north.

The Dogras have a proud record, worthy of their proud regiment. For valour and distinction few can surpass it.

SGT. DIVED FOR COOLIE: LIEUT. SAVED BOTH.

Sgt. J. Nicoll, Black Watch, of William Lane, Dundee, who is attached to Movement Control has been commended for brave conduct in India.

During the loading of a river flat a labourer fell from the gangway into the river.

Sgt. Nicoll was supervising the loading of the river flat from the head of the gangway. On seeing the man in the water he immediately jumped in and swam towards him.

The clutches of the man together with the strong current, proved too much for Sgt. Nicoll and both men would have been drowned but for Lieut. D. C. Whitworth-King, I.E., O.C., of a Docks section, who plunged in and rescued both.

"The Officer and the N.C.O. showed courage of a high order", says the citation.

BRITAIN'S MINESWEEPERS WENT FIRST

By LIEUTENANT-COMMANDER ROBERT FANE, D.S.C.

THE great seaborne operation on D-Day was made possible by the men in the minesweepers; but for them the assault force could not have reached the enemy coastline without crippling losses.

At the head of the invasion fleet steamed these little ships, sweeping a channel through the minefields, repeating the job they did in the landings on the Libyan coast at Sicily, Salerno and Anzio. If the landing craft were the spearhead of the attack, then they were the spearpoint.

Before a single soldier set foot on shore hundreds of minesweepers, built in Britain and the United States, cleared the way. There were Fleet Sweepers and motor minesweepers, Admiralty trawlers and converted fishing trawlers, drifters and a variety of other craft, all equipped to deal with either moored or ground mines—or both. Included in the force were "Smokey Joe's", coal-burning fleet sweepers which were serving in the last war; and ships which, still on the secret list, were recently launched from the slipways of Britain and the United States. Several of the British flotillas in the operation were, in fact, built in America under "Lease-Lend". They went into action side by side with sister ships in the United States Navy.

The weight of minesweeping material the force used amounted to 2,800 tons: the length of sweep wire embarked alone by the "oropesa" sweepers which searched only for moored mines, was nearly 70 miles.

What was the minesweepers' job?

Let us imagine we were in a ship of the leading flotilla. It was sweeping "oropesa", protected by its degaussing girdle from magentic mines.

Theoretically, only the leaders of the "oropesa" flotillas were exposed to risk of destruction, for the sweepers steamed in echelon formation, each with 250 to 300 fathoms of sweep wire towing from the quarter.

This sweep wire was buoyed by a torpedo-shaped float swimming wide from the ship. Each ship kept inside and respectfully astern of the float ahead.

With the sweepers steamed the Dan ships, always keeping just within the limits of the swept water, and dropping at frequent intervals flagged buoys to mark the channel's limits.

So the sweepers slowly carved a passage through the minefields, clearing the way for the great assault force.

The minesweepers were merely doing a routine job. Doing it precisely as many other "100 per cent" sweeps had been done to clear enemy minefields round Britain's coasts, in the Mediterranean, and elsewhere. First, they swept a narrow lane, and then widened it lap by lap.

Just a routine job, accomplished in face of incredible danger and difficulties.

"Jobs do not come any tougher", the minesweeping rating will say: "There's not much kick in sweeping mines—unless they kick you. Your job is not to chase the enemy and slap him down after a first-class scrap, not if you are sweeping mines. There is not much thrill about it, you just go on sweeping ruddy mines."

It may be monotonous work, but it demands a high degree of technical skill and a kind of cold courage.

This greatest minesweeping operation in history had to be completed to a strict time-table. Never before has any coast been so thickly strewn with mines. Undeterred by gunfire from shore batteries and attacking aircraft, they swept on, maintaining a steady course in tricky tides, keeping in perfect station to ensure that the Lines of Dan flags marking the laps were dead straight.

They did pause to sink mines that their serrated sweep wires cut adrift, for if one ship parted its sweep it fell out of formation and the next moved into its place. But always the sweep went on.

By accurate navigation they left no "*holidays*", little unswept patches in which a mine might lurk to destroy a following ship. Sometimes mines exploded in their sweeps; when they were cut free and bobbed to the surface they were destroyed by the gunfire of attendant ships.

So this gallant minesweeping force of British and American ships shepherded the assault fleet through the minefields to make the first landing on the North European coast.

Ten thousand officers and men comprised the minesweeping force which cleared the Channel, and is still keeping it open. Their ships have seen much service in most theatres of the sea war.

The "Smokey Joe's" have swept mines in all the Home Commands. They have been so busy that once the Commander of this flotilla described the sea as "positive sago pudding of mines swept." Another flotilla has spent one winter or more in Russian waters after taking out convoys. It stayed on to help in keeping clear the White Sea channels. When not minesweeping, some ships of the force have taken part in the Battle of the Atlantic. Others have swept on the flank of the armies in North Africa and Italy, and escorted convoys in the Mediterranean. At least one ship has taken convoys to both Russia and Malta.

Men in the minesweepers do not expect to receive the public appreciation their work deserves. They operate in secrecy and the result of their efforts must be kept secret, too. News that a minefield has been cleared in a particular position would be welcomed by the enemy; such a success, kept secret, is a victory won, for it means that convoys may move safely through areas the enemy regards as "closed".

Every day since the outbreak of war the channels round the coasts of Britain have been swept, with or without result. The war of enemy minelaying versus Allied minesweeping goes on unceasingly. It is a never-ending test of wits.

In one case a minefield was laid by an enemy submarine. The field was discovered and the minesweepers went to work. They suspected that the enemy was watching them, so they carried on as usual with the sweeping shapes hoisted at masthead and yardarms. But they were not sweeping: they were merely going through the motions. Consequently when the submarine returned to re-lay the field he was blown up on one of his own mines.

When the full story of the minesweepers can be told it will be seen that without their help Britain would have been lost indeed.

Officers and men in 1,000 ships have beaten the sea-mine blitz and kept the ships of the United Nations moving to victory. They have destroyed thousands of mines and saved millions of tons of shipping.

The individual records of some of these little ships are impressive. One trawler, H.M.T. *Rolls Royce*, has swept 200 mines. A crown, stars and chevrons adorn her bridge, supporting her claim to be the world's champion minesweeper. Several other 'sweepers' including trawlers, have each destroyed more than 100 mines. One fleet sweeper, H.M.S. *Espiegle*, has swept nearly 150 miles in the Mediterranean, and three of her sister ships—*Circe*, *Albacore* and *Acute*—have each scored their century.

These magnificent results by the minesweepers have been achieved despite attacks from aircraft and surface ships, and the ever-present threat of submarines and mines. Their losses have not been light; in this war, as in the last, minesweeping trawlers head the casualty list. But without the fleet 'sweepers and the trawlers and the drifters', whole convoys would have perished on enemy mines and Britain would have starved. It has been said that if every mine swept had been left to do its work, Britain's merchant fleet would have been destroyed two or three times over.

Referring to the minesweeping service, Mr. Winston Churchill said in a recent broadcast:—

". . . but there are other deliverances which we should never forget. There was the mining peril, the sea-mining peril, which loomed so large in 1939 and which has been mastered by superior science and ingenuity and by the often forgotten but almost unsurpassed devotion to duty of our minesweeping crews and of the thousand ships they work and man that we may eat and live and thus fight for the good cause."

That "almost unsurpassed devotion to duty" which did so much to save Britain when she stood alone has now enabled the way to be cleared for the greatest assault fleet ever known.

MAPS FOR OPERATIONS

FOR the last two years the Department of the Director of Military Survey at the War Office has been working on the task of providing the necessary maps for landings in Europe. The vastness of the undertaking is illustrated by the fact that, in the final stages, every firm in the country capable of printing a map has been working on the job.

Security is, of course, of paramount importance, for the map is the only mass-produced military article which betrays of itself the very purpose of an operation. In this case, security has been maintained by the splitting up of the huge job into innumerable fragments. Each draughtsman, each printer, has a minute portion assigned to him, and has no knowledge of how his morsel of the jigsaw puzzle fits into the complete plan. He is thus in no position to determine whether or not he is working on a vital zone.

In the case of France, to mention only one theatre, the basis of the maps produced by the Directorate of Survey has been the pre-war survey work of the French Government, which itself was based on the original mapping done under Napolean. It is unfortunate that France was one of the worst served countries in the world in this respect. During the last two years the Directorate of Military Survey has, in spite of being denied access to the ground, produced more original maps of France than that country itself made since the days of Julius Caesar.

The largest-scale maps produced for the landings are on the scale of 1/25,000. These are primarily made for the use of artillery but their value is recognized by many other arms, all of which have demanded supplies. Every one of the 1/25,000 maps has been fully revised with the help of air photographs.

The help given by air photographs is immense, but nothing is further from the truth than the layman's belief that an air photograph represents exactly what appears on the ground and can thus be interpreted without specialized training. To the inexpert, air photographs provide very misleading information. The effect of light and shade, for example, is greatly exaggerated in them; and the contrast between freshly ploughed land and a stubble field is depicted as far greater than that between low gorse bushes and trees big enough to conceal a tank.

Again, air photography tends to throw into relief differences of scale such as occur when in a domestic snapshot somebody is photographed at full length with boots protruding towards the camera, with the result that his feet appear to be larger than his head. The same distortion, the same difference of scale, is evident in air photography when, for boots and head, the hills and valleys photographed by reconnaissance aircraft are substituted. Nevertheless, it is from experienced and informed scrutiny of air photographs that many of the largest-scale maps used for the landings in Europe have been carefully constructed over a long period.

The work of the Directorate of Military Survey does not include models, which are the responsibility of the Royal Air Force. It is, however, responsible for the production of maps for all American forces based on or passing through Great Britain, and for all those used by the United States Air Forces as well as by the Royal Air Force.

GENERAL KOENIG

GENERAL Joseph Pierre Koenig, who has been appointed to command the French Army of the Interior, was born in 1898, in Normandy. In demeanour and temperament, Koenig is Norman with a vengeance, a very unusual type of Frenchman—for those who associate the French with the small southerner, black skin, black hair, voluble and gesticulating. Koenig is tall, built with the solidity which the old peasant stock still retain in France. Sparing of gestures as of words, he seldom betrays restlessness, nervousness, or haste. He might easily pass for an Englishman, a Scandinavian.

In 1915 at 17 he left school at Caen and joined the French Army for the duration of the war. By the Armistice he had won the Military Medal, the Croix de Guerre, and had been mentioned several times in despatches. He chose to stay in the Army, and carved a slow, hard, gallant career. France has a special Military Academy at which N.C.Os. study for promotion from the ranks. He took the course at Saint Maixent: once commissioned he went to Morocco, served in the Foreign Legion, traditionally reserved for keen officers irked by the dreary boredom of town garrisons.

He fought under Lyautey, and under Giraud in the Moroccan colonial campaign conducted by France against Abd el Krim. In 1939 he was still in the Foreign Legion. Forty-one years old, he had grown grey in the service without rising above the rank of captain. The brilliant team produced every year in Saint Cyr and Saumur barred the way to this ranker officer. Captain Koenig sadly spent the "phoney war" period with his unit, in a hopeless watch on the Italian Alpine frontier.

FOUGHT AT NARVIK

Later he fought the enemy at Narvik and when the evacuation of Norway was decided on, the Legion was brought back to England, and immediately sent into battle in France. For three days Koenig and his company fought desperately behind the little low stone walls of Brittany.

General Koenig next came into prominence at Bir Hacheim. It was not a military victory in the popular sense. But it restored the French soldier, the man of France.

Koenig's scornful reply to Rommel's ultimatum showed that the moral fibre to say "No" was not dead in France.

There is a Jacobin or a Cromwellian touch about his extraordinary career. History will remember his reply to an Italian officer who summoned him to surrender and whom he would not even see:—

"We are men who have lost everything: our country, our homes, our families. One thing only is left us: our military honour. Of that you shall not deprive us . . . !"

FOUR JAP ATTACKS IN ONE NIGHT REPELLED

Beating off four successive heavy enemy attacks in one night a company of the 13th Frontier Force Rifles defending a 4,000 feet high feature on the Imphal front have earned congratulations from the Corps Commander.

The company, under Major James Braine Watson, of Bridge Road, East Molesey, Surrey, were defending this position when one evening the Japs put in their first attack, preceded by a heavy mortar and artillery barrage.

Two companies of the enemy attacked our bunkers but they were beaten back, suffering nearly 20 casualties.

Three hours later they attacked again but were beaten back. It was a pitch dark night and our men were fighting from trenches half filled with water.

The enemy collected their dead and after four hours put in a third attack. About 15 Japs broke into our perimeter but two were killed and three more who approached company headquarters were shot down. The rest fled.

The fourth attack two hours later was not pressed in strength because the enemy had suffered considerable losses. In a fight lasting about 15 minutes our troops charged with tommy-guns and fixed bayonets and inflicted heavy losses. The Japs then withdrew with a total of 110 casualties.

Subedar Abdul Rauf, of village Shadi Khel, district Kohat, was second in command during these attacks. He showed complete disregard for his own safety and exposed himself to enemy fire as he went round encouraging his men.

"Our men are in good fighting spirit", he said. "The enemy is no match for them."

PEDIGREE COUNTS IN FIGHTER PLANES

By S. E. VEALE

FOUR days after qualifying for his flying certificate at Brooklands in November, 1910, T.O.M. Sopwith, then only twenty-two, raised Britain's existing distance record to 107¾ miles and the duration record to 3 hrs. 12 mins. 55 secs.

A month later he won the Baron de Forest prize of £4,000 with a flight of 177 miles from England to Belgium. Early in 1911, he gave an exhibition of flying before King George V at Windsor.

WINNER OF FIRST AERIAL DERBY

In 1912 he won Britain's first Aerial Derby, set up a flying school and towards the end of the year began to design and build aircraft. In 1913, he formed the Sopwith Aviation and Engineering Co., Ltd., and caused a sensation with his first design, the Tabloid. In the following year, the Tabloid fitted with floats, won the first Schneidor Trophy Contest and raised the prestige of British aviation.

This meteoric rise to fame might have presaged an early eclipse, but Sopwith has had an association with flying which has endured, with but a brief interlude, for more than thirty years. To-day, he is the chairman of the Hawker-Siddeley Aircraft Company, the holding company which numbers among its operating subsidiaries, Hawker Aircraft, Ltd., makers of those two fine fighters, the Hurricane and the Typhoon.

KNACK OF PICKING GOOD MEN

Sopwith has two great gifts—an "eye for a line" and the knack of picking good men. Hence, all Sopwith's aircraft were distinguished by grace and beauty of form, and were built, test-flown and demonstrated by men highly skilled in their respective trades and professions.

If one design can be chosen for special commendation it is the Sopwith Camel a single-seat fighter of World War I. When it first reached the squadrons its sensitiveness earned it a bad name. Pilots were unaccustomed to such responsive control, but once they adjusted themselves to it they grew fanatical in their admiration of the Camel's qualities, and it was the joy of aerobatic pilots and a dog-fighter above the ordinary.

Other outstanding fighters from the same company were the 1½ Strutters, the Pup—a name frowned on by the authorities—the Triplane, the Dolphin and the Salamander. The Triplane had a remarkable climb and was so handy in a scrap that the Germans used it as the pattern for the Fokker Triplane.

The Dolphin and Salamander were well-armoured and shared in the final rout of the German armies in 1918. The 1½ Strutter—so named from its rigging—was the first British fighter to be fitted with synchronized guns firing through the air-screw disc.

Altogether, thousands of Sopwith aircraft were built in France and the United States, so great was the demand for them. One German General is alleged to have said: "Of all the British machines, it is the Sopwith that is the most to be feared".

Numerous as were the triumphs of the Sopwith Aviation and Engineering Co., Ltd., during the years between 1914–18, they did not save it from the effects of the economic blizzard which swept the world in the early post-war years. With no orders for aircraft on its books—thousands of surplus warplanes glutted the market—the company turned to the making of motor-cycles, but after one prosperous year it fell, like many others, upon bad times, and in 1920 closed down.

FINE CRAFTSMANSHIP REVIVED

But Sopwith and aviation were inseparable, and before long he was back as the head of a new company, H. G. Hawker Engineering Co., Ltd. For some time, the new concern confined itself to general engineering but, in 1923, the first of a new generation of aircraft emerged from the former Sopwith factory at Kingston-on-Thames. Many members of the earlier company had joined Hawkers, and the fine craftsmanship which had characterized Sopwith productions was revived.

The new company bore the name of one of Britain's most distinguished pilots, Harry Hawker, an Australian who came to England to learn to fly and had joined Sopwith as a mechanic in 1913.

His worth in the workshops was soon realized, but he was a still greater asset in the air. He was taught to fly by Sopwith, and so competent did he prove that he was instructing others at the Brooklands school before he had passed his Aero Club tests. Two of his earliest pupils—now Lord Trenchard and Sir John Salmond—became Marshals of Britain's Royal Air Force.

BID FOR TRANS-ATLANTIC PRIZE

His most famous flight was his Trans-Atlantic bid in 1919 for the London *Daily Mail* prize of £10,000. In a Sopwith biplane fitted with a Rolls-Royce Eagle engine, and with Commander K. Mackenzie Grieve as navigator, he set off from Newfoundland on July 18.

Some hours out, loose particles of solder choked the radiator pump and caused the water to boil. From time to time he switched off the engine and dived, but at length so little water remained in the radiator that he was forced to "ditch."

He came down alongside the Danish steamer *Mary*. He and Grieve were picked up, but the *Mary* carried no radio and they were presumed lost. On landing in England they were given a tumultuous welcome and their reception could not have been warmer had their flight been crowned with success.

NOW THE BIGGEST GROUP

Another name closely identified with Hawkers is that of Frederick Sigrist. Sigrist was one of Sopwith's earliest associates. He was a skilful mechanic and could get more out of an aero-engine than most. Failing health in recent years has compelled him to live abroad.

To-day, active executive head of the whole vast Hawker-Siddeley organization—the biggest group in the British Aircraft Industry—is Sir Frank Spriggs, who has had a long and useful career in flying—recognized in 1940 by a knighthood—and who joined the Hawker Board in 1925. He is also chairman of every operating company in the combine and Managing Director of the parent firm.

Head of the design department is Sydney Camm, who joined the H. G. Hawker Engineering Company soon after its formation. Camm had served his apprenticeship with Martin and Handasyde at Brooklands. His first commission at Hawkers was the designing of the Cygnet light aircraft which did well in the Air Ministry competitions of 1924. In subsequent years, Camm added to his reputation, and his final triumphs, the hurricane and Typhoon, have brought him international fame.

LONG LINE OF FIGHTERS

With few exceptions—there were, for instance the *Cuckoo* torpedo-bomber and the Buffalo army reconnaissance type of World War I—all Sopwith and Hawker designs have been fighters or light bombers. None has had more than one engine. Hence, those who are disposed to study the genealogy of aircraft can trace the Typhoon's line of descent right back to the Tabloid of 1913.

How far into the future the deep-rooted tradition of Sopwith and Hawker will be carried only time will tell. Of the plans maturing in the fertile minds of Sopwith, Spriggs and Camm, no hint has been given.

NEW MILITARY TRAFFIC CONTROL EFFORTS

Madras now has its own Army mobile police vans. To assist the civil police in the prevention of accidents and to remind both motorists and pedestrians of their responsibilities the army has now a military police truck patrolling in the station.

This truck is normally staffed by representatives of the forces and the civil police and is equipped with a public address system.

Drivers who exceed the speed limit or do not park their vehicles off the road are reminded of their responsibilities by the announcer. Pedestrians walking in the centre of the road, cyclists riding abreast on main roads, and all other road users who are acting in a manner dangerous to themselves or other people have their errors pointed out to them and the scheme is already proving popular and effective.

WAR DIARY

BRITAIN AND GERMANY

12TH JULY.—Flying bomb attacks against Southern England continued.

Royal Air Force bombers attacked industrial objectives in the Ruhr, last night. About 1,000 planes attacked targets in the Munich area to-day.

13TH JULY.—Mr. Attlee, the Deputy Prime Minister made a statement in the Commons on the flying bomb raids. Their Majesties King George and Queen Elizabeth witnessed anti-flying bomb operations.

Flying bomb raids continued.

Allied aircraft attacked Munich and Saarburcken.

14TH JULY.—Flying bombs from Belgium raided Southern England. Mr. Herbert Morrison made a statement in the Commons on defence against flying bombs. He also made a statement on the war situation in general.

15TH JULY.—Flying bombs were over southern counties.

Allied aircraft attacked Hanover.

16TH JULY.—More than 1,000 bombers raided Munich, Berlin, Nuremburg and Saarbrucken areas. Vienna was also bombed.

17TH JULY.—Flying bombs attacked southern counties including London area.

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THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE ATLANTIC

12TH JULY.—Mrs. Roosevelt made a statement on the need for an International Police Force.

The War Production Board announced that the full programme of its Chairman, Mr. Donald Nelson, to prepare industry for civilian production would be ordered to take effect from July 15.

President Roosevelt said that "the most terrible phase of the unparalleled struggle in which we are engaged is still before us, and the United Nations must look forward to great suffering and enormous sacrifices before the inevitable victory is won."

13TH JULY.—Brigadier-General Theodore Roosevelt, son of the former United States President Mr. Theodore Roosevelt, died in Normandy.

16TH JULY.—Mr. Leo Crowley, the United States Foreign Economic Administrator, disclosed that almost 14,000 million dollars worth of lend-lease supplies were shipped by the United States to the China-India-Burma theatre of operations from the beginning of the war to May 1, 1944.

* * *

INDIA, BURMA AND CEYLON

12TH JULY.—The fighting at Chapu ended with the rout of the enemy. Organized enemy resistance ceased in the Kamaing-Mogaung road.

13TH JULY.—The Japs withdrew from Sangshak, Macbi Khunow. The Allied troops captured Pyindaw.

14TH JULY.—Chinese troops captured a railway station seven miles from Mogaung.

Top-scoring "flying bomb" killers of Flying Officer E. Topham of New Zealand (left) *and Flight Lieutenant R. Nash of London* (centre) *reporting to Intelligence Officer Flying Officer C. Kember after a patrol.*

15TH JULY.—Allied forces pushing after the main body of the Japanese from the Ukhrul area have recontacted their rearguard at Maoku.

16TH JULY.—Chinese troops captured Sumkrung. The Allied troops captured Kungpi. The Japs evacuated Ingourek and Kakaden.

17TH JULY.—Allied troops consolidated their gains of the past two days and made slight advances in the south-east sector. Fifth Gurkha Rifles captured Khakhunow yesterday.

* *

RUSSIA AND FINLAND

12TH JULY.—The Russians opened an offensive on the Second Baltic front and advanced 20 miles on the front of 90 miles, captured Idrista and more than 1,000 localities. On the White Russian front Soviet forces liberated more than 300 localities. In other fronts the Red Army captured Krakai, Vassiliaski, Redun, Velva and about 400 localities.

13TH JULY.—The Russians captured *Vilna*, the capital of Lithuania, Drissa, Thyutchev, Ruzany, Orany Vievis and over 500 localities. Soujarvi and 20 localities in the Karelian-Finnish Republic, were also occupied.

14TH JULY.—The Soviet forces captured *Pinsk* and Volkovysk.

The Russian forces captured Opochka, Bialystok, Volkovysk and over 300 localities.

15TH JULY.—The Russians reached Grodno. The Red Army launched a large-scale offensive between Tarnapol and Lutsk.

16TH JULY.—Germans evacuated Grodno. Soviet troops captured Kuznetsovka, Podjel, Bereza-Karpuzskaya, Janow, Pelehany and about 300 localities.

17TH JULY.—The Red Army forces were fighting on the immediate approaches to East Prussia. Several places were liberated from occupied Soviet territory.

FOR YOUR RADIO DIARY.

MADRAS—JULY	21.—9-00 p.m.	Science in War Time: New Materials—By Dr. B. B. Dey.
,, ,,	21.—9-45 p.m.	"World Affairs"—Relay from B.B.C.
,, ,,	22.—9-45 p.m.	"The Fighting Forces."
,, ,,	24.—9-45 p.m.	International Planning: Currency stabilisation —By S.T. Sadasivam.
,, ,,	25.—9-45 p.m.	Topical Talk.
,, ,,	27.—9-00 p.m.	Concept of Freedom—By R. Galletti, I.C.S.
,, ,,	28.—9-45 p.m.	"World Affairs"—Relay from B.B.C.
,, ,,	29.—9-45 p.m.	"Fighting Forces."
,, ,,	31.—9-00 p.m.	A continent in Revolt: Holland.

The Soviet troops captured Sebezh, Osveya, Sviaioch, Pruzany, Shershov, Drugichin, and over 400 localities.

* * *

ITALY, AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

12TH JULY.—Indian divisions captured the villages of Meone, Morra, Mucignano and Montefabri.

The Maharajah of Kashmir reached Italy to visit troops.

13TH JULY.—The Fifth Army captured *Layatico*.

General Smuts in a broadcast declared, "The next few months will see the war in the west moving to a grand climax."

14TH JULY.—The Allied troops captured Poggibonsi, Monte Santa Maria, Monte Civitella and San Gumignano.

15TH JULY.—The Fifth Army took most important hill features between the Cecina river and the Arno. Allied forces captured Chiani, Peccioli, Gualdo Tadino, Fossato di Vico and Cingoli.

16TH JULY.—The Eighth Army captured *Arezzo*, and Monte Lignano. Other places captured by the Allies include Gubbio, Costacciaro, Castellina, Morrona and Bagni di Caxiana.

17TH JULY.—The Allied troops crossed the Arno river. The Eighth Army took Civitella, Bajdia, Agnano and Ambra. Other places occupied include Lippiano and Lorenzana.

* * *

VICHY, FREE FRANCE AND THE OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

12TH JULY.—Fighting in Normandy spread to new sectors. American troops captured the villages of Angoville—Sur. Ay and La Bourdonnerie.

Mr. Eden made a statement on the attitude of the British Government towards DeGaulle's Government.

The new Yugo-Slav Premier, Dr. Ivan Subasic, in his own name and that of King Peter, recognized Marshal Tito as the leader of his country's struggle for freedom.

13TH JULY.—British troops withdrew from the villages of Colombelles and Saint Honorine. The American forces made steady advance in seven sectors.

President Roosevelt sent a message to the French people in connexion with the Bastille Day.

14TH JULY.—American troops entered Pont Hebert. Allied forces were within two miles of Lessay and over-ran the village of Vesly.

15TH JULY.—The Allied troops captured Beauvais, La Jourdaineries and La Londe. American forces were within 2 miles of Periers and 2½ miles from St. Lo.

16TH JULY.—British troops captured Esquay. Americans were 1½ miles from St. Lo.

17TH JULY.—British troops withdrew from Esquay. American troops reached the outskirts of St. Lo. The villages of Vendes and Cahier were captured by the Allied forces. Very bitter hand to hand fighting took place in the streets of Noyers.

MOBILE DENTAL SURGERY ON BURMA FRONT.—F/Lt. W. Jefferson Smith of 8, Egremont Street, Ely, Cambriedgeshire a R.A.F. Dental officer, takes the dentist's chair to his patients on the Hazipur Front. Always having to be on the move, F/Lt. Smith decided he must take his surgery with him. F/Sgt. Edgar Michalle, of 68, Wolsey Drive, Kingston-on-Thames, Surrey, a R.A.F. dental assistant, converted 3-ton lorry for the job. Left to right.—F/Sgt. Michelle, F/Lt. Smith and a patient, Cpl. E. Williams, of Blue Gardens, Bonddu, North Wales.

Lt.-Gen. G. A. P. Scoones, commanding 4th Corps, troops of which, fighting in the Imphal area, have killed 11,000 Japs since March.

THE NEUTRAL COUNTRIES

13TH JULY.—After seeing President Roosevelt, Mr. Laurence Steinhart, American Ambassador to Turkey stated that the Allies could expect "much closer co-operation" with Turkey soon.

* * *

THE FAR EAST

12TH JULY.—The Jap force south of Leiyang was wiped out. The enemy troops entered Liling.

Mopping up operations continued on the Saipan Island. Americans captured more than 10,000 prisoners.

Mr. James Forrestal, United States Navy Secretary, reviewing operations in Saipan told that 95 per cent of the Japanese,—approximately 19,000 were killed. About 1,000 enemy planes were destroyed.

13TH JULY.—The Japanese 18th Army 45,000 strong has been trapped in the Aitape Wewak area in New Guinea. Guam and Rota were heavily bombed.

It is revealed that two Jap Admirals died in Saipan on July 7. They were Chuichi Nagumo, Commander-in-Chief of the Central Pacific and Admiral Yano Vice-Admiral Nichi Hasegawa is also reported to have been killed in action.

14TH JULY.—The Japanese 18th Army trapped in Aitape Wewak area made a desperate bid to break through American positions. American amphibious forces landed in the Maniagassa Island, two miles north of Saipan.

15TH JULY.—Allied bombing of Guam, Rota and Truk is reported.

16TH JULY.—The Chinese troops launched an attack on Lungling from three sides. Fighting continued south-west of Tengchung.

More than 14,000 Japs were killed between June 23 and July 14 in the Japanese attempt to capture Hengyang.

17TH JULY.—Admiral Shigetaro Shimada, Japanese Naval Minister, was relieved of his post and succeeded by Admiral Naokuni Nomura.

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MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. V FRIDAY, JULY 28, 1944 No. 47

The WRITING *on the* WALL

***Events** inside the Reich itself show that experienced German Generals have seen the writing on the wall*

***Hitler** is merely a symbol of the German lust for power. When the symbol goes, the spirit which created it must still be finally removed. This time, we must make sure it will be utterly crushed and powerless to rise again. Hitler is a link in the chain of those German war lords. This time, we must make quite certain that the chain is finally broken. No punishment however hard, no retribution however thorough and no surrender even unconditional, will completely eliminate the dangers of future aggression by those two hawks of death Germany and Japan*

Mr. ANTHONY EDEN, in a speech in London, on Monday, July 24

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[NOTE.—*The summary of news and comments contained in the* MADRAS WAR REVIEW *generally relate to events and statements published till Wednesday, every week.*]

TURMOIL IN GERMANY

"There are grave signs of weakness in Germany. They are in a state of great turmoil inside and none can measure the extent. They are shooting each other. It might be that fighting might come to an end earlier than we have the right to say."

—MR. WINSTON CHURCHILL, *addressing Royal Air Force men, in Normandy.*

❖

ONLY ONE WAY

"Germany's armies and people are shaken and shot through with doubts, but in no sense are they yet broken. The collapse of the German army is not yet apparent to our men who are locked in combat with a brutal, resourceful and stubburn enemy. Many here, at home, are talking of a quick victory through the collapse of the German army. I assure you that there is only one way to guarantee a speedy end to this war. Our enemies, Germany and Japan, have set their standard of existence on military power. It is the one thing their twisted minds can recognize and measure. As long as they have any reason to believe that they can maintain a degree of equality in that regard, they will fight hard and tenaciously. But when they see they are about to be completely overpowered, when the fact is physically and unmistakably carried to their doorsteps, then, and, only then, will they collapse."

—MR. HENRY STIMSON, *the United States War Secretary, in a broadcast speech, on Wednesday, July 26.*

❖

INDIAN TROOPS ALWAYS ON THE FOREFRONT

"What I saw and heard while in England convinced me of the high determination of every man and woman to achieve complete victory and lasting peace, no matter what the sacrifice involved might be.

"In Italy, I saw all the three Indian Divisions and found them full of courage and spirits. The Indian troops are always in the forefront of battle and are glad to be there. Whenever I saw an Indian unit moving up the front, I watched the faces of the men. Each face was wreathed in smiles. No wonder that every Commander I met had only praise and admiration for the Indian soldier."

—HIS HIGHNESS THE MAHARAJA OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR, *in a speech on Sunday, July 23.*

❖

KEY TO JAPAN

"The Pacific Islands of Guam, Tinian, and Saipan in the Marianas form the key which will unlock the door to Japan, the Philippines and the coast of China. The sea, air and land forces fighting in the Marianas have demonstrated a staying power unparalleled in naval warfare, but we still have a long way to go to Tokyo, and somewhere along the route the enemy must fight with all his remaining strength.

"No aid or comfort should be taken from the formation of the new Cabinet. Japan will conduct her war with all the power she possesses, and we can expect some changes in its methods."

—MR. JAMES FORRESTAL, *the United States Secretary of the Navy, in a statement on Tuesday, July 25.*

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HITLER AND HIS HOME FRONT

THE two most sensational events that have happened on the enemy's home front are the resignation of the Tojo Cabinet on July 18 and the attempt on Hitler's life on July 20. Both are the results of the worsening of the war situation, but they should not be taken as signs of an impending collapse. The attempt to assassinate Hitler has overshadowed the political crisis in Japan, because it was a public indication, for the first time, of the fact that an influential section in the German military machine itself wanted to overthrow Hitler. In a speech soon after the bomb exploded near him, Hitler said, "A very small clique of ambitious, irresponsible and, at the same time, senseless and criminally stupid, officers had formed a plot to eliminate me and, with me, the staff of the German Wehrmacht Command." It is significant that the Fuehrer has not accused either the "Jews" or "Communists," for the outrage, but a small group of German officers in Germany itself. The object of this group which represents the Army is evidently to bring about a negotiated peace which might yet avert complete disaster and give them the opportunity of "refighting this conflict in ten, twenty or fifty years' time".

IT is interesting to examine the causes which have led to the split between the German Army and the Nazi Party. So long as Hitler was willing to serve as its tool the Army allowed him the fullest power. It helped him to realise his dreams of conquest and got everything it wanted to make it the most perfect military machine in the world. This combination worked satisfactorily till Hitler attacked Russia as against the wishes and warnings of his professional Generals. The German victories on the Eastern Front in 1941 led them to hope that, after all, Hitler might be able to pull off yet another victory. But the German disaster in the Battle of Stalingrad widened the differences between the Party and the Army. There was a considerable section who began to hope that, in course of time, the Generals would revolt against Hitler, wrest power from his hands and retain for Germany the advantages already won.

HITLER sensed the turn things were taking and began to strengthen his own position by replacing Generals of suspected or doubtful loyalty by his own Nazi henchmen. This attempt to Nazify the German Army began after Stalingrad. Himmler whom the Fuehrer appointed as the Commander-in-Chief of the German Home Army immediately after the failure of the attempt on his life, revealed at the beginning of last year that he had established a separate headquarters behind the lines in Russia and that the *S.S. Verfuegungstruppe*, a branch of the "Waffen S.S." (Hitler's political army consisting of staunch Nazi supporters), was so distributed at the Russian front as to be stationed among other units of the regular army. Hitler's henchmen were conveniently sprinkled among the army units with a view to seeing that disaffection did not spread among regular officers and that they did not turn disloyal to Hitler. Two months ago, regular political instruction was introduced as a subject in the education of the soldier. Dr. Ley, opening a new school for Officer Cadets in the Mark Brandenburg on May 17, declared that the Nazi Party was "the fountain-head" of German strength. Giving an account of the ceremony, the D.N.P. wrote, "It is for the first time that we are going to apply completely new methods in training future officers."

THE rift between the Party and the Army began to grow to such an extent that their journals showed evidences of mutual dislike. For instance, the *Deutsche Allgemeine Zeitung*, the paper of the Prussian militarists and Junker landowners, published obituary notices without any eulogistic references to the Fuehrer. But the *Voelkischer Beobachter*, the Nazi party journal, invariably described the fallen soldier as having "died for the Fuehrer". Broadly speaking, the attempt on Hitler's life may be stated to mark the culmination of the differences between the Party and the Army. Referring to this Mr. Churchill said, "There are signs of weakness in Germany. They are in a state of great turmoil inside and none can be sure of the extent."

THERE seems to be two schools of thought now in Germany. One seems to believe that the war can be won by political trickery, failing military methods; the other believes that Germany is bound to be defeated and prolongation of the conflict might mean the end of German militarism for all time to come. But neither political trickery nor military stratagem can avert what is in store for Germany. It is of course premature to see in the attempt on Hitler's life signs of an early German collapse, but at the same time it may not be unduly optimistic to believe, as Mr. Churchill said, that "the fighting might come to an end earlier than we have the right to say."

RUNNING COMMENTARY

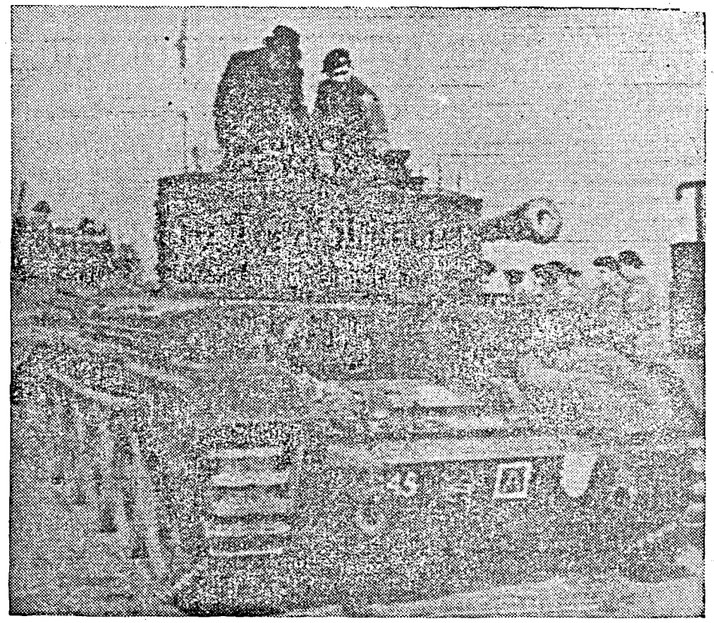
Red Army's Drive to Warsaw The Red Army has taken a number of important towns in its onward march towards the frontiers of Germany. A new offensive was launched by the Russians last week from Kovel, north of Lwow, and Marshal KONIEV's great army broke a strong enemy defence system with its powerful armoured spearheads and massive air forces. Two big outflanking drives have been launched north and south of Lwow, HITLER's main base in southern Poland. In central Poland Marshal ROKOSSOVSKY's troops have swarmed across the Bug. Lublin, 96 miles south-east of Warsaw, has fallen and the Red Army is poised for a direct assault on Warsaw, the Polish capital. In the Northern sector, the ancient city of Pskov, the last German base in North Russia, which is 160 miles southwest of Leningrad, and situated on the Estonian and Latvian borders, has been captured. The fall of Pskov clears the Germans from the entire pre-1939 Soviet territory. The Nazi stronghold of Narva in Estonia has also been captured. This is the first big Estonian town to be captured by the Russians.

Viewing the situation on the Russian front as a whole, we see that the gigantic operations launched by the Red Army have forced the Germans to the position of defending their own soil against attack. The main purpose of the German commanders now seems to be to keep a coherent front "in being," however far westwards they may be driven. As for the Russians, their object is to disrupt and destroy the German forces and to strike at the heart of Germany itself. Hitherto Russian successes were counted in the liberation of so many 'inhabited localities' or an advance of so many miles, but in future it will be counted in the creation of a number of areas of penetration along the frontiers of the Reich.

* * * *

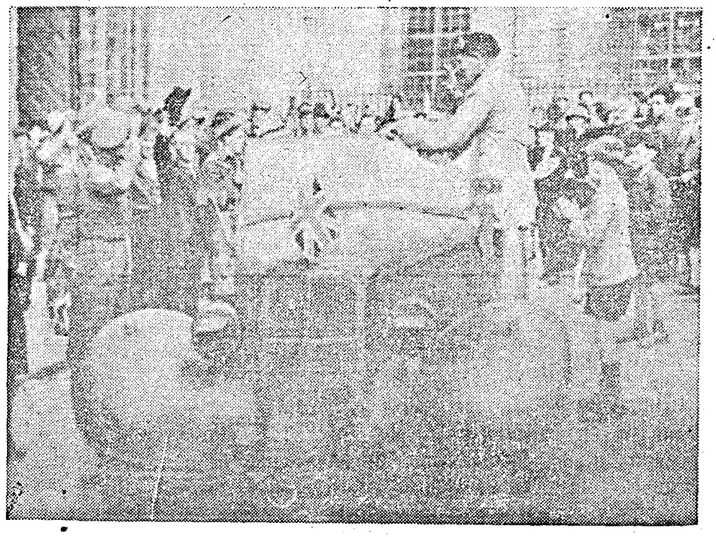
Extended Battle-line and Insufficient Forces We have already referred to the fact that the Germans had miscalculated by expecting that the Russians would begin by resuming the spring offensive which had carried them from the Dnieper bend to the Carpathians. That was the reason why they strengthened the southern sectors covering Lwow at the expense of Central or White Russian front, as they had not anything like a sufficient force to attend to the requirements of their far too extended battle-line. Even if they had not miscalculated and strengthened their defence line in the Minsk area, the Russians who had the initiative fully in hand could easily have switched their opening offensive elsewhere. In such circumstances, the only sensible course for the Germans was to withdraw to a much shorter line before the Russians were ready to attack. But time and again the Germans were made to suffer frightful losses in pursuance of the policy of clinging to every mile of territory to the very last. It is stated that this is due to HITLER's personal insistence, and it may well be true. For the German war effort has become so dependent on the Eastern belt of conquered or satellite countries stretching from the Baltic to the Black Sea that HITLER might well have feared that sudden withdrawals might result in the collapse of the entire edifice.

But the crazy strategy of withdrawal after suffering heavy losses has not helped the Germans in any way. On the other hand, it has made the German war machine rickety. What the Germans now seem to be doing is, not attempting to re-establish a continuous organized front in the centre, but to hold selected focal points by sending

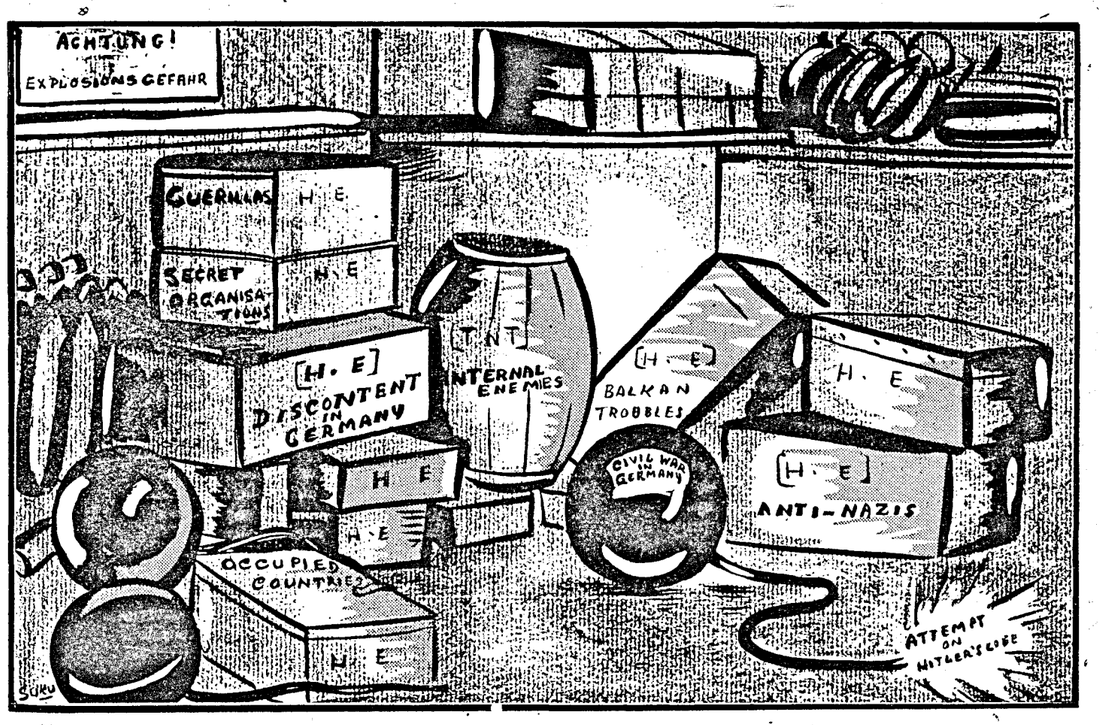


Mr. Winston Churchill inspects a Cromwell tank mounting a 75 mm. gun now operating in Normandy.

After General Montgomery had presented awards to airborne troops, he himself received an award—a bouquet of roses from these three little French children.



General Montgomery acknowledging cheers of civilians outside the Caen Cathedral during a visit to the liberated town, on July 11.



a limited number of divisions to the required areas. The German situation on the Eastern front is such that it may be described as a very limited response to a major emergency, and this seems to confirm the belief long held by competent military authorities that the existence of large "strategic reserves" inside Germany is nothing else but a propaganda myth.

* * *

German Race Against Time Now the Germans are running a race against time. They are faced with the formidable task of getting their 16th and 18th Armies out of the Baltic Republics and regrouping them along the line covering East Prussia and Warsaw, before the Russian advance increases in momentum. This task of rebuilding a new central front on a shorter and more westerly line will become easy if the garrison troops in Poland and Czechoslovakia are pushed forward beyond Warsaw as a temporary screen. But such an arrangement may make matters worse by giving an opportunity to Polish and Czech underground movements to come out into the open and work against the Germans.

JAPS PROVIDED BATTLE COURSE REALISM

British and Indian troops at a reinforcement camp at Kanglatongbi, on the Imphal front, where they were to undergo their final "battle course" meeting the Japs, found the course considerably speeded up by the Japs themselves, who attacked them during the night.

Carrying with them large quantities of ammunition, stores, and rations, the reinforcement camp, consisting of nearly 2,300 men, moved seven miles within 24 hours to take up defence positions at Kanglatongbi. Within another 24 hours they had moved again to another position, where they resisted an enemy attack and inflicted heavy casualties, writes an Indian Army Observer.

After keeping night-long vigils for nearly a week and working throughout the day the camp received orders to move and take up defence positions at Kanglatongbi. It was a pitch dark night and no lights could be used owing to the proximity of the Japs.

Working there the whole night and the following day British and Indian troops—Sikhs, Mahrattas and Madrasis—assisted in evacuating many tons of stores, reserve rations for 14 days for the 2,300 men and large quantities of ammunition, including 3,000 3-inch mortar bombs and a quarter of a million rounds, leaving nothing for the enemy. All bunkers and defensive positions were completely destroyed.

Within another 24 hours they had to move to new defensive positions, where they were attacked by a strong force of the enemy. All the combatants and non-combatants who normally compose a reinforcement camp combined together and inflicted heavy casualties.

SESHIAH, THE CURIOUS VILLAGER

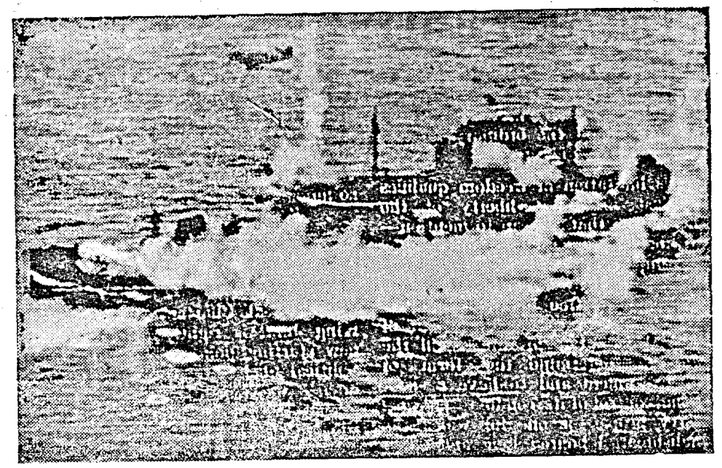
(*By* R.G.)

CANTO III—*Instalment II*

And when the Nazis struck again
Across the Aisne and Marne and Seine,
And France went down, a mangled heap
Of brave men mixed with human sheep,
Of some who fought and some who fled
And some who had been better dead
But floated to the top like scum
And made their peace with Nazidom,
And got at last what they deserved,
The scorn of even those they served--
Seshiah shuddered at the tale
And thought the Nazis must prevail--
Or would have thought so, had not he
Heard from a friend who chanced to be
A-waiting at a railway station
And overheard a conversation
Between an Englishman and one
Who said the English were undone.
"Now Hitler's finished with the Dutch
And got poor Belgium in his clutch
And downed the French" (the first man said)
"You English are as good as sped.
For ere you can your shores protect
The Nazis doubtless will collect
A vast flotilla of big boats
And every hing that sails or floats,
And every tank and gun and man'll
Be flung across the English Channel.
A Danish skipper told me that
All barges, every kind of flat. . ."

But here the Englishman broke in,
Betraying amusement with a grin:
"We've heard of those flat-bottomed barges
Before. And if but one discharges
Its load beneath the cliffs of Dover
Or even struggles half-way over,
I'll eat, instead of tarts and pies,
A gross or two of Goebbels' lies,
And even offer to admit
This pestilential little squit,
This self-promoted Corporal Hitler
Than the great Boney is no littler.
We know that we are in for trouble:
But Germany is in for double."

Seshiah when he heard this tale
Knew Nazi might would not prevail.
"The British are not quite like us
And sometimes seem ridiculous,"
He said, "But when there's danger near
In days of sorrow, gloom and fear,
They rise superior to their neighbours
And laugh amid unending labours.
The worse the current situation,
The greater their exhilaration--
A people stiff and proud and odd,
But peerless in a pinch, by God!
They save themselves by their exertions
And half the world by their excursions."
(Which is just what was said by Pitt
Excepting in the second bit.)



British beaufighter making a low-level attack on armed German escort vessels off Normandy on July 18. The entire convoy was left on fire or damaged. Three ships sunk, two others were left blazing. A large Coastal Command force which included Canadian, Australian, Newzealand and Royal Air Force squadrons, took part in this action

Captain Gille, President of Calvados Committee of Liberation, and M. Dauvre, Prefect of Calvados, welcome the first British troops to enter Caen.

THE DEAD

(*By* ANONYMOUS)

Translated from the French

Break one pane of glass, one only,
In his eagle's nest, there on high,
Whence it was so practical and simple
To send them to death.

Let his head be thrust through it and held
there by force
So he may see passing by, his own people,
Just his own people; that will suffice.
As for the others: we shall see later.

The four thousand thousand of his own people—
Doubtless, I underestimate—
It is not finished yet,
There will soon be as many again.

Passing by, one by one, bent beneath their
packs and so tired—
Undulating huge snake—
Dragging their feet, poor bodies
Tired so tired before they are dead.

One by one, and day and night, and day after
day, and unceasingly
Like the shadow of a lighthouse's beam:
One, and one, and another, and another,
Without respite, without respite nor end.

Passing and passing, under the sun, under the
moon,
Passing under the sun, under the moon,
Under the sun-oh, under the moon.
Will not there soon be passing the last of them?

My God! My God! Passing by . . . Look,
already
A week has already passed,
Let me rest and sleep
Have I not seen enough of them?
Have I not seen them all? Since first I began
to hear
One by one these dismal shadows
Passing by, each making
The sound of a book-leaf being turned over!
Since these hundreds, these hundreds of hours
that this has been going on?
Well, let us snigger: "Patience."
Can you no longer calculate
The time needed for a march-past?
You know perfectly well the time needed for a
battalion
To march past you, three by three.
Why should you want the pace to be quicker
For them to pass by in the other direction?
If one week seems long to you, what will you
say of a season?
The whole season needed for them to pass by,
One behind the other, as they go,
And even there are some who push from behind.
And when you will have later to see passing
by the others all the others,
The Russians, the Jews, the women, the little
children
Will you find long for your Patience
Summer, Autumn and Winter?

POLITICAL RIGHTS*

LAST time I was discussing the social freedom of Englishman and pointed out that the right of association is not only social but a foundation of political rights. The next right to be mentioned is also partly social and partly political; and its assertion in increasing measure during the past century and a half has much to do with the stability that England has enjoyed while other countries were subject to revolution. It may be called the right to development or the right to ambition—a form of what Napoleon called "*la carriere ouverte aux talens.*" In former centuries there was (as in some countries to this day there is) a barrier almost insuperable between the privileged and the unprivileged, so that a man had no freedom to move upwards from the rank in which he was born. A mark of this survives in the Catechism of the Church of England, where a part of my duty towards my neighbour is said to be "to learn and labour truly to get mine own living, and to do my duty in that state of life unto which it shall please God to call me." But while the difficulties of rising in the world are greater in England than in some other countries, there is no hard and fast dividing line between classes. Noble birth and the status of being a gentleman are recognized but it is a part of English freedom that any man or woman may aspire to the highest office in the land; or to the peerage (if a title is desired), or to the accumulation of the largest fortune that income-tax and excess profits taxes will permit.

FREEDOM OF EDUCATION

This liberty is still growing and has been reinforced by the freedom of education as it grew. "Give me the liberty to know, to utter and to argue freely according to conscience, above all liberties" exclaimed John Milton. The English in Mediaeval and Tudor times gave education to the poor scholar more readily than most peoples. In translating the scriptures and letting the ordinary man learn to read and understand them they were in advance of all. But they let the Scots, the Americans and the Germans distance them in working out a system of education for all, and it was not till the second half of the 19th century that this most important element of freedom was again valued enough. To this day the critic must remain discontented with the poor man's access to knowledge in England, and, the freedom of the ordinary man to act is limited by ignorance.

This limitation of freedom qualifies the last important liberty of the Englishman that I mean to mention—the liberty which some regard as the only important one, wrongly, since a man who enjoys all those already mentioned is free in nine hundred and ninety-nine circumstances out of every thousand of his life. Still the right to determine the form of his government and to have a share in the control of its conduct—political liberty proper—is one for which the Englishman laboured long and effectively: rightly, because without it none of the other rights could be safe and laws were at the mercy of arbitrary governments. He now suffers from his want of knowledge, because the matters with which a government is called upon to deal both in peace and war have grown so difficult that the ordinary citizen cannot form a reasonable judgment, and in casting a vote for a representative on a party programme has little idea what he is letting himself in for.

CLAIM TO SELF-GOVERNMENT

The Englishman's developing claim to self-government was not accidental. It arose out of those rights I have already mentioned, in exercising which the yeoman and townsman as well as the cleric and the baron grew accustomed to handling his own affairs in his own council, corporation, guild or whatever it might be termed. The right to do so would be recognized by a charter, concerning which the words of G. K. Chesterton are worth repeating:

"The roots of the real England are in the early Middle Ages, and no Englishman will ever understand his own language (or even his own conscience) till he understands them. And he will never understand them till he understands the word "charter". A charter was what the railway workers wanted last Christmas and did not get. It is called in the current jargon 'recognition': the acknowledgment in so many words by society of the immunities or freedoms of a certain set of men. If there had been railways in the Middle Ages there would probably have been a railwaymens guild; and it would have had a charter from the King, defining their rights. A charter is the expression of an idea still true and then almost universal: that authority is necessary for nothing so much as for the granting of liberties . . ."

By R. GALLETTI, I.C.S.

The Great Charter extracted from King John is rightly regarded as a new starting point in the growth of political liberty; and a logical consequence was the formation of a council to discuss and vote the aids and taxes which the king could no longer levy at his will and pleasure, but without which the business of the realm could not be done. The liberty recognized was freedom from arbitrary power; and the invention of representative government made it possible to give this freedom effect. But freedom *from something* (namely, arbitrary power) was in this case much less than freedom *to do something* and to govern oneself. The Stuart Parliaments taught a small section of the people how to make itself the effective governing body by turning Parliament into a kind of Executive Committee of the squires and merchants. The invention of the party system and the development of party organizations covering the whole country made it possible for a much larger number to make their wishes felt by the ministers of the Crown. And when popular demand forced bills through Parliament in the 19th century even against the will of the ministers and against adverse majorities, it seemed that the right of self-government was more than the illusion it had been called by Rousseau.

In this century there has been, the Englishman suspects, more party than popular control over Government in England; and able men have seen in the rule-making power of civil servants something which avoids popular control and defeats the right of self-government. But it is a far cry from the English defects to the autocratic state. The system provides for control over the rulers and redress of grievances whereas as Lord Widgwood says about other systems:

"I am at a loss to imagine how bureaucrats can be kept in check in

* This is the fourth talk broadcast from A.I.R., Madras, last night (27th July 1944) by Mr. R. Galletti, I.C.S., in the series "The Concept of Freedom." The first, second and third talks were published in the *Madras War Review* of 21st April 1944, 19th May 1944 and 16th June 1944 respectively.

autocratic lands. Professional solidarity must extend to the very highest regions. What can prevent jobbery, nepotism, and the bullying of the subject when there is neither free Press nor free Parliament? Officials may leave school as the devoted servants of the State, but they must end by considering themselves to be the State. One has only to contemplate the fear of our police evinced by 'refugees from Nazi oppression' to realize the complete lack in many Continental countries of any method of remedying grievances against the State. Abject submission, tempered by blackmail, was the normal lot of all mankind, from the time of Pericles to the time of Cromwell . . . For all rebels—Jews, Communists, heretics—outside English-speaking lands there has long been no remedy for grievances—only prostrate submission to a one-eyed Polyphemus or to the Briareus of bureaucracy."

I think a good many Englishmen are conscious that the individual citizen has little chance of influencing his Government; but they do not see any other great nation with a political system more effective for this purpose. And if at elections the choice is limited to two or three men, all put up by parties and all submissive to party control, at least the vote is free and no compulsion or threat will be used to make the Englishman say 'Ja' when he wants to say 'Nein'.

FAVOURITE POINTS

These 'favourite points' of freedom that I have mentioned do not complete the list of the Englishman's liberties, but I think they are all the principal ones. In war-time, liberties are partially surrendered. Bodily liberty is limited by conscription and military service; the claims of the state over property for national use override the claim of the individual to free disposal of his goods; people are not left alone, and what they say and write is subject to a scrutiny formerly thought intolerable; Parliament prolongs itself far beyond its allotted span and does not submit to an accounting with the electorate. But these things are submitted to in order that in due course all liberties may be enjoyed again and some be perfected. The self-respecting Englishman will not be according to Hitler's model as depicted by Bentley in the passage quoted before in this series. He will take his ease in his inn, call no man master except on fair terms, drive his bargains and have them enforced according to law, make a home of his own and invite in friends of any political complexion he pleases, speak his piece when he feels inclined, write letters to the *Times* or the *Daily Worker* when he wants to heckle his politician, denounce his employer, and crack his joke.

The English can hold their ancient liberties and add new ones because they know the Golden Rule of Society—that each must acknowledge the right of others if he is to enjoy his own; a man's own right is not a thing apart and antagonistic to the rights of his neighbours, but a part of the same order and system. They also know the main Theorem of Liberty—that since the powers of the members of Society are not equal, it is essential to set up a guardianship of rights. Freedom cannot exist unless there is first, a developed social conscience and second, a machinery for the systematic organization of law and order. The contribution of the English to the world is that they made the experiments and obtained the results which proved these propositions.

GRADUALNESS

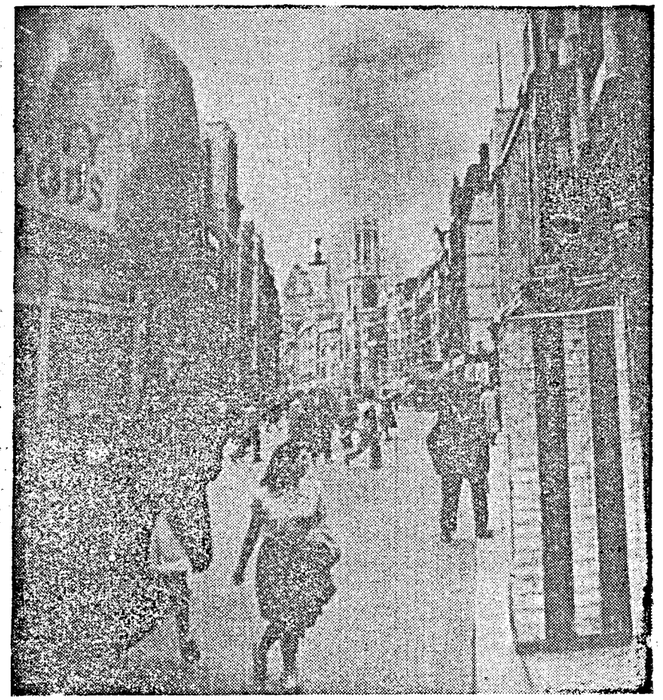
That is not to say that the English freedom has been made perfect. The English way, crystallized in that extraordinary phrase "the inevitability of gradualness," has been to add here a little, there a little, "rule upon rule, line upon line"; to have no revolutions or attempts to wipe the slate clean and build a Utopia by the light of reason, but to let freedom "broaden slowly down from precedent to precedent." Already the advance guards have put into circulation claims for rights going beyond what is already guaranteed. Not many share Shaw's belief that there cannot be liberty without equal incomes for all; but many are fighting for more liberty through equal opportunities for all. Already much has been done in the reduction of privilege and the driving out of dogs in the manger. More will certainly be done, especially in education and in the regulation of economic power; for though the English people are unlikely to subscribe to the doubtful hypothesis that men are equal by nature, and are quite cheerful about recognizing the existence of "betters", too gross an inequality outrages their sense of fair play. Similarly they will not abandon the claim which has not yet become a right that equal work should bring equal rewards. And since starvation is no liberty, they will go further as the years go by in asserting the claim that every Englishman, woman and child should be by law entitled to more than the barest subsistence. Freedom from want is not easily secured; but men like Disraeli knew it to be essential to a truly free and just society long before President Roosevelt proclaimed it one of the Four Freedoms.

IS IT SUFFICIENT?

Is English political freedom sufficient for the development of these claims into rights? Acute observers have denied that the English system of Government is democratic; and it is plain enough to any who compare it with the American or the Swiss system that it has retained a great deal of the old aristocratic rule, if very little of monarchic absolutism. But the English people have known how to win and maintain rights under monarchic absolutism and under oligarchic parliamentary rule. I think it would be only a bigoted critic who would assert that the individual was less free in England than in America or Switzerland in 1930 or 1900 or even 1870. That England has to this day a ruling class in a sense that a truly democratic country has not can hardly be denied. But it can hardly be denied on the other hand that ruling class is responsible to the people in a way not easily matched elsewhere—not because the political institutions make its members answerable to the people at elections, but because it shares the common conscience and the common subjection to law. It has been well observed that the younger branches of the English nobility become commoners, and often enough poor commoners, and the grandchildren of Dukes may marry the sons and the daughters of lawyers, farmers and shop-keepers. The nobility has not, as in so many other countries, a caste conscience distinct from that of the commonalty. So Parliament, even in the House of Lords, reflects the common will of the common people; and when the common people have made up their minds that a claim is just it will not be long before the appropriate law is debated and enacted by Parliament.

VIGILANCE

The political freedom of the English lies less in their formal institutions than in their political awareness. They have got along very well without a written constitution; they could not have got on without a common resistance to laws that were unjust and a common demand for laws that were just. It was an American who said "Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty"; but it was the English who had first proved it, by being awake for centuries. They are still awake.



Fleet Street with a pillar of smoke mounting from the Aldwych bomb explosion only quarter of a mile away. But there is no great stir. People get off and on the buses as usual, some passers-by don't even halt or turn round.

A photograph from the Daily Mirror, *London, of a typical daylight 'flying bomb' incident.*

THE FLYING BOMB AS THE COCKNEY SEES IT!

The following is described by an observer as a typical Cockney reaction to flying bombs: "I see it like this. It must take the Germans a lot of trouble to make the ruddy things. Then they have to get them into those pits and up into the air. Then it's quite a long way from France to London, and if they do get to London they've still got to find Hackney. Even then it isn't everyone can find 37, Bulstrode Road: If they do, 10 to 1 I am in the pub."

—*Statesman*, Calcutta.

"SAT SRI AKAL" MEANS DEATH TO JAPS

"We have just a quiet confidence in ourselves and know that man for man we are considerably better than the Jap." In this way a battalion of the 11th Sikh Regiment sums up the results of many months of arduous compaigning on the Arakan and Imphal fronts.

The Sikhs are of finest of the descendants of the ancient Gurus and their valcry, "Sat Sri Akal," is known and feared by many a Jap.

If ever "Buthidaung" should become a battle honour it will surely go to a certain battalion of Sikhs who, fought down bitter opposition and bayoneted and blasted their way into this battered town. It was in this engagement in which their spirit of tenacity and bravery, their initiative and their courage overwhelmed the Japs, that Naik Nand Singh made his assault, typical of the fighting Sikh, which won him the V.C.

The Sikhs made a terrified daylight assault; it seemed that the whole jungle was afire. Artillery played an important part and every imaginable infantry weapon was pounding against the Japs position. The Sikhs were cheering before they went in, their yells demoralized the enemy.

One strong Jap section held. "Blitz" tactics were employed and trench after trench fell to the bayonet and the grenade. Sikh ferocity brought a toll of over 100 dead Japs definitely counted. The dead lost in the jungle, the bodies carried away, and the wounded, will never be known.

From that day the Jap feared the warcry of the Sikh. He knew it meant blood—his blood, for the Sikhs lost few men in the whole operation.

A quick move by river, road and air took the Sikhs to the Imphal front. They were soon in action and their patrols penetrated miles behind the enemy lines. They were attacked for nine hours and beat off all assaults in what was officially announced as "one of the fiercest encounters experienced by the battalion."

Now the Sikhs are pursuing the enemy in their eastward flight following the defeat of Kohima.

GURKHAS DESTROY GUN, ROUT JAPS

How Gurkha, troops on the Imphal front destroyed a Jap 75 millimetre gun and a medium machine gun, routed a large nest of Japs and withdrew without injury has just been told to an Indian Army Observer.

Jem. Pati Ram Gurung was in command of a platoon of 27 men who were ordered to make a hit-and-run raid on "Ring," a well known hill feature. The Gurkhas infiltrated on to the hill so quietly that the enemy discovered their presence only when they were about 20 yards from their six bunkers—but they then opened up with medium and light machine-guns and every other thing they had.

The Gurkhas, who were each carrying five grenades besides rifle or tommy gun, ducked and jumped and used their hitting power as best as they could. The Jemadar, describing the action to me, said, "I was doing exactly what others were. Slinging my tommy gun I took a grenade in each hand, ran towards a bunker, pulled the pins with my teeth and chucked them through the port-hole one after the other. A couple of minutes later I peeped into the bunker and discovered six corpses."

A naik killed three men with his tommy gun, another killed two with his Kukri; a rifleman destroyed three of the men in a bunker with a grenade and another shot down a sniper. In short every Gurkha played his part in either destroying the guns or killing the enemy.

The enemy fire, intense though it was, passed overhead or by the sides of our men; all the Gurkhas came out without a scratch.

The medium machine guns were broken to pieces during the assault but the 75 millimetre gun was found intact. It was too heavy to be brought back and enemy fire was still coming from the bunkers on the other slope of the hill.

By now the Gurkhas had only a couple of grenades left. They decided to use them in destroying the gun.

TRANSPORTATION UNITS KEEP SUPPLIES MOVING.

India's role as a training and supply base for the launching of overseas operations in the east has added new and unforeseen loads to the country's already overstrained transportation system.

The expansion which naturally followed has brought about the creation of new transportation units. Railway, Docks and Inland Water Transport Units have been formed, and they have already proved their worth in operational roles.

Unlike other branches of the service, transportation has units which are entirely composed of tradesmen—fitters, drivers marine, crane drivers and electricians—all of which demands a high degree of technical training. The speedy unloading and loading of vessels at the various ports in India has been made possible by transportation units which supplement the work of civilian labour.

Railway units are employed in large numbers in the construction of railway lines in North-East Assam. The operation of trains in this area is largely in the hands of American and civilian personnel. Transportation units have kept open the lines of communication from Calcutta to the east by running the railway and by working the waterways of the Arakan.

Preceding the entry of Japan into the war, men and materials were sent to Iraq, Iran and the Middle East. The Indian component of the I.W.T. organization in Iraq was built up to a strength of over 10,000 all ranks. Locomotives, railway track, rolling stock, cranes and workshop equipment were sent from India for use on the railways to northern Persia and river craft for utilization on the Tigris and Euphrates rivers for service on the aid-to-Russia supply route. A number of railway units are operating traffic from Basrah through Iraq and Iran moving supplies to Russia.

Owing to the tremendous calls on Indian manpower by other arms and branches of the Services the training of sufficient technical personnel has proved a difficult one but in spite of this the work of ensuring that the goods are delivered goes on without a break a tribute to the men of the transportation units.

ONE COMPANY TOOK MONTANE.

One company alone took the little town of Montane in the central sector in Italy from more than 180 Germans armed with over 20 machine guns, writes an Indian Army Observer with an Indian Division. Over 70 Germans were taken prisoner and 30 killed, with much equipment captured.

Surprise was complete. The attackers swept past an enemy observation post manned by one man whose job, with binoculars and radio set, was to give warning of an attack. He never got the chance. He was taken prisoner, remarking that he had not radioed a warning because he was not keen on fighting anyway and the attack was so swift that his warning would have made no difference.

Twenty-five prisoners were taken in the first five minutes.

OFFICER SAVED FROM BEAR

Sapper Kuttapan of Trivandrum with the bear he shot somewhere in Ceylon.

SOUTH INDIAN ORDERLY'S TIMELY SHOT

A bear-skin now adorns the quarters of Major W. R. Morris, of an Indian Engineer Unit serving somewhere in Ceylon—and the skin was not bought in a shop.

When the Major and his orderly, Sapper Kuttapan, were out on patrol in the jungle recently, they suddenly came upon a bear. Major Morris fired at the bear, but, only wounded, it dropped its offensive tactics for the time being and made off into the jungle.

Half an hour later they again met the animal, venting its anger on a tree. Seeing the party it charged them at a terrific speed. The Major's next shot missed completely, and the bear was only a few yards from him when there was a crack from the left as Sapper Kuttapan, with a single shot from his rifle, brought his officer's attacker to the ground. Though mortally wounded, the bear made yet another effort to reach the Major, who had also fallen, but Kuttapan stepped in and finished the creature off at short range. Kuttapan's home is in Trivandrum.

INDIAN FILM SHOWS IN ITALIAN FRONT LINE

News recently flashed round an Indian Divisional Headquarters resting behind the front line in Italy that an Indian mobile cinema unit had arrived in the area. "Nai Roshni" and "Sand Sakhubai," it was said, were the films to be shown on two successive nights.

Indian troops poured in by the hundred each night. British officers and men who were curious to see an Indian picture also joined the throngs. As they saw the familiar sights of Indian on the screen and heard again their favourite stars Indian troops showed their delight in no uncertain manner. Both films proved extremely popular.

The films are provided by an Indian mobile cinema unit which travels about Italy in three trucks. Responsible for the unit is W.O. R. J. Brown, R.E.M.E., of Sele-road, Hertford. He and a team of Indian soldiers of the I.E.M.E. go from one Indian unit to another not neglecting even the smallest and often showing Indian films closed to the front line.

Films for the troops are carefully selected. Those which proved popular in India are booked for showing to the men who are fighting so successfully in a campaign far from their homes.

It was a traffic jam of the good old pre-war brand, and the driver of the Army lorry got fed-up.

So when he saw an errand-boy walking along the pavement, he called out:

"I say, sonny, anything up in front?"

"Yus," replied the Cockney lad quickly; "the copper's gone to lunch an' left 'is 'and up."

TWO PHASES OF AIR OFFENSIVE

By WING COMMANDER L. V. FRASER

ONE thing emerges clearly now from the vast, complicated operations which have set the Allies firmly on the shores of France. It was done expeditiously, as perhaps otherwise it could not have been done at all, by the integration of sea, land and air strength never previously equalled.

The present battle can be viewed as a remarkable example of long-term planning and deadly execution on the part of the Allied Air Staffs, drawing on nearly five years of experience of air war. Their dual object has been achieved. They have cancelled out Germany's geographical advantage of fighting on interior lines, and hammered the enemy's war industries with such effect that he is finding replacements of vital equipment an almost impossible task.

During the fierce battle south of Caen British infantry dig a slit trench on the edge of a cornfield near Verson on July 10. Verson was captured in the face of heavy enemy mortar and gun fire.

AIR ARM'S SHARE

The air arm's share in the great operation falls into two main phases and several subordinate ones. One main phase is the operations against industries carried out on a mounting scale between the end of 1940 and the late spring of 1944. The other is the air assault delivered with astounding weight and accuracy during the few hours preceding the actual landing on June 6.

The long-term assault launched by the Royal Air Force by night and the American air forces by day was aimed at Germany's industrial machine and intended to stem his flow of replacements. Later events have revealed that in this endeavour the Allies were very successful.

The enemy's shortage of essential weapons in the East was already apparent when the Russians drove his southern armies over the Rumanian and Polish borders this spring. Germany did not possess aircraft, tanks, flak, petrol and motor transport in sufficient quantities to permit large-scale counter-attacks.

MARKED DEFICIENCIES

To-day in France his deficiencies seem to be as marked. He is known to be suffering from some shortage of tanks, for his huge losses in the recent Russian campaigns have been irreplaceable.

In the Normandy engagements there have been several instances of German units employing French and German tanks of outmoded design. To-day, instead of possessing superiority and the ability to switch reserves, reinforcements and supplies wherever they are needed over the vast network of Continental railways, the enemy finds himself gravely handicapped by the presence of so many potential transport targets, all of them vulnerable from the air.

SECOND PHASE

Without the sealing down of the 24-hour air assault upon enemy industries and transport, the Allies opened their second major phase of strangulation. This departure, which commenced some 10 days before the landings, was nothing more or less than the "boxing" of the north-west corner of France. It aimed at cutting off from the rest of the Continent the angular block of land south-west of the Seine and north of the Loire.

Save for a gap of about 70 miles between Paris and Orleans, these the large rivers isolate Normandy, Brittany and Maine from the rest of France. If all bridges over these two swift-flowing rivers were to be destroyed, the Germans would have grave difficulty in rushing reinforcements, and even graver difficulty, should the battle go against them, in retiring the remnants of their armies.

BRIDGES SMASHED

It was the task of the air forces, therefore, to smash those bridges. But it could not be done all at once. Such tactics would have revealed for certain where the Allied assault would strike. Before "D" Day, then, the Seine bridges were the targets. That gave nothing away. The enemy could not know whether he were to be attacked to the east or west of that river.

Many types of aircraft, from heavy bombers to fighter-bombers, were used. The Seine bridges were hit one by one, some smashed, some severely damaged.

These attacks bore fruit on "D" Day. When the time came for Germany to rush reinforcements of war material north and north-west, the enemy found every rail and road hamstrung in one way or another.

Only after "D" Day, when the vital secret "where" was no longer secret, could air power proceed to close the lid of the box by attacking also bridges across the Loire. One by one these bridges also fell, until the north-west corner of France, chosen by the Allies for the first battleground, was largely isolated from any full-scale and unimpeded reinforcement.

COASTAL BATTERIES

The eve of "D" Day saw the final phase of the Allied air arm's complicated campaign. Special tasks, which synchronized with the land assault, had to be carried out. On the night of June 5–6 over 1,300 aircraft of Bomber Command set out for the Continent, over 1,000 of these carried 5,000 tons of bombs, destined to fall upon 10 specially selected coastal batteries, all of which would have fired directly into the field of the approaching armada. Those ten batteries were swiftly accounted for as direct results, and thousands of Allied lives were spared.

When the coastal batteries had been disposed of, 1,300 American bombers took off from Great Britain in day-light. They dropped over 5,000 tons on gun emplacements and defensive works and they performed the additional function of supplying immediate support to the first parties of paratroops and storming parties. Within an hour of dawn, the first beachheads had been won, and over the men who won them, in a vast protective screen, was the Allied shield of fighter aircraft.

ROLE OF AIRBORNE UNITS

By LIEUTENANT-GENERAL SIR DOUGLAS BROWNRIGG

Lieutenant-General Crocker, British Second Army Corps Commander (right), *talking to French civilians who remained in Caen throughout the battle.*

IT is scarcely 30 years since aircraft first flew over the battlefield. Yet now air power exercises a predominant influence in war.

It is hardly necessary to affirm the air supremacy made it possible for "invasion" fleets to assemble in the ports of Southern England, or that it was to a large extent because custody of the skies over the English Channel and the French coast was in the hands of Allied airmen that convoys were able to make their hazardous passage with so little loss.

These facts are generally speaking, well understood, but how many people have noticed the effect that air power is already having on tactics on the field of battle?

Many elements go to make up victory, but in Normandy no factor has exercised greater influence on the course of the operations than the airborne landings deep behind the crust of the hostile defences. Those landings were only feasible because airmen of the United Nations had already secured supremacy in the air over places where paratroops dropped and gliders landed.

SHAPE OF MODERN BATTLE

To my mind no war news was of greater import than the sentence in one S.H.A.E.F. communiqué which told of the fact that airborne and seaborne troops had effected contact on the ground. This was in effect an announcement that the shape of modern battle had been altered and it was air power which had altered it.

Let me justify that statement.

In other wars (and earlier in the present struggle) it had been necessary to pierce the front or get round the flank in order to reach the enemy's vitals. That doctrine no longer holds.

Air power has made it possible to put a large force well in the rear of the enemy's prepared defences. And, what is more to keep it supplied when it has got there. The increased lifting power of the Hamilcar Glider has greatly strengthened the offensive-defensive front which an airborne force can offer to the enemy in whose midst it has established itself. Such a force, with its anti-tank guns and armoured fighting vehicles which it has brought with it by air, can be self-reliant and self-supporting for some time against the worst that the enemy can do against it.

ADVANCE GUARD

In effect, airborne troops form a kind of advanced guard to their comrades advancing along the ground against the enemy's outer crust, but by reason of the method of their arrival they are temporarily separated from the main bodies they have preceded. That is the stage of evolution now reached upon the battlefield.

But is it too fantastic to suggest that this evolution will continue, that gradually the proportionate strength of airborne formations will increase until they become the main punch of the attack? May we not see airborne formations becoming the main bodies in the advance, the ground forces developing into mere escorts for the most heavy weapons, which are still earth-bound and must reach the battlefield by road or rail?

It was not until 1935 that parachute descent was made in public by a military formation. This happened at the Russian manoeuvres of that year. Nine years' progress has made the airborne soldier as important as any other participant in the battle.

It is curious that Britain should have been the first to exploit on a really big scale a project devised by another nation, whilst the Germans achieved success in 1940 by developing an invention of our own—the tank.

Tank tactics have already altered the whole composition of armies and I do not think it is any exaggeration to say that airborne tactics will necessitate laying entirely new foundations on which to build the defence forces of all nations in the days which follow the defeat of Germany and Japan.

GURKHA TROOPS' OWN NEWSPAPER

A troop of Gurkhas from a brigade reconnaissance unit were driving up the winding road leading to the town of Monte S. Maria in Italy a few hours after it had been captured by British troops of an Indian division when they met an Indian Army Observer. He was able to hand them the latest copy of their own newspaper, "Gurkha Samachar," produced by the Indian Army Public Relations Directorate.

The delighted Gurkhas took it at once and a drive started to read it aloud. Suddenly they heard the scream of a heavy German shell and dived into the ditch. The Germans had no doubt seen the jeeps coming up the hill and flung out searching shells.

After the burst the driver stood up and, not worrying about the shells, went on reading.

Little known outside the Indian Army the paper is very welcome to all Gurkha troops, giving them as it does home news of their friends and sister battalions on other fronts in their own language.

HANDICAPPED

"You're a horrid brute," sobbed wifey to her husband. "I'd go back to mother—if I know where her unit was stationed."

U-BOATS BAFFLED

By A. J. MACWHINNIE

ADMIRAL Karl Doenitz, German Naval Commander-in-Chief, is being forced into desperate action. It is difficult to foresee what he can do to achieve anything more than pinpricking Allied activities at sea. But he *must do something.*

He had great hopes for the E-boats, his fast motor warships, which he believed might smash up the Allied assault ships when they were approaching the Continent. E-boats are credited by neutrals with a speed of 48 knots and are faster than some types of British motor-craft, but the British chose gunpower before speed.

E-boats, many times during the last few months, have chosen the use of their high speed to escape. In all cases, British motor torpedo boats, motor gun boats and motor launches have chosen the use of their gunnery superiority in pursuit. E-boats, in all cases where they have encountered British light coastal forces lately, have found themselves hopelessly outgunned.

U-BOATS' HAZARDS IN THE CHANNEL

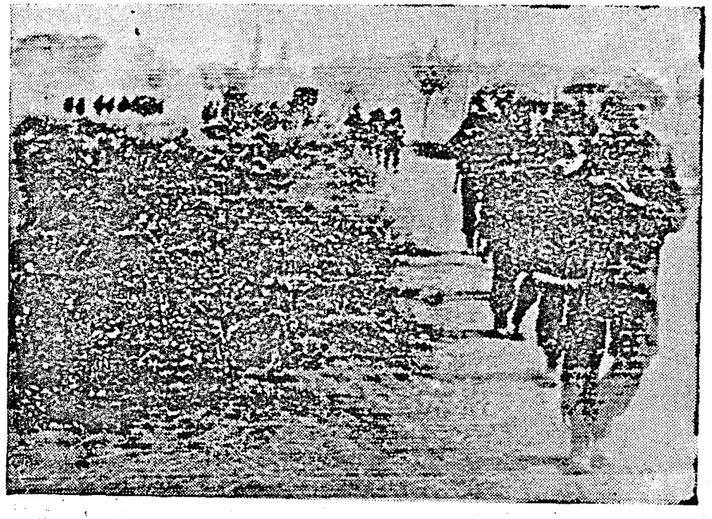
The handful of French-based destroyers and torpedo boats are helpless against the overwhelming superiority of the British naval force, apart altogether from American naval strength in the Channel. Two hundred British minesweepers have achieved spectacular success in clearing German mines away from the Allied Cross-Channel convoys.

U-boats have been beaten in the vast deep waters of the Atlantic, where at least there is space and depth in which to attempt escape. How then can U-boats escape in the narrow waters of the English Channel—little more than 200 feet deep? There is sanctuary only at the bottom.

Neutral listening posts report that a new submarine freak has been devised by the Germans, with a fantastic speed of something like 30 knots. But there is no evidence that this is so. In the meantime, Doenitz may decide to send the normal U-boat into the narrow waters of the Channel to test the possibilities of attacking—and returning. There is little doubt that the normal submarine sent on such a hazardous mission will not return. For her crew there can only be two alternatives—death or capture.

RE-CHARGING WHILE SUBMERGED

From one neutral capital it is reported that German submarine scientists are trying to find a way of re-charging U-boat batteries while still submerged. There are only about four hours of darkness in every 24 hours. Even in darkness the U-boats dare not surface. Delicate Allied naval instruments can pierce the darkest nights and the thickest fogs. But Doenitz may hope for some way of re-charging under water if only he can discover some device for bringing down air from the surface while re-charging is in progress.



NORMANDY—British troops go up in a line on Hill 113 on July 16 during the attack on the Odon valley.

But even if he manages that, his U-boat anxieties are not alleviated. The strain on U-boat men being constantly under water would be too terrific to make it worthwhile. If the Channel is the most dangerous stretch of water for U-boats in the world, U-boat men must be fresh and fit to undertake these hazards. Under the strain of being constantly submerged when out on patrol, no U-boat man can be completely fit. And wherever U-boats may try to enter the Channel they will find themselves always within the range of Allied warships.

NAVAL REGATTA

The Channel resembles an Allied naval regatta. Before "D" Day it would have been reasonable to expect at least 10 per cent Allied shipping losses in making the first landings. The losses from all causes up-to-date have been unbelievably small.

The result is that hundreds of highly skilled British naval officers and ratings who formed a reserve pool to replace casualties have been hardly drawn upon. I met one officer of the Western Front Naval Reserve Pool recently. I knew him first in 1943, with a famous anti-submarine sloop. He bemoaned his inability to get a chance to fight in the opening stages of the assault on Hitler's Europe. He said: "I am just using my time picking up any little trip I can. I went off with a submarine. Another day I begged a trip in a flying boat. All I want is to get into the picture. But casualties have been so light that there has been no opportunity."

DEARTH OF U-BOATS

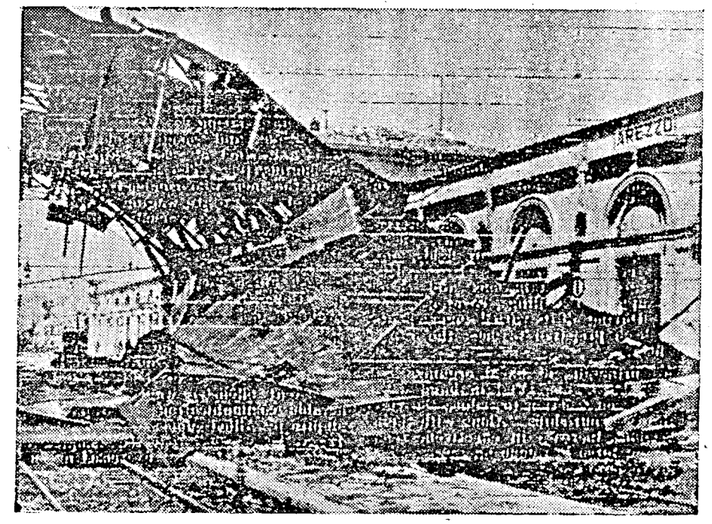
That day I met a young United States Navy Officer feeling just as cut off from the greatest naval exploit the world has ever known. He came over to the English Channel as Commanding Officer of a submarine chaser. "But the dearth of U-boats in the Channel has been disappointing," he said. "I am spending a lot of my time acting as despatch boat between Britain and France, but hoping on every trip that the Germans will be forced into some desperate attempt to bring their U-boats out."

BACK TO NORMAL IN MANIPUR

Within ten days of the opening of the Manipur road by Indian and British troops goods for civilian comforts were coming down. The road has also been opened for civilian traffic.

Though the needs of the Manipuris are small cigarettes are important for men and women and are often a token of friendship between troops and the local population. A cigarette tin is commonly used as a measure; packet of cigarettes which cost two rupees during the time when Imphal was being supplied by air only has come down to six annas.

Salt, another essential commodity, used to cost ten rupees a seer; it is now a little less than four. Soap, oil, vegetables, have also become normal in price and the Manipuri, who has been quite cheerful during the last few months, has now become positively joyful as normal life is restored and the Japs are driven off.



GERMANS EVACUATE AREZZO (ITALY)—The battered railway station of Arezzo. The town fell to Eighth Army troops on July 16.

A Rhodesian battery, on the Italian front, July 19. Major-General Everard Pooie, Commander-in-Chief of the Sixth South African Armoured Division, at one of the guns of the Rhodesian battery, which, together with the rest of the divisional artillery took a major share in the breaking of the German resistance near Castel Noovo-Arezzo area in the drive on Florence. With the General is Major E. Pothergill, M.G. and bar, from Rhodesia.

ITALIAN GIRL HELPED TO CAPTURE GERMANS

After troop of an Indian division had taken the town of Montan in the central sector in Italy, an Italian girl delivered six German prisoners into their hands, writes an Indian Army Observer.

Three Germans went to her farmhouse, forced their way in and decided to stop the night. While they were asleep the girl managed to steal their arms, which she hid. She then slipped out, made her way to the Allied lines and told British officers exactly where the Germans were sleeping.

A section of troops went to the house. As the Germans came out with their hands up the girl made a face at them and gave them a cheeky courtesy.

She repeated her performance with three more Germans the following night.

FRONT LINE REDCAPS IN ITALY

Lance-Corporal Dennis Jones, from Norfolk, and Lance-Naik Mohd. Khan, from the Punjab, are front-line policemen. They are also redcaps who have never 'taken' anyone, for that is not their job—their work has nothing in common with that of the M.Ps. who patrol the towns.

I found the front-line policemen on a shell-torn road in Italy, guiding convoys which were creeping up to forward Indian troops in the darkness without lights, writes an Indian Army Observer. Undisturbed by the flash of the big guns and the crump of the shells bursting nearby they controlled the convoys under fire as calmly as if they were on duty in Chowringhee in Calcutta.

In the Indian formations fighting in Italy the front-line police are 50 per cent British and 50 per cent Indian. The Indians are mostly Gurkhas, Sikhs or Punjabis.

You will always find these battle redcaps right behind the forward troops. They laconically say that their job is "traffic control." But you have to see them in action to realize just what traffic control means in the firing line.

One of their jobs is to show trucks the path through cleared minefields by night, which is no picnic. To do this they set out hurricane lamps blacked out inside and out with only a hole the size of an anna to show the way.

As soon as the first Indian troops forced their way across the Sangro river the M.Ps. followed ready to guide traffic carrying rations and ammunition across bridges thrown across the swollen river by engineers. The redcaps guided them across practically under the muzzles of the German guns so that the bridgehead could be consolidated.

One of their chief jobs is to keep traffic moving when shelling starts. One panicky driver can tie up and perhaps write off a whole convoy. But an imperturbable redcap is always there to keep him moving and stop a bottleneck before it starts.

To do this requires a good deal of personal courage and hard training. Most of the front line M.Ps. had a stiff three months' course in the Middle East but some, because of the exigencies of war, have been drafted straight from units—and they are doing just as well as the others.

FLEET THAT NEVER PUTS TO PORT

By MAJOR GEORGE FIELDING ELIOT

ON the European and Pacific fronts the relentless march of United Nations' military strength is bringing closer to the peoples of Germany and Japan the grim realisation that their defeat is certain.

In the Pacific the record of Task Force No. 58 is a demonstration of the way in which we have evolved a combination of air and naval might specially adapted to the problem of carrying on a broad, continuing offensive at great distance from home bases over a wide expanse of sea.

The most striking single fact about Task Force No. 58 is its ability to keep going. For over a month it has been in action on a broad front. Since June 10 it has carried out six major attacks in the Pacific some 6,000 miles from continental United States and within 1,500 miles of Japan proper.

FIRST ACTION

Its first action was by carrier-based bombers and fighter planes, together with naval gunfire, against Saipan, Rota, Guam and Tinian, paving the way for landings. Three days later, thousands of miles northward, the enemy bases of Bonin and Volcano islands, 500 miles from Japan, were heavily hit to neutralize their usefulness as bases for enemy counter-attack and as links in the chain whereby reinforcement might come to the Saipan defenders. Four days later, westward of Guam, Task Force No. 58 beat down an attack by massed Japanese carriers launched against it and the invading fleet under its protection. Carrier fighters and anti-aircraft fire wiped out 402 attacking planes. The following day carrier groups from Task Force No. 58 pursued the fleeing Japanese force that attempted the earlier air strike. The planes sank at least two carriers and two tankers; dozens of other ships were damaged. On June 23 Task Force No. 58 struck Pagan Island, in the northern Marianas, keeping the links between Saipan and Tokyo cut. On July 3 Task Force No. 58 hit Bonin and Volcano islands once more, smashing enemy destroyers, supply ships, harbour installations and shore fortifications.

All this time naval units participated in the reduction of Saipan's defences by naval gunfire, guarded transports and supply ships operating off shore, kept a continuous flow of reinforcement material going on the beaches.

Now Guam and Rota have been under attack for the ninth straight day by carrier planes and surface guns.

The duration of this attack indicates not only that we have the kind of naval force Japan has not dared challenge in fleet engagement; it means we can make constant use of the seas we command and have the mobility and endurance in a fleet that makes it a new kind of naval weapon.

Beside the staying power of Task Force No. 58 there are several other elements making it formidable. One of these is its range—not only the distance it can obtain from its own bases but the range of seaways it can include in its sphere of effective operation. In the days it has been asea it has attacked widely scattered points demonstrating speed and mobility never before seen in large battle fleets.

Its versatility is another characteristic. It has been used against shore batteries, surface vessels, air fields, and against massed air attack. It has destroyed ground installations and shipping; supported landings, covered transports. During all its varied engagements it has been prepared to meet the Japanese fleet.

New principles of naval organization and use have gone hand in hand with improved construction to reduce the vulnerability of our ships. Along with their tremendous increase in effectiveness as a striking force has gone an increase in defensive power.

Task Force No. 58 is not merely a thing of steel, iron, guns, planes. It is a result of independent, imaginative thinking and utilization of bitter lessons, and a daring willingness to explore innovations and modify old concepts. It is a product of seamanship as much as engineering. The fleet is no better than the men who commad it. In the kind of war we are waging in the Pacific our naval achievements are possible by wide co-ordination over a vast front of all elements of military strength.

Task Force No. 58 was covered in its operations by American, Australian, New Zealand and Dutch fighting men who are in action against the Japanese in the South Pacific; the raids on Palau and Truk from the south contributed to the success of No. 58. So did the consistent offensive waged against vulnerable communications of Japan's sea empire by Allied submarines and planes. It is the whole integrated complex of United Nations' power exercised against Japan that is reducing her to an island empire without sea power and a foe without hope of victory.

WHY IS THE JAPANESE HIGH COMMAND SO ANXIOUS?

By ADMIRAL HARRY E. YARNELL

WHAT are the causes of Japan's inability to keep Saipan? What are the anxieties that the Japanese high command and people must be facing as a result of this demonstration of Japanese weakness? In the words of Admiral Nimitz, "One of the major reasons why Japan's grandiose plan for conquest of the entire Pacific has gone glimmering is the enemy's inability to maintain control of the sea lanes."

Japan is becoming an island empire without sea-power in the full sense. Seapower is not merely a matter of warships; it is a matter of merchant tonnage and the ability of that tonnage to carry out its mission; it is the ability of a nation to keep safe its own waterborne communications with all areas on which it depends.

Japan's navy and strategists haven't been able to maintain command of the sea nor deny it to us. In the month of June we lost no merchant ship of any kind to the enemy anywhere in the Pacific. Meanwhile, we have carried on an itensive campaign against Japanese shipping; of 7,000,000 tons of shipping which Japan is estimated to have had at the start of the war, between one-third and one-half has been sunk.

Japan cannot sustain sinkings at this rate. Japan hasn't the raw materials, shipyards, skilled workers to give her the tonnage she needs. Moreover, as the bombing of Sasebo and Yawata shipyards and steel mills shows, she cannot protect, as we can, the roots from which sea power grows. This direct assault on the roots of sea power is one we know will continue and grow in power and frequency until the strategic pattern that has been so successful in Germany is repeated.

R.A.F. NIGHT PATROLS IN BURMA

Night-patrol fliers of the R.A.F. have a new way of training their foe in Northern Burma. They use a "spotlight" to shine along the tortuous roads which the Japanese use to bring supplies forward.

It was devised by a Hurricane squadron commanded by a 23-year-old Somerset squadron leader, whose pilots after several "beat-ups" of enemy communication routes, found that motor transport was dousing its lights on their approach and travelling in darkness.

They felt more of the lorries caught to go up in flames and be a permanent "write-off," so they chased them by looking for faint shadows on the moonlit roads and then switched their aircraft's powerful landing light on for a brief, vivid glimpse of the target, almost hidden by trees less than 50 feet below.

The method has proved highly effective, if slightly unorthodox, and the squadron is now increasing its tally of lorries nightly.

FINLAND'S DRIFT

By W. N. EWER

PRESIDENT Ryti and Dr. Linkomies have delivered Finland bound into Hitler's hands. She is no longer an independent country, but a German Province.

Ryti's pledge that Finland will not make peace either now or in future without Germany's consent means that nothing short of popular revolt can change the situation. For there is no constitutional way for removing the President until his term expires.

Nor is there any sign of sufficient resolution among Ryti's opponents to give any expectation of revolt. Finland drifts to disaster as if hypnotised.

There seems little doubt that the decisive factor was Ribbentrop's threat that Finland, unless she submitted, would be treated as an enemy of Germany and at once attacked and occupied. It was not only an empty threat, but a great opportunity. For had it been resisted, Finland could have passed at once into the category of the enemies of Germany and her future thus assured.

But the Finns have been victims of their own propaganda. For three years they have been saying that Germany would be victorious; so effectively that to-day they alone in all the world still believe it. They are victims of a tragic self-deception.

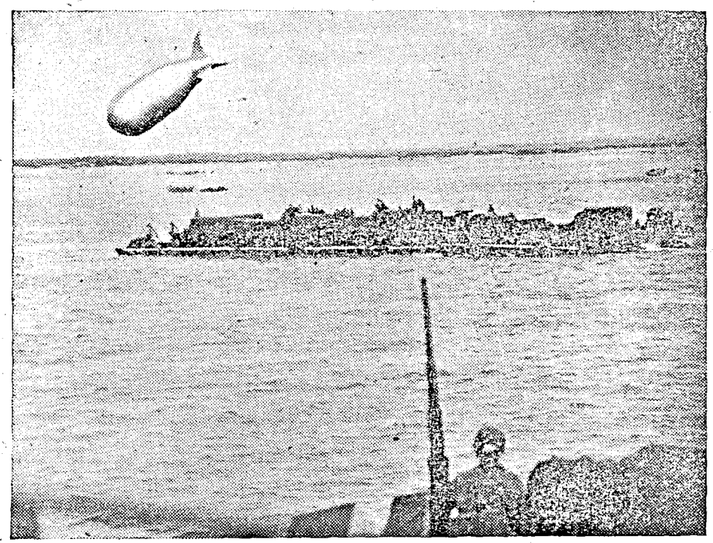
DANISH RESISTANCE

The five days' general strike in Denmark is dramatic evidence of the steady weakening of German strength. It was a spontaneous movement of protest. One feared at first that it was premature and would only serve to bring savage Nazi reprisals. But the German Government did not dare to take measures which might have brought about an armed conflict for which it had no troops to spare.

When it was obvious that no mere threats, no shooting in the streets by German patrols would break the strike which was spreading hourly, and was now supported by the Danish Freedom Council which leads and organises resistance, the German authorities capitulated.

The hated Schalburg Corps of Danish Nazis was withdrawn from Copenhagen: it was announced that the bulk of it would be sent off to the Eastern Front. Promise was given that firing on unarmed crowds would cease. The curfew was to be lifted. There were to be no reprisals. On these terms the strike was called off and work was resumed.

There is no reason to believe that the Germans will keep their promises, if they see any advantage in breaking them. But the fact that they have been compelled to make them, that they have been forced to capitulate to a mass strike in an occupied country is eloquent. It could not have happened a year ago either in Denmark or anywhere else. The Nazi grip is beginning to weaken. It is likely enough that as the news filters through Europe, the Danish example will encourage others.



NORMANDY: RHINO FERRIES LAND HEAVY EQUIPMENT.—Picture taken from a United States Landing Ship Tank, shows a Rhino Ferry landing troops and vehicles on the Normandy Coast.

Picture shows *loaded Rhino ferry going ashore seen from the L.S.T.*

PRIVATE HUN-HUNTING

THE personal initiative which gave British fighter pilots so resounding a victory in the Battle of Britain can still be found in their lineal descendants, the Spitfire, Typhoon and Mustang pilots of Second Tactical Air Force who are providing an air umbrella for our ground forces in the "Entry into Europe".

Modern warfare, involving as it does, the co-ordination and deployment of thousands of machines and millions of men, is apt to be a ponderous affair, demanding the qualities of the business executive and the skilled mechanic rather than the elan, the spirit of adventure, which is traditionally associated with military matters.

Fighter pilots, it is true, spend much of their time on routine duties allotted to them from higher levels, tiny pieces of a jigsaw which is only visible in its entirety to a handful of high-ranking officers, planning on a space-time scale that covers a continent and ranges into the problematic future. Day after day they may play the subordinate—but nonetheless important—role of giving close escort to the bombers which are blasting factories, gun positions, marshalling yards and aerodromes. Alternatively, they may sweep the chosen area to intercept any fighters that the Germans may send up against the bombers, or as frequently happens nowadays when the term "fighters" is an inadequate description for our many-purpose single-engine machines, they may dive-bomb targets of their own.

But there are many pilots, especially among those in their early twenties, who think these time-table trips, usually unopposed by enemy aircraft, leave much to be desired. To come back with a nine-inch flak hole in one of the mainplanes—as an Australian pilot did the other day—would be excitement enough for most people, but not so for them.

Perhaps one squadron on an airfield has had some "joy"—the destruction of German aircraft—but another squadron at the next dispersal has had a succession of uneventful missions, coming back day after day with gun-patches unbroken. A spirit of competition is engendered, the honour of the squadron is at stake and three or four of the pilots put their heads together to plan a show of their own. All the latest "gen" on likely hunting grounds is consulted, charts are scanned and courses plotted, the proposed operation is filled in on the appropriate form, submitted to higher authority and—in most cases—approved.

Not always do these Hun-hunts have the desired effect. Often the handful of fighter planes will penetrate deep into the heart of enemy-occupied Europe without encountering a single hostile plane.

TURKISH REACTIONS TO WESTERN FRONT OFFENSIVE

By LEONARD KIRSCHEN

AT last the Western Front has opened. In Turkey, like elsewhere, there was great initial excitement. The flow of news from the Normandy front being controlled and relatively little more that is usual from a new front. Turkey has after the first 24 hours of excitement settled down to watching.

The general trend of the Turkish Press is to avoid speculation. I understand that the Turkish General Staff was itself surprized at the choice of the beach-head but to-day competent Turkish military circles agree that none better could have been chosen. The whole of the Turkish Press expresses the belief that the fighting will be tough. The Press expresses admiration for the marvellous organization and for the detailed planning of the assault. But nobody wants to make commitments of how the battle will be shaping in the future.

The whole of the Turkish Press, however, expresses the belief that the assault spells the beginning of the last phase of the war. Falih Rifki Atay, writing in the semi-official Ankara newspaper *Ulus*, speaks for the whole Press when he says that if the Allies manage to maintain the territory taken in Normandy and the Germans fail to push them back, the war can be counted as lost for the Germans. He even goes as far as to say that the war might be over before winter this year. This is the general reaction in Turkey.

INTEREST IN ITALIAN FRONT

Of greater immediate importance for Turkey is the Italian front. The capture of Rome was the best news Turkey had had this year. The *Ulus* broke wartime tradition which demands impartial reporting of war news with modest title banners and gave the capture of Rome in one-inch and red ink letters. When the assault came it gave the news in streamer banners across the whole page. But the advance in Italy interests Turkey most. The disorganisation of the German army in Italy has taught the Turks the lesson that Germany really has no reserves to spare.

The rapid advance of the Fifth and Eighth armies after the capture of Rome has impressed everybody. It shows clearly that the Germans thought they could hold their lines before Rome and had not made preparations for a long stand beyond Rome; unless, of course, they are now relying that the northern mountain ranges will prove the natural barrier they have been looking for. The advance of the Allies into central and northern-central Italy opens new perspectives for the Balkan campaign when and if such a campaign takes place.

Troop concentration on a great scale have been observed and mentioned by the Germans on the Rumanian and south Polish sectors of the Russian front. The fighting power of the Russian army does not seem to have diminished at all. The newly opened offensive on the northern front against Finland shows that Russia is this year just as strong as she was in the last. We must, therefore, expect a large-scale Russian offensive in the Balkans coupled and perhaps co-ordinated with an Allied offensive from Italy. Already there are signs that the Germans are nervous in this part of the world.

NEUTRALITY

Signs of German nervousness come from Bulgaria, in the first place. There no Government seems to be ready to fulfil all German demands and this is troubling the Germans to the extreme.

Then we have the German efforts to pull out landing craft from the Black Sea and send these to the Aegean. Turkey was directly involved in this move because some of the landing craft went through the Turkish Straits. There are loopholes in the Montreux Convention but Turkey *must not* forget that she herself insists on calling herself an ally of Great Britain. These boats should not have gone through the Straits. An energetic British protest made on behalf of the British Government by the British Ambassador to Turkey, Sir Hughe Knatchbull-Hugessen, however, put this matter right and the passage of other ships was denied to the Germans. One of them has been interned in the Bosphorus Bay of Buyukdere. We notice that every intensification of Allied war effort touches Turkey in some way or other. It is, therefore, natural that Turkey should take such an interest in international developments and more so when these might affect her own security.

The Allied bombing of Axis communications in the Balkans has reduced even the German ardour in tight negotiations. The much trumpeted German trade negotiations have fizzled out. It is now known that the *German-Turkish* trade treaty was prolonged for another year until June 8, 1945, neither side having given three months' notice of expiry. But every year a new set of lists has to be drawn up in which are marked the quantities of goods Germany will export to Turkey and vice versa and also how much against each.

TRADE AGREEMENT

At the beginning of the year, the Germans had *hoped to send the famous* Dr. Clodius to Turkey to negotiate. As the weeks passed and the Allies took a firm stand in all matters of trade with the enemy, Turkey was given to understand that to sit down with Dr. Clodius at the same table and negotiate a hard and fast set of lists would be tantamount to helping the enemy of the Allies openly. The Germans on Turkish insistence had to desist from sending Dr. Clodius to Turkey. Instead, Dr. Alber Jenke, German commercial counsellor in Ankara and Ribbentrop's brother-in-law led the German side in the silent and unobtrusive negotiations. On June 9, these came to an end and Jenke left for Berlin to get the approval of the German Ministry of Economics. I understand that the new lists suffered an overall reduction of 50 per cent on those of last year.

As to the operation of the lists there must pass some three months before the exchange can really commence. The mechanism of the clearing agreement which governs all exchange of goods between Germany and Turkey says that German goods will have to arrive first in Turkey before a corresponding amount of Turkish goods is shipped to Germany. In order that these goods may arrive, Turkey must first place orders; Germany must say whether she can accept them; and then she must fulfil these orders; and lastly, she must ship these orders to Turkey. Sea routes there are none at the present moment and land communications are for Germany the problem they constituted for traders in the Middle Ages. They know when the goods have been sent; but they never know whether these goods will eventually get to their destination. It is only after these goods have actually arrived in Turkey that the corresponding quantity of Turkish goods is released for Germany.

FUTURE

Now we all know that chrome has been effectively stopped and none of this precious raw material reaches Germany from Turkey. The overall reduction of 50 per cent touches other vital goods like copper, cotton, and vegetable oils. This means that Germany will get officially half of what she got last year on paper, provided she can supply transport. There will be, as I said before, a time lag of about three months before any of these goods start on their way to Germany. Much can happen in these three months and the Balkan offensive may be in full swing by that time. This is why the Turks are primarily interested in the Italian campaign and the Russian concentrations.

But there still remains the question: What will Turkey do without the goods imported from Germany? We must remember that the British Prime Minister, in a recent speech in the House of Commons on *foreign policy*, said that if the Turks were going to show willingness to make sacrifices compensation would be forthcoming. It is quite likely that news of this compensation will break quite soon.

Transport *difficulties* have now been partially overcome and the Mediterranean route is now clear. The fact that one can get British newspapers by mail in about five weeks—and this with all the commitments for the Western Front—speaks for itself. Newspapers were the last item to be handled when shipping space was restricted. That this restriction has now been relaxed is the best indication of how the situation stands.

As regards Turkey and what her intentions are during the next weeks, I think it best not to speculate at this moment; because in the coming weeks it will be possible not only to make forecasts but to define precisely Turkey's future. This is one of the aspects of the Turkish position in relation to international developments in which the Turks are most interested.

WAR DIARY

BRITAIN AND GERMANY

18TH JULY.—The Germans resumed flying bomb attacks over Southern England including London area. More than 750 Allied bombers attacked Peenmunde and Zinnowitz, the main German experimental stations for the flying bomb and long range rocket. Other flying bomb installations in France were also attacked.

Last night Allied planes attacked Berlin. Friedrichshafen was heavily bombed.

Mr. Churchill and Mr. Eden made statements on peace terms to Germany.

19TH JULY.—Flying bomb activity over Southern England including the London area was on a scale bigger than for several weeks. Royal Air Force bombers attacked flying bomb installations in North France.

Last night Allied aircraft bombed Ruhr, Berlin and Cologne. To-day over 3,000 Allied bombers heavily bombed Munich, Peenmunde, Zinnowitz, Kempten, Schwienfurt, Coblenz, Saarbrucken and Augsburg.

20TH JULY.—Germans again sent flying bombs over Southern England.

An attempt was made on Hitler's life by a group of officers of the German army. A bomb exploded about 6 feet from Hitler's right side. Six generals and two admirals were wounded. Hitler, Goering and Admiral Doenitz spoke on the episode. Himmler has been appointed the Commander-in-Chief of the Home army.

Allied aircraft attacked Bremen last night and over 1,200 bombers attacked Munich, Koblenz, Schwienfurt and Saarbrucken.

21ST JULY.—Flying bombs continued to raid Southern England.

United States bombers attacked Regensberg, Schurenfurt and Hamburg. An Ankara report stated that Hitler was under arrest. It was reported that a civil war started in Germany.

The United States Secretary of State, Mr. Cordell Hull said "The attack on Hitler and his explanatory speech clearly indicate the realization that Germany's impending defeat is spreading to the Reich."

22ND JULY.—Germans continued their activity over Southern counties with flying bombs. London area also was affected.

Berlin was bombed last night. More than 1,100 planes attacked places in South Germany.

23RD JULY.—More flying bombs came over Southern England to-day. Royal Air Force bombers attacked flying bomb sites in North France.

Kiel and Berlin were heavily bombed.

24TH JULY.—Flying bomb activity continued over Southern England.

Allied aircraft attacked Berlin and Stuttgart.

25TH JULY.—Germans continued to send flying bombs over Southern counties. Military objectives in Germany were attacked by Royal Air Force.

Mr. Eden told the Commons that he was not yet in a position to make a considered statement about the recent "dramatic developments in Germany."

Hitler issued a new decree ordering the total mobilization of Germany and occupied territories.

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THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE ATLANTIC

18TH JULY.—Two ammunition ships exploded at the port of Chicago.

20TH JULY.—The Democratic Party Convention nominated Franklin D. Roosevelt Democratic candidate for a fourth term as President of the United States. President Roosevelt made a broadcast speech.

21ST JULY.—The Democratic Convention nominated Senator Harry Truman for the Vice-Presidentship of the United States.

24TH JULY.—The United States Navy department announced that President Roosevelt has approved of the United States plan to increase personnel on active duty in the United States Navy by 194,000 to 3,200,000 by December 31, 1944. The President has also authorized the Navy to base plans upon a total strength of 3,389,000 by June 30, 1945, if needed.

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INDIA, BURMA AND CEYLON

18TH JULY.—Allied troops advanced two miles from Khakunow and captured Thinunggei.

19TH JULY.—Allied forces took Sakok.

20TH JULY.—Allied troops were south of Moviang, the last important village in the Imphal Plain.

21ST JULY.—Prisoners were taken during patrol activity in the Myitkyina area.

22ND JULY.—Chindits captured Ngusharawng and Pungan.

23RD JULY.—Allied troops advanced along the Tiddim Road and reached near Torbung.

24TH JULY.—Further advances down the Tiddim Road had driven the last organized Japanese force from the plain of Imphal.

25TH JULY.—The main action has shifted to Palel-Tamu Road. Seven hills, all within 8 or 9 miles of Palel, have been taken.

RUSSIA AND FINLAND

18TH JULY.—A big drive towards East Prussia developed from Grodno. Russians opened a major offensive in the Khovel area. Soviet troops captured Gorokhov, Lokacze, Radziechow, Brody, Zlochow, Busk, Kamionka, Krasnoye, Choloyow, Jezierna, Zoblotce, Berestovitsa, Gavnovka, Antopol, Krasnogorodskaya and over 750 localities.

19TH JULY.—The Russian troops captured Sokal, Mosty Velikie, Krynki, Klestheli, Shanino, Elenevo and over 700 localities. The Soviet troops crossed the *Curzon line*.

20TH JULY.—The Soviet forces captured Ratno, Meloryta, Lubomil, Opalin, Vladimir Volynsiki, Rawa Russka, Glimany, Przemyskiany, Doroshev, Kobryn and over 800 localities.

21ST JULY.—The Russian troops captured *Ostrov*, Volynsk, Baczacz, Solotniki, Kozovo, Divin, Shatsk and about 300 localities.

22ND JULY.—The Soviet troops captured Kholm and Ponevezh. Russians broke into Pskov. Other towns occupied include Kraslava, Krinki, Semiatichi, Kamanets, Tonaszow, Luhacew, Nemiviow, Magerad, Gorouce and over 450 localities.

23RD JULY.—The last city of pre-war Russia, *Pskov* was captured by the Russians. Pundori, Lupza, Karsava, Iskusna, Zednia, Wlodawa, Grodisrche, Klenovicze, Zamosce, Hanna, Czerne, Tarnograd and over 1,200 localities were also captured.

24TH JULY.—The Russians captured *Lublin*. Germans evacuated Siedlice and Yaroslov. Numerous other important towns and about 1,000 localities were captured including Wilgoray, Rogatin, Galich, Sokolki, etc.

25TH JULY.—Russian thrust towards Warsaw continued. An official statement on Polish-Soviet relations issued in Moscow said that the Soviet Government viewed the entry of the Red Army into Poland as entry into an Allied country.

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ITALY, AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

18TH JULY.—The Allied troops captured Levane and Quarata and *Ancona*, Agugliano and Camerano.

19TH JULY.—American troops captured *Leghorn*. The Eighth Army troops captured Monet Vardri. The Fifth Army took Pontedera.

FOR YOUR RADIO DIARY.

MADRAS—AUGUST	1st—9-45 a.m.	Topical Talk.
,, ,,	2nd—9-45 a.m.	"G.I." Relay from Delhi.
,, ,,	3rd—9-00 a.m.	Common Cause.
,, ,,	4th—9-45 a.m.	"*World Affairs*"—Relay from B.B.C.
,, ,,	5th—9-45 a.m.	"For the Fighting Forces."
,, ,,	7th—9-00 a.m.	The Sword and the Plough share in Russia—By G. Parthasarathi.

20TH JULY.—The Allied forces captured several towns including San Dunato and Radda.

The Allied Control Commission announced the transfer to the Italian Government, of five provinces with effect from to-day, and three more, including Rome, on August 15, by which date one-third of Italy will have been handed over by the Allies.

21ST JULY.—The Allied forces captured Monte Querchiabella and Monte San Michaele.

22ND JULY.—Allied troops were within four miles of Pisa.

23RD JULY.—American troops entered *Pisa*. Citta di Castello was also occupied.

Allied troops occupied Simi island in the Dodecanese.

24TH JULY.—The Fifth Army troops reached the town of Marina Di Pisa. Eighth Army troops occupied Terranuova.

It is announced that H. M. King George VI left England on Saturday and reached Italy on Sunday, on a short visit.

25TH JULY.—Allied armies were within 10 miles of Florence.

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VICHY, FREE FRANCE AND THE OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

18TH JULY.—Americans took St. Lo. British and Canadian troops broke through into the area east of Orne and south-east of Caen.

Hitler has appointed General Grase as the new Commander-in-Chief of Belgium and Northern France. The German Military Government in Belgium has been changed into a civil administration under Gauleiter Grohe.

19TH JULY.—Fierce fighting went on in Faubourg and in the plains south and east of Caen.

General Montgomery said that the Allies have captured 60,000 Germans and killed 8,000. "It is a reasonable conjecture that we have wiped off 156,000 Germans" he added.

20TH JULY.—The Allied army captured Bourguebus, Trenouville, Bras, Hebert Follie, Fleury and Cagny.

21ST JULY.—Bad weather in Normandy seriously curtailed land operations. Allies captured Saint Andre Sur Orne and Fremonville, Granville, Sevzs, Raids and Berigny.

22ND JULY.—Allies took Emiville and Etabaux. British troops re-occupied Maltot.

23RD JULY.—Etavaux was cleared of enemy troops. It is revealed that Mr. Churchill went back to England after a three days' tour of Normandy.

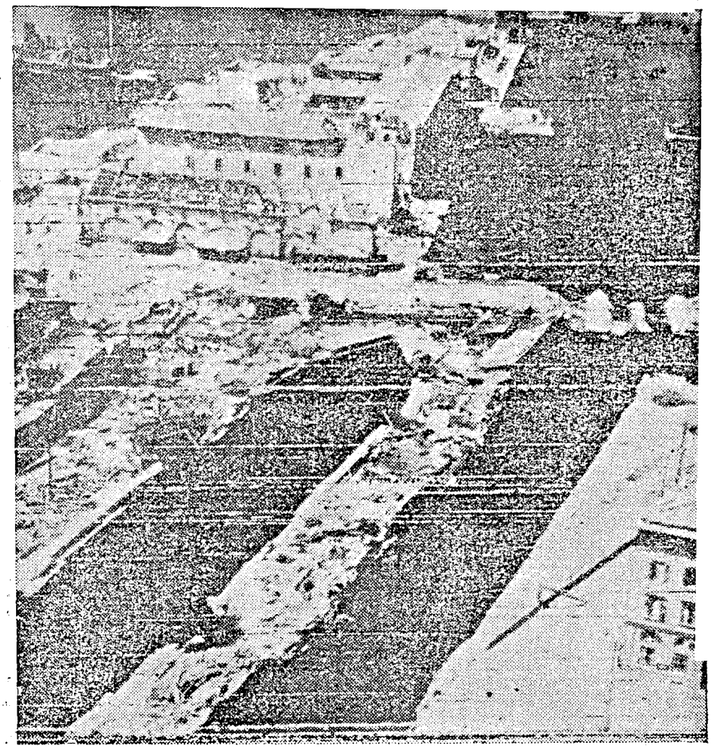
24TH JULY.—Sharp local engagements took place south of the river Seves, in the area north of Esquay and on the river Orne, south of Maltot. Allied forward positions remained substantially unchanged.

25TH JULY.—Almost the whole of the 100-mile Normandy battle front was ablaze with battle to-day. General Omar Bradley's First United States Army and General Dempsey's Second Army launched vigorous offensives in their respective sectors.

* * *

THE NEUTRAL COUNTRIES

18TH JULY.—General Franco, addressing the annual Assembly of the Falangist National Council said "Spain is ready to collaborate for peace and offer fruits of her experience to other peoples."



Leghorn : Dry docks and buildings either destroyed by mining or by Allied bombs.

* * *

THE FAR EAST

18TH JULY.—United States ships shelled Guam on Saturday. Allied planes raided Rabaul, Yap, etc.

General Tojo made a statement on the set-back in Marianas.

It is announced that the Japanese premier and War Minister, Hideki Tojo had given up his post as Chief of Staff. General Yoshijiro Umezu has succeeded him. Naval Minister Admiral Shigetaro Shimada was relieved of his post. Further changes in Jap High Command were also reported.

19TH JULY.—It is revealed heavy United States warships shelled Guam on 16th July. American planes attacked Jap positions in the Marshall islands.

Mr. Eden told Parliament that the United States and the British Governments followed the situation in China with the closest attention and supplied the Chinese Government with every assistance in their power.

It is announced that the entire Japanese Cabinet has resigned.

It is reported that United States submarines have sunk 14 more Jap ships in the Pacific recently.

20TH JULY.—It is announced that United States bombers attacked Chichi, Jima and Haha in the Bonin islands on Tuesday. American forces landed on Guam island.

General Kuniaki Koiso and Admiral Mitsumasa conferred to form a new Cabinet for Japan.

21ST JULY.—Allied bombers attacked Rabaul, Yap and Manokwari.

22ND JULY.—A new Jap Cabinet with General Kuniaki Koiso as Premier is announced.

Fierce fighting took place in Guam.

23RD JULY.—American troops made satisfactory progress in Guam. They took Mount Abfan in the southern area

24TH JULY.—It is announced that United States troops landed on Tinian island in the Marianas and established firm beachheads. In Guam, Cablas and Piti have been captured.

25TH JULY.—Jap forces estimated at 15,000 has been pocketed in the Wewak Sector.

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MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. V FRIDAY, AUGUST 4, 1944 No. 48

LARGEST VOLUNTARY ARMY *in the* WORLD

RIGHT HON'BLE L. S. AMERY

POLITICAL leaders and their followers do not, after all, cover the whole varied range of Indian life

FIGHTING forces too are India and they embody a long glorious tradition of valour and loyalty. India's army has expanded from a nucleus of some 200,000 to over two million—the largest voluntary army in the world

NO ONE has stated more emphatically than Lord Wavell what he owes to his Indian divisions and Indian staffs in that first campaign in which against an overwhelming army, he saved the Middle East and with it the Allied cause

INDIAN divisions have won victories from the mountains of Abyssinia to the Appennines and from Damascus to the Arno. Those who fought with them and those who fought against them have alike acknowledged their quality. Indian troops have held for the Allied cause the whole vast area of Iraq and Persia. They bore the brunt of our ill-fated retreats in Malaya and Burma, and to-day, they are effectively repaying old scores against the Japanese on the Burma front

RIGHT HON'BLE L. S. AMERY, *Secretary of State for India, in a speech in the House of Commons, on Friday, July 28. The House cheered this part of his speech*

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[NOTE.—*The summary of news and comments contained in the* MADRAS WAR REVIEW *generally relate to events and statements published till Wednesday, every week.*]

OUT OF THEIR OWN MOUTHS

Germany:—"We must get through this hell of difficulties, burdens and dangers until we can breathe freely again."

—GOEBBELS *in a radio speech on July* 26.

"The Fuehrer knows that whatever happens to him was sent by God."

—GOEBBELS *on Hitler's birthday.*

❖

"It would be criminal to deny that the situation has become very grave. We need better weapons, more fanatical fighters, superior leadership, and above all more firmly knit war morale . . . For us there are only two alternatives, either we carry on the war until we win or lose all, not only as far as one class of leading National Socialists is concerned, for all Germans will lose everything. There is no honourable capitulation for us in this war—only a struggle for the last breath."

—HEINZ LIEBSCHER *in a broadcast to German forces on July* 31.

❖

Japan:—"There is only one path for the people of Japan to take. They must sacrifice themselves body and soul for the Emperor, and if the worst comes to the worst die with honour. It is a great pity that the Tojo Cabinet has resigned."

—DR. YUICHIRO MATSUNAMI, *Professor of the Imperial University, Tokyo, on July* 20.

❖

". . . the wolf is almost at the threshold . . . Truly, strategically Nippon has suffered a reverse by the loss of Saipan."

—*Singapore Domei Commentary, July* 20.

MADRAS WAR REVIEW

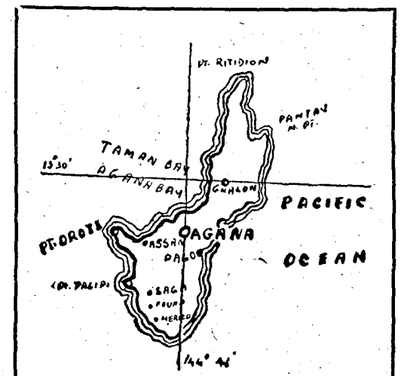
A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. V FRIDAY, AUGUST 4, 1944 No. 48

JAPAN'S SETTING SUN

WHILE the events in Europe are marching on from Allied victory to victory, with the guns of Moscow roaring out salvoes in celebration of their sweeping drive into town after town in Baltic Europe, with the biggest of all salvoes probably awaiting the capture of Warsaw: and with several German divisions in Normandy imperilled with the relentless might of our armies and air forces, while the ceaseless bombing of Germany is intensified, the world's eyes may be looking at Europe for decisive events.

YET Allied activity in the Pacific is equally momentous and keeps pace with the tightening ring which is closing around Germany. And not only in the Pacific. Affairs in Burma are also worth watching.



GUAM—The little key island in the Pacific now held by U. S. forces, is the strategic centre of vital sea-lanes to Japan, the Philippins and the South Seas. Guam is only 1,500 miles from Tokyo, easy target for raids by Super Fortresses.

IT is more than a coincidence that the resignation on July 18th of Tojo and his Cabinet should have followed on the announcement of the loss of Saipan. The loss of this island has obviously shaken up the entire people of Japan. And since then, the American capture of other islands in the Marianas group, including the great prize of Guam is bound to have a still more devastating effect on the tautened nerves of Japan's rulers.

SO many navies have proved elusive in this war—the Italian navy which was sought after in the Mediterranean, the German navy which now lives more or less permanently under the waves, and now the Japanese navy. The Japanese Admiral, Takahasi tries new tricks nearly every day to explain to his people why his navy fails to emerge and accept battle. "Later developments took an unexpected form" he announces. Pressed still further he says, "The reason why the people are not witnessing the counter-offensive which they expected against the enemy assault is that our fleet is still devising a strategy combining the utmost accuracy and effectiveness." The truth is partly of course that Japan has lost heavily in aircraft-carriers and aircraft and has now little or nothing to spare for an all-out engagement. The Japanese have seen the might of Admiral Chester Nimitz' fleet and have therefore good reasons for delaying the inevitable.

THE importance of Guam cannot be overemphasised. It lies midway between New Guinea and Japan. The Americans have now cleared the airfield and the business of using it may soon begin. We may be sure they will lose no time in taking every advantage of this key-island of the Pacific. It belongs to the same group as Saipan and was in American hands up to the time when Japan took it in December 1941. It has a fine natural harbour, but its main value is its stragetic proximity to Manilla in the Philippines and to Tokyo.

THE Japanese are well aware of the danger that confronts them. In a pep talk in Japanese, Tokyo radio had to say "Saipan is 2,350 kilometres from Tokyo and 2,800 kilometres from the Philippines. In view of the strategic importance of this island, the loss of Saipan is indeed a matter of grave consequence to our future operations in the Pacific. In other words a serious menace. In view of this fact there is little doubt that the enemy will eventually send out B-29s from Saipan to Tokyo, for they are capable of such a round journey. The battle of the Pacific, in other words, has been brought to the very edge of our mainland proper." And what applies to Saipan applies still more forcibly to Guam. The fears of the Japs are well founded. Super Fortresses of the 20th Bomber Command attacked in daylight last Saturday industrial objectives in Mukden in Manchuria. Following on that we had the news of an attack on Tientsin.

CABINETS or no Cabinets, the one unalterable fact remains unchanged, the fact that the war situation remains unfavourable for Japan. The Cabinet change only indicates apprehension, and what the Japanese propose to do as the war shifts ever closer to their

mainland of the Rising Sun is a neat little problem for them to settle. As with Hitler and his generals in Germany the internal dissension caused by all this changing in Japan is only a source of internal friction and does not alter or lessen the danger that threatens to end all their Cabinets.

THE free world will watch with interest the next phase in the Pacific battle front. What a consolation Dr. Matsunami, Professor at the Imperial University, Tokyo, has to offer! "There is only one path for the people of Japan to take," he told them. "They must sacrifice themselves body and soul to the Emperor, and if the worst comes to the worst, die with honour."

THE voices of Japan know full well that the Land of the Rising Sun is doomed. Soon it will be the Land of the Setting Sun, the setting sun of all fascism. The operations in Burma are very satisfactory for us. The Japanese are completely cleared from the 130 miles Silchar tract, the 14th Army have nearly driven the Japs out of the Manipur area, and the town of Myitkyina is practically ours. The latest report states that close fighting is going on for the city. British submarines have also dealt a smashing blow at Jap shipping, sinking 24 vessels as well as blowing up oil tanks near Sumatra and shelling military installations in the Andamans. Topping it all is the bombardment for the third time of Sabang harbour on the north-west coast of Sumatra.

IT will be a new sun which will rise over the islands of Japan, a sun of Allied victories. Now that the Allied forces in the Pacific have the command of vital sea-lanes, producing panic amongst the Japanese in their occupied islands and menacing all their traffic to Japan, and with panic in Japan itself with the imminent danger of sudden bombing of Japanese towns which cannot stand up against the weight of modern aerial warfare, and with panic and disorder in upper Burma, with no relief in the shakingly-held occupied countries and islands all round the southern Asiatic archipelagoes, with all this panic so evident the Allies can well afford to be amused at the efforts of Japanese Cabinets to find fault with each other. Japan's once mighty sun is setting and the world of Asia and the Pacific is glad to see it go.

RUNNING COMMENTARY

Red Army's March of Liberation Not all HITLER's "intuition" will solve the terrible problem of knowing what to do to stem the grand advance of the Red Army as it pushes its way victoriously from one big town to another. The resounding salvoes have again been thundering away in Moscow to celebrate the fall of Lwow, Dvinsk, Bialystok, Stanislawow, Siauliai and Brest-Litovsk. Now at the gates of Warsaw how cheered the wretched inhabitants must be who have waited all these weary years for the day of liberation. And not only Poland, but the republics of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania are on the verge of release from the Nazi yoke. Kovno (Kaunas), the capital of Lithuania has been taken. This is only the beginning of the Red Army's march of liberation.

* * *

Allies' Grip on Normandy Equally commensurate in hard, steady and relentless pressure against the German war machine—which is now a pretty badly-used vehicle, being "elastic" as they say—is the big advance being made in Normandy. First Coutances and then down the coast to Granville, the next is Avranches. Breaches have been made in many places in the Nazi front, and for General EISENHOWER this advance on the western sector will prove of great strategic advantage. Time will show the results of the carefully thought-out Allied plan which is fanning and encircling the German armies. And while all this heavy fighting dismays the enemy generals, there is no respite for HITLER's home front. For two successive days, over 1,000 Allied heavy bombers attacked the Leuna synthetic oil refinery at Merseburg. In these raids and in daylight raids the U.S. and the R.A.F. have again shown fine teamwork. No wonder that prince of lies, GOEBBELS, in a howl of despair told his long suffering audience that they must get through this hell of difficulties and dangers! But, as the airmen are saying and as GOEBBELS knows, they haven't had anything yet! The flying bombs may be a nuisance, but what practical war value they have is hard to understand, unless, in spite of all the lessons the German Reich have learnt, they still naively imagine they can scare the people of Britain. The telling pictures and the daily accounts given by Londoners and others affected by these pointless wastages of German ammunition, only suggest that the Germans still have not got the secret of the psychology of courage which lives in the character of the British.

* * *

The King in Italy This week has also been a momentous one, for Sepoy KAMAL RAM who is said to be the youngest holder of the V.C., for the ribbon of this highest Empire award was pinned on KAMAL RAM of the 8th Punjab Regiment by the King Emperor himself, on his tour in Italy. Naturally, V.C. KAMAL RAM got a terrific ovation from both British and Indian troops, being carried shoulder high. The 8th Army provided a special aircraft for this Indian lad of 19. The King toured hundreds of miles of the 8th Army sector of the Italian front by road and air, and it is but fitting that the spotlight of his visit should be focussed on an Indian soldier, for as Mr. AMERY said in the House of Commons last week, Indians have shown their valour and their loyalty on nearly every front in this war, in Africa, Asia and Europe.

* * *

High Tribute to Indian Army The Rt. Hon. L. S. AMERY in his speech in the House of Commons last Friday brought in the right note and the right perspective when he payed full tribute to the largest voluntary army in the world. "No one has stated more emphatically than Lord WAVELL," he said, "what he owes to the Indian divisions and Indian staffs in that first campaign in which, against an overwhelming army, he saved the Middle East and with it the Allied cause." Mr. AMERY was cheered when he drew attention to the part the Indian Army had played on every front. When the

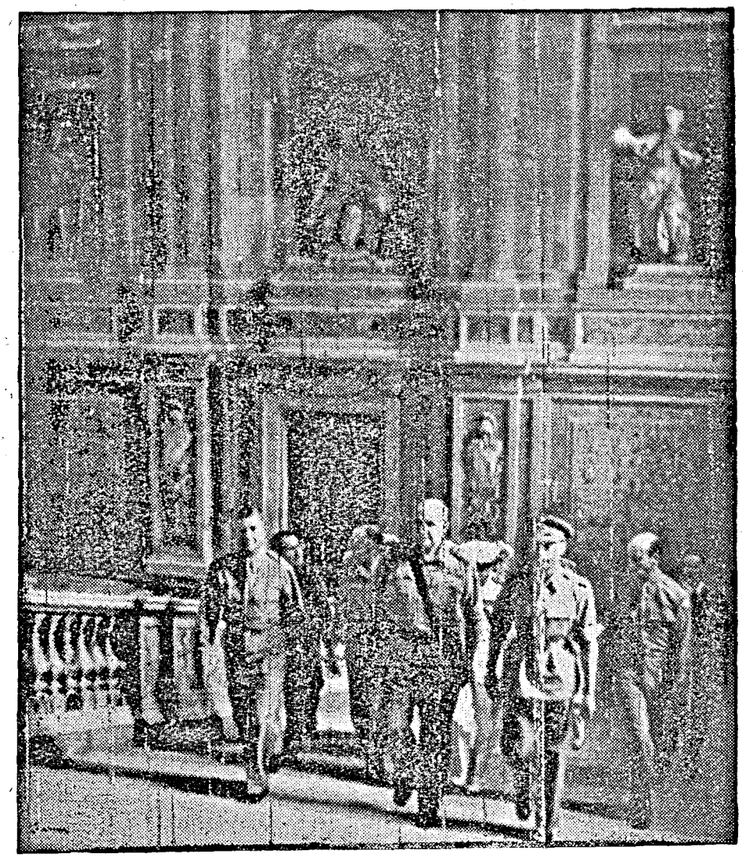
history of this war is being written what a noble heroic tale the story of the Indian Army will be. "In this unity of arms," Mr. AMERY continued "racial and other differences between Indians and Europeans are transcended in one common brotherhood. There is no racial distinction in the army to-day." And truly the magnificent record and the victories already achieved are enough evidence of all that the Secretary of State for India said. No one can look at the smiling faces of the Indian officers and men without realizing how different is this *voluntary* army from the sullen wretches on whom Germany and Japan depend for the maintenance of their stolen properties.

* * *

Headaches for Japan The big sensational advances made by the Americans in the Pacific must be bitter news to the Japanese. But it is not only the immediate danger to the Japanese homeland which must be giving the new Cabinet a headache. It was Saipan which precipitated the resignation of the Tojo Government. Now that Guam and Tinian are practically entirely in American hands the worst fears of the Japs have materialized. But besides this there has been yet another attack on Sabang, destroying what was left of the harbour. Also the Super Fortresses have raided Mukden and Tientsin. The glorious 14th Army in Burma has only a few miles to clear the Manipur area, while the fall of Myitkyina and the end of that long campaign is in sight, with fighting going on in the town itself. It is obvious that not all the chopping and changing of fascist Cabinets is going to make much difference to the ultimate result. In the meantime we hail with delight the great Pacific and Burma victories. Madras has all the more reason this week in welcoming contingents of Indian troops of the renowned 14th Army who are resting before passing on to their homes where there will be tremendous rejoicings. For these men are heroes in every sense of the word—a bit tired of course—but they will say it has been worth it.

* * *

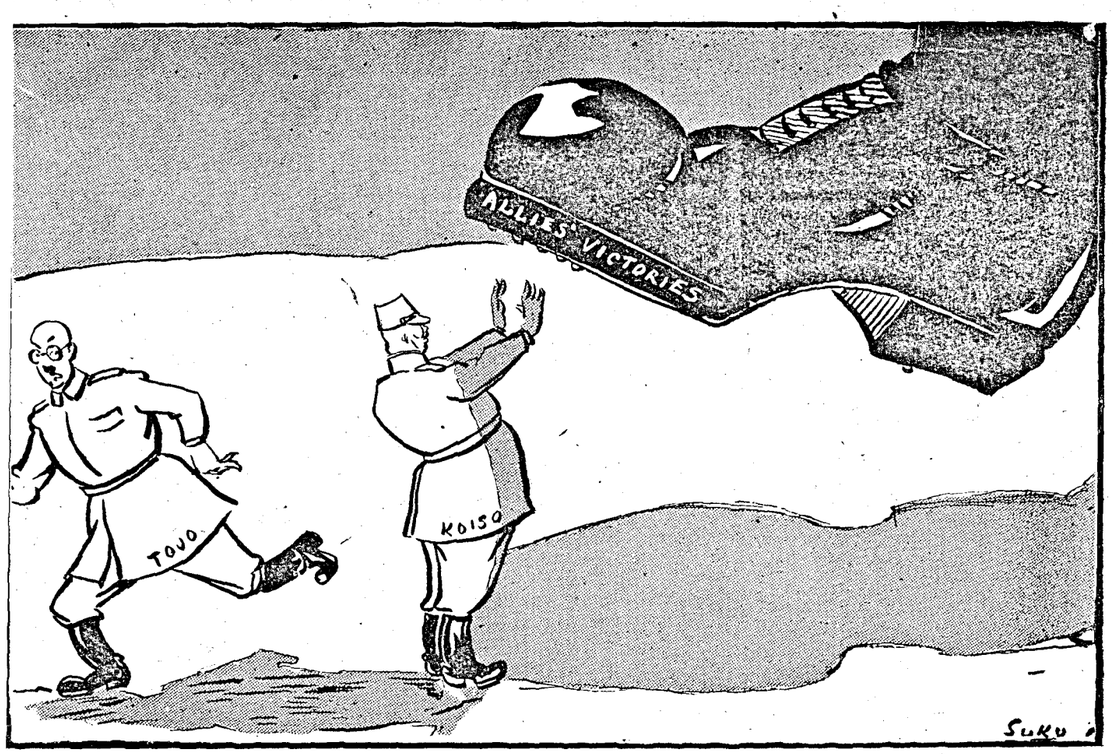
A Week of Liberation The general picture of world events which emerges this week is one of innumerable defeats for the enemy on all fronts, and for the Allies and the oppressed nations one of joyful liberation. In homes all over the world, from the great plains of Northern and Baltic Europe, where the remnants of decimated populations who have lived under the heel of the Gestapo have patiently awaited this hour, to the sturdy farming villages of Normandy where stubborn French Norman peasants meet the liberating armies with tears of joy, there is a lifting of the pall of gloom which for nearly five long years has rested on the torn face of Europe. But not only Europe. Far out in the islands of the Pacific in the isolated Marianas the island people are welcoming the arrival of the saviours from the skies. And nearer to India it is heartening to read this week that in Upper Burma conditions are resuming normality. With the sweeping away of the Japanese thieves from the valleys and villages of northern Burma the Burmese and other peoples there too will sigh with relief that the Japanese barbarians are at last being routed in confusion from their homes. It has taken many long years of hard fighting against what looked at first like insuperable odds to even dare to suggest that liberation was at hand, but who can doubt this to-day with the grand united action of all freedom loving nations on all fronts? It has been truly a week of liberation.



KING VISITS ITALY.—His Majesty King George VI, accompanied by General Sir Henry Maitland Wilson and General J. L. Devers, arriving at the Palace of Caserta for the Commander-in-Chief's official luncheon.

VICTORIOUS SOLDIERS RETURN HOME

A leave party of 400 to 500 Indian troops arrived in Madras on 27th night. These men from our victorious army on the Burma front were met at the Central Station by the Sub-area Commander and members of his staff and by the Indian Hospitality Committee. The troops were warmly welcomed and given refreshments before proceeding on to their homes.



LIBERATED

(*By* R.G.)

The peasants return,
following behind the victorious armies.
They set down their bundles
and sorrowfully scar the street
battered out of familiarity.
What are these shells of rubble ?
Where are the horses and the oxen
which should be rustling in the straw,
regarding their masters with patience
or greedy expectation ?
and the ploughs ? and the hoes ?
They look, they shamble through the mud
(for the paving is gone, and the craters,
big and little, gaps, and ooze
is spread thick after the spring thaw).
The school-house stares eyeless,
grins gap-toothed : its roof has lost
the tiles so carefully, so proudly laid :
in the first passage is horses' dung
and in the second
dead horses covered in clay, stinking.
They say " Who can believe
the swine were so filthy ? "
They say " It will take years
to clean our village of the mess."
They say " There is seed to sow
but where shall we get tractors
and ploughs ? "
They say " Let us begin.
There are yet two hours to dusk."

NEW PLANS FOR W.A.C. (I)

" I am delighted to find so many Indian women in the Corps which it *is my privilege to come to India to* lead ", said the Countess of Carlisle, newly appointed Chief Commander of the Women's Auxiliary Corps (India), who is now at work at her headquarters at G.H.Q., New Delhi.

" *Even in the short time since my* arrival I have seen much evidence of the good work being done by the Corps. *But many more women are needed.*

" As soon as possible I intend to visit W.A.C. (I) units in all parts of India personally to acquaint myself with them, and their working and living conditions.

" We have many projects on foot for the Corps. Perhaps the most far-reaching of these are the opening of *recruit training centres.* These will give a good grounding in Service matters and provide a bridge between civil and Service life. For those girls who wish to serve as clerks a clerical course will follow recruit training.

" We are also arranging two *months'* courses for mess sergeants and mess caterers. This should facilitate the *catering in our hostels.*

" We have plans for training officers, both for corps and staff work. Our aim is to provide more and more women of all ranks to help the army in the war against Japan which is so surely gathering strength.

" I say to the women of India that our work is work which any woman should be proud to undertake."

PAPER CONTROL ORDER

By SIR AKBAR HYDARI

I have come here in the hope that by *meeting round this table we will be* able to understand each other's difficulties better than it is possible to do by correspondence and by taking counsel together to find a solution for them. I have not been surprised at the volume of criticism which has been levelled at us nor indeed at the violence and heat of the *remonstrances.* This was to be expected. I propose that after the few explanatory remarks which I will make there should be a general discussion which I hope will be kept as short as possible. Thereafter I suggest that you should discuss matters among yourselves and that we should then meet in the late *afternoon today* or tomorrow morning to consider the concrete suggestions which you all or a small Committee appointed by yourselves could put forward on your behalf for our consideration. I have with me here those of my officers who are directly concerned with the administration of the Order including the Paper Controller and if as I hope we can come to a working agreement within the framework of the Order the arrangements consequent thereon will be carried out without loss of time and with a minimum of correspondence. I must make it clear however that our discussions must be based on the acceptance of the main feature of the Order which is that there must be a cut of 70 per cent in consumption not necessarily of each individual but taking the consumers of paper as a whole.

MISAPPREHENSIONS

There seems to be an impression among some of our critics that this Order was something which was hatched in the dark recesses of the Secretariat and produced without notice on an unsuspecting public. That is not the case. The public have known for many months past that Government intended to control the distribution and the use of paper. None of us in the Department has ever made any secret of it. Nor is it a fact that this Order is the creation of the bureaucratic brain acting unaided. We have for the last three months or more been in active consultation with those who might be expected to know a great deal about the distribution and the use of paper. We have also drawn largely on the experience of the United Kingdom in the framing of the Control Order. It has been widely criticized as unworkable. To quote Oliver Cromwell " I beseech Ye in the bowels of Christ, think ! perchance Ye may be mistaken " ; that the cry that this is an unworkable Order has its basis not in the impracticability of its provisions but because the cut in consumption has shocked you ; but, Gentlemen, the position of the civil *consumer of paper is at the present* moment such that until supplies improved only Draconian measures will insure that the poor consumer of paper will get *something of what he needs.* I have not been impressed by some of the representations which we have received in which presses and publishers *have questioned the need for such* drastic economy because they state that they have always been able to obtain paper. Yes, but at whose expense ? It is at the expense of those very educational institutions and cultural publications whose interest it is alleged that Government are neglecting. It is *difficult for consumers who are neither* rich nor powerful to make their voices heard and it is exactly, they, the schools, the small businessmen, the Universities, the man who cannot get his book published because he cannot afford the high prices at which alone he can obtain supplies—it is those classes whose wants, it is hoped, if this Order is worked efficiently and with your goodwill will be better served than they have been recently.

We have tried the voluntary method *of paper distribution. The distribution* of paper has so far been undertaken by the Paper Control and Distribution Association. They have tried to do their best but with diminishing supplies and increasing demands it is abundantly clear that distribution to be effective must be done by Government under a *statutory umbrella.*

PRODUCTION

We have also been criticized for neglecting to *increase production of* paper. Let me give a few figures. The production of paper in India during the three years 1936–37 to 1938–39 averaged *54,000 tons. After the outbreak of* the war and thanks to Government assistance and encouragement and the rationalization as far as it was practicable of the varieties of paper manufactured the annual production was doubled till it amounted to over 100,000 tons per annum. Unfortunately *owing to the shortage of coal* production has dropped and for the current year, 1944–45, we cannot expect more than 70,000 tons from indigenous production. You may be interested to know that while all the *industries have had to bear a cut to* meet the *coal shortage paper is one of* the few industries which Government regard of such importance that the cut imposed on it is much less than on most others.

IMPORTS

So much for production. Now let *us look at the picture so far as imports* are concerned. For the three years 1936–37 to 1938–39 the average annual imports of paper into India amounted to 75,500 tons. The estimated import through trade channels for 1944–45 is 9,000 tons. The actual figure for 1943–44 was 8,800 tons. Now let me *deal with a point about which to be* quite blunt a good deal of nonsense has been talked. It is alleged that there is plenty of paper to be had in the United Kingdom if only Government would issue import licences in sufficient number and with the speed with which business houses are accus*tomed to do their business. What are* the facts ? His Majesty's Government give us a quarterly quota which for July-October 1943 was 440 tons, for November 1943 to February 1944 400 tons and March–June 1944 500 tons. We have been informed by the Secretary of State that the allocation for *November 1943 to February 1944 has* been fully utilized. In a letter, dated the 14th of June, it is stated on the authority of the leading manufacturers of the United Kingdom that no difficulties have been experienced in obtaining Indian import licences and that all orders on the manufacturers' books are *covered by licences. The Chief Con*troller of Imports has been kind enough to inform me further that he has been issuing licences considerably in excess of the quantities allocated to India. I submit, Gentlemen, that this particular cock (of Government dilatoriness) simply won't fight.

HARD REALITIES

Therefore to sum up : the present position for 1944–45 is that with imports by the trade of 9,000 tons and a production of 70,000 tons, the available supplies of paper in sight are of the order of 79,000 tons. The 70 per cent of Indian production reserved for

SESHIAH, THE CURIOUS VILLAGER

(*By* R.G.)

CANTO III—*Third Instalment.*

The news that Mussolini's men
Were on the march arrived just then.
Across the torrid Libyan waste
They moved, without excessive haste:
And crossing the Egyptia border
Sat down again, without disorder.
Seshiah knew of geography
Enough to know that this must be
A menace to his own repose:
For, Egypt fallen to his foes
And Suez in their hands, they might
Grab Aden with another bite
And swarm across the seas afar
To Gujerat and Malabar.
The British held the desert gate;
But could they bring up not too late
The tanks and planes and guns to stem
The huge flood pouring over them?
The French have given up Algier
And Graziani has no fear
Of swift reprisals in his rear,
However much the Frenchman itches
To kick him in his well-cut breeches.
And English ships must plough the Atlantic
And round the Cape while generals frantic
Make every file look like a column
To trick the enemy near Sollum.

Seshiah was distinctly worried
And off to the big town he scurried
And chanced to hear the local Pan-
jandrum, a young and worthy man,
Discoursing of the need for beating
The Nazis, at a public meeting:
From which Seshiah gained a new
Enlargement of his widening view.
This not-so-great Panjandrum made
Of facts and figures no parade
But asked all who might feel as he did
To think what most their country needed,
Threatened on one side by the German
(Adolf and Heinrich, Hans and Hermann),
And on the other side exposed,
While self-professing patriots dozed,
To sudden peril from the Jap
Who in the middle of their nap
Might come down like a thunderclap.
'Twas true the fort of Singapore
Existed like an armoured door:
But men and planes to hold the bar
Were hard to come by while the war
Was putting Britain to the test
In Africa and further west.
When Indian troops were sent to help
The Party patriots raised a yelp
And from the legislative halls
With metaphorical catcalls
Departed, shaking off their feet
The dust of their neglected seat.

Government requirements amounts to 49,000 tons leaving the quantity for the public including imports by the trade at 30,000 tons. As against this our pre-war consumption of paper was 110,000 tons. Here Gentlemen, you have the answer to the limit placed under the Order for civil consumption. It is not a limit arbitrarily fixed. It is a limit imposed by the hard realities of the situation. I hope that we will be able to show you in the course of discussion that the provisions of the Order are not unworkable and that there is scope within the Order itself for the exercise of discretion which even during the short time between the promulgation of the Order and now we have exercised in several instances and so tempered the wind. The fact must however be faced that your profits will be reduced by the operation of the Order; for under it you will not be able to print and publish as much as the fortunate ones among you who had stocks of paper in the past have been able to consume during the last 4½ years; but as against a diminution of your profits and the inconveniences to the business community incidental on any control we hope that the Order will bring relief to many who are now in dire need of paper.

SITUATION WILL IMPROVE

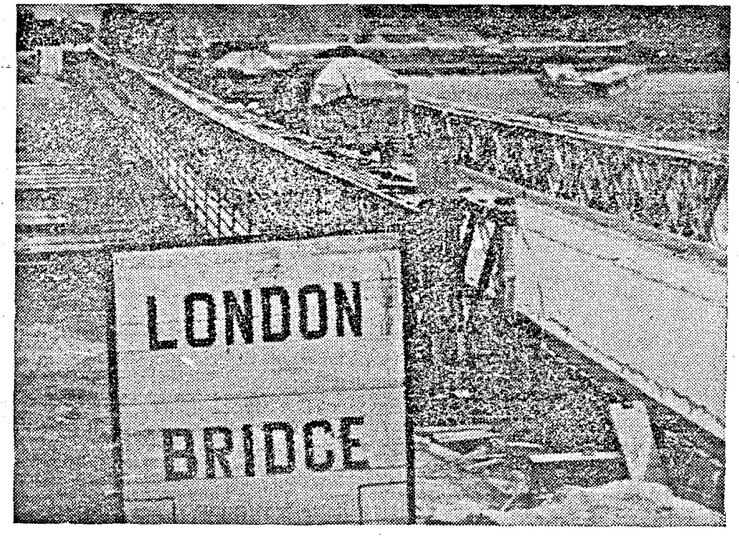
The situation is not however without hope. Government has been trying for sometime past to arrange on Government account the import from North America of a substantial tonnage of paper. If that eventuates as I hope it will we will lose no time in softening the severity of the cut in consumption. Let me assure you once again that we do not like imposing the present cut. I have given you some account of the attempts we have made in avoiding having to impose it. I have also just now told you that if our luck holds and we obtain the expected imports we may be able to raise the present minimum overall figure. You should gather assurance from the way we have worked the Newsprint Control. We have lightened its severity whenever we thought we could prudently do so; and even when we lost a large quantity of paper in the recent Bombay explosion we decided that this loss notwithstanding the concessions allowed to the users of newsprint should not be withdrawn.

I know that the Order has hit you hard but I have tried to explain the reasons which compelled us to take this step and I repeat again that we are prepared within the framework of the Order and without giving up the objective of an overall reduction in consumption to 30 per cent to be as accommodating as we can. I hope therefore that you will after reflection and discussion co-operate with Government in making this Order successful; and I am sure that if you once reconcile yourselves to the fact that you must suffer in the public interest a diminution of your profits and may be of your business, you will find that the Order can be worked and so tide over a very difficult time till increased supplies give you relief.

[This is Sir Akbar Hydari's speech at the Paper Conference held in Bombay on 18th July 1944.]

BRITISH BREAK-THROUGH IN NORMANDY

British infantry ready to board a tank while assembling for the attack east of Caen



British break-through in Normandy—A Bailey bridge built by British troops across the Caen Canal

The soldiers were being drilled in the village square, watched by a little group of the residents.

"Company! Two paces forward—march!" bawled out the sergeant major.

"Now, isn't that just like them chaps!" said an old lady amongst the spectators. "Why couldn't he take two paces forward himself instead of moving the whole regiment?"

After attacking an enemy ship the submarine dived and waited for the depth-charges. Almost immediately one exploded so near that the submarine heeled over, the lights went out, and the alarm bell rang loudly.

For a moment there was silence. Then a voice in the darkness said brightly:

"Give the gent a coconut, Bill. He's rung the bell!"

RECRUITMENT FOR THE DEFENCE SERVICES

The Government of His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore has recently sanctioned the extension of Recruiting for the Indian Army and the Royal Indian Navy in Mysore State. A Recruiting office will shortly be opened in Mysore City and eventually sub-officers will be established in all District Headquarters starting with Kolar, Kadur and Shimoga. Facilities for recruitment already exist in Bangalore at the office of the Assistant Recruiting Officer, Cornwallis Barracks, near Trinty Church, Bangalore.

MYSORE'S CONTRIBUTION

The State of Mysore has already made a vast contribution to the War efforts both in materials and men for the Technical Branches of the Services and this extension of recruitment opens up a very wide range of choice for fit young men who wish to offer their services.

Large numbers of recruits are urgently required for the Royal Indian Navy and the Indian Army, and all men above the age of 17½ whether educated or uneducated can enrol in either service, according to their suitability as regards education and physical standards.

The Recruiting office in Mysore City will be under control of the Assistant Recruiting Officer, Mysore, and there will be extra Assistant Recruiting Officers at the District Headquarters offices, each with an independent staff or recruiters.

The Recruiting Staff, who wear uniform, can be identified by their green arm bands and lanyards. Green signboards will be erected shortly indicating the whereabouts of all Recruiting officers.

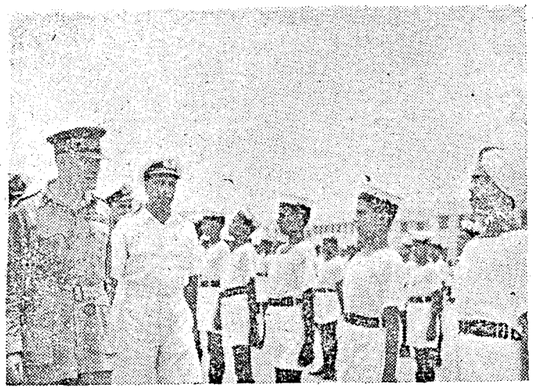
FACILITIES

The officers and the recruiters will constantly tour all large towns and villages throughout Mysore State and will give all help and advice to prospective recruits. From the moment a recruit decides to join the Army free transport by bus or train to the nearest Recruiting office is provided with free meals while travelling and while staying at the recruiting offices pending selection and medical examination.

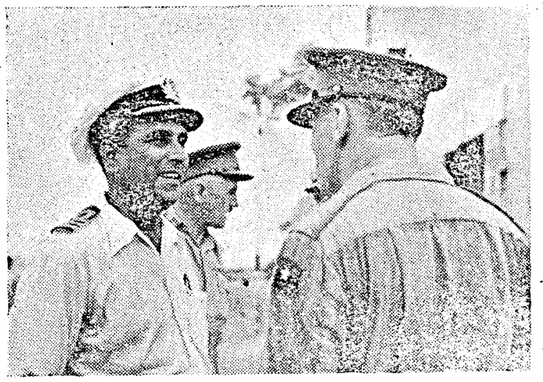
Even if found unfit for any reason, the recruit is sent back to his village free of all cost to himself.

It is hoped that many Mysoreans will take advantage of the present opportunity to enrol in the Defence Services of India.

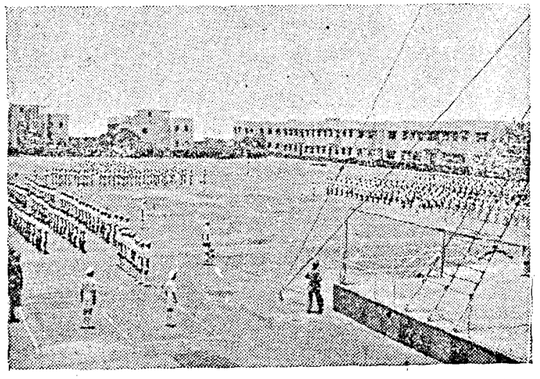
At a meeting held in Mysore during the Birthday festivities to celebrate the Second Anniversary of the National War Front in Mysore State, an address was given by Lieutenant-General Sir Noel Beresford-Peirse, K.B.E., C.B., D.S.O., G.O.C.-IN-C., Southern Army, on South India's War Effort.



The Commander-in-Chief accompanied by Commander S. G. Karmarkar, M.B.E., R.I.N.R., the Commanding Officer, inspects boys of H.M.I.S. Bahadur.



The Commander-in-Chief chatting with Commander S. G. Karmarkar, M.B.E., R.I.N.R., the Commanding Officer of H.M.I.S. Bahadur.



General view of the parade in H.M.I.S. Bahadur. *The Commander-in-Chief took the salute from the quarter-deck.*

C.-IN-C. VISITS R.I.N. ESTABLISHMENTS

During his recent visit to Karachi, His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, General Sir Claude Auchinleck, visited two fine training establishments of the Royal Indian Navy, H.M.I.S. *Himalaya*, the up-to-date and well-equipped Gunnery School, and H.M.I.S. *Bahadur*, the Boys' Training Establishment. In H.M.I.S. *Himalaya*, which was opened in November last, he saw Naval officers and hundreds of ratings learning the principles and practice of Naval gunnery. Smart young sailors from all parts of India were inspected by him in H.M.I.S. *Bahadur*, which prepares boys for a career in the Royal Indian Navy.

KARACHI—CRADLE OF INDIAN NAVY

Speaking at Karachi on July 1st Commodore A. R. Cattray, described Karachi as "The Cradle of India's Navy," and called upon the "young men and women of India to help to ensure the success of naval operations which are the foundation of the colossal combined enterprises which lie ahead."

The Commodore said "Indian ships and their crews have already proved their worth in this war. Men from the shores of India together with those whose homes are situated a thousand miles and more from the sea coasts, have come to learn the ways of the sea and how to ensure the safety of their homeland. India's naval forces have expanded to more than twenty times their strength in ships and men since 1939. Many new weapons have been introduced and new branches opened."

HE PLANS THE JUNGLE AIR STRIPS

Meet the man who conjures airstrips out of the jungles, forests and shrubs of forward areas on the Burma front. He is Capt. John Priestman, R.E. of Seddlescomberoad North, St. Keonards.

It is on Capt. Priestman that the responsibility for siting and mapping forward airfields rests. Before he went to Hastings as civil engineer with the Borough Engineer in 1937 he served for a period with the Air Ministry, where the work was somewhat similar.

Now, as a field engineer with a forward airfield engineer unit Capt. Priestman fulfils any order from higher up for the locating and mapping up of an airfield near the firing line. This necessitates a difficult and often dangerous journey over rough ground well into the forward area.

Often superhuman efforts are required to lift vehicles out of the treacherous mud; there are times when an elephant does the trick with one effortless heave.

After the siting comes the order from aerial photographs. When these are pieced together and studied Capt. Priestman returns to the site to carry out a complete survey and reconnaissance. Then the detail is filled in.

First comes a rough sketch of where the various administration and operational areas are to go—explosives, dispersal, domestic, and petrol followed by a siting board. From his small scale map the final stage is a large scale drawing showing every building and site. The finished plan is then handed to the engineer battalion, whose job it is to go forward and put the work in hand.

A Cumbrian from Carlisle, Capt. Priestman whose wife is temporarily living with relatives at Lancaster, has a tricky job locating suitable spots for air fields in the hill jungle terrain of his area. The going is often undecidedly rough but he is happy in the knowledge that this is a job that is right up his street.

MONSOON JUST A SHOWER.

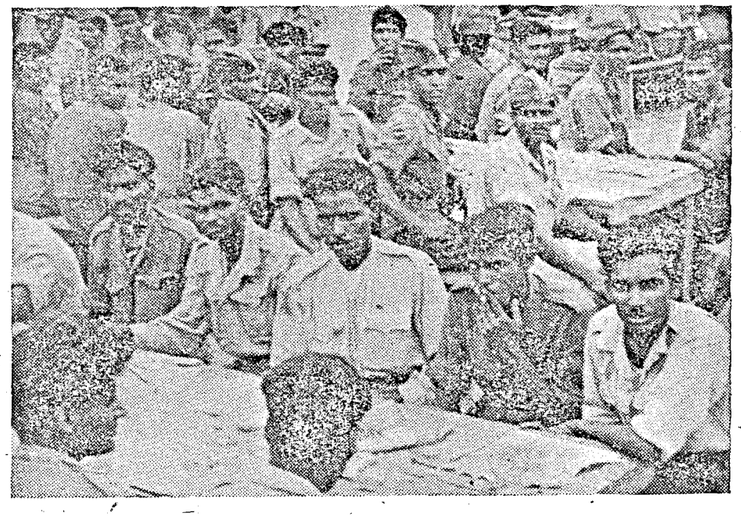
West African Overseas Force troops on the Burma border are now soldiering on through their fifth monsoon, writes a West African force Observer.

Since the beginning of the war they have trained and campaigned through four rainy seasons of the West Coast. Now they have exchanged the rains of West Africa for the rains of Burma.

Thousands of British troops who sailed to India and the Middle East via West Africa experienced for a few days while at anchor the non-stop vertical rain storms of the West Coast and heard the rolling thunder of the "Lion Mountains" of Sierra Leone.

West Africans serving in India and Burma, accustomed to a May–September rainfall of from 120 to 140 inches, are taking the Burma monsoon in their stride.

MADRAS WELCOMES HER WARRIORS FROM BURMA



These two pictures give a slight idea of the welcome given this week in the Moore Pavillion close to Central Station, to a few of the hundreds of South Indian heroes of the great 14th Army just down on leave and before their dispersal to their homes. They are tired but proud and happy. We salute them.

As an officer from Bradford said, kicking the mud of his boots, "Why, they get more rain back home."

Tailpiece.- The Burma border includes the wettest region in the world Cherrapunji, Assam, with an average of 429 inches a year (one year it was 905), West African's wettest is Victoria, British Cameroons, with an average of 400 to 430 (Encyclopædia Britannica Figures).

A 'SIDELIGHT' FROM St. DUNSTAN'S.

Sir Ian Fraser, St. Dunstan's, 9-11, Park Crescent, London, W.I., has written the following letter, dated 5th July 1944, to the Honorary Secretary, Kodaikanal Club.

We are exceedingly grateful to you and the members of the Kodaikanal Club Amateur Dramatic Society for sending us the generous contribution of twenty-eight pounds, sixteen shillings and four pence being the proceeds of an Amateur Dramatic Performance. Will you please accept our warm thanks and, if possible, have it conveyed to all those who helped to collect this sum. Thank you all so much.

I have good accounts of the work being carried out in our Indian Training Centre at Dehra Dun, and the other day I was most interested to meet Sir Firoz Khan Noon, who had visited our Centre shortly before coming to England and was able to give me a first-hand account of the men and work.

Here in England our work is going well. At the end of last month we moved our hospital from Shropshire to considerably further South. During the past year it has become increasingly difficult to get specialists and surgeons to Shropshire to treat the cases with additional disabilities to blindness, so we have now arranged to have two large wards in a big E.M.S. hospital, so that we will be in easy reach of surgeons and doctors who now have less instead of more time to spend in travelling. All our rehabilitation and training work will of course to be carried out in Shropshire.

Three St. Dunstaners from German prison camps were among the party of repatriated prisoners of war who recently arrived in this country. Only one of these men is totally blind. He received his injuries from a German grenade in Sicily. He told us how he was the only Englishman at the German clinic to which he was taken for the first three months of his captivity and of his great joy when one day someone opened the door and an English voice said "Hullo, there." After that he was moved to another hospital where there were a crowd of British lads and one of them helped him to learn braille. Last October twenty-seven blinded prisoners of war repatriated and came to St. Dunstan's and so far as we know there are still a small number of blinded soldiers in Germany. We understand that they are being well looked after by Roman Catholic Sisters and that they are fortunate in having as their British Medical Officer the man who did so much to help the twenty-seven men who were repatriated and came to us last October.

It may interest you to know that we have a Dramatic Society at our Training Centre and every Christmas they produce a play in which all the actors are blind or nearly blind. Some years ago we had Esmond Knight, the actor, at our Officers' house. Knight joined the R.N.V.R. at the outbreak of war and was blinded on the "Prince of Wales" in the action against the "Bismark." Fortunately he has recovered a little sight in his remaining eye which has enabled him to return to the Stage and also to act in a number of films. He has just been playing in an amusing play called "Crisis In Heaven" by Eric Linklater. He manages his very limited vision with amazing skill.

Again thanking you all so much for remembering us and with our good wishes.

The old farmer found an unexploded anti-aircraft shell in his back-yard. Picking it up gingerly, he walked into the road and got on the first bus going to the nearest town.

"What's that you've got on your lap?" asked the conductor as he took his fare.

"Why, that be an unexploded shell, that be," said the farmer. "I be taking 'ee to the police station, for sure."

"Blimey, mate, don't carry it on your lap," said the conductor nervously: "shove it under the seat!"

PROUD NEWS FOR REMOTE VILLAGE

Bholupura, the village in Karauli State which is the home of 20-year old Sepoy Kamal Ram, 8th Punjab Regiment, the Indian Army's tenth V.C., is a tiny collection of mud huts deep in the heart of the Indian countryside near Gangapur, on the B.B.C.I. line 90 miles south-west from Muttra. To reach it I waded across 13 miles of flooded countryside and submerged roads, writes an Indian Army Observer.

Standing in three feet of water which marked the twists and turns of Bholupura's only lane, the hero's aged father, Sheo Chand, was delighted to receive a visitor from the "Lat Sahib." Above the swirl of the floods and the beat of the monsoon rains he shouted an invitation to me to come to his hut.

It was a single-room mud building protected from the worst of the rain by sacking hanging over the windows and the doorway. Scrupulously clean, the room was filled with the delicious smell of the evening meal being cooked. The only illumination was that given by a wick dipped in an earthenware saucer full of oil. Flashes of lightning occasionally lit up the old man's eager face.

"Yes—My son has been given a great inam," he said.

Above the rumble of thunder the hero's father shouted for his two other sons. When they came their wet bodies gleaming in the flickering light, he told them briefly the reason for the visit. When they fully understood they ran excitedly out of the hut to spread the news.

Before long almost the entire male population of the little village, some 50 or 60 men, had gathered outside Sheo Chand's home. With the flood water rushing past their knees and heavy rain drenching them they pressed forward for an opportunity to congratulate their neighbour.

"I have three sons," Sheo Chand told me. "Kamal Singh, my youngest, is 12 years old. One day he too, will join the 8th Punjab Regiment. My eldest son, Kalwar, does most of my work in the fields. I cannot let him join up for he is my livelihood.

"My wife died about ten years ago. How proud she would have been to hear how brave Kamal Ram has been."

AIRMAN'S FATHER WRITES TO MAHARAJA.

Mr. J. H. Mathews, of 44, Virgel street, Grangetown, Cardiff, father of an airman serving in India, has written to the Maharaja of Jodhpur, the famous Indian Prince, to express his appreciation of the hospitality which the Maharaja has given to men of the R.A.F.

"Please permit me to thank you for the great interest you are taking in our grand lads who have the privilege to be in your great country while serving in the R.A.F. for our grand King and Empire" he says. "May you live long and happily to carry on the good work to bring our two countries very much nearer to each other."

SMASHING WAR AT SEA

HOW MARIANAS WERE TAKEN

SUMMARISING the war at sea, Assistant Secretary of the Navy, James V. Forrestal revealed recently that "by far the greatest" number of Japanese ever taken prisoner in one operation were captured when the Americans took Saipan. After this campaign, the battle-worn American troops rested only ten days and then flowed on to the beaches of Tinian Island, where a battle still rages. Fresh United States troops were brought in for the concurrent invasion of Guam. The text of Mr. Forrestal's statement follows:—

ATLANTIC

"*Atlantic.*—The roll of large combatant ships in the Normandy operation is diminishing. Although bombardment of shore positions by Allied naval vessels continues in some sectors, the inward thrust of the Normandy bridgehead has reduced assistance which can be offered by surface ships. Enemy minelaying activity off the bridgehead, coast, frequently by air, continues to call for prompt counter measures by Allied minesweepers. Clashes between small craft continue.

PACIFIC

"*Pacific.*—Guam, Tinian and Saipan are keys which will unlock the door to Japan, the Philippines and the China coast. Their occupation will give us bases aggregating approximately 300 square miles, containing eight airfields and five harbours, within 1,500 miles of Japan and the Philippines. As Admiral King has said, 1,500 miles is the practical radius for fleet operations. We are approximately as far from Japan and the Philippines as the (Panama) Canal Zone is from New Orleans or the Virgin Islands are from New York.

"We have rebounded a long way since December 9, 1941, the day on which Guam fell. We have still a long way to go. From Guam to Tokyo is farther than from Bougainville to Guam—and somewhere along the route the enemy must fight us with all remaining strength.

"Sea, air, land forces, fighting in the Marianas, have demonstrated staying power unparalleled in naval warfare. They now have been on the offensive more than six weeks. A great armada of warships and supply vessels have operated within 550 to 1,500 miles of the enemy home islands without serious injury from Japanese air, surface or submarine forces. On several occasions they have fought closer to the enemy's main base than their own advance base.

"These facts attest to the power and versatility of the fleets under Admiral Nimitz—and to the skill of their commanders. They also show that the United States Navy has achieved the mobility and 'reach' which its commanders have sought since the beginning of the war.

FINE TEAM-WORK

"Resumption of our offensive operations in the Marianas, by our landings on Guam and Tinian with comparative ease, reflects the importance of the defeat we inflicted on the Japanese fleet June 19–20. Knowledge that it was impracticable for the enemy fleet to interfere with our operations made it possible for us to conduct a sustained, systematic, crushing bombardment of the enemy's beach defences with both aircraft and surface craft.

"The success of this softening up is indicated in reports that the landings on Guam were the smoothest conducted to date and went off on schedule to the minute. We took the beaches, the area which all past experience indicated would be the bloodiest spot, with comparatively light losses. Our difficulties have come later in digging the Japanese out of inland gullies and caves.

"It is desired to stress the team-work involved in these operations and the firm control of sea and air which is permitting us to gain and control ground. Army and Navy aircraft first spied out the region, then Navy aircraft and surface ships smashed the Japanese air arm and chased enemy ships not only from the vicinity of the Marianas but also from Volcano and Bonin islands to the north. Then before troops moved ashore, approximately 5,000 air sorties were made on Guam proper between July 10 and 21. Our heaviest day of aerial attack was July 20 when over 1,400 sorties dumped 466 tons of bombs on enemy troops and installations.

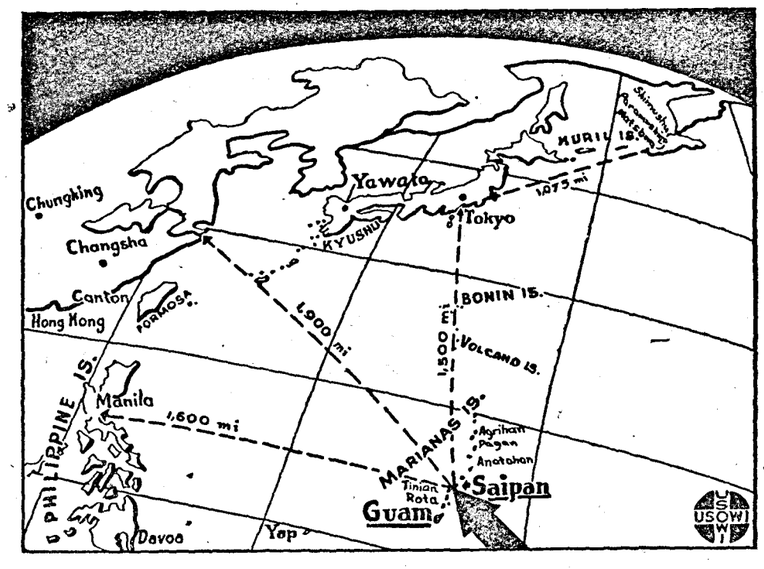
GUAM

"Also aiding in the campaign to take Guam has been the assistance received from General MacArthur. Aircraft of his command have helped by making repeated raids upon enemy air-bases in the Central and Western Carolines. These attacks plus those by land-based Army planes in the Central Pacific have been instrumental in preventing the Japanese from making any important air attack from the flank.

"On Guam our casualties have been moderate, those of the enemy have been heavy. In repulsing only one of the Japanese counter attacks we killed at least 270 of them. This is over three-fourths the number of our own dead in the first two days of the attack.

(*Continued on page 16*)

SAIPAN POINTS THREE WAYS AT JAPAN'S VITALS



Importance of recent capture of Saipan Island is indicated by above USOWI map which shows island's nearness to Japan proper, to the occupied China coast and to the Philippines. With new Saipan bases the American fleet can now lash at any of these targets with perfect ease. Nearby Guam, recently invaded by United States forces, possesses several splendid harbours which will augment the fleet's operational advantages inside Japan's vital home waters. Fresh gains are currently reported on Guam and beachheads were established on Tinian Island.

ESCAPE TO FREE CHINA

By A Chinese Student

LIKE Lisbon in Europe, Shanghai became the international port of Asia after the outburst of the so-called "China Incident." It's called the isolated island of China, since there are no regular communications between Shanghai and Free China. But we students in the International Settlement and French Concession still had the privilege of helping our government by printing leaflets and pamhlets to steady the unsettled minds of people and give them confidence that the final victory will come soon.

But when the Police saw the leaflets they tore them up and delivered the posters to the Japanese authorities. The most daring task was to post a large placard, on which was written "Down with Japan," on the back of a Japanese military truck when it was stopped by the traffic light. When the light changed, what a scene it was, you can imagine, as the truck went speeding along the Nanking Road, the busiest street in Shanghai.

LEAVING SHANGHAI

Then came the outbreak of the so-called Greater East Asia War. In the dawn of December 8, 1941, the Japs marched in to occupy the isolated International Settlement. Under their "Let the Chinese keep China for Japan" policy, they established a system, very similar to the one the Germans are working in France. If anything happened in a certain district, the leading person of this district would be arrested and the whole area blockaded from outside, and neither food nor anything else could be sent in. The barbed wires would not be removed until the unknown person was caught. For this reason, our student patrollers had to kill themselves after carrying out any operation, in order to keep the people in that district from starvation. Life became more and more dangerous to us, for every day saw some students arrested and nothing has been known about them ever since. Every one was planning now to go to Free China but not many had their plans realised, because of their family. So we are a lucky three, Wong, Ming and I.

There are three main routes from Shanghai to Free China, in the north, the central and the south. As north-western China needs youths more urgently, we decided to take the northern route.

JAP LESSONS PROVE USEFUL

It was July 17, as I remember, that we gathered at the northern railway terminus in the early morning. Each of us carried a bag and a suitcase not exceeding fifty pounds apiece, so that we could run with them in emergency. We went separately to the Japanese police for examination. Many a student was horror-stricken by the way and failed in answering the tricky questions the police put and they were put in jail immediately. That time the Japanese lessons we had been forced to learn in the school really did something for us. I bowed and opened my baggage before he said anything and answered him that I'm going to bring my sick brother home. When he asked where and for what I go, the policeman gave me a suspicious look but still he let me pass. There are about ten examinations by the Japanese police along the route. The farther we went the worse the examinations were. We were lucky that we had learned to present things before the police took them. We had learned in Shanghai that most of them like the photos of pretty girls, so we had carried with us dozens of portraits of movie stars. Our fate also depended upon his gambling fortunes. If he had won a lot last night at Mah Jongg, it wouldn't be hard for you to pass. On the other hand, one's suitcase would be the gold mine for his treasure digging. Watch, fountain pen and gold were the most favoured. If one hesitated in saying, "Sure, I'm glad to present it to you," a shower of blows would come as a lesson before he took it.

ROUGH GOING

When arriving at the first main stopping place, a rumour was heard that there were skirmishes in front. We were obliged to change our course by leaving the railway. On the map you will find the distance can be covered by train in five hours, but we had to spend fifteen days in circling around. In that circling, half of it was covered by walking, the baggages were carried by pulling vehicles. The soil of that area is just like the wild west of America; water is scarce, and sand and dust rose high. Under the scorching sun of midsummer, our sweat poured out rapidly and the dust covered it immediately. At first we rubbed it with our towels, but soon the towels were soaked with dust and dried out. We fed on saltless noodles. We slept on the ground upon a bundle of straws provided by the wayside farmers. For four days we walked in that boundless plain with nothing to be seen that's pleasure to the eyes—even a little river or a small jungle. It's the same plain which Pearl Buck had used as the background in her famous novel, "Good Earth." This area is now controlled by the Quisling forces of Wang Ching Wei. They are even worse than the Japs. Things that the Japanese see no worth they will take. An examination is the ransack by three to five men on each case. Each takes what he likes and says that it's brand new, for things brand new are not allowed to be carried. Luckily we had advice that in cases like these, we should talk to the highest officer present, and the stars' portraits again proved effective. But on the noon of the fourth day after leaving the railway, as we arrived at the foremost front of the Quisling peace-talking army, it lost its power. We paid six thousand dollars as our passing fee.

There are about five miles between the two frontiers. It's a land of no governments. Robbers, gangsters and blackmailers were the famous productions of that area. As our baggage was so little, we were fortunately left free of their attentions.

About 4 p.m., when we were running with the coolie who was pulling our baggage vehicle, in horror that anything may happen at any moment in that evil ground, suddenly Wong shouted: "Look, what's this that's flying over the hill, isn't it our national flag? Yes, it is." As our eyes followed his finger point, we all saw it flying in the sunlight, so beautiful over that solitary plain. Forgetting the sore heat and pouring sweat, we ran with all our force towards it, and left the baggage forgotten. As we approached nearer, a soldier behind a tree stopped us for examination. We showed him the small photo of our college diploma which we had hidden all the way. He smiled and said: "Sorry, I have disturbed you, but it's my duty. You must have come a hard way brothers, you are welcome." And he saluted us. I can never describe the excitement we felt that moment, when we saluted him back with our dirty hands. For six years we had been surrounded in that isolated International Settlement by the evils, borne and suffered as a cage of prisoners. At last we were standing on the ground of Free China. Our hearts were so light though our feet were so heavy when we looked back to the place we had come from. We could take a rifle now to go fighting to avenge our brethren who had been killed by the Japs. But our country needs us more than just being a soldier. China needs skilled men more, to build it up, than for defeating Japanese. We had not learned enough to be specialists. We must learn something more before going to work. So west again we came.

Owing to the military transportations there are few motor cars left for civilian uses. Most of those left would surely be looked on as scrap metals in the United States, but, burning charcoal, they still serve. There are no passenger cars in service. All are trucks. Passengers have to sit upon the baggage which is piled even higher than the surrounding boards. As the trucks are so rare more passengers than the normal twenty-four are always carried by one truck.

Now here we are, three freshmen-to-be in the North Western University at Chung Kou, Shansi Province. Stockingless and having only a cotton padded gown as an overcoat, we are sure that our friends in Shanghai would not recognize us if they passed us on the street. We had lost all our clothes in those police examinations. But that means nothing to us, we are in Free China. To our friends, who were obliged to stay in Shanghai, we give our best wishes that they will not have to wait long to see us return. And it's our duty to cut time short.

—*A recent B.B.C. Broadcast.*

IRAQ RAILWAYS IN WARTIME

IN four years of war, the internal communications of the Middle Eastern countries have sometimes bent under the enormous strain placed upon them, but they have never broken. The case of Iraq is typical. This country has not been a battlefield but it has been and still is one of the main arteries of supplies to Russia as well as a junction for the transport of Allied men and munitions and training ground for Allied troops, writes a Baghdad correspondent to the *Manchester Guardian*.

The correspondent adds: In addition to all this Iraq is an ever increasing source of raw materials, in particular, of oil. To meet these accumulating demands, Iraq started off with limited road and river facilities and a small but efficient railway network. This system dated only from the last war and by 1939 amounted to a total of 1,555 kilometres, of which all except the standard gauge stretch linking Baghdad with Turkey and Syria was metre gauge.

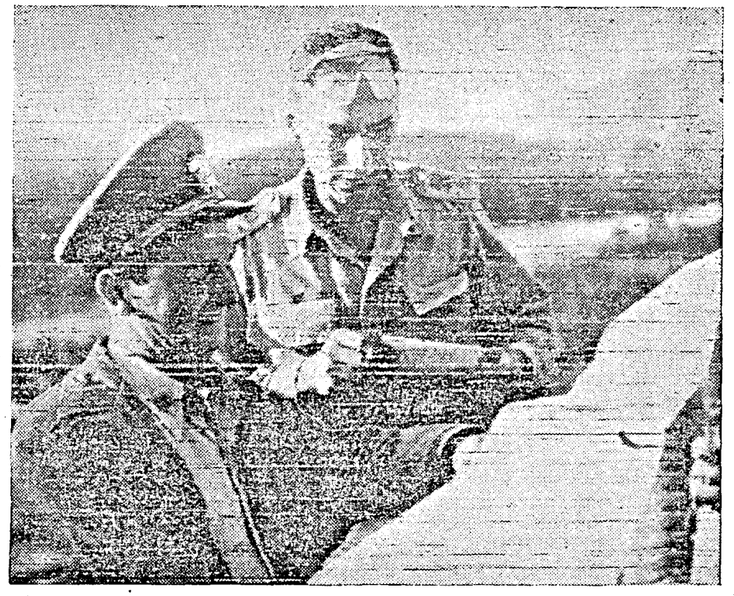
In 1936, an agreement was reached between the Iraq Government and Great Britain by which railways became State-owned with a certain number of Englishmen in some of the most important technical posts.

Although one of the terms of the Anglo-Iraq treaty of 1930 was that all Iraq communications should be available to Britain in time of war, it was not until 1941 that the military situation made any wide demands under this clause necessary. When the need did arise it was unfortunately just at the time of the Rashid Ali disturbances as a result of which the lines between Baghdad and Mosul and Baghdad and Basra had been cut and a large percentage of railway staff throughout the country had left their posts. Their confidence had first of all to be regained before the railways could operate at even normal capacity.

TRAINING SCHOOLS

Then came the problem of working to increased capacity. It was impossible for reinforcements in personnel and additional wagons, stores and locomotives to be immediately brought into the country. To meet urgent needs, the railway administration was obliged to open schools in which Iraqis could be trained as stationmasters, guards, number-takers, signallers, and so on. New stations and crossing points were built up and down the country, and at Basra considerable extension was made to the existing depots and marshalling yards.

When eventually Allied armies did enter the country in large numbers they solved some of the problems by their presence but created others. For example, although the Army was able to supply large numbers of trained railway workers they could speak neither English nor Arabic and eventually the railways were operating with a staff which had almost doubled from 8,000 to 15,000 and which was using Urdu and Polish equally with Arabic and English.



FALL OF LEGHORN.—Two Navy men studying the plan for restoration of the harbour.

The possibilities of confusion in conditions such as these are obvious and it speaks well for the railways that in spite of them they have managed to carry on without a single accident involving serious loss of life. In some ways it is as hard to run a railway which is not in an area of active operations as it is to run one serving a front line—in fact, it may be harder.

Apart from the steadily increasing volume of military traffic, normal civilian needs had as far as possible to be met and in Iraq this involves, among other things, transporting tens of thousands of pilgrims to Kerbela and other holy cities for various Islamic festivals.

HOSPITAL TRAINS

It was not until about a year ago that the possibility of Iraq becoming an active theatre of operations finally faded into the background and much of the railway directorate's energy between the summer of 1941 and the summer of 1943 was necessarily devoted to preparing for this contingency.

Hospital trains were got ready, A.R.P. precautions arranged (including an A.R.P. Officer on each train) and the whole system geared for an emergency. Naturally, not everything has worked smoothly all the time. The climate of Iraq is one of intense heat in summer and often severe cold in winter (the winter of 1941 was the coldest on record).

In December 1941, the line almost came to a standstill. Many of the additional locomotives which eventually were brought into the country to reinforce existing stocks were old and unreliable and even they were not numerous enough to allow for sufficient time to be devoted to servicing. Fairly frequent breakdowns were inevitable, but never as serious in degree or quantity as it would have been reasonable to expect.

Now Iraq's railways are working smoothly, still carrying munitions, still running special troop trains, still providing civilian passengers with such luxuries as air-conditioned coaches and dining cars. Alongside of this should be remembered the extreme youth of the whole system; the first through train from Baghdad to Basra only ran in 1920 and it was not until 1940 that the line between Baghdad and Mosul which linked Iraq finally with Turkey and Europe was completed.

There are moreover still younger and not less important stretches of line than these. Iraq's railways have had, while still adolescent, to meet a crisis which might well have daunted the oldest established organizations. They and the personnel who run them have come through with flying colours.

THE MAKING OF AN AIRFIELD

By A Yorkshire Post Special Correspondent

THE squadron leader said the climb would be well worth-while, so we followed the broad path made by the bull-dozer in its shuttle service up and down a great mound of sand and gravel. It reached high into the interior of a hangar, and from its summit there was an impressive view of purposeful activity on a grand scale, all directed to the one object of producing concrete—thousands of tons of it—for airfield runways.

Dumpers, the modern mechanized counterpart of the wheelbarrow, scurried about between the pile of ballast on which we were standing and another pile, almost as high, of cement, in the task of keeping pace with the seemingly insatiable needs of a huge concrete mixer, one of the largest ever built, which turns out one and a quarter cubic yards of concrete a minute and a thousand tons a day. In another part of the hangar, a bank of smaller mixers was operating at full pressure helping to maintain the output here at an average of 9,000 tons a week.

ALL IN UNIFORM

The men employed on this work were in R.A.F. uniform.

They were members of the R.A.F. Airfield Construction Service, which, although designed primarily for the construction of airfields, overseas and the rapid repair of airfields in this country damaged by enemy action, is also making a big contribution to the general construction programme to supplement the efforts of civilian contractors.

This new branch of the Royal Air Force consists of wings each containing a plant squadron, whose members operate such heavy equipment as scrapers, excavators, trenchers, concrete mixers, rollers and bull-dozers, and a number of construction squadrons.

2,000 YARDS A DAY

They go into operation in sections of various sizes, depending on the nature of the job, and can build an entire airfield from the initial surveying, excavation and levelling of the land to the construction of runways capable of carrying the heaviest types of bombers now in use and of hangars and other buildings, complete with lighting and other service. Under emergency conditions a squadron can lay a 2,000 yards runway in 24 hours.

Work is allocated to the wings by the Air Ministry Works Directorate, and varies from minor repairs to a major constructional development such as I saw at this North-Eastern airfield. Here the wing commander was given the task of constructing three extensive runways capable of standing up to the strain of use by some of our heaviest aircraft. The work, started last November, is 75 per cent complete, and while it has been going ahead the airfield has never been out of service for aircraft.

MILES OF WIRING

The specification for these runways is a several inches thick layer of concrete over the whole surface, and an expanse of 250,000 square yards of it will be needed for the completed job. All necessary lighting for the outer circle and the runways also is being provided, and this involves the laying of 32 miles of wiring and ducts.

When work of this type is tackled by a civilian contractor employees usually have an incentive for increased production in the form of a bonus scheme. The R.A.F. men on this job also have their bonus scheme, but the reward is in the form of extra time off duty. A target figure is set for each section—concrete mixing, trenching, cable laying, drain laying, and so on—and reaching this means the men in the flight concerned have a few extra hours added to their normal period of one day a week off duty.

Cleverly designed target boards, the work of a sergeant in the construction squadron showing Hitler in a series of uncomfortable positions, record the progress of work during the week.

THIRTY PER CENT INCREASE

The squadron leader in charge of this job told me production had increased by 30 per cent as a result of the introduction of the target system. "This branch involves plenty of hard work," he added, "but the men buckle into it well and produce good results."

The majority of the officers in the construction squadrons are civil engineers and the squadrons also contain a good proportion of skilled tradesmen—electricians, bricklayers, carpenters and plumbers. There are also drawing staffs of civil engineering assistants and architectural draughtsmen, so that units, one of whose essential features is a high degree of mobility, can tackle any airfield construction task without outside assistance.

One of the target boards at the airfield I visited states: "We can't all fly—but we can get 'em off the deck." That is the chief task of the Construction Service, and has become increasingly important with the Second Front begun.

AIRPORTS IN PACKAGES

THE development of "packaged airports"—complete installations of hangars, administrative buildings, radio and weather equipment—that can be ordered by number to suit any location or climate, is announced by the Westinghouse Electric Company. The airports can be delivered by air anywhere in the world.

An article appearing in the metropolitan press said that everything needed for an airfield, except the cement and the site, can now be bought in a complete unit. The prefabricated airports include lighting and power plants, buildings ready to be bolted together, communication, fuelling and fire-fighting equipment and all other elements necessary to complete the installation.

The airports come in different sizes—for instance, four types of hangars and 20 terminal buildings are offered—and variations are provided according to geographical, climatic and economic factors and with reference to availability of electric power and fuel supplies.

For fields serving international travellers, there is a special wing containing space for customs and immigration service, medical examination and other necessities of globe flying.

The packaged airports are designed primarily for airlines' feeder lines or remote operations such as oil, lumber or mining camps, but it is possible they will be sold after the war for private flying fields, resorts and so forth.

THE PACIFIC WAR—(*Continued from page* 13).

"The attack on Guam is being made by Army and Marine Corps troops not previously engaged in the Marianas. The attack on Tinian is being made by the same troops that conquered Saipan. After 24 days of the meanest kind of fighting, through cane-fields and caves, followed by ten days of so-called rest, the same men are in shape to conduct a second major assault. This is an outstanding military achievement.

30,000 DEAD JAPS

"Over 5,000 of our wounded on Saipan already have returned to duty with their units and now are participating in the Tinian attack. This reduces our net losses on Saipan by one-third and speaks volumes for both the morale of our troops and effectiveness of the Medical Corps.

"We have buried a total of 29,720 enemy dead on Saipan and war prisoners numbered 1,707. A total of 14,192 civilians have been interned.

"The number of prisoners taken on Saipan is by far the greatest taken in any operations against the Japanese in the war to date. The figure represents about 8 per cent of the military forces involved and is an unusually high proportion. It shows that while many Japanese are still fanatical, some of them are beginning to face realities of their desperate position.

"A summary of our Saipan campaign shows our losses as follows: killed in action, 3,049; wounded in action, 13,049; missing in action, 365."

HOW INDIA'S LATEST V.Cs. WERE WON

V.C. VILLAGE GREETS HERO'S WIDOW.

Kalanaur, near Rohtak, in the Punjab, is the proudest village in India to-day. It is the home of Jamedar Abdul Hafiz, 9th Jat Regiment, who has been posthumously awarded the V.C. for extreme bravery on the Burma front.

Not only is Jamedar Abdul Hafiz India's ninth holder of the V.C., but he is also the first Muslim to be awarded the supreme honour, a fact in which the villagers take special pride.

The news of the award granted to one of Kalanaur's sons spread rapidly through the village, writes an Indian Army Observer. Soon little knots of people were making their way to Jamedar Abdul Hafiz's house, outside which they stood in respectful silence.

His aged mother, Mussammat Hamiden, and his widow, Mussammat Jugri Begum, holding in her arms her three-months-old baby girl, whom the V.C. hero had never seen, were surrounded by relatives quietly congratulating them.

"I have only one child now," Mussammat Jugri Begum said. "Our two sons died while still babies. We have adopted a nephew; I hope he will be as brave as his uncle."

"Two of my husband's brothers are in the army and soon one of my nephews will be old enough to join up. Naturally he will enrol in the 9th Jat Regiment. Just now he is studying for his matriculation."

Jamedar Abdul Hafiz's mother and widow consented to be photographed with the baby. After all the male members of the family had left Mussammat Jugri Begum lifted her burqa for a few seconds. Proudly she raised her head and looked at the camera.

TWO MORE INDIAN V.Cs.

Jamedar and Sepoy from Burma and Italian Fronts

Two more Indian fighting men, a Jamedar and a sepoy, have won the V.C. They are the Indian Army's ninth and tenth V.Cs. of this war.

The ninth Indian Army V.C. is Jamedar Abdul Hafiz, 9th Jat Regiment, a Mussalman Rajput of village Kalanaur, district Rohtak, Punjab, who wins the award posthumosly for gallantry near Imphal. He is the first Muslim to win the V.C. in this war.

The tenth Indian Army V.C. is Sepoy Kamal Ram, 8th Punjab Regiment, a Hindu Ujar of village Bholupura, Karauli State, United Provinces. He wins the award for bravery in Italy. Sepoy Kamal Ram is the 8th Punjab Regiment's second V.C. of this war.

Jamedar Abdul Hafiz led an attack up a steep, bare slope, on which he was mortally wounded. "Prior to the attack he assembled his sections and told them they were invincible," says the citation. "So fierce was the attack, and all his men so inspired by his determination to kill all enemy in sight at whatever cost, that the enemy, who were still in considerable numbers on the position, ran away down the opposite slope.

The complete disregard for his own safety and his determination to capture and hold the position at all costs was an example to all ranks which it would be difficult to equal."

Jamedar Abdul Hafiz was 28 and had been in the army nine years. He leaves a three months old daughter whom he never saw.

Sepoy Kamal Ram single-handed wiped out two machine gun posts, helped destroy another, killed a German officer who was about to shoot him, rushed a house and took ten prisoners.

Sepoy Kamal Ram is aged 20. He has 19 months service.

JAMEDAR'S MERCILESS ATTACK NEAR IMPHAL

Behind the V.C. award to Jamedar Abdul Hafiz is a plain tale of heroism by a man inspired, a man who gave his life for his country on the very border of India, writes an Indian Army Observer. Here is the story, told as it was reported from the battle scene in the hills ten miles north of Imphal.

In the early hours of 6th April, the enemy attacked a standing patrol and took a prominent feature overlooking a company position. Jamedar Abdul Hafiz was ordered to take two sections of his platoon and clear the position.

The artillery had concentrated fire on the feature. At 9-30 a.m. the Jamedar led his men to attack.

He had told them that no Jap could stop them, that however many Japs might be on the feature they would be killed or flee before the Indian's attack. He was a true prophet.

Shouting the battle cry, '*Bolo narae Haideri-ya Ali*', he raced with his men up the hill side, which was quite bare of cover. "It was really a magnificent and heartening sight," said a Major of the battalion afterwards.

The Japs, waiting for them, opened fire with machine-guns and grenades only when they were sure of the range. The Jamedar was wounded in the leg at once. But he went on, seizing a machine-gun by the barrel, while another man killed the gunner.

He took a bren-gun from a wounded man, advanced and killed many of the enemy. He ignored the fire from a machine-gun on another feature on his flank, leading his men on with such ferocity that those Japs who could move fled.

He died, mortally wounded in the chest, on the hill he had taken, still grasping his bren-gun. "Reorganize—I will give covering fire" he shouted, but he could not pull the trigger.

YOUNG V. C. WRITES HOME

Relatives of 20-years-old Sepoy Kamal Ram, 8th Punjab Regiment, the Indian Army's tenth V.C. and the youngest Indian soldier to win the award, have received the first letter from him since the deed on the Italian front for which he has won the decoration.

It is in Hindi, written for him by a comrade in his unit, and is addressed to a friend at his home, the tiny village of Bholupura, Karauli State. It is a simple letter from a soldier son to his aged father, a widower, and is intended for the whole village to read—he sends "Ram Rams" to almost all of them by name.

In the letter Kamal Ram says nothing about his exploits; he comments on the news of the village that he has received from the family and asks them questions about his relatives, their cattle, the crops and the weather.

He mentions that out of his soldier's pay he has sent them monthly contributions which up to July had amounted Rs. 142.

The letter is as follows:—

"I am fit and happy here and wish the same to you. I pray to God to grant you good health always. I duly received your letter and was greatly pleased to read it. I got all the news from it.

"Please always worship Hanuman and do remember him. Also remember Kali Devi. I hope that brother Kalwar does not quarrel. Also write if his wife is not quarrelling. Try to live amicably.

"I am serving with great pleasure. I will never disgrace your name. I am at a great distance from you in the Italian Raj. I have good food and I am quite fat.

"Let me know all the news about the cattle, etc. Write also about the health of Gauthoe. Also tell me about the weather. See that the pandit comes and reads to you from the religious books so as to keep the Gods pleased. Remember Kali Devi.

"I note that bajra was sold for Rs. 110 and that 40 maunds of wheat was produced. I see that ten maunds of grain were yielded, 21 maunds of Arhar was also produced and about Rs. 22 worth of sarson was yielded. I observe the current rates of all articles; I also learnt about the sheep and that the she-buffalo is carrying.

"Please keep the blanket carefully. Give uncle my love. I came to know that you have bought one tola of gold.

"Do write if Sheo Narain is in need of money and say in your letter if there is any kind of trouble. I am thinking a lot about you. Do arrange for Ram Bhan's betrothal.

"Take care of your health. I knew that Uncle Dina had had a very good harvest. This has been a good year. Convey my respects to my relatives with folded hands. Please be kind to me. Please excuse the shortcomings of your Kamal Ram."

WAR DIARY

BRITAIN AND GERMANY

26TH JULY.—Damage and casualties were caused by German flying bombs sent over Southern England including London area. Flying bomb launching sites in Northern France were attacked by R.A.F.

R.A.F. Bombers attacked last night Berlin, Stuttgart, Ruhr, Bremen and Mannheim.

Dr. Goebbels, the newly appointed trustee for Total War Mobilisation, talked to Germans.

27TH JULY.—Last night R.A.F. attacked Hamburg.

28TH JULY.—Flying Fortresses attacked military objectives in Central Germany. Hamburg and Stuttgart were heavily bombed.

29TH JULY.—The Germans sent a large number of robots over Southern England.

More than 1,100 Allied bombers attacked Leuna Synthetic Refinery at Merseburg.

Dr. Goebbels issued his first total mobilisation decree.

30TH JULY.—Allied bombers attacked German long-range robot centres at Pas de Calais area.

Last night R.A.F. aircraft attacked Frantsfurt.

31ST JULY.—The Germans have altered their methods of flying bomb attacks on Southern England and are sending 'salvoes' of flying bombs released simultaneously from a number of launching sites.

More than 1,200 flying fortresses attacked Munich and Augsburg.

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THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE ATLANTIC

26TH JULY.—The United States Foreign Economic Administrator Mr. Leo T. Crowley announced that Lend-lease shipments of munitions and other war supplies reached the record value of 1,159 million dollars in the pre-invasion month of May.

30TH JULY.—Latest official figures issued by the United States War and Navy Departments show a grand total of 11,484,522 persons of both sexes serving in the United States Armed forces. In 1939 the total number serving in the armed forces was 375,296.

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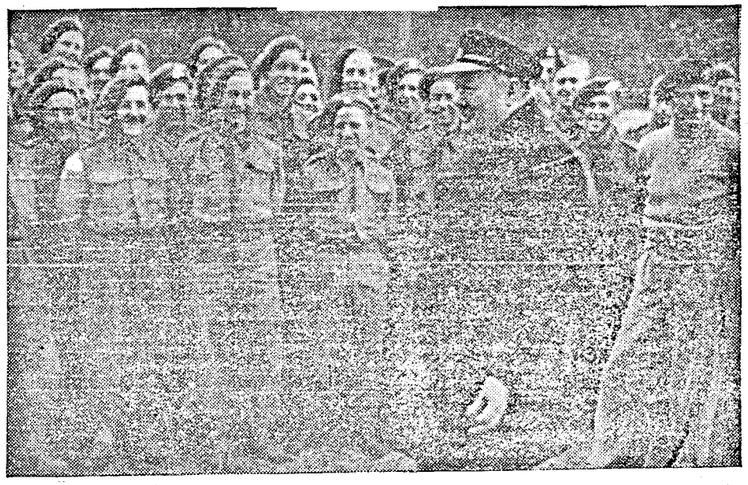
INDIA, BURMA AND CEYLON

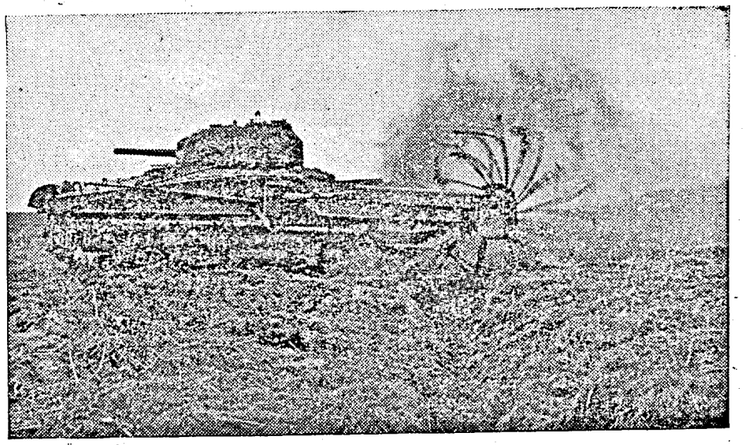
26TH JULY.—Allied assault against the main Japanese defences on the Palel-Tamu Road developed satisfactorily. In the Myitkyina area, minor gains were made.

27TH JULY.—The Japs abandoned Khudei Khulen and Phalbung. Allied troops occupied Laja.

28TH JULY.—Allied attack along the Palel-Tamu Road continued in full strength. Three more positions were taken.



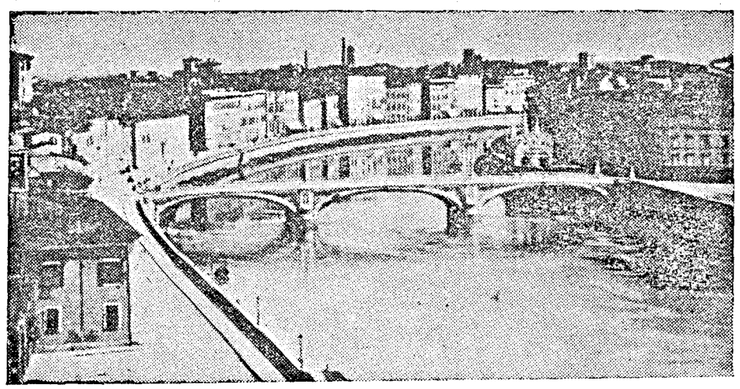
Mr. CHURCHILL'S SECOND VISIT TO NORMANDY.—During his visit to Caen, Mr. Churchill talks with troops who led the D-day assault. General Montgomery is seen on the right.



FIRST PICTURE OF "FLAIL" TANK.—A new type of tank is operating in Normandy. It is known as a flail tank and consists of a tank chassis fitted with a special antimine device. This device projects forward of the tank with chains which whirl like a flail, as the tank advances, exploding any mines in its path.
Picture shows *side view of "Crab" flailing.*

FOR YOUR RADIO DIARY.

MADRAS—AUGUST	8th—9-45 p.m.	Topical Talk.
" "	9th—9-45 p.m.	"G.I." Relay from Delhi.
" "	10th—9-00 p.m.	"A Continent in revolt: Yugoslavia"—By A. D. Mangos.
" "	11th—9-45 p.m.	"World Affairs"—Relayed from B.B.C.
" "	12th—9-45 p.m.	"For the Fighting Forces."
" "	14th—9-00 p.m.	"Radio Blitzkrieg"—By A. A. Nair.
" "	15th—9-45 p.m.	Topical Talk.



PISA—A general view showing the Lungarno Regio (Quay) and the Solferino Bridge.

29TH JULY.—Fourteenth Army troops were only about seven miles from the Burma frontier. On the Tiddim Road, Churachandrapur has been passed.

30TH JULY.—Allied troops were within 8 miles of Tamu.

31ST JULY.—On the Tiddim Road, men of an Indian regiment were established Churachandrapur.

RUSSIA AND FINLAND

26TH JULY.—The Soviet troops captured Narva and Demblin: other places occupied include Narva and Demblin—Other places occupied include Zarechye, Kuprava, Pulavy, Bursztyn, Tysmineica, Nadworna, Delatyn and over 400 localities.

The Polish Cabinet met to discuss Russo-Polish relations.

27TH JULY.—The Russians captured *Lvov, Stanislavov Dvinsk* Rezekne, *Bialystok*, Siauliai, Prudnik, Pankinovo and about 900 localities. Russian troops entered *Brest-Litovsk*.

The Polish Premier Maikolajczyk is in Moscow for settling Russo-Polish affairs. An agreement has been signed by Soviet Government with the Polish Committee of National Liberation.

28TH JULY.—The Russians captured *Brest-Litovsk* Przemysl and Yaroslav. Germans evacuated Kovno. The Soviet forces captured 350 places north of Dvinsk and 60 places south of Dvinsk.

Marshal Stalin met members of the Polish Committee of National Liberation.

29TH JULY.—The Soviet troops have reached to 20 miles near Warsaw. More than 400 places were captured.

30TH JULY.—Three great battles—for driving the Germans from the Baltic States, for the last approaches to East Prussia and for Warsaw reached a climax.

The Soviet troops captured Bielskis, Ryboly Sredinskaya, Raisk Augustovo, Trawlya, Dolina, Bizai and over 600 localities.

Lieut.-Gen. M. C. Dempsey, C.B., D.S.O., M.C., Commander of the British 2nd Army in France.

31ST JULY.—Russian troops were within 6 miles of Warsaw. Soviet forces captured *Kovno*, Siedlice, Minsk-Mazowiecke, Lukow, Mitau and numerous towns and localities.

* * *

ITALY, AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

26TH JULY.—Allied troops were within 8 miles from Florence.

The Italian Prime Minister, Signor Bonomi made a statement on Foreign policy. His Majesty the King George VI visited troops in Italy yesterday.

27TH JULY.—The fall of San Sapolow was imminent.

28TH JULY.—The Allied troops captured San Casciano, Vallecchio, Cambiano and Citerna.

29TH JULY.—The Eighth Army troops were within two miles of Empoli. Polish troops entered Senigallia.

His Majesty the King George VI continued his visits to troops in Italy.

30TH JULY.—Indian troops reached the outskirts of Empoli. It is revealed that two German mines were exploded less than 300 yards from King George at lunch on Friday.

31ST JULY.—Indian divisions entered Pesa and Elsa.

* * *

VICHY, FREE FRANCE AND THE OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

26TH JULY.—Heavy fighting continued in twin-battles south-east of Caen and west of St. Lo. The Americans extended their attacks and entered Montrabot. Marigny and St. Gillee were firmly in American hands.

General Eisenhower paid a visit to Normandy on Tuesday.

The Polish Prime Minister met Mr. Churchill last night and discussed Russo-Polish relations.

Vienna and Linz in Austria were attacked by Allied aircraft.

27TH JULY.—The Allied troops captured Lessay, Periers, Le Kesnil Herman, Canprond and Canisy.

Budapest and Ploesti were raided by Allied aircraft.

LAST MONTH . . .—

JULY 1ST.—Russians captured Borisov.

" 3RD.—Soviet forces captured Minsk.

" 4TH.—Red Army captured Polotsk.

" " —The 14th Army captured Ukhrul.

" 7TH.—Super Fortresses attacked Japan.

" 9TH.—British troops captured Caen.

" 13TH.—Russians captured Vilna.

" 16TH.—The Eighth Army captured Arezzo.

" 20TH.—Attempt on Hitler's life.

" 21ST.—Americans captured Leghorn.

" 23RD.—Russians captured Ostrov.

" 24TH.—The Soviet forces captured Lublin.

" 26TH.—Soviet troops captured Narva.

" 27TH.—The Red Army captured Lovov, Stanislavov, Dvinsk and Bialystok.

" 28TH.—Russians captured Brest-Litovsk.

" 31ST.—Soviet troops captured Kovno.

NEW ZEALAND TROOPS IN ITALY.—Picture shows *a mule team making its way through the mud in a forward position in Italy.*

28TH JULY.—Allied troops captured Tessy-Sur-Vire. United States troops reached St. Denis Le Gast.

29TH JULY.—Allied troops captured Coutances, and St. Jean des Baisants.

30TH JULY.—A new British attack in the Caumont area was launched. Allied forces crossed Sienne in several places. Percy was captured.

The Allied troops captured Percy, Berehal, Gavray, and Ronesy.

31ST JULY.—The Allied troops entered Granville and Avranches. They captured St. German de Ector, Chagney and St. Martin Des Desaces in the Gaumont area. Allied aircraft bombed Bucharest, Ploesti, etc. The Russo-Rumanian peace negotiations broke down.

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THE NEUTRAL COUNTRIES

31ST JULY.—The Swiss Commander-in-Chief, General Henri Gainsan in an announcement says, "We are advising every country that our Alpine passes are sealed—and not only the Alpine passes but every other part of the country protected by the Alps."

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THE FAR EAST

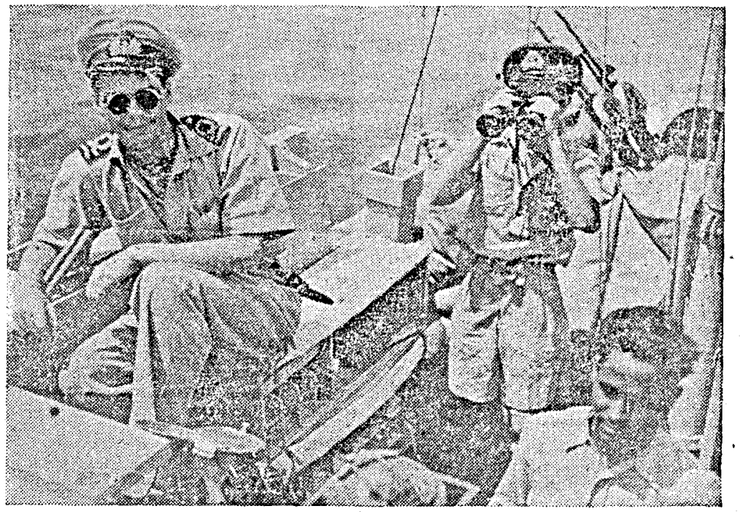
26TH JULY.—Allied aircraft raided Palau and Yap islonds in the Western Carolines.

Allies bombarded Sabang on Tuesday.

27TH JULY.—The American forces have conquered a northern quarter of Tinian island. The Americans dominate the west coast of Guam.

28TH JULY.—It is announced that British submarines operating in the Eastern waters destroyed 24 Jap supply vessels and bombarded Sibolga on the north-east coast of Sumatatra Ross island and Port Blair.

Admiral Mountbatten has sent congratulations to Admiral Sir James Somerville, Commander-in-Chief, Eastern Fleet, on the great success of the Eastern Fleets' operations against Sabang.



IN INDIAN WATERS.—A sharp look-out is kept on the bridge of one of the ships.

29TH JULY.—United States Forces in Guam captured Mount Tenjo, Alutan and Chacha. On Tinian island, marines captured an airfield above the Gurguan point.

Allied aircrat attacked Mukden area. Anshan and Penhishu were also raided. Tienstin and Tangky in occupied areas were also bombed by Allied planes.

30TH JULY.—Lolobata, Galela and Miti, Jap airfields in Halmahera island were attacked by Allied bombers. United States troops captured Orote in Guam. In Tinian, Americans control two-thirds of the island.

31ST JULY.—Allied aircraft attacked military objectives in Wewak, Rabaul, Bougainville and Timor.

Admiral Sir Bruce Fraser has been appointed Commander-in-Chief of the Eastern Fleet in Succession to Admiral Sir James F. Somerville.

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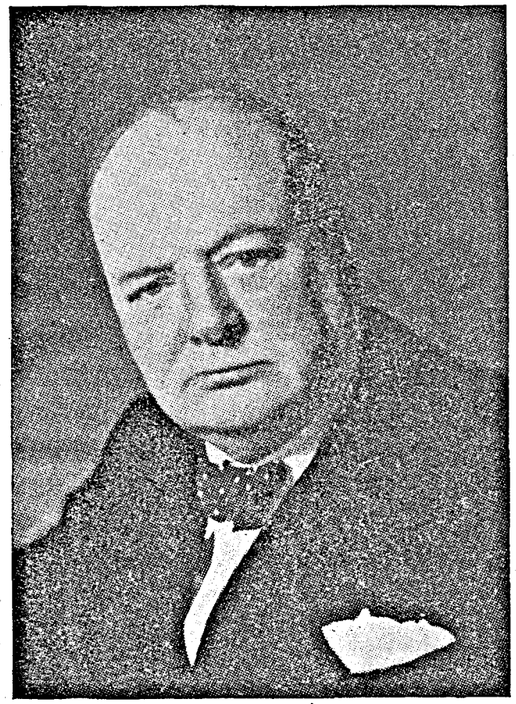
MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. V FRIDAY, AUGUST 11, 1944 No. 49

To The HEROIC FOUR-TEENTH ARMY



THE RIGHT HONOURABLE WINSTON CHURCHILL

The thanks of the country should go out to the British Fourteenth Army, which has done some of the hardest service in this war

The Right Honourable WINSTON CHURCHILL
in London on August 2nd

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[Note.—*The summary of news and comments contained in the* Madras War Review *generally relate to events and statements published till Wednesday, every week.*]

THE VOICE OF DEMOCRACY

In the midst of our victories we remember the dauntless courage of Mr. Winston Churchill whose stirring, rousing words have made history. It may be a far cry from the dark days o Dunkirk, but the same bold spirit faithfully carries on in these brighter days, when fascism is being assaulted by the full weight of the world forces which Mr. Churchill has in all these years rallied round the common cause.

❖

JUNE 1940

We shall fight on the beaches, we shall fight on the landing grounds, we shall fight in the fields and in the streets, we shall fight in the hills.

We are fighting by ourselves alone but we are not fighting for ourselves alone.

❖

JUNE 1941

Let us redouble our exertions and strike with united strength while life and hope remain.

Hitler has no theme, naught but the mania appetite of exploitation.

❖

MARCH 1944

When the signal is given, the whole circle of avenging nations will hurl themselves upon the foe and batter out the life of the cruellest tyranny which has ever sought to bar the progress of mankind.

❖

AUGUST 1944

Not only are the once proud German armies being beaten back on every front, but in their homeland tremendous events have occurred which must shake to their foundations the confidence of the people and the loyalty of the troops. The highest personalities in the German Reich are murdering one another, or trying to, while the avenging armies of the Allies are closing upon them.

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A MASTER STRATEGIST SURVEYS THE WORLD

☆

MR. CHURCHILL'S war report to Parliament last week was remarkable for its stirring optimistic note. The Prime Minister has never hesitated to emphasize the gravity of the war in its various stages. We have travelled very far since the two dark years at the beginning phases of the war, when France fell, and Britain stood alone and angry, only strengthened by the fierce courage of this Man of the Hour who had nothing to offer then but "blood tears and sweat"! During that long and agonizing period Mr. Churchill has been the voice of democracy, the one man who by reason of his vigorous speech, by careful timing of decisive action and inspired with a supreme spirit of duty can now tell the world that the interval between the defeat of Hitler and the defeat of Japan will be shorter than he at one time supposed. When the course of events of our tragic era is written in the perspective of the period of world peace and in less confusing and momentous times, the historian will be able to tell us how much we owe to the remarkable, dauntless courage of Mr. Winston Churchill.

NOBODY can forget that wonderful fighting, rousing call he made to the people of British when he alone challenged the whole armed might of the Nazis and told Hitler that the people of Britain would fight on the beaches, in the villages and lanes of England to defend every inch of their soil. Now there is certainly fighting on beaches, in villages and lanes—not, however, of England, but within the supposedly impregnable fortress of Hitler's Europe. That must be a jarring thought to the little corporal! How utterly contemptuously pitiful, like a plague rat caught in a trap, is the figure of the great Fuehrer who is faced with the ruthless defeat of at least twenty divisions trapped in the Baltic area and of ten divisions left to be massacred or to surrender in Finland, with the chrome and other supplies cut completely off by the cessation of relations with Turkey, and faced with mighty armies on every flank, in the east by Russia, south in Italy by a complex army representing nearly all the Allied nations, and in the west in France by the British and American forces, not to speak of the terror that devastates Germany itself overhead from the skies by day and night.

Time On Our Side

IT is little wonder that his generals revolted. It has been plan against plan, one strategy against another. What Hitler and his Nazis fail to recognize and what they always have failed to recognize, is that boasting and shouting, torturing and oppression, lies and the breaking of promises are not the way to win faith and wars. Wars are still not won by noise and bombast. We have reason to be proud of the patient long-term strategy of the Prime Minister which has now proved to have been correct. It has been a masterly example of strategical timing.

EVEN as Mr. Churchill was speaking, more and more French soil was being liberated by the American and British forces. The great drive southwards across Brittany combined with the spearheads thrusting eastwards and south of Caen was in progress. French soil already liberated is equal in area roughly to Mysore State. The story told by Mr. Churchill of the two years' preparation which went into the invasion of the "fortress" is remarkable in the annals of military history. "We are largely superior to the enemy in men, in armour and in the air," he is now able to say "and I have little doubt that in mobility also, once the front has been opened out." We are able to see that within a week of his admission of our strength the front has opened out and the rapid advances towards Paris which have been made clearly evidence the correctness of his statement regarding Allied mobility and superiority. No wonder General Montgomery, standing and smiling under an apple tree on the soil of France was telling pressmen, "I am satisfied and delighted with the whole thing." We are not likely to hear of Rommel speaking to German pressmen from the open air for some time.

Japan's Defeat Foreshadowed

THE war in the Far East got first mention in the Prime Minister's review. Under the command on sea and land of Admiral Nimitz and General MacArthur we were reminded that not only American but also Australian and New Zealand forces were

fighting in the Pacific and again the note of optimism was noticeable. "I must repeat" Mr. Churchill went on to say. "that I am increasingly pleased to feel that the interval between the defeat of Hitler and the defeat of Japan will be much shorter than I at one time supposed."

THE highway into China is now a stage further in security with the capture of Myitkyina and Tamu. The whole campaign in Burma has been one of heroism and determination by British, Indian and American forces on sea, land and in the air. The building of strategic air strips inside the country, the battles in the jungles, the dangerous secret marches, the landing of troops and supplies by air, the constant fight with malignant natural elements, with fevers, monsoon, mountains, swamps and rivers, over terrain that had frequently never been trodden before, all builds up an overwhelmingly glorious tale of high courage and endurance, of which all the participants from the corners of the earth, from India, China, Britain and the United States may well be proud. No wonder the amazing Fourteenth Army was praised by Mr. Churchill in these memorable words: "The thanks of the country should go out to the British Fourteenth Army, which had done some of the hardest service in this war and must not be forgotten among all the violence and vividness of the larger and nearer events at home." There are many of these men from South India here on leave this week who have come straight down from the Burma front. They were warmly welcomed and entertained in Madras before passing on to their homes. They will be able to tell their families and friends of the great victories they have seen, and the nature of the fighting in the wild country of upper Burma, fighting which has destroyed or defeated in the last three months alone, more than half the enemy garrison in that country.

Churchill's Secret Weapon

THE Allied Army in Italy has taken part of Florence. Here again Indians have proved their valour and heroism, and as on the Burma front, the Madrassi Sappers have played an active and important part with great distinction. This 'extraordinary Army' in Italy, under General Alexander represented, according to Mr. Churchill, a real unity of nations. Even Japanese-American troops were fighting side by side with British, American, Greek, South African, French, Polish, Canadian and of course "playing a most important part are the gallant Indians." This is precisely the kind of unity in action, not the talking kind, to which Sir Sultan Ahmed referred in Madras this week, when he appealed for internal unity in India and said the aim should be for Hindus and Muslims to live together as good neighbours. It is in fighting for larger principles, and forgetting the smaller, selfish and personal interests that not only wars are won, but national and world-wide prosperity and peace are ultimately assured. It is this get-together policy which inspires the British Prime Minister, which has sustained the Allied nations through all these five years of darkness and which is now bearing magnificent fruit in victories for these principles all over the world.

MR. CHURCHILL left himself out of the picture, and while it may be hardly necessary to draw attention to the unique part he has played in rounding the corner to victory, it is perhaps pertinent here to remember that his secret weapon has been his unparalleled devotion to the key principle of uniting together all the freedom loving nations of the world, striving ceaselessly to gather them collectively in one big world-wide unit to stand as one armed brotherhood to crush fascism for ever and to establish a world based on the continuation of that spirit of victorious union.

RUNNING COMMENTARY

Allied Blitz in France The great news of the work is undoubtedly the by-passing of the northern battlefield in Normandy by the American forces and the blitz drive which, starting southwards from Avranches, went right across the Britanny peninsula and is now veering eastwards to Paris. Confidently leaving the British forces to hold the crack S. S. Divisions, and to push them back step by step, the Americans have won a move of great tactical importance, which will still more weaken the already crumbling morale of HITLER's wavering troops. It is hard to understand the grim resistance of the Germans in the Normandy sector unless we assume them to be hand-picked fanatical Nazis, politically faithful to the HITLER creed. But mile by mile in that terrible battlefield the British Army is showing its ability to push on and is teaching these proud devotees of HITLER a lesson which their leader at least will learn to his cost. The whole purpose of the German defence plans was obviously to bring the Allies to a complete standstill. The relatively and geographically small advances made by the British Armies therefore, should not be judged by their apparent territorial extent, but by the fact that they are inroads against the mightiest pressure that the German military machine can bring to bear on what it recognises as a front of tremendously vital importance.

* * *

The crushing of Germany's Military Machine The Allies have gained their strategical point, and their promised mobility has now been seen as the American tanks rumble on the road to Paris. Now that the Canadians have broken through south of the Caen sector we may also expect to hear of further speedy gains. Simultaneously with the advancing liberating armies we hear reports of the French Forces of the Interior, the underground army of General DE GAULE, of trains derailed, electric pylons destroyed and many other encouraging acts of brave French patriots whose activities also, we may believe, are in accord with the general United Nations plan in France. "At this very moment" said General DE GAULE is a broadcast on 7th August, "French Forces of the Interior are locked in battle in the Central massif in the south-west, in the Alps, in the Jura, in Franche Conte, in the Vosges, in the Ardennes, and elsewhere. These battles form an integral part of the general fight. In the eastern Rhone more than 10,000 Germans have fallen at the hands of our troops in two months." He concluded "The hour of revenge has come."

Is it any wonder that HITLER screams for loyalty and invents courts of so-called "honour" to vindicate his mad mistakes? The events in France have upset his plans for the defence of Europe, as his European stronghold, that infamous fortress, is being irretrievably breached, and hysterically he therefore tries his old tricks of announcing himself as the divinely-inspired judge and jury. Such tricks can mean only more confusion in Germany and more successes for the Allies who are all out to smash completely the German military machine.

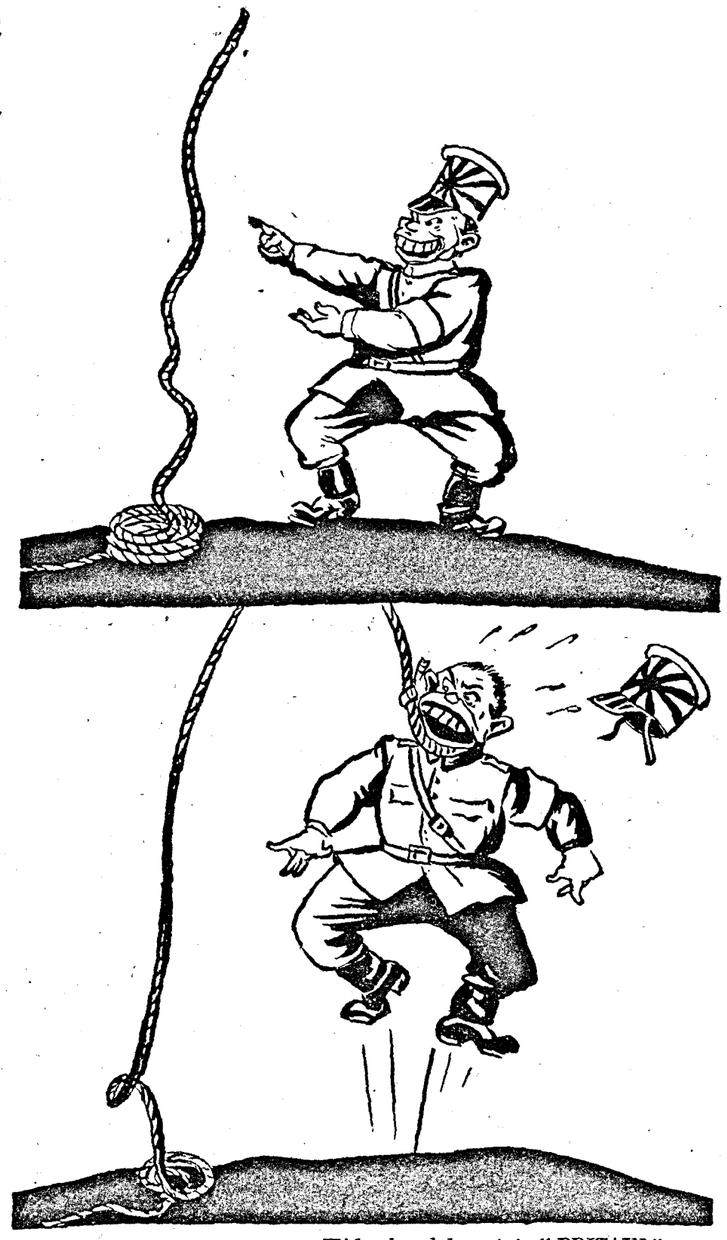
* * *

Recent Successes in Burma The unavoidable obscurity which geography and strategy made inevitable in dealing with the Burma theatre of war is at last dispersing as the various activities of the Armies and Air Forces, British, American and Chinese, are reported from day to day in repeated successes. Like the parts of a jigsaw puzzle, these communiques fit together gradually forming a terrific picture, an intricate panorama which reveals nothing but disaster for the Japanese despoilers and exploiters of that ravaged country.

In the exchange of letters between Air Chief Marshal PEIRSE and General Sir GEORGE GIFFARD, General Officer Commander-in-Chief, 11th Army Group, we get one large chapter of the epic struggle which has been fought in the last three months. The figures revealed show how superior we have been in dealing with the self-styled king of the jungle. Half of the Japanese garrison in Burma have been put out of action, Japanese casualties being 50,840 killed and wounded by front line troops, excluding losses incurred through bombing, shell fire, jungle diseases and lack of food. No wonder Air Chief Marshal PEIRSE states that the Armies in the Imphal sector have inflicted what is probably the most costly reverse which the Japanese Army has yet suffered!

Speaking for the Army, General Sir GEORGE GIFFARD concluded his letter in reply to the Air Chief Marshal with these important words: "I know I speak for the whole army group when I say that this victory is due not to the army alone, but to the united team work of the land and air forces of the South-East Asia Command. It is this team work which will bring the Japanese to their knees."

THE ROPER TRICKED!



With acknowledgments to "BRITAIN".

A Triumph of Co-ordination These are vital words. It was team work which made it possible for our brave Chindits to get supplies sent by air in the most appalling weather conditions in the world. It was team work which made pockets and air strips in the very heart of occupied Burma, splitting up the Japanese forces, deploying them and chasing them all over the jungles and valleys, through the storm of the monsoon in the last three months, without respite, until one shelter after another had to be given up, until no Japanese felt safe in Upper Burma. It has been team work which has liberated Myitkyina at last and it will be team work going on unabated, unceasingly, which will eventually clear the Burma Road to China. Only team work on the largest possible scale can invent and discover new ways of warfare. The exciting, hazardous operations of R.A.F. flying boats traversing the mountain barriers to land safely on Lake Indawgi—a lake few people had ever heard of, far in the interior of Burma, about 30 miles south of Mogaung,—is another thrilling episode in the great epic.

So too is the account of transporting a five ton howitzer by air. Carried by U.S.A. aircraft it is manned by a Chinese crew. The dominant note which cannot fail to strike the observer of all the numerous and successful activities in this most difficult and intricate theatre of war is one of co-ordinated effort.

It would be a mistake, however, to consider the Burma campaign to be nearly over. Although undoubtedly the Japanese have suffered a terrific defeat it is because of two factors; their lack of air support and their lack of good generalship. One Japanese officer who was captured said he was fed up with the war because he had received no orders for the last ten days. Here there is no sign of co-ordination of effort, no speck of that team work which drives the Allied Armies on with crushing effect on the enemy. But the enemy is still strong in Burma—in fact on the entire East Asiatic mainland—which just means that the Allied team will have to buckle to and go to it with renewed and heavier vigour. While we march to victory there is no time for relaxation.

* * *

"Tearing the Guts out of the German Army" Mr. CHURCHILL as usual graphically described with apt words the plight of the Germans when he spoke of the Russians' job as that of "tearing the guts out of the German Army." It is a rout of the Reichswehr and the Russians are now the first of the Allies to fight on Germany's home soil, their daring swerve across into East Prussia giving them that pleasurable priority. This move, of course, is fine strategy for it means cutting off the 20 divisions or more which HITLER is said to have in the Baltic Republics. The guts are certainly being torn, in fact they are being ripped wide open, and no amount of intuitional surgery will be able to prevent German militarism from bleeding to death. A major portion of Poland has now been liberated by the victorious Soviet Armies, and it now remains for Marshal STALIN and his advisors to show their ability in the perhaps more difficult political and diplomatic sphere in coming to a happy agreement with the Polish Government. There is no reason to doubt that this will be done, for STALIN is a man of slow decisions and he has given his word that the Russians do not seek territorial advantages but only desire to free the peoples of the liberated countries from the horrors of fascism. The stupidity of Finland will not be such an easy matter to settle and there too in that tragic land of lakes and forests, another ten German divisions are in danger of annihilation.

* * *

The Battle of the Arno In Italy battle rages where the high renaissance broughtforth its finest treasures, in and around the lovely city of Florence. It is typical of German barbarism to have made a battle field of the city which has for hundreds of years been the centre of cultural Italy. Yet in other respects it is possible to see how what appears to us as tragedy becomes an imperative necessity to Nazi military plans. For Florence taken means a German retreat into the Appenines where the German armies could be blitzed from the air and they would also have to leave behind all their heavy equipment. It will be of interest to all students of large-scale strategy to see how the capture of Florence becomes a key point in the great European struggle.

REMEMBERED PLACES

(*By* R.G.)

Men of misty Britain or India's rice-plains
Thrusting forward in tanks and lorries
Or making a slow way afoot
Have reached now beyond Gubbio
fanned out on its hillside,
Beyond Fermo perched on its hill-top:
And in the smiling Appenine valley
Or beside the glitter of the Adriatic
See with unaccustomed eyes
the familiar scenes of my childhood
(But you, my brother, who then shared
Sun-lounging mornings and figs off the tree
and unhappy greed of water-melon,
You will not see it again, halted
for ever in Tunisia)—

Easy peasants with their placid oxen
Pass or halt and ponder the movement
of clotted column on roads
Where formerly single waggons creaked
(gaily painted and patterned, fit for
hard work
but looking like holiday)—
On the vines slung from elm to elm
The grapes ripen secretly under a dust mantle
Lucerne's green carpet and tasselled maize
Furnish out, with the sky for canopy,
A gay mansion for sleep and dream.
But up the road—how many miles ?—
The roar and rattle summon on to battle,
not rest, not yet.

Turkey's fateful decision That miserable rat, VON PAPEN, has at last had to run away from Turkey, now that this key State to south-eastern Europe has at last decided to come over on the Allied side. It is just possible, as Mr. WICKHAM STEED suggested in his last talk, that Papen will make a stopover in Switzerland, rather than get a hiding from HITLER, especially now HITLER is in an impetuous nasty mood, swiping at the generals and dancing with fury because his military executive do not see the wisdom of his power-crazy ambitions. For the loss of Turkey to the German war machine is a serious matter, both economically and strategically. Turkish chrome especially will reduce the output of Germany's already long-suffering and under-replenished factories which have been crippled so badly by Allied bombing.

* * *

Death of President Quezon of the Philippines It is sad to record the death of the fighting President of the Republic of the Philippines, DON M. QUEZON, who passed away at the age of 60 in New York on August 2. Within a year or so he might have seen the liberation of his beloved country. A fervent nationalist, he collaborated with the United States in the transition stage of self-government and covered himself with glory in the great seige of Corregidor, from which he made a last minute escape from the Japanese. General MACARTHUR has described him as a great fighter, courageous and plucky, who rallied his people around him in the common cause. He is succeeded by the Vice-President, DON SERGIO OSMENA, who it is hoped will carry on the splendid task handed down to him by his predecessor.

GURKHAS HAPPY IN ITALIAN HILLS

As Gurkha troops of a famous Indian Division with the Eighth Army advance across Arezzo into the Alpi Di Poti hills that rise about 3,000 feet north of the main highway they are reminded of their own homeland, writes an Indian Army Observer.

The Maharaja of Kashmir, who recently visited this area, commented on its resemblance to the low foothills of the Himalayas. But the short and stocky troops who advance an average of 6,000 yards in 24 hours, asked to make a comparison, proudly say: "These hills are too small".

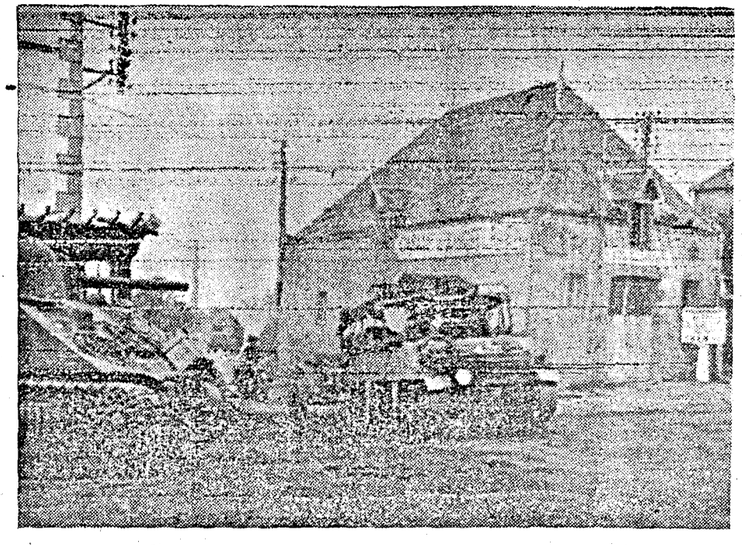
Perhaps when they fight on the Alps they will call them small too. But they go up and down the hills with the same ease as in their native Nepal.

"DELIGHTED WITH THE WHOLE THING"

"The progress is excellent. We are hitting the Hun a good crack. It is all going very well. I am satisfied and delighted with the whole thing. We have taken a lot of prisoners of war and the allied total is now approaching 100,000—quite apart from those we have written off."

GENERAL MONTGOMERY *in a statement in the field in France.*

THE GREAT NORMANDY DRIVE



BRITISH ATTACK SOUTH OF CAUMONT.—A Sherman tank stands on guard in a recently captured village, while carriers and infantry pass through.

MADRAS WELCOMES VETERANS FROM BURMA

SOUTH INDIAN LADS OF 14th ARMY WHO HAVE MADE HISTORY

MADRAS again gave a grand welcome this week to nearly 1,000 14th Army South Indian heroes from Burma. The scene at Central Station was one of great rejoicing as two fully packed trains came in. A shout of joy roared through the station completely drowning the welsoming music from loud-speakers. The troops were met by Brig. MacGregor, Sub-Area Commander. Soon the patform was crowded with happy men glad to be once again in their native South India. While a great many were already home, having their residences in or near Madras, at least half of the men were from such places as Trichinopoly, Madura and Tinnevelly, Trivandrum, Cochin, North Malabar, Bangalore, etc.

These happy warriors went marching under the bunting, flags and a banner "Madras Welcome its Heroes". Most of them must have been glad to be stretching their legs after their long train journey, but tired as they were, they quickly picked up their packs and marched off to the Rest Camp nearby at Moore Pavilion. Here they arranged themselves according to their districts, those for Malabar, for example, placing their belongings together.

LADY HOPE HANDS ROUND REFRESHMENTS

A scene of great happiness was next witnessed. The Indian Hospitality Committee was waiting to give them their first meal prepared in the South Indian fashion. This welcome refreshment and the entertainment that followed was provided by the Piece-goods Merchants' Association of Madras. The tables were arranged in long rows and were loaded with all sorts of good things—Tired, travel-stained and begrimed men were quickly eating heartily, tasting once again the homely fare which they had not relished for many a long day in the jungles of Burma.

Prominent amongst the helpers was the energetic figure of Her Excellency Lady Hope and her busy band of hospitality workers, carrying round appetising South Indian curries, sweets and lemonade.

With Mr. Narandas J. Dutia, the President of the Piece-goods Merchants' Association, I chatted with several of the men. Most of them looked very fit in spite of all they had been through and smiles and expressions of joy lit up their faces at being home on leave. I mistook one man for a Sikh but he explained that his long black beard was only due to the fact that water was too precious for shaving in the jungle. Most of the men were under thirty while one small lad told me he was seventeen—yet he had experienced heavy fighting for two years in Burma.

GOVERNOR WISHES THEM LUCK

These warriors have come from various parts of the Burma Front, trekking through the jungle until they reached the famous Manipur road. They wore all kinds of battle dress and many of them still had with them deadly looking knives and daggers. Without exception all had that warrior look of fierce determination which is easily recognizable as a mark of the jungle fighter. Meanwhile they were listening again to Tamil music and receiving from the hands of South Indian ladies food and cigarettes and breathing once again the welcome air of the Tamil Nad.

His Excellency Sir Arthur Hope, Governor of Madras, arrived and was loudly cheered when he spoke to this band of a thousand veterans. "You are very welcome guests indeed", said His Excellency, "and we do appreciate and honour you for all you have done. We have heard from all sides what you have done and we hope you will find your families in good heart". He added that he hoped they would induce others in their villages to join the various units of the army and assured them that while they were away fighting to make the world a happier one, their wives and families would be looked after. "The best of luck to you all!" concluded His Excellency. A programme of music and other items of entertainment followed.

General Lindsell's Thanks for Donation for 14th Army Men on leave.

H. E. Sir Arthur Hope, Governor of Madras has received the following letter from General W. G. Lindsell:—

As the Commander-In-Chief is absent from Delhi, I am writing to thank you for your generous donation from your War Purposes Fund, to be expended on leave details ex-14th Army.

I know how much your generosity will be appreciated and that Southern Army will see that the money is used to the very best purpose.

I am letting General Giffard know how generous you have been.

RECEPTION OF FOURTEENTH ARMY SOLDIERS AT CHITTOOR.

Fourteenth Army soldiers were given a warm welcome by the Secretary of the Chittoor District Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen Board last week. These were some of the men who were also welcomed and given refreshments and entertainments by the Indian Hospitality Committee in Madras. They were very happy on their arrival in Chittoor with the welcome extended to them.

JATS WIN BATTLE OF WORDS

A battalion of the 9th Jat Regiment on the Burma front has not only outfought the Japs but has also outwitted them in battles of words, writes an Indian Army Observer.

At the height of one engagement volleys of abuse in Urdu floated over from some Jap bunkers. The amused Jats gathered that the Japs approved neither of them nor their forbears.

The stout-hearted and silver-tongued Jats effectively replied to the verbal onslaught. The ignorance they displayed on such elementary facts as the divine ancestry of the Japs and the principles of "bushido" so stunned the enemy that they gave no reply to the bursts of rifle and machine-gun fire which accompanied the Jats' outrageous answer.

THE KING SEES INDIAN TROOPS IN ACTION

FOR the first time in this war His Majesty the King Emperor has watched his Indian troops in action.

He appeared among troops of a famous Indian Division just after some of their successful onward thrusts. The secret was well kept but for two hours before his arrival the roads were lined with Madrassis, Sikhs, Mahrattas, Punjabis, Gurkhas and British troops.

This was front line stuff, writes an Indian Army Observer. From one O.P. on the walls of Arezzo the King could see the fierce fighting of men of the 12th Frontier Force Regiment. It seemed hardly possible that there in the battle for the hills a monarch was watching his troops.

British and Indian soldiers sent up burst after burst of cheering as the King watched his artillery pounding the opposite slopes. He seized binoculars to get a better view; I thought of those similar walls of Indian cities long ago from which kings, encased in armour, had as anxiously watched the battles of their troops on the plains below.

In Umbertide, the first town to fall to the Division in their push, the King met Jem. Lal Bahadur Rana, Naik Kharakh Bahadur and Jemadar Satara Khan. He drove down the road in an open car dressed informally in khaki shorts and shirt, jumped out of the car and shook hands with the two jemadars, both of whom had won the M.C., and the Naik, who recently won the M.M.

As he got back on to the car the King pulled out two or three blankets, thumped them down on the hood at the back of the car and sat on top so that the troops could have a better view. He called up an officer and two men whom he seemed to know, to ask them where they had been since he last saw them, and then the car went down the road through the ranks of madly cheering troops.

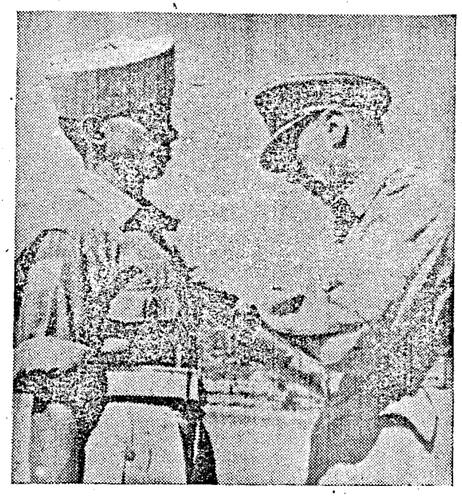
With General Sir Oliver Leese, Commander of the Eighth Army, the King stood in an artillery observation post on the ancient walls of Arezzo town and watched the gunners smack shell after shell on a hill-top to the north. He travelled along the road that the Madrassi sappers had made and stopped in the sunbaked square of battered Palazzo Del Pero, where he talked to Indian and British troops about their fighting at Cassino.

Jem. Man Bahadur Adhikari, of Lam Un, Nepal told His Majesty how he stayed for ten days on Hangman's Hill Cpl. W. Chapman of a Southern Counties regiment, and medical Naik Muhammed Yusuf, I.O.M., I.D.S.M., of Morabad, hear Rawalpindi, were presented to him.

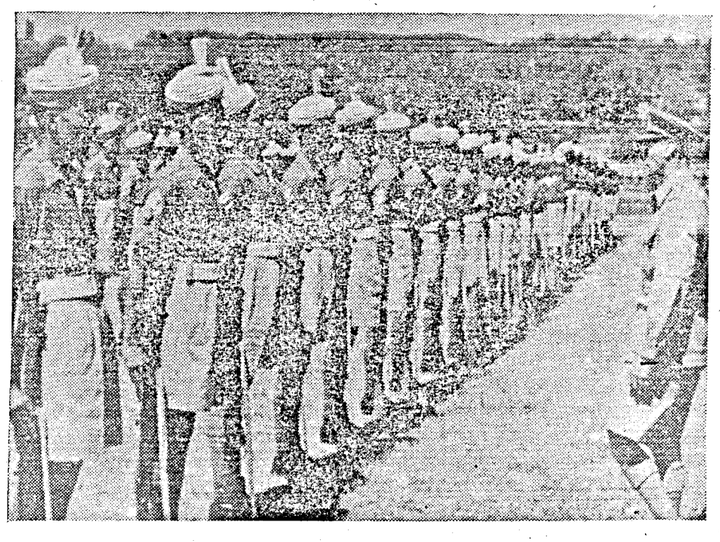
His drive through the cheering troops took the King past Ack Ack sites and recovery wagons and shops of the I.E.M.E., Gurkha sentries had their kukris at the carry.

The King, with Generals Alexander, Clark, and Leese, made camp and slept within range of enemy shells.

His Majesty decorates Major John Keefer Mahony, Westminster Regiment, with the Victoria Cross, during his inspection of Canadian troops serving in Italy.



His Majesty pinning the Victoria Cross on the breast of Sepoy Kamal Ram.



His Majesty inspecting Indian troops during his visit to the Allied armies in Italy.

"Two caravans for his use had been dragged to the brow of a hill," said an Eighth Army news reporter. "As I walked to them through the tangled blackberry brambles I picked up a shining silver of steel from a shell which had landed not far away."

The King saw all the difficulties of the campaign and from shattered airfield to jeep trail, rode in car and jeep to see for himself. Smiling, saluting and waving his stick, he joined in the enthusiasm of his men.

THE RUSSIAN OFFENSIVE

The above map reveals the remarkable progress made by the Russians this week.

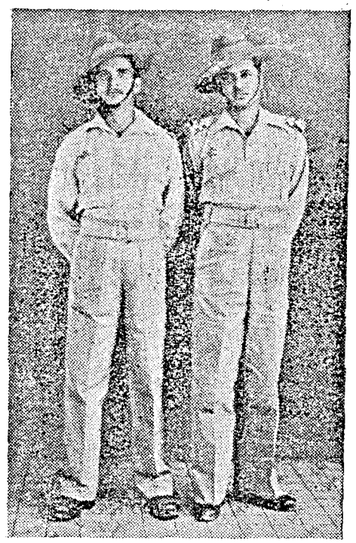
CHURCHILL'S PROMISE

In reply to a message from His Excellency the Viceroy conveying the congratulations of the National Defence Council of India on the signal progress of the army in Normandy and in Italy in which Indian divisions are playing a distinguished part, the following message was received on August 7, from Mr. Churchill !—

" Please convey my thanks to National Defence Council. The fight will still be hard but great dangers have been surmounted. His Majesty's Government thank all those who stood unshaken in the dark days which are past and gratefully acknowledge the splendid deeds of India's soldiers and the good work of all who have sustained our common war effort. We are resolved to keep the horrors of Japanese invasion away from the peoples of India."

RUSSIAN HONOURS FOR INDIAN SOLDIERS

ORDER OF RED STAR FOR BANGALORE SUBEDAR



SUBEDAR NARAYAN RAO NIKKAM OF BANGALORE (right) *AND HAVILDAR GAJENDRA SINGH.—Both of R.I.A.S.C., who were decorated at the Soviet Embassy, Teheran, with the Order of the Red Star for distinguished services in carrying supplies to Russia.*

AT an impressive ceremoney at the Soviet Embassy at Teheran the Soviet Ambassador, M. Maximov, on behalf of the Presidium of the Supreme Council of the U.S.S.R., presented Russian decorations to officers and men of the British and Indian armies for distinguished service in the transportation of arms, material and food to Russia.

The Order of the Red Star was presented to Subedar Narayan Rao Nikkam, village Nerala Hatti, tehsil Kankanhalli, district Bangalore, and Havildar Gajendra Singh, of village Baraloo, tehsil Shor, district Almora, who are serving in General Transport Companies of the R.I.A.S.C.

Two British Officers of the R.I.A.S.C. who also received decorations were Lieut.-Col. N. G. Hunter, Order of Patriotic War (I Class) and Capt. A. G. Wallis, Order of the Red Star. Lieut.-Col. W. F. B. Higman, Indian Engineers, and Lieut.-Col. H. A. Davis, O.B.E., Royal Engineers, also received the Order of Patriotic War.

In addition, two generals, two brigadiers, two colonels and six lieutenant-colonels also received Russian decorations.

Subedar Nikkam and Havildar Gajendra Singh were personally congratulated by the Soviet Ambassador and Lieut.-Gen. Sir Arthur Smith, Commander-in-Chief, Persia and Iraq Command.

M. Maximov acknowledged the help given to the Red Army. " It again emphasises the military co-operation of our peoples, not only in the field of battle but also in those quarters which influence the success of operations in the field against our common enemy, Hitlerite Germany," he said.

The British Charge D'Affaires, Mr. D. W. Lascelles, warmly thanked the Russian Ambassador on behalf of the British and Indian forces for the honour bestowed on them.

Lieut.-Gen. Sir Arthur Smith, on behalf of the British and Indian and other ranks who had been honoured, said, " Those of us who have been decorated realise that we are but the representatives of the many British and Indian soldiers who have done loyal and steady work which, though not in the limelight, has been the backbone of our aid to Russia." He was particularly glad that Indian soldiers had been honoured.

IT'S A WORLD WAR ALL RIGHT !

The Under Secretary for War says British troops have been engaged on 22 fronts during this war. What are these fronts ?—

1 Norway.	11 Tunisia.
2 France and Belgium.	12 Sicily.
3 South of Somme.	13 Italy.
4 East Africa (Somaliland).	14 Anzio.
5 N.E.Africa (Eritrea and Sudan).	15 Madagascar.
6 Irak.	16 Hong Kong.
7 Syria.	17 Singapore.
8 Western Desert.	18 Burma South.
9 Greece.	19 Burma (Arakan).
10 Crete.	20 Burma (Manipur).
	21 Ceylon.
	22 Indian Frontier.

SESHIAH, THE CURIOUS VILLAGER

(*By* R.G.)

CANTO III—*Instalment IV*

Now men in lakhs were swiftly wanted,
And officers skilful and undaunted :
And money must be raised in lakhs
By loan and gift (not yet by tax)
To arm those men with modern weapons
Which cost a good deal more than three pence.
While Britain paid out every day
Some twenty crores, and still would pay,
This country had not yet begun
To pay out in a day even one
Single crore : and in this matter,
Though prodigal of idle chatter
And promises men's minds to ravish,
And of excuses even lavish,
They had not given even thought
To how a modern war is fought.
" Now is the time " the wise Panjandrum said " to save your motherland :
Your young men to the Army send,
Your money freely give and lend,
The soil of India to defend."

He spoke, and waited for a stream
Of givers to approach—fond dream !
As though he'd shocked or spoken vapidly,
The hearers all dispersed so rapidly
You would have thought that they were hunted.
By empty chair and bench confronted
The Chairman sat down with a sigh.
Seshiah all alone drew nigh
And taking out his meagre cash
(Gesture magnificent though rash,
Since he might not obtain for weeks
Betel to comfort his old cheeks)
Deposited upon the table
His gift, as much as he was able.

MOSCOW WARNS THE GERMANS

This warning to the German people was broadcast in German by the Moscow Radio.

" Hitler and the other criminals know that they have lost the war and nothing can save them. The front in the East is broken, the Red Army is marching towards Germany. In the west and the South, Hitlerite-occupied countries are being liberated by the British and American Allies.

" The doom of Hitler's regime is here. Germany has lost the war. Hitler can prolong the slaughter for some weeks or months. He has decided to take Germany with him to the unsacred grave he will find soon somewhere.

" But the German people want to live, the German people want to exist, to be free and happy again. But the Germans must not overlook that to be free and happy again they will need the sympathy and help of the victors.

" This is now in the balance. The Germans will need reconciliation with the great and small nations of Europe and the world.

" The world has begun to generalise There is now little difference made between Nazis and Germans. This difference will soon disappear completely.

" If Hitler is not overthrown now by the Germans themselves, the German nation may miss the last, the very last chance of reconciliation of forgiveness, even of mercy. And then God have mercy on Germans."

MADRASSI SAPPERS IN ITALY

FINE WORK BY BANGALORE AND CHITTOOR MEN

Gurkha-manned, machine-gun jeeps and British tanks carrying Madrassi sappers are patrolling along route 73 from Palazzo Del Pero towards Monterchi, writes an Indian Army Observer from the Italian front. They are going through territory similar to the Western Ghat country of India.

The Madrassis sweep the road for mines. A bulldozer driven by Sapper Bengalese, of Bangalore City, repaired three demolished bridges before the force made contact with the enemy.

With Gurkhas and tanks waiting on the road behind him the Bangalore sapper was bulldozing to repair the fourth block on the road when he came under heavy shell fire. Bengalese continued his work unhurried; he was wounded in the arm by a shell splinter but insisted on trying to carry on until ordered from the area by an officer.

British and Gurkha troops are full of admiration for these South Indian sappers, who cheerfully lift mines and clear roads in the face of stiff hazards.

Sapper Viraswami, of village Turinjipalli, tehsil Chittoor, carved a track from the hillside with his bulldozer for the tanks of a British cavalry regiment working with an Indian Division.

SEPOY WHO VOLUNTEERED AFTER FIRST ACTION

Sepoy Kamal Ram, the Indian Army's tenth V.C. of World War II, had just taken part in the crossing of the river Pari, his first action, when he won the award, writes an Indian Army Observer.

On 12th May heavy machine-gun fire from four posts held up his company. It was essential that the guns should be silenced; a bridge-head had to be secured at all costs.

Kamal Ram volunteered to deal with the right-hand post. Rifle in hand he crawled through the wire to a flank, attacked the post alone, shot the gunner and bayoneted the No. 2 on the gun. A German officer appeared from a trench with pistol levelled but Kamal Ram shot him dead.

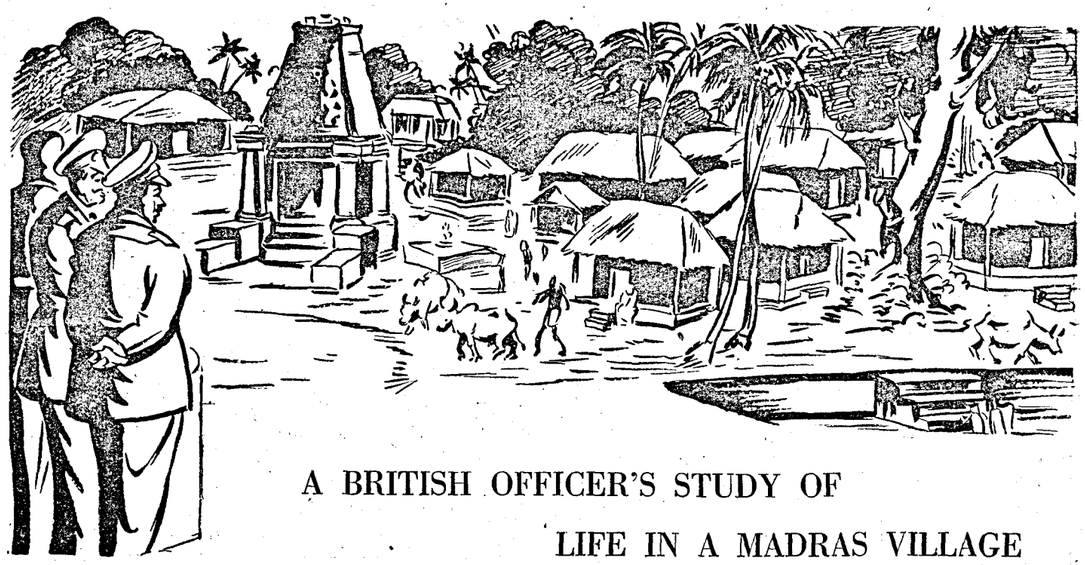
Still alone he went on to attack a second post, again shot the gunner then hurled grenades into the nest. The remaining Germans surrendered.

Kamal Ram then joined a havildar who was preparing to attack another post, gave covering fire, went in and completed its destruction. His company was then able to get forward.

In the fighting which followed Kamal Ram rushed a house; killed a German and brought two more back as prisoners.

Sepoy Kamal Ram's determination enabled his battalion to attain the essential part of their objective.

MY MEN'S HOMES



A BRITISH OFFICER'S STUDY OF LIFE IN A MADRAS VILLAGE

[We have received this report of a visit to an Indian village from a British Officer serving with a South Indian regiment who wanted to see how his men lived at home. This sympathetic and intimate account will be of general interest.]

THE authorities arranged for a party of officers from a South Indian Regiment to visit a typical Indian village so that they could get a better idea of how the average Indian Sepoy from the South lived and worked before he joined the Army, and thereby understand the men under their command.

There were eight of us in the party, and we took with us two civilians who had been instrumental in arranging the visit. We arrived at the village just before midday after a rather bumpy and very dusty ride in a military truck.

At the Traveller's Bungalow we met the personalities of the village, and were taken in for coffee to quench our thirst after the ride. I cannot remember the names of all these people, or what their respective jobs were, but that is immaterial as they were representatives of a community. Yet I must say that they were most kind and considerate, and made excellent hosts.

THE VILLAGE SCHOOL

First of all we saw the village school. It was small but very cool and clean; on that day there were about fifty children present, both boys and girls, all of varying ages, but very few over about ten years. On enquiry, we were told that, unfortunately, as soon as the children became of an age when they could work in the fields they were taken away from school by their parents. The bright coloured pictures, maps, diagrams, charts, etc., seemed to me a pleasant contrast to the somewhat gloomy class-room of my kindergarten days. I was mildly rebuked for suggesting that the flowers had been put there for our benefit, and was assured that there was *always* some form of floral decoration. Some of the little girls sang and danced for our entertainment, and although I am a Britisher, I could appreciate the simple airs and graceful dancers. Several of us were impressed with the colourful sarees most of them were wearing. We could not converse with the children as they crowded round us because we could not speak Tamil, but we tried out the few phrases we knew, *much* to their amusement; we did talk to one or two who knew Urdu, but they were shy and our Urdu typically bad.

DISPENSARIES

Then we passed on to the Veterinary Dispensary where we were shown a few interesting statistics about the increasing number of "patients" and the decreasing number of preventable deaths among the local cattle. Outside, there was the stud bull for the community, which needed no expert eye to see that it was pedigree and very well kept. There are, apparently, several schemes for keeping these stud bulls, and this one was being kept by the Veterinary Surgeon. In that short visit and conversation it was obvious to us, how necessary a Vet. was in a community like theirs.

Next came the Doctor's Surgery and Dispensary. There again, it was pitifully small, but clean and cool. The doctor explained to us the system of the medical services in the district and how it affected his village—and (rather proudly I think) showed us his few instruments. To us one doctor and one dispensary for a few thousand people seemed all the same a bit measly.

We were all feeling definitely hungry by then, so we went back to the Traveller's Bungalow where Indian food was laid out ready for us, served in Indian style, i.e., the rice, chutney, curds, etc., all on a fresh banana leaf. To an Englishman at home that may sound cockeyed, but in actual fact it is perfectly satisfactory. The person who had arranged the food had thoughtfully ordered that only the minimum of chillies was to be used, so every one of us thoroughly enjoyed it; most of us had had Indian food before (real Indian food I mean), so we used our hands with no trouble at all, and those who did not know quickly learnt. I might emphasise the fact that we liked the food, by adding that we all had a second helping. We rested for a while on the verandah of the bungalow, and then continued our tour.

COTTAGE INDUSTRIES

We piled into our truck again and went a couple of miles to a smaller hamlet to see hand-weaving. The implements used were very primitive, but the results definitely satisfactory; to the uninitiated the speed at which they worked was amazing, but they worked with a non-chalant air, and gave us the impression that it was all very easy.

In the same hamlet we saw a potter making various types of earthenware pots on the most primitive wheel. We stood literally entranced for at least twenty minutes, fascinated by the supple dexterity of his fingers. To make such graceful and useful vessels from a mere lump of clay is surely one of the greatest arts man knows. Watching such simple beauty grow in front of our eyes made more than one of us think of Omar Khayyum, and as we jostled closer someone murmured "Gently brother, gently, pray"!

Before we left the hamlet, one of the 'elders' gave us all tender coconuts to drink, we sat under the inevitable banyan tree by the little Hindu shrines (or whatever they are called), talking of the future the villagers hoped for. A simple but pleasing hospitality one can find everywhere in India. We had not much time, so we bumped away in a cloud of dust, followed to the end of the village by a crowd of shouting boys.

This district produces a certain amount of cotton, so we called in at the local ginning factory just to see how it worked. In five minutes of looking I learnt more about cotton than I have ever learnt from books. Last year, apparently, there had been a great demand for cotton, so there had been a sudden rise in turnover, but this year, in answer to the Government's appeal, more grains had been grown, so the cotton production is now lower. The owner of the factory very kindly gave us fruit and tea for refreshment, which went down extraordinarily well.

GLIMPSES OF HOME LIFE

Lastly, we went to the local market, or 'shandy', where we saw how the people come from miles around to sell their cattle and home-produced goods. It was not a particularly big place, but it was very crowded and noisy; —transactions here are loud and vehement, and the public sometimes called upon to witness a deal. Judging from the grains displayed for sale, rationing does not seem a hardship here, but I did not enquire the prices.

We really were hard pressed for time by then, so we again adjourned to the Travellers Bungalow where we thanked our hosts of the day, shook hands all round, and departed—still in a cloud of dust!

Now, do not think that merely because we saw the main interests of the village, we did not see how the villager lived, because we did. The whole time, as we ambled round, we looked into houses, saw the people at their work and the results of their work, and discovered the basis of local administration on which the villager depends so much for his existence. What we learnt will undoubtedly be of invaluable use to us when looking after the interests and lives of those serving with us. To all of us, it will be a day we shall always remember.

WHERE WAS THAT ONE?

[Extract from a letter from a Lady Fire Officer in London to her sister in Madras.]

JERRY has returned to the fray in London, and we have been very busy. These raids are not as trying as the old variety, I do not think. Admittedly they are more concentrated, and in some cases they have done as much damage in an hour or an hour and a half as they used to take 12 to 14 hours to do. But, once they are over, the ordinary civilian who is not engaged on civil defence can go to bed and sleep for the rest of the night. Very different from the old days. Also the fireman can go on fighting fires for the rest of the night, without being a target for the next enemy plane to unload his H.E. on. I see Churchill in the House the other day, while discussing the agitation for including A.A. gunners who were in the "Battle of Britain" in the personnel to be given the 1939–1943 medal, said that the H.F.S. casualties were the highest rate of any service in the country. This does not surprise me at all, but they are not getting any medals for it.

While on duty in my dungeon during a raid the other night, we had fires on every side of us including one of our outbuildings. I snatched a moment to go up and have a look, and was rather perturbed to see that the biggest of all the fires round us was one apparently in the fire station, two minutes walk away where we eat and sleep when not actually working at night. And it was too! The firemen were all out at other fires, and there were only about three or four men and a girl or so to tackle it! They did marvels with as many incendiaries as they could tackle, but it is a huge rambling building, originally a college. The only wing which was comparatively un damaged was the one where our bed rooms were, such luck! The mess room the chapel which was used for the storing of the college furniture, and one wing where some of the men slept were burn right out, also a garage containing four vehicles. They were just able to get some hoses going on it in time to save the rest, but had got to the stage of salvaging things out of our rooms! When asked at a moment's notice what I wanted out of my room, my mind went completely blank, and all I could think of was a Persian rug (one of yours) on the floor, and a Revelation suit-case! Afterwards I thought of all sorts of other more immediately important things, but luckily it was not necessary!

His Western Wall,
Hitler says, won't fall—
It's all set out so neat and pat
LIKE THAT.
But we've a hunch
That a well-aimed punch
Will knock it into a cocked hat

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THE ROCKY ROAD TO JAPAN

By CAPT. J. E. BARNES

(The story of the heroic building of the Manipur road by Madrassi units, a triumph of guts, is vividly given below. It is a story which many of the men now on leave will be able to tell in detail.)

I'VE spent the last eighteen months working on two of the great mountain roads that will carry our troops, British and Indian, when they help to clear the Japanese out of Burma. I was commanding a field company of Madras Sappers and Miners. These roads began as a rough track smashed through against time to evacuate the Burma army. Then they were improved to maintain the troops guarding India's eastern frontier. Now they have been polished up to take our troops back again. I have heard the Manipur road and the others connected with it described as the greatest engineering feat of the war. I would rather call it a triumph of doggedness, bullheadedness, toughness, and—good humour. In fact a triumph of guts.

400-MILE JUNGLE ROAD

Two years ago a rough track, motorable in good weather, existed for about 160 miles. Now there is a total of almost 300 miles of two-way road, most of it with a stone foundation, 200 miles of it tarred. Four hundred miles is roughly the distance from New York City to Canada. These roads had to be made *through* mountainous country running up to six or seven thousand feet, wrinkled with vast wandering valleys thousands of feet deep, and veined with dry streams that became torrents in the rains. And, of course, the whole place was covered thick with jungle. Set the road down in this area, add monsoons for relish, malaria for seasoning, and shortage of everything for dessert, and you have the picture.

Of course, it couldn't have been done but for everyone's determination to get on with the job. There was the driver of a British bulldozer working along blazing a rough track ahead of the main work when his machine slipped over the hill-side and slid 200 feet down. He stuck in the saddle and somehow or other kept the machine from turning over. He fetched some villagers, unwound the winch cable attached to the machine and got them to haul the cable up and fasten it to a large tree at road level. Then he started up his machine, wound himself back on to the track and carried on working.

UNBEATABLE MADRASSIS

The Indian soldiers were unbeatable. Last April we had an accident during the building of a bridge and a Madrassi Lance Corporal got badly injured. I had to drive him twelve miles over rough tracks to reach the nearest Casualty Clearing Station. When the doctor had finished his examination I said, "You'll be O.K., the doctor will look after you; hurry up and get well and come back again." He replied, "I can't stay here, I must get back to my section. We haven't finished the bridge yet." He died two days later.

The troops working on the road found conditions almost as strange as did British officers. The Madrassis, who formed a large proportion, came from South India. That meant that most of them were new to frosts, to jungles, to mountains, to all-prevailing clouds, to malaria, to shortage of food and, more particularly, to shortage of washing water, to twelve or fourteen hours a day in cold rain seven days a week for months on end. But to the rawest recruit they stuck it out, cheerful, uncomplaining. Perhaps the strangest thing was that when conditions became really bad, sickness actually decreased.

HOW THE ROAD WAS BUILT

Very roughly, this is how we worked. Far ahead went small parties of British Sapper officers and N.C.Os. living in the jungle, searching for a good alignment, hacking through the jungle. They had to avoid rock faces, loose earth that would slide in the monsoon, black cotton soil that would become a sponge in wet weather. They had to select the best crossings of endless streams and rivers. Far behind the advance parties came a solitary dozer cutting a rough trail along the line as fast as he could go. Then came Indian Sappers, blasting rock faces for the dozers, blowing down trees, bridging streams and rivers, starting up stone quarries, running stone-crushing plants, putting in water-supply points. There were stores to be ordered up, improvised equipment to be designed and made, and training to be continued all the time. For the Sapper, in addition to everything else—must be a fighting man.

Humour, of a sort, pops up everywhere. There was one horrible sliding hillside with which an officer named Forsdyke struggled for some time; this became, inevitably, the Forsdyke Saga. A nasty glutinous landslide which seemed incurable was signposted as the Slough of Despond. More macabre, but self-explanatory, were Skull corner and Dead Mule Gulch. In opposition to the latter a certain mule company put the sign, Live Mule Gulch.

MONSOON, MALARIA—

And, of course, there was a grim side to it also. There was the strange mystery of a human leg that was found by the side of a jungle track near camp, in quite sound condition. No one ever claimed it and its origin was never known. Then there's the story of the Sepoy who was sick in a field hospital. He was missed on a morning checkover and reported as a deserter. Five weeks later his body was found in the jungle, just 100 yards from the hospital, as much lost and impossible to trace as though it had been one hundred miles away.

The great enemies were the three "M's, Monsoon, Malaria and Monotony.

The monsoon boils down to this. "Take care of the water and the road will take care of itself". Or in other words look after your drainage. But some of the worst moments were when you found, as happened more than once during the four months of the rains, that perhaps a month's work had slipped down into the valley overnight.

Malaria at one time was a greater menace than the Jap, but hard work by the Medical Units and all sorts of preventive measures—nets, mosquito cream and so on—have changed all that. We only get a fraction now of the heavy casualties we used to get two years ago.

—AND MONOTONY

Monotony was not so difficult. One grew to accept the fact that there could be no movies, no newspapers, no canteens, no parties, no feminine company and almost no drinks. No football or hockey pitches exist on the side of a mountain, or can be made. Physical training, company sports that demanded small space, talks by the officers, entertainments by the men themselves, all helped to break the monotony. But when a unit is in a forward area as mine was when I left it recently, the nights are pretty bad. Blackout from dusk till morning "stand-to". Have you ever tried to blackout a tarpaulin slung over a tree branch? It's easy; you just turn out the hurricane lamp and spend the whole night in the dark. No noise over the same period. No singsongs, no radio, as little talking as discipline can enforce. Ten days leave annually is no small thing after that, and the men who are doing this job live for theirs.—*With acknowledgments to Britain.*

DID YOU KNOW ?

Of 142 declarations of war by 43 countries since September 1939, Russia has made none.

Japan has made only two—against the British Empire and United States.

Germany, four—against Russia, Greece, Yugoslavia, and United States.

United States, six—against Germany, Italy, Japan, Bulgaria, Hungary, and Rumania.

Great Britain, seven—against Germany, Italy, Japan, Bulgaria, Hungary, Rumania, and Finland.

GIANT STEEL DICE AID LANDINGS

The Allied secret weapon by which landings in Normandy were achieved consists of 1-ton floating steel cubes, 7 feet by 5 feet, which can be assembled into self-propelled barges or used as causeways from ship to shore.

The American Institute of Steel Construction comments: "They resemble outsized dice ready for the gambles of war."

THE FASCIST MAN IN THE EAST

AN AMERICAN VIEW OF THE JAPANESE (*By* IRA WOLFERT)

THE war in the Pacific is one of the greatest of all the human tragedies in history. The fascist man is there, making his bid for domination, and the bitterest role in this tragic drama is reserved for him. The Jap is a much purer fascist than any known in Europe. He has no democratic traditions at all. There is nothing in him but the deepest and most deeply buried instincts of man to tell him that what he is doing is wrong—that the kind of man he himself has become is wrong and has no place on earth. This man has been launched by a fascist government into a programme of military action that is impossible for him to carry out.

Something over a year ago the Japanese High Command decided it could not win its war with the kind of peace it had promised its people: a peace by conquest of the whole of the Pacific and the mainland of the United States. Instead, it began trying to do what Germany is now trying to do: to settle for half. So the Japanese have been trying since late 1942 to bleed us and sicken us into giving them a negotiated peace, in which they would be allowed to fatten on a portion of their loot until they had grown strong enough to try again. There is nothing especially fascist about this idea, but the details the Japanese High Command relies on for carrying out its idea are fascist. I mean they are stupid and against the nature of man. Soldiers fighting on islands are doomed to extinction when the sea roads leading to them are dominated by their enemy. When we cut the shipping lines to his soldiers on any particular island, and the Jap cannot replace his dead and his ammunition and his food, then all the Japanese on that island must either flee or die. So far—except in two instances—the Jap has not been allowed to flee. Instead he has been ordered by his government to stand and die; and he has stood and he has died.

DARLING OF THE EMPEROR

I remember in a campaign I recently covered, the American regiment I was with went up against the 229th Jap Regiment, a darling of the Emperor. So darling does the Emperor consider the 229th that he has promised it will never die, and to make sure of this he has created two 229th regiments, one of which he always keeps at home. This 229th is a crack outfit, and it created for itself in the jungles a network of pillboxes of every fancy construction. Each pillbox was impervious to the kind of artillery fire that we could bring against it in the jungle. The only way to get at the men inside was to slide blocks of TNT down at them on long poles. The Japs had prepared for tactics like this by digging a deep pit at the bottom of each pillbox. They stood on a high ledge built inside the pillbox, but over the pit. The TNT would fall to the bottom of the pit and explode there and kill some of the men on the ledge, but not all of them. The rest would keep on fighting.

The whole thing was slow, desperate, close-up pick-axe labour, and during a lull in the fight we heard suddenly and very clearly the sounds of whimpering coming from inside the pillbox. It sounded like hurt children who are too tired to cry loudly, and I remember how these small terrible sounds threw the whole machine of destruction that our men had become out of gear, and made this machine separate suddenly into the odd, fond, homeloving, and rather kindly men that composed it. It was very curious to watch the faces of our soldiers when they realised suddenly that what they were fighting was not merely a fascist machine but men, too, who could cry.

'THE JAP FIGHTS THIS WAY OUT OF FEAR'

'Well, why the hell don't they give up?' one sergeant said. And these were very nearly his last words. The sound of his voice gave his position away, and the whimpering Japs inside the pillbox threw a burst of fire at him. The Japs kept on crying until they were dead. They fight like wild animals. Nothing that we are able to do at the present stage of the war seems to be able to induce them to surrender, even when they are wounded, even when their position is utterly hopeless, even when their own government has abandoned them to their graves. There was widespread opinion among our troops in the Pacific, and there still is among many of them, that the Jap isn't human, and that he fights like a wild animal because he is some kind of sub-human. But we thought that before we heard them cry. In the last year the Jap has wept his iron tears over thousands of miles—from the Aleutians all the way down around the immense arc through the Mariannas, Marshalls, the Gilberts and the Solomons to New Guinea.

Thousands of them are lying in holes which they have no hope of ever leaving alive. But they stay there. The best opinion among our intelligence people who have studied the problem is, that the Jap fights this way out of fear. His government, being a fascist government, dominates him and all his thinking more completely than we as democrats can easily grasp. His whole training has been that a man who disgraces himself in battle is committing the worst crime. If he does, his family suffers the loss of certain civil and property rights, and he himself is dead to Japan. So he marches quietly to the fox-holes he intends to die in, and stays there until he dies—a docile, obedient, fascist animal, until the very end, until the moment of dying comes. And then, in those terrible gusts that blow in a man's mind when he sees his death take shape in front of him, all the Jap furniture and tapestries, all the fascist notions and fears go with the wind, and the Jap is no longer a fascist, but instead he's a man, and he reacts according to the strength there is in his mind. The stronger one will fight on until actually he is killed. But a regime which rules by fear doesn't leave many strong minds among its people, and most Japanese soldiers in their last moments—anyway most that I've seen—are weak little people, and they become hysterical in the face of death. Their minds give way to hysteria altogether, and they commit suicide, or they throw away their guns and throw themselves against the earth, and lie there, kicking and crying and grovelling with their faces into the earth until they are killed.

'KING OF THE JUNGLE'

Yes, this is the Jap. This is the King of the Jungle—the master of a blitz that ground down millions and startled and shocked the world in five incredible months in the year 1942; and this will be the Jap until he begins to lose his sense of victory, until he begins to think that his government won't survive the war. And when he realises that unconditional surrender will be the fate of his masters, then his fear of his masters and of the social structure in which they have imprisoned him will end, and he will fight like a human being. He will fight as long as he has a chance to win, and when the game is up he will throw in his hand.

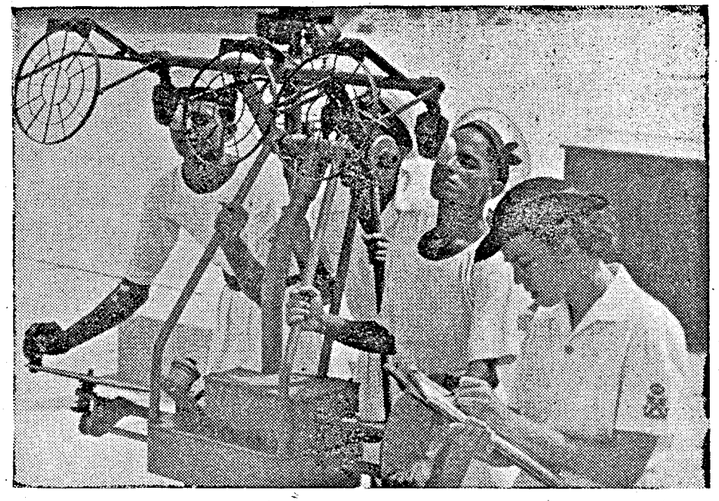
Against this fascist man, we are opposing a democratic man. The boys we have out in the Pacific—and I've been there entirely with Americans, so I will speak of them—these boys are products of an entirely opposed way of life, and they fight with what they are, and with what has been put into them by the society from which they come. They don't fight—in the final analysis when the chips are down, and a man stands naked of everything but what he himself is—they don't fight then out of fear of what their superiors will do to them, but they fight instead because of what they will think of themselves if they don't. Self-respect is a much firmer base for a man's fighting spirit than fear.

We fight not only for democracy but with it. It is democracy that has armed our men, not only materially but in

their minds as well. This is a thing that can be seen most clearly in the air. One of the principles of a democratic way of life is that all shall share in the produce of that life. At the present stage of civilisation that means machines. The Japanese fascists do not permit as much of their population to have access to the machines they produce as the democratic peoples do. Japan started the air war by putting the top level of her population into some very fine aeroplanes. We did the same. In the first killing months both sides lost their best, and each had to dig deeper into his population for replacements. We came up with a very good type of boy indeed. The Jap didn't. He found intelligent men who could be trained in the course of a year or so to pilot an aeroplane and fight it by the book, but there is no instinct for the machine in those men of his. Mastery over the machine is not a reflex with them as it is with Americans. They have to think out their moves, and while they are thinking, Americans are shooting. The whole thing all came together for me in an aeroplane fight I got into a while ago. I was riding as a passenger in a B-17 that was flying a search mission in the Guadalcanar area. We were not supposed to fight—we were just out there to spot Japanese shipping, hit it if we found it, and come home if we didn't. Instead of shipping we found a new type of Japanese four-motored bomber that was attacking a P.B.Y.—one of our slowest, most weakly armed seaplanes. The P.B.Y. was a dead duck against that Jap bomber, and the Jap knew it; and when we saw him he was prancing for the kill, the flame of his cannon and machine-guns sticking out ahead of him like red claws.

'GIT—OR GIT GOT'

We drove head first into the fight, and the Jap turned away from his prey and ran into a cloud to hide. The cloud was one of those massive thunderheads—the kind that in the Pacific sometimes sit upon the sea and rise fifty thousand feet in the air. They are clouds that can break the ordinary aeroplane apart. We ran into the cloud after the Jap. We couldn't find him in it. As I remember, we didn't see anything but the bodies of some birds that had been crushed flat by the giant winds inside the cloud, and blew past us like black, broken little things. We came out of the cloud into blinding sunlight, and as it happened the Jap came out of the cloud at the same time and about fifty feet away from us. We were so close, I remember, I could see the Jap gunner opposite me had flecks of grey in the black hair on his temples. The Jap had the draw on us with his cannon, and in those first agonising broadsides he poured into us he shot out five of our guns, hit three of our men, started a fire in the nose where I was, hit a motor, nearly severed our main strut, and just generally shellacked us. It looked to me like time to go home, but the pilot of our plane, a farm boy from Tigerton, Wisconsin, and the co-pilot, an accountant from Indianapolis, Indiana, felt otherwise. So began one of the more fantastic fights of this war, a lonely duel between two giant bombers—one, the best in the Jap navy, the other, the best in the American army at that time.



"GUN GIRLS" OF THE R.I.N.—In H.M.I.S. Himalaya, *the Royal Indian Navy's Gunnery School at Karachi, members of the Naval Wing of the Women's Auxiliary Corps (India) assist the staff in training Naval Officers and ratings. During practice firing against targets towed by aircraft, they help to ensure that the guns are properly trained and laid, and at the end of the "shoot" they provide gun's crews with a complete chart that enables the accuracy of each shot to be ascertained. The Naval W.A.C.(I.)s. find their work at the Gunnery School of absorbing interest, and by volunteering for it they have released men for service with the Royal Indian Navy at sea.*

While ratings lay and train on the target, Petty Officer Georgie Wexham keeps records for the analysis of the practice.

The fight lasted forty-four minutes. Our boys didn't jettison their bombs, they carried them throughout the fight. The Jap had no belly turret, so he stayed low against the water to keep us from tearing him apart from underneath; and the whole fight took place in air that was only fifty to two hundred feet above the sea. There was no escape for anyone in this duel. It was git—or git got. The American farm boy and the American accountant had been playing with machines all their lives: tractors, motor-cars, washing-machines. They had a feeling for machines, a sensitivity that told them when it was safe to push motors and metal structures past the danger limits. The Jap fought by the book, and in the end he burned by it. I don't suppose the ten wretched enslaved little Japs in that 'plane ever realized that they were killed because democracy, in giving a man self-respect and in letting him share the wealth of his civilization, arms him better than fascism can; but the flames of the burning Jap 'plane lit up this fact for us. We saw the truth there, burning in a vast patch around the skinny black skeleton of the fascist machine.—*From a broadcast talk in the* Home Service.

A SOUND AND PROFITABLE INVESTMENT

THE Madras Government 3 Per Cent Loan, 1958, is open to public subscription from 10 a.m. on the 15th August 1944. It is sound because the Madras Government has its annual Provincial revenue of about Rs. 30 crores behind it. It is attractive as it carries an interest of 3 per cent at a time when money is cheap and every investor is hunting after a borrower. Sound and attractive, an investment will still have to go a long way before it becomes satisfactory to the investor; but in this respect the 3 per cent loan carries its own recommendation just as virtue has its own reward.

It is floated in accordance with the Madras Government's established policy that the loan proceeds will be used only for remunerative purposes. They will be wholly paid to the Central Government in part repayment of the Madras Government's consolidated debt which bears interest at 4½ per cent per annum, and represents loans granted by the Central Government to finance remunerative capital expenditure in the Madras Presidency before the 1st April 1937. Only a balance of Rs. 464·54 lakhs remains of this debt which is being repaid in half-yearly equated payments over a period of 45 years from 1937–38.

Besides the normal half-yearly payments there were in the years 1942–43 and 1943–44 a total advance repayment of Rs. 250·10 lakhs. The balance of the loan now outstanding involves an annual debt charge of Rs. 25½ lakhs the bulk of which the revenues of the Province will be completely relieved on full discharge of the consolidated debt. Quite unusually, therefore, this loan, unlike the proverbial cake, is something which you can eat and still have as well. Wise investors, therefore, are advised to subscribe early.

3 PER CENT MADRAS GOVERNMENT LOAN

1. The proceeds of the loan will be used for repayment of part of the loans taken from the Central Government for financing remunerative capital expenditure prior to 1st April 1937.

2. In accordance with section 163 (1) of the Government of India Act, 1935, the loan will be secured on the whole of the revenues of the Government of Madras.

The consent of the Central Government has been given to the flotation of this loan as required by section 163 (3) of the Government of India Act, 1935.

3. The loan will be briefly described as the Madras Government 3 per cent loan, 1958.

4. The amount of the loan will be Rs. 110 lakhs.

5. The issue price will be Rs. 100 for every Rs. 100 of the loan applied for.

6. Subscriptions will be received on 15th August 1944 only. The loan will be closed without notice as soon as it appears that the total subscription amounts approximately to Rs. 110 lakhs and in any case not later than the close of business on 15th August 1944.

7. If the total subscription exceeds Rs. 110 lakhs, partial allotment will be made. If partial allotment is made, a proportionate refund will be made as soon as possible after allotment. No interest will be paid on the amounts so refunded.

8. The loan will have a currency of 14 years from the 15th August 1944 and will be repaid at par on the 15th August 1958.

9. The loan will bear interest at the rate of 3 per cent per annum from the 15th August 1944. Interest will be payable half-yearly on the 15th February and the 15th August and will be subject to income-tax and surcharge, but refunds will be obtainable by holders of the loan who are not liable to the tax or are liable to the tax at a lower rate. An individual holder can also obtain on application a certificate from the Income-tax Officer of the district authorizing deduction of income-tax and surcharge at the rate applicable in his case when tax will be deducted at that rate instead of at the maximum rate.

10. Interest will be paid at any treasury or sub-treasury in the Province of Madras, at the Central Treasuries at Bangalore, Trivandrum and Hyderabad (Deccan) and at the Public Debt Offices at Madras, Bombay, Calcutta and Delhi.

11. The loan will be issued in the form of

(1) Stock, the applicants for which will be given Stock Certificates, *or*

(2) Promissory Notes.

If no preference is stated by the applicants, the securities will be issued in the form of Promissory Notes.

The Promissory Notes are transferable by endorsement and will be in denominations of Rs. 100, Rs. 500, Rs. 1,000, Rs. 5,000, Rs. 10,000, Rs. 25,000, Rs. 50,000 and Rs. 1,00,000.

12. (1) Applications for the loan must be for Rs. 100, or for a multiple of that sum.

(2) Applications will be received at any branch of the Imperial Bank of India located within the Province of Madras, at the Treasury Pay Offices of the Imperial Bank of India at Anantapur, Chittoor, Kurnool and Tanjore, at the branches of the Imperial Bank of India at Bangalore, Trivandrum and Hyderabad (Deccan) and at the offices of the Reserve Bank of India at Madras, Bombay, Calcutta and Delhi.

(3) Applications may be made in printed forms which are available at the places mentioned in sub-paragraph (2) above or in any other form which states clearly the amount and description of the securities required, the full name and address of the applicant and the Public Debt Office or treasury or sub-treasury at which he desires that interest shall be paid.

13. Applications should be accompanied by the necessary payment either in cash or by cheque for the amount of the loan applied for. Cheques should be made payable to the Reserve Bank of India or the Imperial Bank of India, as the case may be.

When a cheque is tendered in payment of the application money, the security will not be issued until the amount of the cheque has been realized.

14. Brokerage will be paid at the rate of one-eighth per cent to recognized bankers and brokers on allotments made in respect of applications for the loan bearing their stamp.

15. The Government of Madras will provide in each financial year from 1945–46 to 1957–58, inclusive, a sum equal to 1½ per cent of the total nominal amount of the loan to be used for purchasing the securities of the loan for cancellation.

16. The Government of Madras will also make such annual contributions to a Sinking Fund to be utilized towards the amortisation of their open market loans, as they may from time to time decide to be necessary.

17. The Provincial Public Debt Office will be located at the Public Debt Office, Madras.

PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT LOANS

Three per cent Loans, 1958.

	RS. (LAKHS.)	
Government of the United Provinces	350	Issue Price at Rs. 99–8–0 per cent.
Government of Bombay	344	Issue Price at Rs. 100 per cent.
Government of the Punjab	270	Issue Price at Rs. 99–8–0 per cent (Second Issue).
Government of Sind	200	Issue Price at Rs. 99–8–0 per cent.
Government of Madras	110	Issue Price at Rs. 100 per cent.
Government of the Central Provinces and Berar.	53½	Do.

Each loan will bear interest from the 15th August 1944.

Open for one day only, viz., Tuesday the 15th August 1944 and will be closed at any time on that day as soon as subscriptions approximate to the amounts of each issue.

Subscriptions will be in the form of Cash/Cheque.

Applications for all six loans will be received at the offices of the Reserve Bank of India, Bombay, Calcutta, Delhi and Madras from 10 a.m. *Standard Time.*

Applications for any particular loan will also be received at branches of the Imperial Bank of India, situated within the Province issuing that loan.

In the event of any one or more of the loans being oversubscribed, proportionate allotment will be made to the subscribers.

N.B.—Applicants tendering their applications at the offices of the Reserve Bank of India, Bombay, Calcutta, Delhi and Madras will, *in the event of oversubscription*, be given the option of transferring their cash refunds to any of the other loans at the same or lower issue price which may not be fully subscribed, provided they complete and tender along with their loan applications, the "Special Option Form," copies of which are obtainable on application from the abovementioned offices of the Reserve Bank of India.

Copies of the Notifications and Application Forms may be obtained at any Receiving Office along with a copy of the Press Communiqué giving the financial position of the Provincial Government(s).

WAR DIARY

BRITAIN AND GERMANY

1ST AUG.—A small number of flying bombs were dropped in southern countries including London. R.A.F. bombers attacked flying bomb launching sites in Northern France.

2ND AUG.—The Germans sent flying bombs over Southern England including London area.

Mr. Churchill reviewed the War situation in the Commons.

3RD AUG.—More flying bombs came over Southern England.

His Majesty the King returned from Italy.

Mr. Herbert Morrison, Minister for Home Security announced in the Commons that the number of civilians killed as the result of enemy action in Britain from the outbreak of the war to June 30, 1944 was 53,747. The number injured and detained in hospital was 68,796.

4TH AUG.—Germans continued their flying bomb activity against the southern countries including London area. Allied bombers attacked Peenemunde and other flying bomb launching sites in France.

Over 1,200 American fighters attacked Hamburg, Bremen and Friedrichs-Hafen.

Hitler has appointed a 'Court of Honour' to enquire into the attitude of Field Marshals and Generals in order to carry out a purge in the army.

Himmler, Goebbels and Dr. Speer addressed all leading officials of the Nazi party and all Gauleiters of the Reich at a conference which lasted yesterday and to-day.

5TH AUG.—Flying bomb activity continued against Southern England including London area. Flying bomb sites in Pas de Calais area were attacked by Allied aircraft.

About a dozen military centres in Germany were attacked by over 1,400 Allied bombers.

6TH AUG.—Germans continued flying bomb raids on Southern England. Allied bombers attacked flying bomb installations at Pas de Calais area.

More than 1,000 Allied aircraft bombed Berlin, Hamburg, Kiel, Magdeburg and Brunswick.

It is revealed that Hitler addressed Reich leaders on Friday.

7TH AUG.—Flying bombs continued to hit places in Southern England including London area.

8TH AUG.—Seventeen thousand mothers and children left London to-day for areas free from flying bombs.

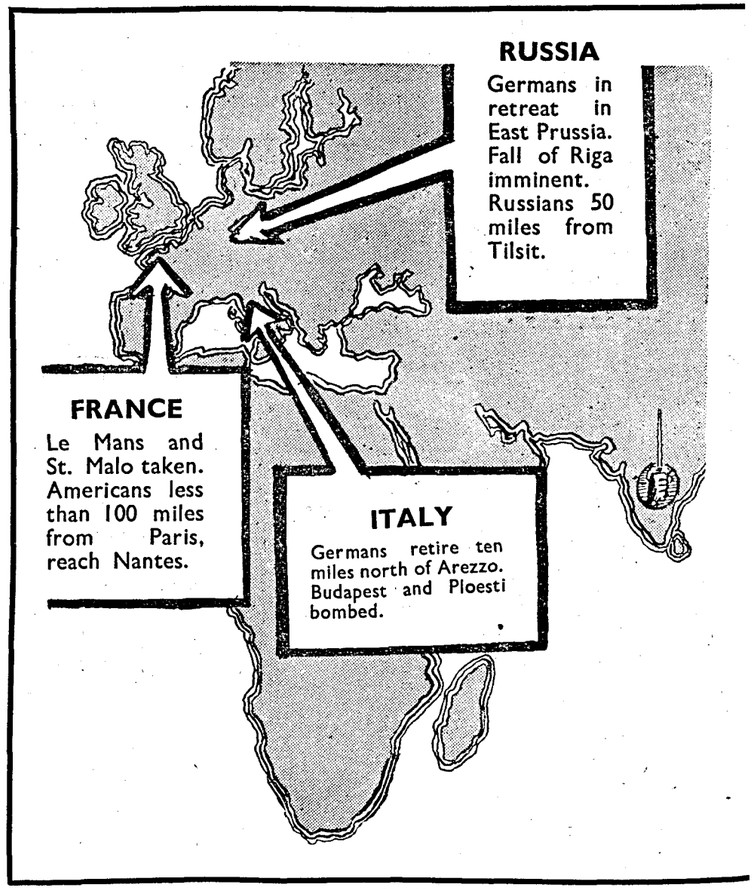
Eight German General who were connected with the attempt on Hitler's life were hanged.

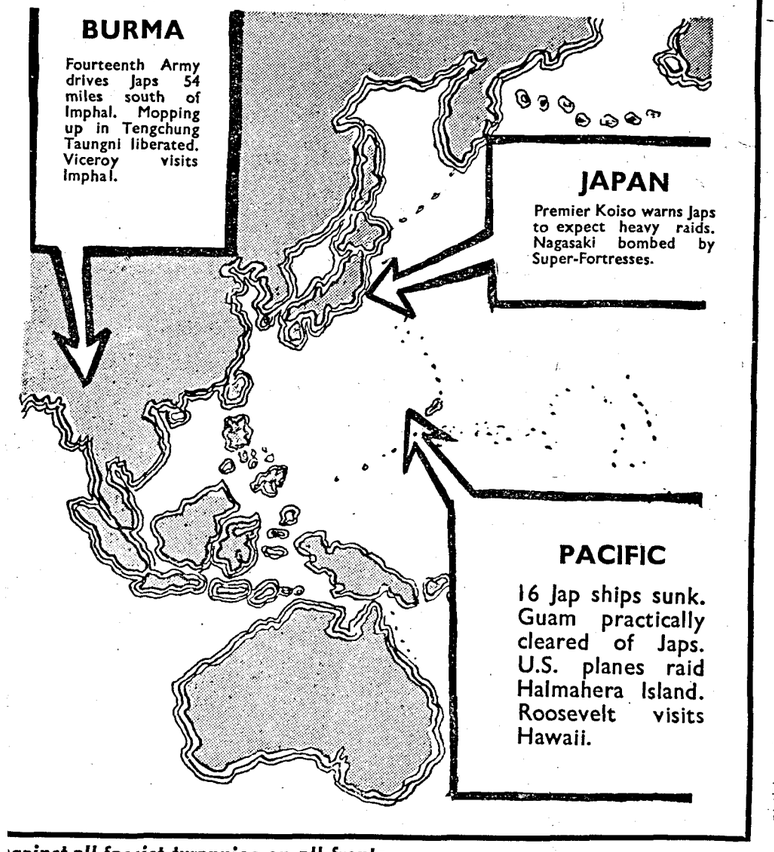
* * *

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE ATLANTIC

1ST AUG.—Lieut-Gen. Brehon Somervell of the United States Army Services of Supply said that the production of American war material must be increased immediately.

THE WORLD WAR THIS WEEK'S NEWS





India lies at the heart of this Global wa

gainst all fascist tyrannies on all fronts.

7TH AUG.—The U.S. Acting Secretary of State, Mr. Edward Stettinius, stated that the opening of the Four Power Conference on the Post-war Security Organisation in Washington has been postponed from August 14 to August 21 to allow the Russian Government more time for preparation.

* * *

INDIA, BURMA AND CEYLON

1ST AUG.—Indian troops occupied two strategic points west and north-west of Taungni in North Burma.

2ND AUG.—The 14th Army troops advanced further towards Tamu.

3RD AUG.—American troops advanced in the north of Myitkyina and minor gains were made in other sectors there. R.A.F. bombed Akyab and Mandalay.

4TH AUG.—*Myitkyina* fell to-day. With the exception of some mopping up operations all organized resistance ended. Troops of the III Indian Division continued patrol activities west and south-west of Taungni. Allied troops were within 7 miles of Tamu.

5TH AUG.—Chinese troops captured two-thirds of Waingmaw.

6TH AUG.—14th Army troops captured Tamu. On the Tiddim Road Allied forces were 50 miles of Imphal. Waingmaw was completely occupied.

7TH AUG.—Allied troops occupied Tayagon, Nampadaung.

8TH AUG.—Allied attacks on the Tiddim Road progressed satisfactorily.

* * *

RUSSIA AND FINLAND

1ST AUG.—All land communications connecting the Baltic area and East Prussia were cut. The Soviet troops captured Livani, Tukum, Tubane, Kaluszin, and over 800 localities.

The Polish Prime Minister arrived at Moscow for talks on Russo-Polish relations with the members of the Soviet Government. He conferred with the Ambassadors of Great Britain and the United States.

2ND AUG.—The whole of German line, east of Warsaw was strained to breaking point. Soviet forces bypassed the Polish capital.

The Finnish Parliament met five times in secret session. President Kyti has resigned and Field Marshal Mannerheim has succeeded him. It is reported that German troops were evacuating from Southern Finland.

3RD AUG.—Germans began evacuating Warsaw. Russians have crossed Alasa river and have also established a bridgehead over Vistula. The Soviet troops have captured Sanok and over 500 localities.

4TH AUG.—The Russian troops were within 12 miles of East Prussia. The Soviet forces captured about 600 localities.

Marshal Stalin and M. Molotov received the Polish Premier M. Mikolayczyk, Polish Foreign Minister M. Romer and M. Grabski, Speaker of the Polish National Council.

5TH AUG.—Soviet forces entered East Prussia. Russian troops captured Struj, Robtbuz, Tankobszek and over 250 localities including Rozwadav, Tarnobrezeg.

6TH AUG.—The Red Army captured Drohobycz, Milec, Medenice and over 200 localities.

7TH AUG.—The Soviet troops captured Borislaw and Sambar, Kurenczaj, Szapkyany, Knyszyn, Lapy, etc.

8TH AUG.—Russian forces have broken through in a great wedge now being driven to Cracow while further north the Red Army has launched a new attack at the southern flank of East Prussia.

Tomasz Arciscewski has been appointed President-designate of Poland in succession to General Sosnkowski. The Polish Prime Minister had further talks with the members of the Polish Committee of National Liberation at Moscow.

* * *

ITALY, AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

1ST AUG.—Heavy fighting took place south-west of Florence.

2ND AUG.—Indian troops captured Castiglione.

3RD AUG.—British and Indian troops crossed the river Pesa. Allied forces captured Cinestra and Strada.

4TH AUG.—The 8th Army troops reached the outskirts of Florence. The Allied forces captured Impruneta, Monte Boni and Incisa.

5TH AUG.—The Allied troops occupied Bagno A Ripoli and Regnano. Germans withdrew from Florence.

6TH AUG.—Indian troops entered Empoli. 8th Army forces captured Mount Altuccia and the Polish troops took Seapezzano.

7TH AUG.—Local civil war blazed up in Florence.

8TH AUG.—Savage fighting raged along the south bank of Arno on the east and west of Florence.

* * *

VICHY, FREE FRANCE AND THE OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

1ST AUG.—British and American forces joined hands south-west of Foret Leveque. Allied troops, south-west of Caumont doubled the bulge in the German line. Canadians withdrew from Tilly; Germans re-took Tessy.

2ND AUG.—Allied troops captured Pontorson and Villedine, Estry, Le Beny Bocage, Feugenolles Sur Suelles. The Allies recaptured Percy and Tessy.

3RD AUG.—The Allied troops have captured *Rennes*, capital of Brittany, Vire and Le Mesnil.

4TH AUG.—The Allied forces captured Fougeres, Beau Mesnil and Mortain.

5TH AUG.—Allied troops made rapid progress in Brittany fanning out to the neighbourhood of Loudeac, Mauron, Derval and Chateaubriant. Aunay Sur Odon was captured.

It is revealed that the Deputy Prime Minister, Mr. Attlee returned to Britain after a two-day visit to Normandy.

6TH AUG.—Americans captured Laval, Mayenne and Chat Gontier, etc.

Germans have ordered the French Government to leave Vichy.

7TH AUG.—Allied forces were within 120 miles from Paris. They captured Mont Pincon, Saint Brieuc, Auray, Huelgoat, etc.

General de Gualle in a broadcast said that the "Hour of revenge has come."

8TH AUG.—The German counter-offensive to re-capture Avranches was repulsed. Allied troops captured La Hogue, Saint Aignan De La Mesnil and Secqueville Campagne.

• • •

THE NEUTRAL COUNTRIES

2ND AUG.—M. Sarojoglu, the Turkish Prime Minister, announced in a speach at the Grand National Assembly that Turkey has severed diplomatic and economic relations with Germany. Von Papen, the German Ambassador, interviewed President Inenu and M. Sarojoglu and then left Ankara.

3RD AUG.—Count Jordana, Spanish Foreign Minister, died to-day.

• • •

THE FAR EAST

1ST AUG.—The Jap troops on Tinian Island were cut off from escape and faced annihilation. Enemy installations in Truk, Marshalls and Carolines were attacked by Allied aircraft.

The newly appointed Japanese Minister of the Interior had replaced 18 of the 48 Jap Provincial Governors.

2ND AUG.—Allied forces occupied the towns of Itana, Pado, Pulan and Naite in Guam.

Chinese forces occupied an airfield at Tengchung.

3RD AUG.—The American forces have occupied Saucio, Tot and Timoneng and the Tyan airfield in Guam.

Admiral Koshro Oikawa has been appointed Chief of the Japanese Naval General Staff.

Dr. Hi Jung, Vice-Premier of China, said "Japan must disgorge all her territorial conquests and restore independence to Korea."

4TH AUG.—The Japs withdrew from all their strong points in the Geelvink Bay area of the Dutch New Guinea. The American forces pushed ahead on the northern half of Guam. Mopping up operations continued in Tinian and Saipan Islands.

The principles of a scheme for total mobilization of the Japanese people were laid down at a meeting of the Jap Cabinet.

American Liberators bombed Hongkong last night.

5TH AUG.—Three-fourths of Guam is in American hands. Truk and Wotje were bombed by American bombers. A new American landing on Biak in the Schouten group was reported.

A Supreme War Directions Council was set up in Japan.

6TH AUG.—It is revealed that United States Carrier Task Force wiped out a Jap convoy in a raid on Bonin and Volcano Islands on Thursday and Friday last. Allied bombers attacked a Jap convoy near Amboina. American troops in Guam captured Ukudu and Liguan.

7TH AUG.—American planes raided Davao, in the Philippines.

8TH AUG.—One-third of Jap-held area at the northern tip of Guam has been brought under American control.

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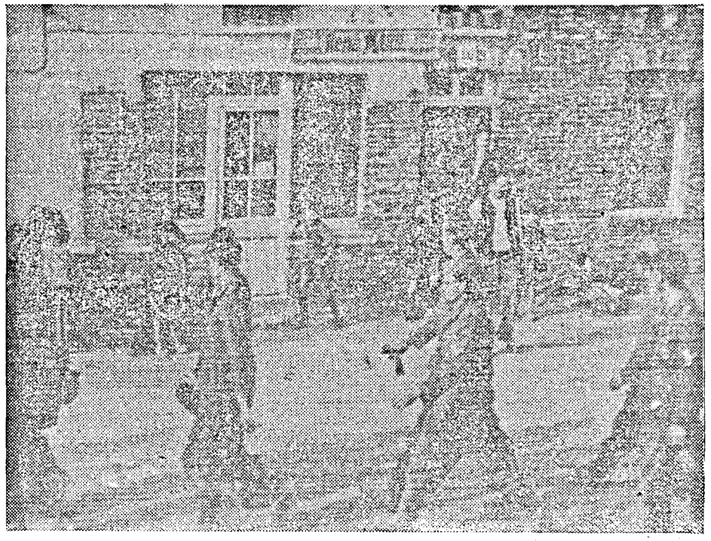


Outside a cafe in Normandy villagers watch German prisoners pass along the street.

RAID ON ALBANIA.—Watched by an Albanian farmer, a British soldier searches a German captured during the first British raid on Albania last week. The farmer was with the raiding force which virtually wiped out the German garrison south of Spilje and withdrew leaving the Partisans in control of the area.

FOR YOUR RADIO DIARY.

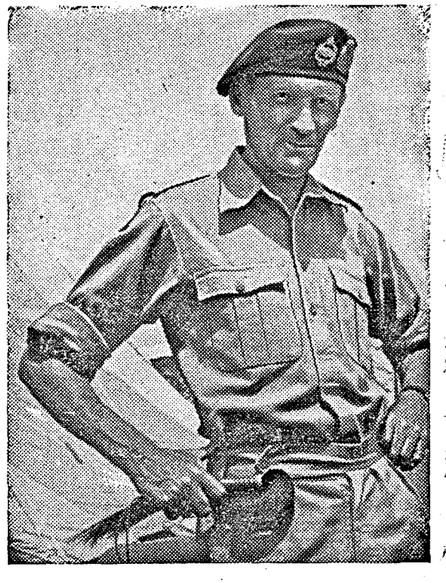
MADRAS—AUGUST 19th—9-45 p.m. "The Fighting Forces."
TRICHY—AUGUST 20th—9·00 p.m. Peace Problems: Political Reorganisation—By Y. Ismail Khan.

MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. V FRIDAY, AUGUST 18, 1944 No. 50

Complete Victory Lies Ahead



GENERAL MONTGOMERY

We are a great team—Americans, British, Canadians and also soldiers of Fighting France and Poland—all knit together into one fighting machine and all working for one plan

To-day all is well. Our armies are moving relentlessly and swiftly into France

In the hot August days, amidst the dust of the battlefield it is not always so easy to keep up pressure. But these are momentous days and complete victory lies ahead—and this quickly—so long as we do not relent

Let us therefore continue to battle with renewed and ever greater energy

GENERAL MONTGOMERY *in a message to his troops on August 11*

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[NOTE.—*The summary of news and comments contained in the* MADRAS WAR REVIEW *generally relate to events and statements published till Wednesday, every week.*]

DOWNFALL OF JAPS BEGUN IN BURMA

"You will find that when the history of this war comes to be written the fight here will be put down as one of the turning points of the war, when the Japs were routed and their downfall really began.

"There is no doubt that in fighting here you have hit them a terrific crack. Not only have you inflicted a tremendous defeat on them but, even more, you have dealt a damaging blow to their morale—and it is the breaking of the enemy's morale that finishes wars in the end.

"You have routed the Japs who quite lately were boasting that they had never known defeat. Now they have gone back about a hundred miles as badly defeated as any army can be.

"Our enemies have been on the run and things are looking extraordinarily bright. We may hope that the end will not be too long delayed."

H.E. LORD WAVELL, *addressing troops at Imphal, August 10.*

❖

THE FIGHTING EIGHTH INDIAN DIVISION

"I greatly appreciate the fine part played by the Eighth Indian Division in our successful advance to Florence. The pressure they exerted by their stubborn fighting on our left bank was a considerable factor in our success. Please convey congratulations to all ranks."

LIEUTENANT-GENERAL SIR OLIVER LEESE, *Eighth Army Commander, August 13.*

❖

NAZI SYSTEM CRACKED

"I know not only by the events of July 20 (attempt on Hitler's life) but also by other happenings in Germany that the whole 'Hitler system' is cracked, militarily and politically. Hitler, Goering and Doenitz, in their wireless addresses, stressed that only a very small clique of generals was involved in the action. The truth is the other way round. The movement has reached such proportions that Hitler was compelled to admit to his Gauleiters what many Germans already know—that the men behind the uprising were important because of their far-reaching influence."

GENERAL SEYDLITZ, *President of the Free German National Committee, in a broadcast from Moscow, August 10.*

❖

GERMANY AND JAPAN ARE RECOILING

"On every battle front all over the world the armies of Germany and Japan are recoiling before the armed forces of many nations which in various groupings form a Grand Alliance."

MR. CHURCHILL *in the House of Commons, on August 2.*

MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. V FRIDAY, AUGUST 18, 1944 No. 50

A BROTHERHOOD IN ARMS

THE armies of liberation are today marching on the crest of victory all over the world. Especially is this so in France. We have seen the rout of Hitler's most loyal troops, 100,000 of them in Normandy, and the successful invasion by our forces in the Riviera. At last brave Marianne is being rescued from the grim latter-day Bastille in which she has been imprisoned. Without any doubt the key of that Bastille is in the hands of General Eisenhower and General Sir Maitland Wilson and the great forces under their command. This grand march will continue, until not only France, but the whole of Europe and the whole world, is freed from the most accursed tyranny it has ever known.

THE B.B.C.'s call sign, "V for Victory" . . . —, gave courage to millions in Europe. That challenging phrase from the opening of the Fifth Symphony of Beethoven, known as Fate Knocking at the Door, has brought hope and success to the oppressed peoples of Europe. We hear from all countries of underground armies and Partisans, of the police-disguised Florentines who assisted the gallant Eighth Army in their assault on the entrenched Germans, of the mountain battles in Yugoslavia led by Marshal Tito in conference this week with Mr. Churchill and other Allied chiefs in Italy, of the uprisings in Poland which the ruthless Nazis thought they had crushed with their horrible massacres, and, in France of the Men of the Maquis, the French Forces of the Interior, the underground supporters of the Free French now fighting superbly under the leadership of General de Gaulle.

The Traitors of France

AS more and more contact is made with the people of France, and as our liberating Armies gather momentum in their ever-growing relief of France, it is worth while remembering that the battle for the freedom of France and the struggle with the savage Nazi looters and the Gestapo has never really ceased. "France has lost a battle" de Gaulle said in June 1940, "but France has not lost the war." That war has been fought by the selfless friends of democracy within terrorised France, not with tanks, aeroplanes and motorised columns, but with wits, sabotage and secret leaflets.

IT has been a battle against the men of Vichy, a battle against the vilest of masters, chiefly that quisling Pierre Laval who with Joseph Darnand, his Himmler and Marcel Deat, his pro-Nazi Minister of Labour, turned France into a huge workhouse to supply men and materials for Germany, in complete accord with Goebbels' boast in 1942: "If anyone goes hungry, it shall not be the German people."

DARNAND has massacred hundreds of thousands of French men and women. He and his ruffians make "preventive arrests," take hostages, order mass executions. Deat conscripted all men in France between 16 and 60 and all women without children between 18 and 45 to work for Germany in German factories.

The Men of the Maquis

THE word Maquis comes from a Corsican word which means "the bush" or "the heath". These are the modern Robin Hoods. Sabotage is their speciality. At the moment they are busy blowing up bridges, derailing trains, hampering in all sorts of ways the retreat of the fleeing German armies. They destroy power stations, wreck factories, and harass the enemy in every conceivable fashion. In villages in Haute Savoie the resisters are able openly to hold parades. It is reported by Mr. Wickham Steed that Bordeaux is partly in the hands of these brave sons of France.

THE war has done for France what we may hope it will do for the world, and for India. In France especially it has taught the great lesson of unity, of the need to fight together, of surrendering all pettinesses and politics to the single purpose of defeating the common foe. One is either a traitor or a patriot, either for or against the Hitler system. There can be no doubt that even the most conservative of French people have made their choice long ago. The strength of the French Forces of the Interior is proof of that.

HIS Majesty the King in his Christmas Day speech said: "There is springing up in every country fresh hope that out of comradeship in sacrifice shall come power to restore and power to build anew. . . we should take comfort from our faith that out of desolation shall rise a new hope, and out of strife be born a new brotherhood."

THESE hopeful inspiring words have not been uttered in vain. High and responsible leaders have emphasised the close harmony, the almost spiritual bond which is uniting the Armies of the United Nations, as, comrades in arms, they soldier together in the final struggle to crush the military might of the enemy. It is this wonderful spirit which is leading us on to victory and which will assure for the tortured and maltreated millions downtrodden in Europe and elsewhere, the right kind of civilisation when that victory is won.

RUNNING COMMENTARY

Great Week for France and the Liberation of Europe

It is heartening to record a week of momentous Allied activity. Early came the liberation of Florence, almost simultaneous with the trapping of VON KLUGE'S crack Seventh German Army in the Falaise Gap, while following rapidly on this good news came the startling invasion of the Riviera. The mighty invasion programme went on without a hitch, dropping 14,000 paratroops 5 miles behind Nice and Cannes. Fighters, bombers, gliders, and a Navy which included ships of many nationalities took part, including those of the Dutch, Greek and Polish Navies. All pulled their weight to make it an outstanding success.

It is all a sign of the closest cooperation between the whole United Nations Commands and should be regarded as part of the same offensive which is devastating the might of Germany in Normandy. The Allied Air Force has played a tremendous part in all this great battle for Europe. On Tuesday they made 6,000 sorties over the trapped German armies in Normandy. Raids have also been carried out over Holland and Belgium and Germany as part of the task of destroying all avenues of escape, smashing communications and bringing traffic to a standstill. Nobody expects HITLER, his fanatical S.S. divisions and the German military machine to crack overnight. They will fight to the bitter end. All that can be said is that we are spectators of the beginning of the last phase in the crushing of the nasty plans and the nasty power of the nastiest man who ever lived.

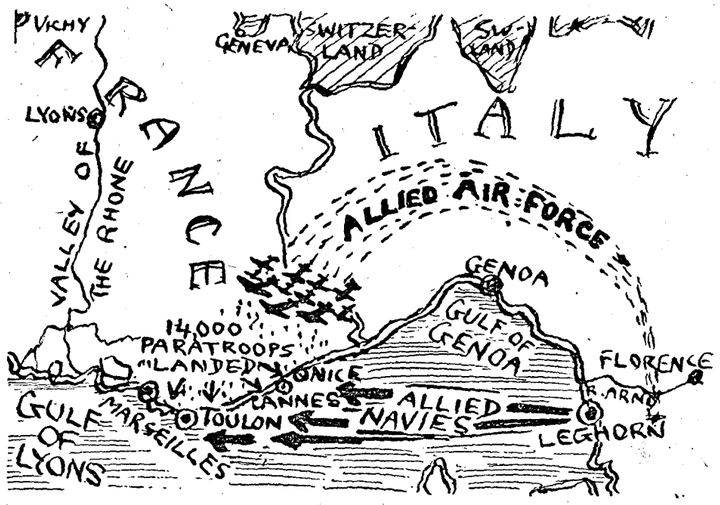
Soon these fronts which HITLER must be counting in the small hours of the night, will be closing in on Germany, until the life is throttled out of Nazidom. This week has been a thrilling demonstration of the perfect team-work and clockwork coordination of all the Forces of Liberation. The release of France from the Nazi tyranny is only the prelude to the liberation of the millions who have slaved and suffered in misery in Europe since HITLER began his reign of terror, and pillage. For all French peoples this week will bring tears of joy and we echo their cry "Vive La France!"

* * *

The Relief of Florence

Top news from the Italian front—apart from the presence of Mr. CHURCHILL—is the liberation of Florence. High praise has been given to the heroic work of the Italian Partisans who carried on their activities under the eyes of the Germans. The immediate task of the United Nations Army is to see that the city is fed, and while the Allies are remaining offensively outside the city, so as to give no opportunity to the Germans to begin reprisal shelling of the lovely town—an act of cussedness of which they are quite capable—the relief work continues, many tons of food being transported for the brave citizens who have been starved for eight days.

OUR LATEST SUCCESS



Allied Invasion of the South of France

Possible Signal for another New Phase of the War

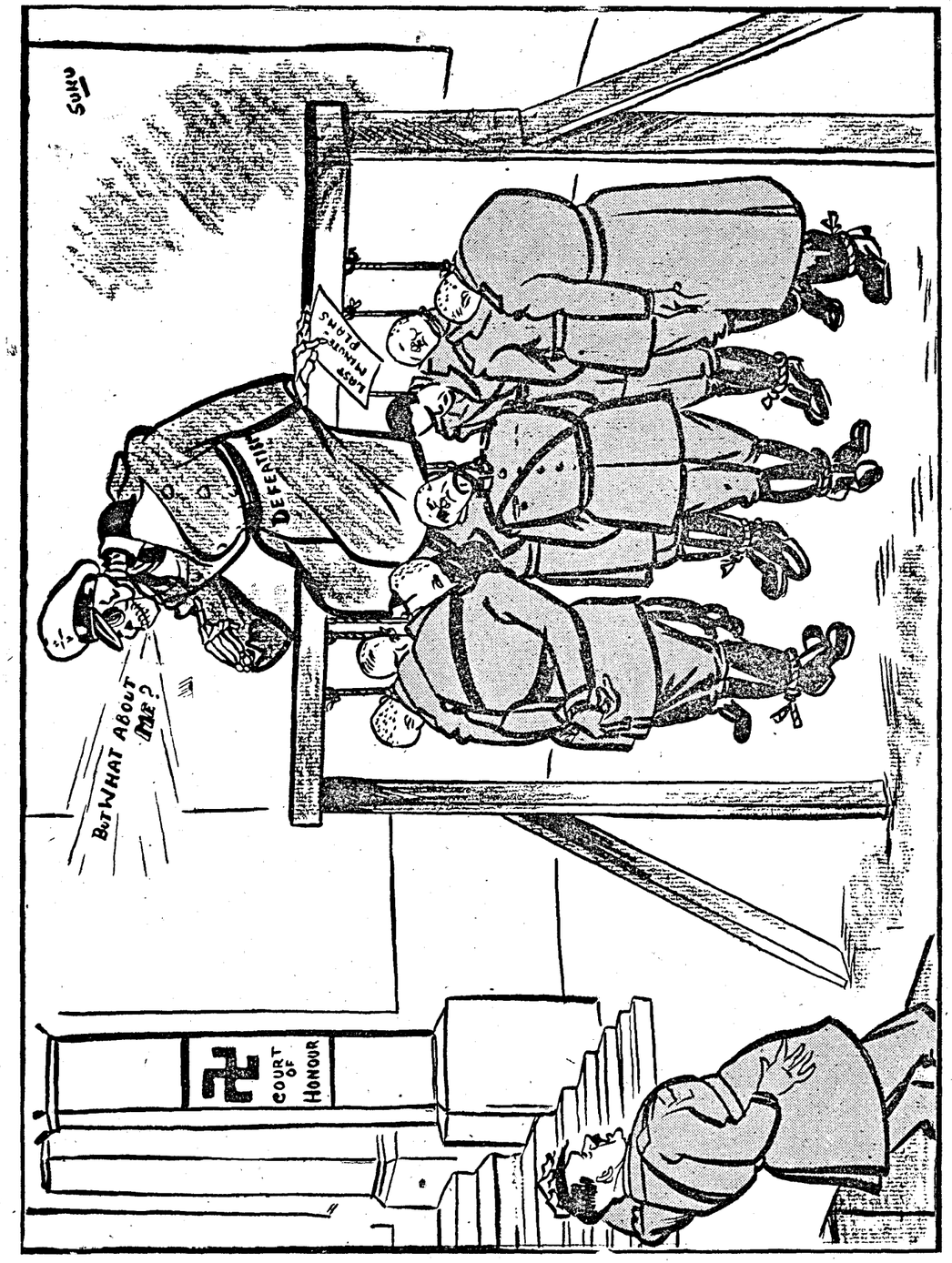
It was fairly obvious that events were rapidly reaching a climax, both speeches and the fast-moving fronts suggesting great action. In the strategical sense Florence in our hands has been the signal for further action on a grand scale in the south of France, just as the fall of Rome was the signal for the Second Front. Meanwhile Mr. CHURCHILL, following quickly on the visit of the King, was there with Marshal TITO and the Premier of Yugoslavia and a company of distinguished leaders of the Forces. Plans may be afoot for the deliverance of the Balkans. The next move lies in good hands, that we do know. The gates of HITLER'S Fortress to the south-east and the south-west are weakly held and, as opportunity permits, the south-east gate may be the next to be broken down. Significant raids were made on Genoa, Marseilles and the Rhone Valley, and equally significant are the raids on centres in Yugoslavia, Hungary and Rumania. It all bodes very ill for the Germans.

* * *

Last Minute Touches

Great events are afoot. And in order that they shall reach as early a fulfilment as possible mum's the word as far as the enemy is concerned. But this may be said, that the travels of both Prime Minister CHURCHILL to the Italian and President ROOSEVELT to the Pacific theatres of war are indicative of last minute touches to the consolidated Allied plans. The heads of great nations at war do not waste time on unnecessary travel. They do not visit the corners of the earth out of idle curiosity. The enemy knows this—and—he will be kept guessing, whether he is an occidental or an oriental fascist! The important point about both these flying tours of battle areas is not their worrying effect on the Germans and the Japanese, but the unity in action which they so clearly signify. In this

THE VOICE OF PROVIDENCE



respect too the tour of the Viceroy in the Imphal region may be said to have its own special significance and to round off the picture of the interest taken at this juncture in the directing of the war—which we should always remember is *one* war although covering the globe, a war with two focal enemy centres, one in Tokyo and one in Berlin.

* * *

Highlights of Roosevelt's Speech Fresh from a regular gathering of the Battle Clans of the Pacific, Mr. ROOSEVELT delivered a speech this week from the Navy Yard at Bremerton, Washington. Describing the capture of the many groups of islands, of Guadalcanal, New Guinea, the Marshalls and the Marianas, he went on to say "The islands will make possible future operations in China—make possible the recapture and independence of the Philippines, and make possible the carrying of war into the home islands of Japan itself, and its capital city of Tokyo." Hard words these for KOISO and Company, to hear! "The word and honour of Japan cannot be trusted," he continued, "That is a simple statement. With the end of the Jap threat there is an excellent outlook for a permanent peace in the whole of the Pacific area." Stressing the peaceful nature of the hundreds of millions of people of the Pacific, the President concluded: "It is an unfortunate fact that other nations cannot trust Japan: it is an unfortunate fact that years of proof must pass before we can trust Japan, and before we can classify Japan as a member of the Society of Nations who seeks permanent peace and whose word we can trust. In removing the future menace of Japan to us and to our continent, we are holding out the hope that other people in the Far East can be freed from the same threat."

* * *

Steady Progress in Burma The monsoon is a double-edged natural calamity for armies on the move, whether they are on the offensive as ours has been in Burma, or whether they are on the run before supplies peter out altogether as in the case of the badly pressed Japanese. Battle under these conditions becomes more of a marine nature than one of true land fighting. It is good news to know that we have captured the Myitkyina railhead and are able in spite of the bad weather, to use this bit of railway which links up much further down with Mandalay, for the carrying of supplies. The rivers too are being used for conveying the necessities of life and war to the toughest army in the field. India is now virtually clear of the Japanese—so much for the would-be invaders.

What a mighty load of gratitude all India owes to the cosmopolitan Army and Air Force which made this possible! And not least of all to men like the Madrassis. There are henceforth no special "martial races", there are only fighters and they come from every corner of the world, tough jungle-hardened men of outstanding valour. Now Upper Burma has begun its normal free life and we are all set for the next stage when the Japs consolidate their straggling forces and put up a stand in the south. But the outcome is certain. They know well who has the upper hand, who has the superiority in arms, equipment, and above all in morale, a point neatly emphasised by the Viceroy in his recent frontline tour. The cracking of that over-vaunted morale is the beginning of the treck down the road to ultimate defeat, just as it is the case with the hard-boiled (so they think) Nazis in Europe.

* * *

Grand Strategy in Russia By keeping her plans a close secret, the Russians are scoring heavily against the bewildered and trapped German armies in the Baltic Republics. First by by-passing Warsaw—let us hope the slight unpleasantness over the Polish resisters there will pass—to the north and south, then by driving great wedges to the Baltic Sea through Latvia to Riga and through Estonia to the coast while at the same time thrusting spear-heads into East Prussia, the Russians are wisely giving the Germans no respite, no time to unify their bottled-up armies. We are witnessing octopus tactics of a really clever scientific kind.

We are not told what the nature of the talks have been between the Polish President and Marshal STALIN, but it is quite possible that the future of East Prussia had something to do with it. East Prussia historically has more links with Poland than with Germany. But first the Teutonic Knights and then the Junker landlords laid claim to it and exploited it for political and strategical purposes. Economically East Prussia has had to be subsidised by Germany, and with a very thin population—somehow Germans would not respond to the intensive propaganda to induce them to settle in East Prussia—it is a fact that at each harvest the territory suffers very acutely from a shortage of labour, only relieved by 25,000 Polish agricultural labourers crossing the border. It is therefore only natural to expect Poland to bid for East Prussia when she has so many fairly justifiable claims to the land.

PRAYER FOR THE TIME OF VICTORY

(*By* R.G.)

When in their hands our people fold
The prize for which they spill their blood,
Not over-proud nor over-bold
Be statesmen then,
But mindful of the savage flood
So hardly crossed. Let Pity hold,
And clear-eyed Truth, the reins for men.

When out of mist and shadow of death
The pilgrim world to hilltop strains
And stands awhile with labouring breath
To scan what lies
In blue and distance-shrouded plains,
Be Hope and Charity and Faith
The guides to clear the leaders' eyes.

Oasis in an endless waste
Were victory by power abused.
Be ours—hard-won and precious-graced
With freedom's crown.
Justice, that our wise people used
To cure their own ills, and shall haste
To claim for all, as for their own.

In those broad plains that lie ahead
Stake out the claim, and mete it well.
The price was paid by all the dead:
Remember them!
And outlaw all the brood of Hell,
Lest tears should flow and blood be shed
Once more to nullify the claim.

KING SEES INDIAN AND OTHER TROOPS IN ITALY

By ERIC LINKLATER

DURING his two-day visit to the Eighth Army in Italy, His Majesty King George VI travelled hundreds of miles by road and by air. In the course of his journey—over the fertile plains and rolling hills of Umbria, through the highlands and mountain passes of Tuscany—he saw for himself many of the natural difficulties that have confronted his troops as they fought their way forward through a country that presents almost every imaginable obstacle to the attackers and gives the defenders every conceivable advantage.

AMAZING DIVERSITY OF TROOPS

For several miles of his progress, the King rode in a jeep over a steeply twisting trail that the Indian Army had built to provide a line of communication through hitherto inaccessible country. From a landing-strip in the mountains he flew to a more conventional airport in one of those admirable light aircraft which increasingly serve the Commanding Officers for reconnaissance and on which the gunners so much depend for observation.

Perhaps the outstanding feature of His Majesty's visit, however, was the diversity of troops who saluted him and then so loudly cheered him as he passed. They lined mile after mile of the road. Here was a platoon troop or a field squadron and there a single sentry; then a workshop company and a battery of Royal Artillery; then an irregular column of infantry upon the hillside or forming an avenue along the road. All the men were bronzed and fit; all of them loudly cheerful and buoyantly confident. In their glowing health and optimism they represented nearly all parts of the Commonwealth from New Zealand to the Canadian prairie and every arm of service.

THE MADRASSIS WERE THERE

The King's route lay through provinces that were lately in the hands of the enemy. Our advance into them and through them was made under cover of fire from Royal Artillery over roads repaired and bridges built by Royal Engineers and our conquest of them was effected by some of the most famous regiments in the Army list. The regiments who lined the King's way through Italy are the lineal descendants of men who fought under Marlborough, who fought in all our many wars since then, and who now with the native-borne steadiness of their kind have consistently borne the heaviest burden of the Eighth Army's campaign out of Egypt to the Arno.

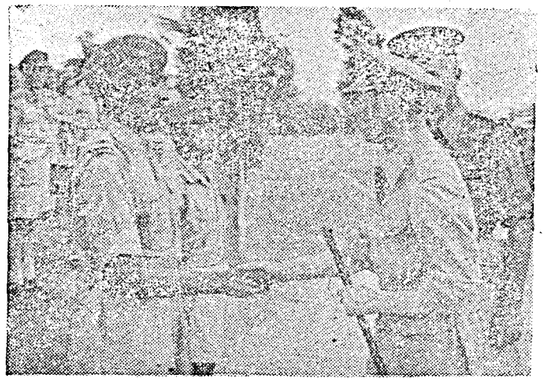
The diversity of the Commonwealth forces was strikingly exhibited in the ranks of the Indian units. Here were bearded Sikhs and lean Mahrattas, Punjabi Mussalmans, men from Madras and men from the Frontier and solid little soldiers from the mountain kingdom of Nepal.

WATCHES ATTACK BY INDIAN INFANTRY

It was very fitting that one of the three Victoria Crosses that the King presented during his tour was given to an Indian sepoy, Kamal Ram. Though much of the world's currency has depreciated in recent years, the value of the Victoria Cross has, if anything, been enhanced.

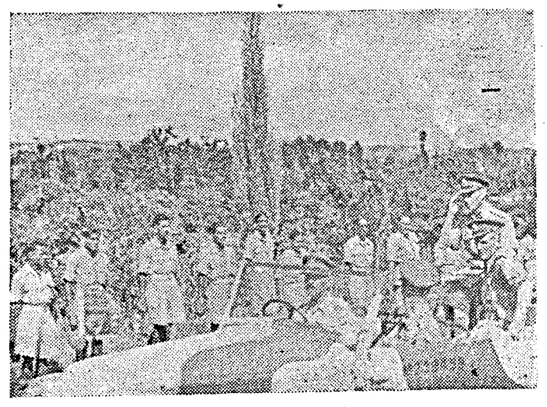
His Majesty saw many soldiers of New Zealand, South Africa and Canada. It was characteristic of the war in Italy, that abounds in little salients and is often carried forward by an aggregation of small actions, that the King was able to watch the progress of an attack by Indian infantry, with tanks and artillery in support, on a ridge within easy range of himself and his staff. The attack was typical of a hundred that have been made in the last few weeks.

It was, indeed, a royal progress through Umbria and Tuscany, but through the royalty of the King, his humanity shone clearly even in the hot light of the Italian sun and the soldiers who cheered him so loudly and so happily were demonstrating not only their loyalty to the monarch but their proud affection for the man.



H.M. the King cordially shaking hands with an Indian soldier.

H.M. the King is seen in intimate conversation with an Indian soldier.



Troops of an Indian Division line the road and cheer the King as he passes seated on the hood of his car.

HOW THE FRENCH IN FRANCE FIGHT ON

By HILARY ST. GEORGE SAUNDERS

Who are the real Frenchmen? Not the collaborators, who are few in number and hated by their countrymen. The ordinary men and women who fight on, —these are the real France.

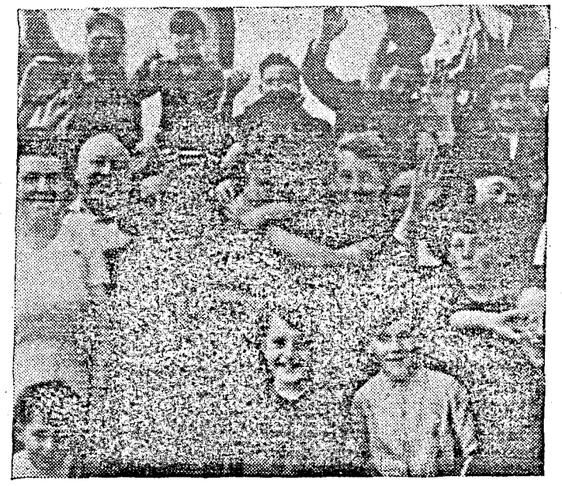
LIKE many others I have of late wondered what reception the sailors, soldiers and airmen, British and American, will get as they set foot on the soil of France. Some of them, those who went through Dunkirk, have been there before during this war. A few will have memories of what France was like in the last war, but for the great majority this trip to the country of our ally is the first.

I write ally advisedly; for that is the first point I would make. France is our ally and has never ceased to be our ally. But by France I do not mean Petain and Laval, de Brinon and Darnand, and all the other men of Vichy, that crowd of now trembling collaborationists. Nor do I mean the herd of white-faced officials whispering in the corridors and on the broad, blue-carpeted staircase of the French Ministry of Information during those dreadful June days in 1940, when I watched the faint-hearted begin to run away and the Fifth Columnists raise their dishonourable heads. Nor do I mean the rich bourgeois with their wives and daughters, packing the restaurants and cafe terraces at Bordeaux and proclaiming in a variety of tones the one theme "the Germans are, after all, very correct." No, I do not mean these, who number, all told, but a few thousand of the forty millions of French men and women. I mean the real French, the workers in the red belt round Paris, whose leaders Daladier so unwisely proscribed in 1939; the farmer and the farm-hands in the countless fields of France; the wood-cutters and charcoal burners in her forests; the vine dressers in her vineyards; the butchers, the bakers, the garage hands, the grocers, and the rest with their one-man businesses in her provincial towns and villages; the engine and lorry drivers; the electricians, the factory operatives—in a word, all the workers, from the highly skilled to the errand boys who used to deliver the long, pointed French loaves. Nor would I forget the local authorities, the mayor and the sub-prefect. Yes, and the village cure and the village policeman—all those elements, in fact, which form the body of the French nation, and which have never lost or betrayed her soul.

These are our allies and have always been our allies, and it is these people whom our soldiers will meet. Not all of them; many thousands are already dead, many thousands are still to die. For they are the actual or potential casualties of a great army, the plain clothes army of France.

THE REAL FRANCE FIGHTS ON

Of late, many of us have listened to talk about what the French will do in the invasion. Well, I believe that that army will continue to fight with redoubled ardour. I say deliberately "continue to fight" for they have been in action since the 18th June 1940. Therefore, I think, the invading troops are going to meet fighters, and fighters who have waged war for four long years. There has gradually grown up among some of us a tendency to judge the French by the conduct of those who are living outside her borders, by that of the exiles. Many of them are in arms and have fought gallantly in many places, on land at Bir Hakim, Tunisia, Southern Italy, on sea in the Atlantic, and in the air all over Western Europe. But the ordinary man does not see much of these men and he is apt to derive his impressions of France from what he reads in the Press about the difficulties and disputes surrounding the birth and childhood of the French National Committee in Algiers. That exiles should quarrel among themselves seems inevitable. If Englishmen had been forced to flee from this island, say to Canada, and there establish a fighting base, I do not suppose for a moment they would have presented a united political front. Tories would have remained Tories, Socialists Socialists. In the free atmosphere of Canada or the United States they would have stuck to their opinions and been allowed to stick to them.



LIBERATION AT LAST!—How French inhabitants of Le Beny Bocage in Normandy greeted one of the first Britishers to enter the town.

That is what has happened among some of the emigres over here. But over them, I fancy, there is no need to worry. They have their chosen war leader, and the difficulties which he has encountered in uniting them for the purpose of carrying on the fight and which he seems very largely to have overcome, need be of no concern to the man in the assault landing craft. The emigres will be at his side or behind him. It is those in front who matter, and about them he can feel reassured. He will not find quarrels and bickerings in France itself. Of that I am convinced. He will not find them for the simple reason that France is not free and that the very fact of having to exist under the heel of a hated and hereditary foe has caused differences of politics, of class, of religion, to disappear. This plain clothes army is as united in the business of fighting as are our own men, who wear the King's uniform or that of the United States. I have heard too many stories of what is going on and has been going on, in France for the last four years, to have any doubt in my mind on this. These stories will one day be told in detail, and it will be found that they all have the same plot; how the Communist was snatched from the clutches of the Gestapo by the local cure, and how the two then went together to contrive the escape from prison of the local Count.

TOUGHENED BY OPPRESSION

Besides unity, I think our men are going to find a passionate desire for action based on a hatred of the Germans which even we in this country, with all we have gone through, find hard to measure. To such an extent is this hatred a solid thing in the life of the Frenchman to-day that those controlling the Underground Movement have, especially of late, had the greatest difficulty in inducing the population, especially the working classes, to have patience, not to strike until we struck, not to rise against their oppressors until the invasion fleet was hull up over the horizon. The occasions in which French workmen, goaded beyond endurance, have paid the instant and final penalty are too numerous to leave any doubt on that score.

A third thing the invaders will find which may surprise them is the great toughness of the population. We know our own soldiers and those of our Allies possess that quality and, indeed, the enemy has more than once acknowledged it. Well, in a competition in toughness the French will certainly not take second place. In one terrible respect their plain clothes army differs from our own. Our soldiers go out to fight knowing that behind them their loved ones—wife, children, mother, sister—are comparatively safe. True, they may fall victims to a German bomb. True, most of them are working hard. True, the allowances paid to them may not be as high or as generous as they would like; but they have enough to eat; the children are at school; there is the cinema at the end of the road, and, above all, they can say what they like to whom they please. But what is the position of the French plain clothes soldier? If the Germans suspect his identity, not only is he shown no mercy, but his relatives, even on occasion to distant cousins, suffer his fate. So much is this so that the men of the Maquis take an oath never to communicate with their families and to pass under assumed names. They are comparatively fortunate. It is the registers in the towns, the doctor in his consulting room, or the priest in his vestry, or the baker in his shop, who run even greater risks; for they fight knowing that if they are caught their whole families are wiped out. They are the greatest heroes of all. So the French will certainly be tough.

I fancy that not many of the Gestapo will be met with, the true Gestapo, that is, the German brand. The Hun is a shade too clever for that. He has for long worked through French traitors, that Submerged Tenth which is to be found in all great nations and which is normally kept behind bars. It did not take the Germans very long to make use of them.

WHO ARE THE VICHY POLICE?

As for the French police, most of the original force has disappeared. Many have been forcibly pensioned, many shot. The Germans never really trusted them, nor did Petain or Laval. Their attitude can, I think, be summed up in the words of one of them who, when making an arrest, was reproached by his victim, a member of the Underground Movement, for helping the enemy. "My grandfather was ruined by the Boche in 1870," he said. "My father was killed by them in 1914. I, myself, have been ruined by them in 1940. Do you think I have any love for them? I am doing my duty now because if I did not, even worse would befall. Mine is a harder task than yours. You have only to fight; I have to pretend and by so doing help you to fight." He let the man go and was soon afterwards found out and shot.

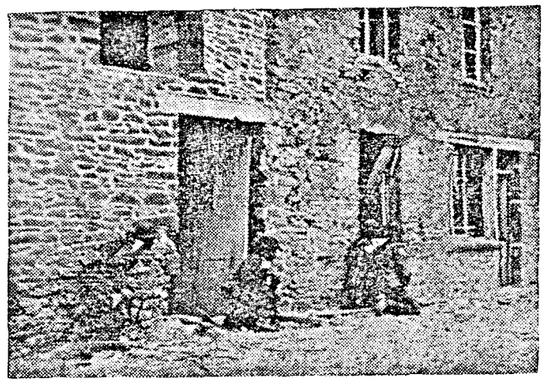
Many of the Vichy police are composed of young men who entered their ranks to escape forced labour in Germany. From the German point of view they, too, are not reliable, any more than the bourgoisie, though here I think caution is necessary. The well-to-do have many of them been more concerned with keeping their possessions and maintaining their standard of life than with fighting back. Theirs is the class who enthusiastically supported Petain. "The old Marshal, he will see us through," they said, and were content to put upon his aged shoulders all the responsibilities which they refused to face. As the months, then the years crawled by and Britain, far from giving way, began to hit back, these gentry became uneasy. Their consciences began to prick them and, worse still, their pockets felt insecure. Now many of them are seeking to trim their sails to the tremendous wind which is blowing out of the west. They are trying to follow in the wake of those honourable exceptions to their class, regular officers many of them, who have never ceased to fight. Petain has become a doddering symbol and Laval a broken reed. For some months now that arch-enemy of England has not dared to move about except in an armoured car surrounded by a strong motor-cycle escort armed with sub-machine guns. He dare not quit even Vichy in any other fashion.

Let this article end with an authenticated story to show the spirit of the French. One of them, who owned a printing works, presently began stealthily to produce one of the two hundred clandestine newspapers which are now circulating in Europe. Little by little, he took the few workmen he employed into his confidence. Little by little, circulation increased. The trouble was to get the paper on which to print it. Presently, mysterious thefts of paper from the quota he was allowed began to take place at short, irregular intervals. The Germans were angry, so was the owner of the plant. He went to them with tears in his eyes. He could not understand it. He had set a severe watch and still quantities of paper disappeared. He himself was the thief. Then money failed, for it costs a lot to produce a clandestine newspaper and he could no longer pay his workmen. They came to him in a body and said, "We will be paid by victory." Of course, he was caught in the end and dragged to gaol by a French agent. When the man locked him into a cell he pulled out a copy of the clandestine newspaper from his pocket and said, "This is my most treasured possession."

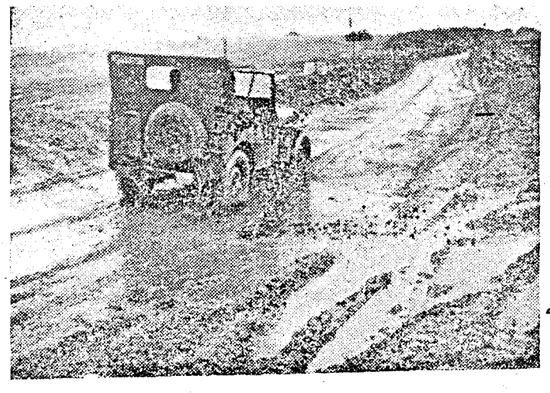
There, then, is France as I believe she is to-day, "a land of frequent incombustions, full of massacres," but a land, too, where hope still flourishes and where gaunt, determined men, who have nothing more to lose, wait in their thousands with eager knives prepared to play their part in the great battle which will give them freedom.

—*With acknowledgments to* Picture Post.

Russian Military Mission visits British front in Normandy. Left to right: Colonel Jorbarov, General Dempsey (G.O.C. 2nd Army), Major General Vasiliev, Major General Sklyarov and Vice-Admiral Kharlamov (Leader of the Mission).



Infantry searches for snipers in ruined houses near Banneville.



This picture gives some idea of how the recent wet weather made heavy going for the Allied forces in France.

Mud on the road leading out of Cheux just north of the Odon.

THEY COVERED THEMSELVES WITH GLORY

Tough, happy warriors of the mighty Fourteenth Army, now on leave from Burma

"We mean to finish the job."

Her Excellency Lady Hope on her way with a jug of hot tea for the men.

NOT for many a long day will the South Indian soldier coming home on leave for a spell of rest from the Battle in Burma forget the endearing welcome extended to him by that tireless band of workers, "the Madras Hospitality Committee," writes an Indian Army Observer.

"A further batch of nearly 1,700 South Indian Troops arrived in Madras on 9th August from Burma, including a few British and Indian Officers, and they were most pleasantly surprised to see flags flying in honour of their arrival and a big placard 'SHABASH, 14th ARMY! MADRAS IS PROUD OF YOU' greeting them. Music provided by the National War Front Loud-speaker van added a further pleasant touch. The Sub-Area Commander was present officially to welcome the boys home.

As the men each, carrying his bed roll, wreathed in smiles, came along, they were every one of them given a cup of tea and a cigarette by the ladies of the Madras Hospitality Committee. In transport specially waiting for them, they were taken to the rest camp, where they were regaled with choice South Indian dishes. Many well known ladies of Madras were there busy looking after the home-coming heroes. Lady Hope was there too, tirelessly moving about from group to group and personally serving food. I am sure the men must have been touched by Lady Hope's personal solicitude for their comfort and well-being.

After the refreshments one could see parties of leave troops all over the city sight-seeing and buying odds and ends to take home to their dear and near ones. They were more like a party of excursionists than men who had braved death in the front lines of Burma.

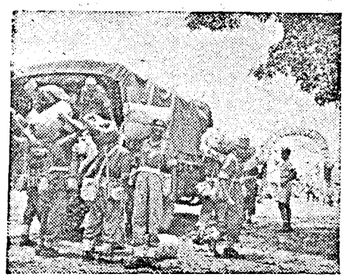
I met a young Madrassi Lieutenant, an Officer in the Engineers, who had very interesting things to say, and who has been mentioned in despatches. Another Madrassi Officer, also a Lieutenant, spoke to me of the excellent name the Madrassi Gunner has built for himself in the Burma fighting. There was a Subedar from Chittoor district and a Jemadar from Tellicherry, who gave graphic accounts of the great work done by Madras Sappers and Miners.

Finally, there was a veteran; he had been a cook in the forward areas. He was all happiness and when I asked him if he found conditions too tough, he retorted, "When generals and brigadiers were roughing it out like the ordinary sepoy, what was there for us to grumble about"—The same spirit that animated the men under Lord Clive at the historic siege of Arcot, unflinching devotion to a great cause even in the hour of direst peril. Of such stuff is the Madrassi soldier made, and the Madrassi Soldier today is cast in the same heroic mould of his illustrious forbear in history.

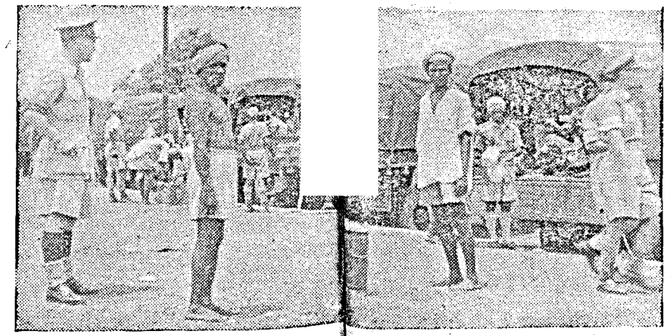
"The Japs Just can't take it."

Men pass under the arch of welcome.

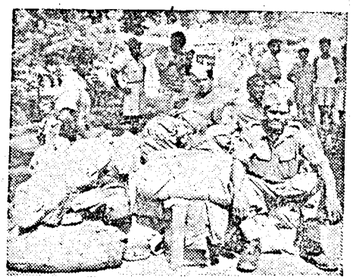
"I helped to give them that hiding."



Madras at last! Fresh arrivals.



"Does anybody want more tea?"



Home once again.

"Will you come back with us?"

LIFE IN THE RAW ON SALWEEN RIVER FRONT

CALL IT 'JUST PLAIN GUTS'

By CAPT. H. DONALD KNIGHT

Capt. H. Donald Knight recently returned to Headquarters of the Y-Force Operations Staff, Southwest China, following a tour of duty with an American air support team in the precipitous mountains of the Kaoli Kung Range, west of the Salween River. It is in this area that American liaison officers, headed by Brig. Gen. Frank Dorn, are advising and aiding Chinese troops in their drive against the Japanese to break the two-year blockade of the Burma Road.

CALL it "intestinal fortitude" or just plain "guts," American officers and enlisted men now serving with the Chinese armies in the Salween River area in western Yunnan Province have it.

It is almost impossible to describe the ruggedness of the mountain trails over which all progress must be made. Rising to heights as much as 12,000 feet, they are frequently so precipitous that it is impossible for men and animals to ascend. Paths must zigzag dizzily in order to give any footing to the marching troops.

Frequently, trails are beds of streams, with cobbles for footing, so that pack animals slip and slide and must be dragged over spots by the soldiers. When a monsoon rain floods the stream course, it is necessary to wade through the water.

TURNS TO GUMBO

Some trails are covered with black soil which turns to gumbo in the rains, clinging to heavy G.I. shoes until they begin to appear like "wedgies" on a Jersey beach. Others are of a slick clay composition, which results in a two-steps-forward-one-step-back, snail progress uphill and a sudden roller-coaster effect on the descent, a misstep throwing the walker forward, gyrating wildly in an attempt to regain balance before he misses a curve and goes over a cliff.

Because of the sheerness of the trails and the altitude of this "highest battleground in the world," breathing becomes laboured and there are times when the only way a man can reach a mountain crest is to sight a tree or stump 50 yards in advance and say to himself, "I'll get that far or die trying", and then pull himself to the goal by determination alone.

Descent, curiously, is no easier. True, one does not have the sensation of lungs splitting the chest, but the descent is so difficult and long that calf muscles are knotted and knees lose all sensation.

NEW TO YANKS

To most Americans out here, this is a new type of country—but they are taking it in stride. Much admired is Lt.-Col. Oscar R. Zipf, 50-year old commander of an air support team. In spite of his years the colonel arrives with his men and is ready to begin work even after a 10-hour marching day—no mean feat for even younger men.

Few of the Americans on this campaign are expert horsemen or mule packers. All transportation is of necessity by pack animal or Chinese coolie and there are not enough "ma fus" or grooms, to go around, so every American is now a "ma fu."

The first few days of packing the light wooden frames were heartbreaking. Loads were too heavy—a pack-animal will only carry from 80 to 120 pounds—and the animals refused to move. If packs were not perfectly balanced, the bouncing of the animal soon slid the frame from the saddle, sometimes to roll down into a deep ravine from which the load had to be packed up by hand, piecemeal.

But the men learned, and now it is a rare occasion when a pack is lost or thrown. Perfect balance is achieved, if necessary, by the addition of a convenient rock on the light side of the

(*Continued on page* 14)

SESHIAH, THE CURIOUS VILLAGER

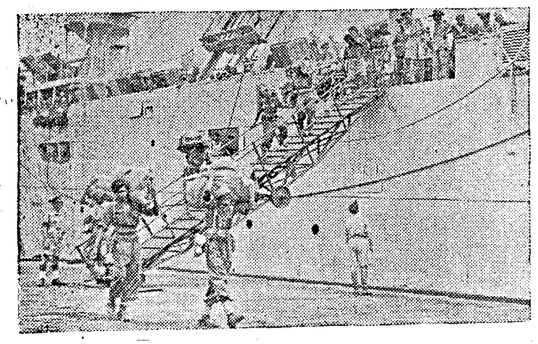
(*By* R.G.)

CANTO IV—*First Instalment.*

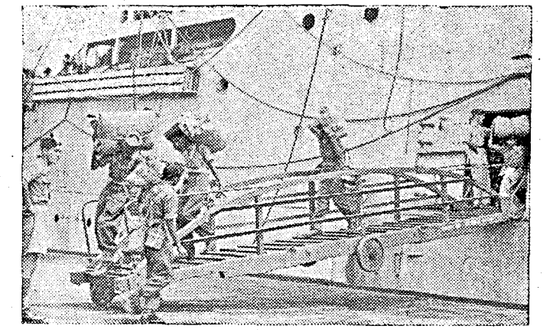
Through August and September too
With mighty deeds of derring-do
The boys of Britain played a hand
Lonely and dangerous and grand
And struck down from the cleanly air
Birds with no business to be there,
The buzzards of the bloody claw,
The vultures beyond pale and law;
While on the seas their fellows kept
(In all the ocean's lore adept)
Their vigil through the night and day
And kept the U-boat packs at bay.

Seshiah followed with delight
The fortunes of the unequal fight,
Not merely loving the excitement
But understanding what the fight meant.
For by this time he's done his best
With a praiseworthy interest
To find out who was who and why
This side and that thought fit to die:
And having worked out what was what
He thought the Nazis should be shot.
(A pity, may be, that the leaders
And writers of the press and readers
Throughout the land did not likewise
Regard the facts with open eyes.
But at this time a noted saint
Was voicing loudly his complaint
That Britons would not just invite
Hitler to walk with all his might
Upon their faces, and so prove
The power of non-violent love;
While others, though they half conceded
A little violence was needed
To make the world a safer place,
Said they could not without disgrace
Accept positions by the side
Of Britain's Viceroy; for their pride
Required that as a Cabinet
They should in full control be set:
And to such mighty men it sounds ill
To be dubbed Members of a Council.)

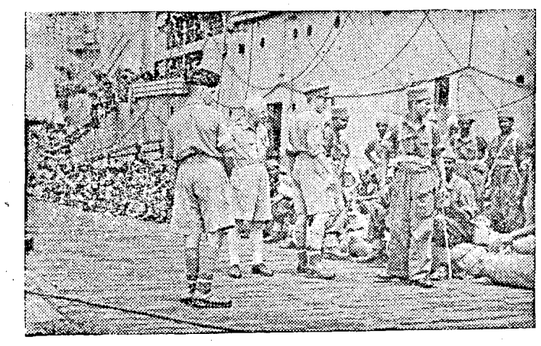
MEN OF THE GALLANT FOURTEENTH ARMY ARRIVE ON LEAVE FROM BURMA



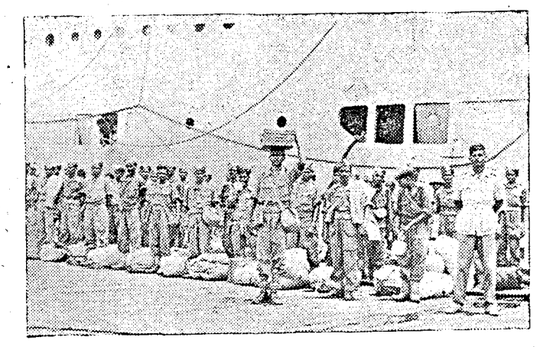
Hurry up there!



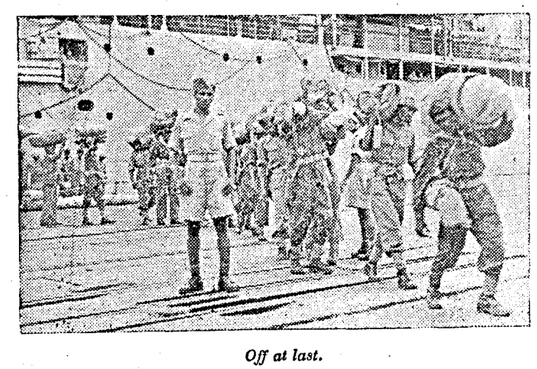
Gangway for heroes.



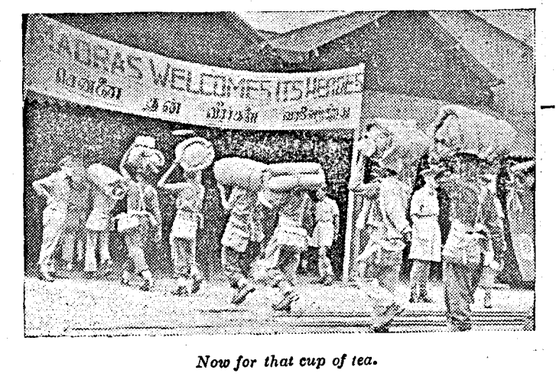
All ashore.



The warriors line up.



Off at last.



Now for that cup of tea.

(*Continued from page* 12)

load. Chinese rope ties have been mastered and it is seldom that part of the load now slips from its mooring to allow the pack to fall off.

Americans are eating the Chinese staple—rice. A quarter of a can of C-rations per man—stew, meat and beans, or hash—is thinned by the addition of water and spread over the rice to relieve the dryness. Occasionally, when not-so-sweet brown sugar is available locally, it is melted and poured into wet rice in a canteen cup.

Once in a while it is possible to shoot a wild pig or to buy a steer, which is then divided among the American personnel in the area and furnishes a dinner reminiscent of the Waldorf. But the diet is largely rice, two meals a day.

Even American field officers stand guard at night—there is always the possibility of a small Jap patrol creeping through the lines. Jap artillery, fortunately, is scarce. Immediately after one Chinese unit crossed the Salween, however, the Japs began to drop a shell or two daily from the one 75-howitzer they possessed, into division headquarters area.

'WHISTLING MAMIE'

The shell christened by the Americans as "Whistling Mamie," did little or no damage, although one landed in a stream just above an American radio team whose members were indulging in a bath. Another hit about 100 yards from an air support party.

When the Chinese move forward the Americans move with them. The veterinary men take care of both Chinese and American horses, the artillerymen are on hand to advise the Chinese artillery crews, the medicos follow with their portable surgical hospitals.

Several Americans have managed to kill Japs. One artillery sergeant has developed a system whereby he uses the Chinese to flush a Jap, whereupon he circles until he gets close enough to fire his rifle unerringly. So far he has five Japs to his credit.

Almost every American has lost from 15 to 30 pounds in six weeks: almost all have had diarrhœa or some other disorder. Those seriously ill have been flown back to headquarters by liaison planes for medical attention.

Mail has been arriving with startling regularity, either flown in by liaison plane or brought in by pack train. Some curious incidents have occurred in this connection. One officer received a package containing over 25 bars of soap, after days of calculation on how to reduce the weight of his personal luggage. Another man received two cartons of cigarettes just as his entire party had exhausted their supply of cigarettes and pipe tobacco. Packages of food or candy are like manna from Heaven.

AIR SUPPORT

Air support, although considerably hampered by weather, has been remarkably successful. P-40's have dropped 500 pound bombs in direct hits upon pillboxes and a considerable number of Japs have been found dead from ·50 calibre airplane machine-gun "lead poisoning."—*From C.B.I. Roundup.*

Mr. Churchill paid a flying visit to General Montgomery to get first-hand information about the recent Allied advance in France. This was the Prime Minister's third visit to France since the landings.

OUR BEVIN BOYS

Encouraged by British Firms.

The following extracts from the correspondence received by a leading Indian Company, from Britain show the readiness with which important British firms provide free and valuable training to three Indians under the Bevin Boys' Scheme:—

"Both trainees, that is K.D. Nominal Roll No. 8/21 and J.K. Nominal Roll No. 8/52, were sent to us for training under the Ministry of Labour and National Service Indian Training Scheme. They were with us for a period of eight weeks, leaving on April 7, 1944 presumably to return to India. Their training at these works consisted chiefly of grinding and sieving magnesium aluminium alloy—weighing, mixing, drying and storing of composition—priming and all operations on mechanical filling and finishing. Their work and behaviour during their period of training here was exceptionally good."

"As a matter of interest, Dr. S.C. who is a qualified medical practitioner has been given a temporary appointment as Assistant in the Medical Section of the Dyestuffs Division to enable him to gain first-hand experience in industrial medicine. This appointment was made primarily as a matter of goodwill and not with any particular idea that Dr. C. would seek or be offered the position by I.C.I. (India), Limited, when he returns to India. It was thought that there were very few, if any, medical practitioners in India, having experience of industrial medicine as practised in this country, and that as Dr. C. could make himself useful at Manchester it would be a gesture to let him acquire this experience which he could take back with him to India."

Dr. C. is being paid during his period of work and study with the Dyestuffs Division.

INSIDE JAPAN

By SEISAKU SHIONI

The author, a former Japanese consular official, has been in China since 1938, participating in anti-Japanese revolutionary work. Aged 30, he is a graduate of the French department of the National Osaka School of Foreign Languages. He was sent to Hanoi, Indo-China, in 1936, to work in the Japanese Consulate-General in that city. Two years later a car in which he was driving inadvertently crossed the Chinese border, and he was captured. Amazed at the good treatment he received, he, within three months, volunteered to work for the Anti-Fascist cause.

ALTHOUGH I have been in China for over five years I have been able to keep in touch with the conditions in Japan, thanks to our underground channels of information and the Chinese secret service. The Japanese people live a life of ration cards under the strain of war. The control is so strict that it is commonly whispered that life itself is rationed in Japan. The commodity price situation is not as serious as it has been reported abroad, for the Japanese Government has long adopted a strict system of price control. However, readjustments in private incomes, especially among the salaried class, have, ever since the beginning, lagged far behind the rise of prices. Thus the salaried class suffer the most.

RATIONING BEGAN IN 1938

The real trouble in Japan's economic set-up is the acute shortage in materials and consumer goods. This will be further aggravated by the Government's decision to suspend "non-essential manufacturing in favour of war production." The Japanese solution for the shortage of goods is rationing. The system was first introduced in May 1938, when the purchase of mineral oil in Japan had to be done through ration cards. The first consumer's goods put under the rationing system were sugar and matches, first rationed in June 1940. Since then the list has been constantly enlarged so that it now comprises all daily necessities of Japanese life.

The goods are distributed through "neighbourhood association" every month or ten days. Each association has about ten families and is headed by a president appointed by the police. The goods are bought with cash on a basis of ration cards. Goods can also be bought in the black market. The black market prices are sky-high, although the available goods sold in such markets are rather limited.

8 lb. OF RICE A MONTH

Each adult gets only about 8 lb. of rice a month—and rice is the staple food in Japan. This explains the cry for more food production in Japan and occupied China. As each adult needs about 22 lb. of rice a month (workmen need more) the amount allowed is far from sufficient. This deficiency is usually made up by potatoes, millet and other cereals. This also explains why the Japanese Government recently ordered the increased production of potatoes for rice-consuming people. For those who have to eat away from home meal tickets are issued by the authorities. Only people with meal tickets are allowed to eat in restaurants. It is now a common practice for Japanese people to carry their own rice when they go visiting. Even farmers do not have enough rice for their own consumption, for all the crop is brought by the Government at arbitrary prices.

The poor harvest in Korea (in 1942 ten million piculs less than average) and the shortage of shipping for the transport of rice produced in Japanese-occupied areas in south-eastern Asia further aggravate the food shortage.

Sugar, salt, sauce and other seasoning materials are rationed. Each person can only get half a catty (3/5 lb.) of sugar, half a catty of bean curd, half a catty of biscuits or cakes, and one pint of wine each month. The amount may be reduced as Japan's all-out munition production will further curtail the manufacture of cakes, and the shortage or rice production will give the ration still less wine.

For families with more than ten persons ten "special packages" of matches (each with 230 matches) are allowed each month. Six packages are issued to families over six. For families with five persons ten "ordinary packages" (70 matches each) are allowed each month. Two packages each month are issued to families with less than four persons, thus each person averages one package of matches a month—not sufficient for smoking purposes. Each person is allowed a cake of toilet soap and a cake of laundry soap each month, hardly enough for the family washing.

There are other goods which are rationed only when a stock is available. Among them are beer, soda water, paper and eggs. Each person gets one or two eggs a month, and it takes one or two months before the second stock is accumulated and rationed. The shortage of eggs can hardly be made up by keeping chickens as there is not enough chicken feed for the purpose. What was formerly chicken feed is now earmarked as food for the people. The Government is now encouragnig the raising of rabbits to supplement the nation's meat supply.

Even the supply of fish, the second most important supply of food for the Japanese people, is reduced under the strain of war. A large number of fishing boats have been commandeered to serve as patrol boats, and the drafting of young men from coastal villages has also created a man-power shortage in the fishing industry.

The production of vegetables is reduced as most of the larger vegetable gardens are devoted to the production of rice. Japanese gardens are ordered to grow vegetables instead of flowers. Housewives have to go to the markets every morning at 3 a.m. and stand in long queues for the day's shopping.

SYNTHETIC COTTON CLOTHES

The rationing of clothes started in February 1942. It includes nearly every type of garment. Each year a person residing in any of the big cities is allowed 100 coupons, while one living in a village is allowed 80. But since the coupons required for each garment in 1943 were increased about 25 per cent, last year's card got one-fourth less than those of 1942. For 1943 each suit required 63, an overcoat 50, a "people's uniform" 40, a raincoat 38, a woman's dress 35, a shirt 15, a suit of summer underwear 16, socks 3, a towel 3, and a handkerchief 2. Most of the clothes are made of synthetic cotton, as raw cotton is mainly diverted to war production. Clothes made of synthetic cotton become shreds after two or three washings. Besides encouraging the use of geta (wooden slippers) Japan's war-time footwear is mainly made of pig skin or fish skin instead of leather. These pig or fish skin shoes lose their shape or crack after getting wet, and Japan is a rainy country.

The shortage of consumer goods in Japan is already acute, yet the situation is further deteriorating with the increase of war strain on the nation. The Government issued warnings of a food shortage last winter. The conversion of all "non-essential" factories into war plants will further curtail the production of consumer goods. The situation will be further worsened if the Allies can begin a large-scale bombing offensive against Japanese industrial cities and dislocate the nation's production and transport.

ARMY ENGINEERS BUILD A HOSPITAL

Forward hospitals often have primitive beginnings and ambitious endings. Here is the story of a hospital project, typical of other hospital histories, in the development of which British and Indian engineers have played so conspicuous a part near the Indo-Burma front, writes an Indian Army Observer.

In an area in East Bengal one Indian General Hospital scheme had its beginnings in May 1943. As the work proceeded tents were gradually pulled down and patients housed in comfortable *bashas*.

Pending the construction of a bamboo building the one brick structure standing on the site—an old cookhouse—was converted into an operating theatre. It had a white ceiling, several sinks and taps. It has been one of the most successful adaptations yet carried out by the engineers.

The engineers are now working on a new hospital with laminated doors, cement walls and ceilings. In place of glass, which is no longer available, a paper substitute will be used.

When completed this hospital will have the best-equipped operating theatre east of Calcutta. To house casualties from the front as well as dealing with local cases there will be 750 beds, of which 500 are now ready for use.

THOMAS MANN INDICTS NAZISM

THE following quotations are from a broadcast message (in German) addressed to the German people by Thomas Mann, the famous German novelist and Noble Prize winner. A convinced democrat and anti-Nazi, he was forced to flee from Germany in 1933 when Hitler came to power. His books were publicly burned, and he was deprived of German citizenship. After spending some years in France and Czechoslovakia, Mann has been living in the United States since 1938. This message of the world-famous German intellectual is the most damning indictment of Nazism:—

"Greek mythology tells of a King Midas, who turned everything that he touched into gold. To-day we know from our own experience that there is a touch that turns everything, however fine, immediately into filth. National Socialism is the possessor of this disgusting gift. *All contemporary ideas, born of the spirit, of hope for the future, of desire for the perfection of social living, all that is good and benevolent, all this National Socialism grabs for itself, steals it, warps it, distorts, spoils and sullies it, invests it with a revolting misshape with a smell of hellish disgust. Everything that National Socialism lays hold of—and it lays hold of everything—in its hands inevitably turns to dirt and vomit . . . the strongest and most characteristic element in this horrible phenomenon is the element of degradation. It has degraded all ideas that have won the allegiance of the best throughout the world, and turned them into something that no decent human being any longer wishes to consider. The ideas of Socialism, of revolution, of peace, of patriotism, to name but a few. It would be a worthy, though distasteful, task to show in detail how it has perverted them all and dragged them in the gutter.*"

". . . The concept of Europe was beloved and dear to us, a natural part of our thoughts and aspirations. It was the antithesis of provincial stuffiness, of narrow egotism, of nationalistic crudity and ignorance; it stood for liberty, space, spirit and goodness. National Socialism took the matter up. It (National Socialism) too speaks of 'Europe,' but in exactly the same way as it speaks of 'revolution,' 'peace' or 'patriotism'. *It is not Germany that is to become European, but Europe that is to become German. Against the desperate resistance of nations, wading in blood amidst a din of wails and curses, insensible to a hatred such as no nation on earth has ever before had to bear, National Socialism is busy turning Europe into an emasculated, spiritually sunken aggregate of exploited slave races, thinly sealed appendage of monopolist Germany, a German Protectorate in the word's most dishonourable sense.*"

". . . the Nazi's idea of Europe as a whole, the way in which he thinks about it, how he loves it, is expressed in the statement made by an officer of the German General Staff to the Mexican Military attaché in Berlin, in answer to the question, what would the Nazis do to solve the problem of hunger and revolt in Europe. '*The whole of Europe may starve,*' *said the German,* '*as long as our forces are sufficiently provisioned. We are determined to exterminate the whole civilian population rather than capitulate*'. A manly answer, the answer of a good German-European . . . Hitler-Europe in its entirety is the base distortion and pollution of a great idea that had at long last been groping towards realisation . . . It will be realised, but, by God's will, not in the malignant parody offered by Nazidom. . . . What must be restored, after its degradation by the gorilla Midas, is amongst and before all else the idea of Europe, which was in the best hearts an idea of liberty, of international honour, of sympathy and human collaboration, and will be so again."

GERMAN OIL OUTPUT REDUCED

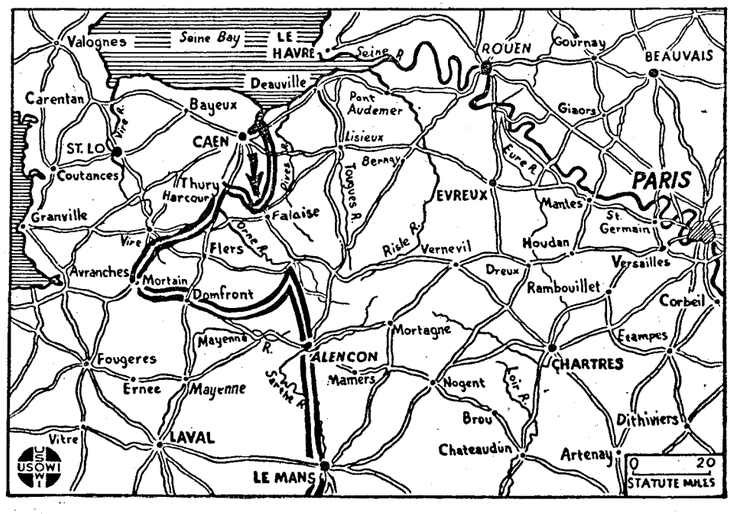
ALL-OUT AIR OFFENSIVE

ALL Allied air forces based in Europe—the Royal Air Force Bomber Command, the United States Eighth and 15th Air Forces and the First Tactical Air Force in Italy and the United States Ninth and Royal Air Force Second Tactical Air Forces now operating partly from Normandy and partly from southern England—are co-operating in an all-out offensive against Germany's fuel supplies, writes *The Times* æronautical correspondent.

Now that severe damage has been caused to the main producing centres, notably Ploesti in Rumania, it is regarded as profitable to bomb more localized supplies such as dumps and storage capacity. In France, for instance, the chaotic state of railway and road communications means that if local supplies can be depleted the enemy may find himself with inadequate quantities. Already there have been several cases of undamaged vehicles being abandoned because they had no oil or petrol. The same thing has happened several times in the Mediterranenan.

It is estimated that the June output of oil from refineries under German control was only 70 per cent of the output before the intensified attacks started, and that synthetic oil production has been cut by half.

FRANCE: EISENHOWER'S PINCER-TRAP



A Fascist despatch rider returned to his base and reported to his CO: "Please, a British soldier stopped me on the road, searched me, took all my papers, then walked away."

"What!" yelled his officer, "You let him search you? You had a revolver, hadn't you?"

"Oh, yes," said the despatch rider with a cunning smile, "but he didn't find that. I hid it in my cap."

The other day an ex-soldier expressed an opinion of what the next war will be like.

"It will be terrible," he said.

"The safest place will be in the army, and the soldiers will spend their spare time knitting comforts for the harassed civilian population."

BACKGROUND ON FLORENCE: ITALY'S EIGHTH CITY

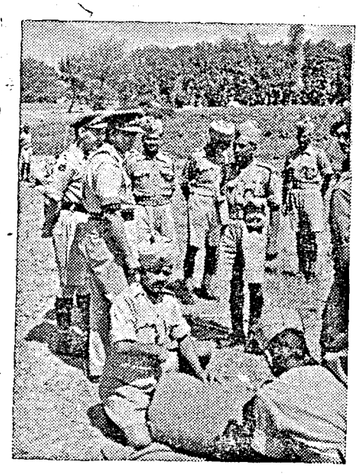
FLORENCE, which has now been occupied by Allied troops, is famed for its treasures of art. The city, where the Eighth Army now is, is the eighth largest Italian city. It ranks with Naples and Venice in beauty. Formerly capital of the Grand Duchy of Tuscany, it is now the capital of the Florence province.

Pre-war, over 300,000 lived here on the banks of the Arno river, 41 miles east and inland from the Ligurian Sea. A broad, beautiful valley with rich soil enabled the city's environs to produce an abundance of food. Wheat, maize, olives and many fruits are grown.

Florence is the centre of four main rail lines and of four important roads leading to many of Italy's major cities. From the Middle Ages the City has been the focus of Italy's economic and intellectual life. Florence always was noted for artists and merchants, among the latter Lorenzo de Medici, poet and merchant prince styled the Magnificent.

By means of its banks Florence was Europe's money market. It was world famous for its woollen industry, and also for its silk weaving. At present, its industrial production embraces sweetmeats and straw hats—these from the city that Raphael, Leonardo da Vinci and Botticelli made immortal.

People of Florence welcome a unit of the Eighth Army Armoured Force after Allied troops had entered the outskirts of the City.



MAHARAJA OF JAIPUR VISITS TROOPS IN ITALY.—His Highness the Maharaja of Jaipur, accompanied by Major-General G. O. Harvey, Military Advisor-in-Chief, Indian State Forces, paid a visit to Indian troops serving in Italy. The Maharaja talking to men of his own State.

• • •

A young British pilot was being congratulated by a fellow officer as he stepped from his plane. "But after all the pilot said, "I out-numbered *the Germans one to five.*"

AN EXAMPLE FOR US ALL

SEPOY KAMAL RAM, INDIA'S 10th V.C.

Sepoy Kamal Ram of the 8th Punjab Regiment of village Bholupura, Karauli State, is only 20 years old and the Indian Army's youngest V.C. He is also the first sepoy to win an award during this war and the first Indian soldier to win it on the Italian front. His Majesty the King himself presented him with the award at a special investiture during his tour in Italy. Here is gallant Kamal Ram ready for the next Nazi.

After a raid during the first World War, an AEF surgeon told the chaplain that one wounded man was quite beyond hope. The chaplain leaned over him: "My dear fellow, you are very badly wounded. Have you anything to say or any word you want to send to your family?"

"My inside coat pocket," breathed the soldier, painfully.

The chaplain felt a pocket book, and took it out. "Is this what you want?"

"Yes, open it."

"Here is a ten-dollar bill. Is that what you want?"

"Yes," said the soldier, in a whisper.

"Bet you that that I don't die." And he did not.

WAR DIARY

BRITAIN AND GERMANY

9TH AUG.—Allied bombers attacked Stuttgart region to-day and Cologne yesterday.

The number of German U-boats sunk during the war has exceeded 500.

10TH AUG.—Some of the flying bombs falling in Southern England during the last few days carried small incendiary bombs, stated the Ministry of Home Security. Southern England was subjected to flying bomb raids. Flying bomb launching sites in Northern France were attacked by R.A.F. planes.

Mr. Edward Stettinius, Under Secretary of State of United States, said that the question of military occupation of Germany would be dealt with by the European Advisory Committee and not at the forthcoming Four-Power Conference on Post-war Organization. Mr. Cordell Hull said that the army will deal with the matter with the European Advisory Committee.

11TH AUG.—Allied aircraft bombed Berlin and Bremen.

Flying bombs on a large scale attacked Southern England.

12TH AUG.—Germans sent flying bombs in great numbers over Southern England. Flying bomb launching sites in northern France were attacked by R.A.F. bombers.

Allied aircraft attacked Berlin.

13TH AUG.—Royal Air Force bombers attacked Brunswick, Russelsteim, Kiel and Frankfurt last night.

There was flying bomb activity over southern counties. Flying bomb launching sites were bombed by Allied aircraft.

14TH AUG.—Flying bombs over Southern England including London area caused some damage and casualties.

Allied bombers attacked Ludwigshafen, Mannheim, Sandhofen, Echterdingen and other places in Germany.

15TH AUG.—Flying bombs came over Southern England including London area.

Royal Air Force bombers attacked Berlin last night. Military objectives in Cologne-Ostheim, Weisbaden-Erbenheim and Frankfurt-Eschborn were also bombed.

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE ATLANTIC

10TH AUG.—The United States War Department ordered a sweeping reduction in the production of Liberator bombers, Commando Transport planes and Thunderbolt fighters to clear the way for the production of the huge new B-29 and B-32 Super bombers.

13TH AUG.—The Four-Power World Security talks will begin in Washington on 21st August. British delegates arrived in Washington yesterday.

14TH AUG.—The United States War Department announced to-day that 677,012 tons of bombs have been dropped by United States air forces in all theatres of operations since Pearl Harbour until July 1, 1944. This works at 30 tons per hour. The Navy Department announced that the destroyer escort *Fiska* has been sunk by a U-boat in the Atlantic. This brings the number of United States warships lost since the beginning of war to 175.

15TH AUG.—The Chairman of the United States War Production Board, Mr. Donald Nelson, has lifted the ban on the manufacture of hundreds of civilian articles, where local surpluses of labour and machinery permit.

* * * *

INDIA, BURMA AND CEYLON

9TH AUG.—The Japanese rearguards were driven from positions on the Tiddim Road fifty miles from Imphal.

10TH AUG.—The Allied troops have captured Sahmaw and Taungni.

It is revealed that Lord Wavell recently toured for three days parts of India liberated from the Japanese. He visited Manipur, Imphal, Kohima, etc.

11TH AUG.—The 14th Army troops were within ten miles from Burma border.

12TH AUG.—The 14th Army men were only seven miles from the Burma frontier. They entered the Tengtam deep in the Chin Hills nearly 60 miles from Imphal.

13TH AUG.—The Allied troops occupied Kazu on Myitkyina-Bhamo road.

14TH AUG.—14th Army troops reached the Burma border.

On both the Tiddim Road and Kabaw valley Allied troops made further progress.

15TH AUG.—Jap rearguards fell back on the Tiddim Road. Fighting continued within five miles of the India-Burma frontier.

* * *

RUSSIA AND FINLAND

9TH AUG.—The drive against Warsaw was resumed. The Red Army's preparations for the invasion of East Prussia were complete. Russian troops captured a number of places in their advance in the Baltic States.

The former Foreign Minister of Finland Anti B. Heckzell was appointed Prime Minister in the new Finnish Cabinet.

10TH AUG.—Soviet troops drew nearer to Riga. The Russian forces captured Jakobpils, Raseineal, Podbycz and over 300 localities.

The Polish Prime Minister, M. Stanislav Mikolajczyk, met Stalin yesterday. He made a statement on his talks with Stalin and the Polish Committee of National Liberation.

11TH AUG.—The Red Army troops captured Petseri, Rozhy, Kryshy, Kosovruski and about 500 localities.

12TH AUG.—The Soviet troops captured Lepessari, Auce, Shepetovo and over 600 localities.

13TH AUG.—The Soviet threat to East Prussia has entered a new and dangerous phase. The Russian forces captured Vyrub and Madona and Goniadz and over 300 localities.

14TH AUG.—The Russian forces captured Osowiec, Antoslu and hundreds of other localities.

15TH AUG.—Russians crossed Bialurza river—the last natural obstacle before the East Prussian frontier. Soviet forces captured several towns and localities in various sectors.

ITALY AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

9TH AUG.—The Allied troops occupied Grillo. General Maitland Wilson has moved his Mediterranean Headquarters from Algiers to Italy.

10TH AUG.—The Canadians were active in Florence.

11TH AUG.—Germans withdrew to the northern parts of Florence. Allied forces captured Capezzano, Monterado and Corinaldo.

It is revealed that Mr. Churchill is in Italy

12TH AUG.—Adverse weather restricted operations. Activity on the entire Italian front was confined to patrolling. Allies captured Florence.

Mr. Robert Patterson, the United States Under-Secretary of War and Lieut.-General B. Somervell, Commander of the United States Army Services of Supply joined Mr. Churchill in Italy.

13TH AUG.—In the town of Florence troops of the Eighth Army were still on the south bank of the Arno. Lieutenant-General Sir Oliver Leese, the Eighth Army Commander, has sent a message of thanks to Major-General D. Russel, General Officer Commanding, the Eighth Indian Division.

Mr. Churchill, Marshal Tito and other Allied Chiefs met in Rome.

14TH AUG.—Allied forces captured Fontone. New Zealanders were fighting to clear the banks of Arno between Empoli and Florence.

15TH AUG.—On all fronts patrolling and artillery duels continued.

VICHY, FREE FRANCE AND THE OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

9TH AUG.—The Allied troops captured St. Malo. Le Mans and other places. Americans were within 90 miles of Paris.

General Eisenhower has moved his headquarters from Britain to France. Churchill visited Normandy.

Allied bombers attacked targets in Hungary.

10TH AUG.—American troops entered Nantes. South of Caen, Canadian troops captured Conteville, Poussy La Campagne, Saint Sylvain and Cauvicourt. British troops reached Vimout. Germans recaptured Mortain.

11TH AUG.—British troops reached Esson. Germans recaptured Le Mans. Allied troops were said to be within 50 miles of Paris.

Military targets in Rumania and Yugoslavia were attacked by Allied bombers.

12TH AUG.—Allied troops crossed Loire and reached a point 10 miles south of Nantes. Heavy fighting was in progress in Dinard area.

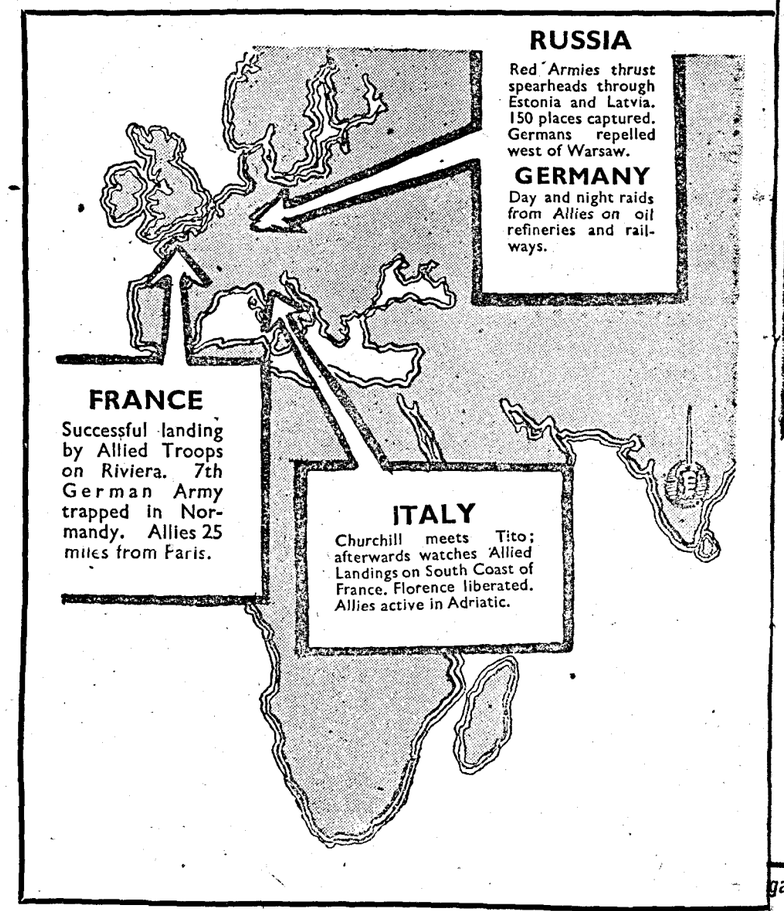
13TH AUG.—An embattled and broken German army of more than 100,000 men fleeing towards Falaise gap was battered savagely from the air.

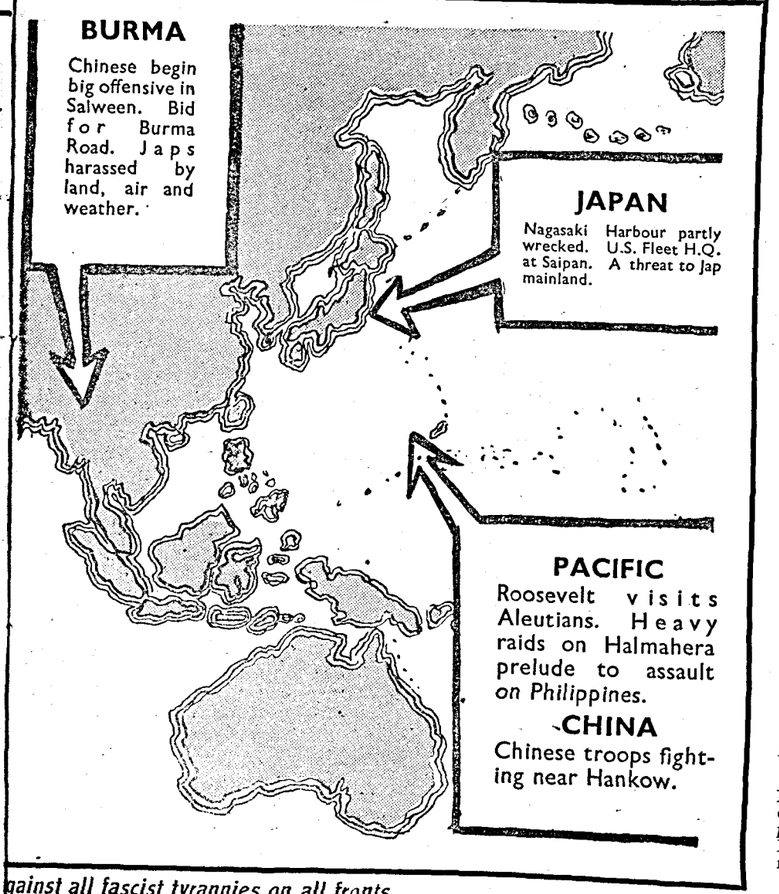
Americans captured Sourdeval.

14TH AUG.—The retreat of the beaten German Army through the ever-narrowing Falaise-Argentan gap has become very near a rout. Allied troops entered Clair Tizon and Donnay.

General Eisenhower made a special appeal to his troops to make this week a momentous one.

THE WORLD WAR THIS WEEK'S NEWS





India lies at the heart of this Global war against all fascist tyrannies on all fronts.

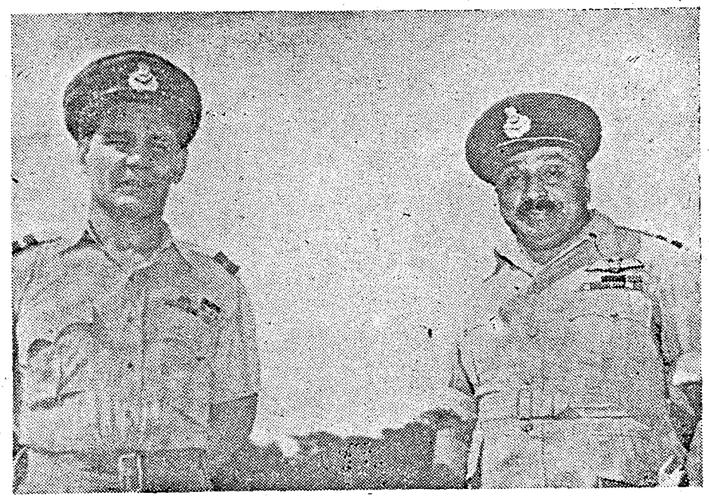
INDIAN PRINCES' AIR FORCE APPOINTMENTS

Air Commodore His Highness the Maharaja of Jodhpur, G.C.S.I., G.C.I.E., K.C.V.O., A.D.C., and Air Commodore His Highness the Nawab Sahib of Bhopal, G.C.S.I., G.C.I.E., C.V.O., are appointed Additional Staff Officers to Air Chief Marshal Sir Richard Peirse, K.C.B., D.S.O., A.F.C., Allied Air Commander-in-Chief, South-East Asia.

These appointments give formal recognition to the great interest which Their Highnesses have taken in the growth and progress of the Indian Air Force and will strengthen the firm ties existing between the Ruling Princes of India and the youngest of her armed forces.

As part of their duties, Their Highnesses will shortly visit operational squadrons and training units of the Indian Air Force to tell aircrews and ground personnel of the pride which India is taking in their achievements.

The Maharaja of Jodhpur was appointed to the rank of Honorary Air Commodore in the Royal Air Force in February 1939 and the Nawab of Bhopal in February 1943.



Air Commodore His Highness the Maharaja of Jodhpur (right) with Air Commodore His Highness the Nawab Sahib of Bhopal who have been appointed Additional Staff Officers to Air Chief Marshal Sir Richard Peirse, Allied Air Commander-in-Chief, South-East Asia.

Major-General R.N. Gale commanding a British airborne division in Normandy.

Marshal Petain with Joseph Darnard, Secretary-General for Maintenance of Law and Order, Marshal Deat, Minister of Labour and Paul Marion, Minister of Information and Propaganda, have left Vichy.

15TH AUG.—American, British and French troops landed on the south coast of France between Nice and Marseilles. Allied troops took Etancy, reached Saint Denis de Mere. Thury Harcourt and Proussy were taken. General Eisenhower has taken personal command of all forces in the field in Normandy and Brittany. He made a statement on the war in France.

* * *

THE NEUTRAL COUNTRIES

11TH AUG.—Senor Jose Felix Lequerica, the former Spanish Ambassador in Vichy, was appointed the Spanish Foreign Minister.

* * *

THE FAR EAST

9TH AUG.—General Koiso, the Japanese Premier declared "The possibility of an Allied invasion of Japan must not be ruled out as unlikely."

The Japanese resistance ceased in Guam.

10TH AUG.—Sixteen more Jap ships were sunk in the Japanese waters by United States submarines.

Strong naval concentrations were cruising the vicinity of the Bonin islands. Davao was bombed successfully for three nights.

American Super Fortresses bombed targets on the Japanese home island of Kyushu. Nagasaki was heavily hit. Palambang, on the island of Sumatra was also attacked by Super Fortresses.

The Japs captured Hengyan in Hunan.

It is revealed that President Roosevelt spent three days in Honolulu arriving there on July 29. He conferred with General MacArthur, Admiral Nimitz, Halsey and Leany. After the Pacific War Council, President Roosevelt made a statement.

11TH AUG.—Vice-Admiral Richmond Kelly Turner has transferred his Pacific Fleet Headquarters from Pearl Harbour to Saipan.

It is reported that United States bombers attacked Iwo Jima in the Bonins, Mille Atoll in the Marshalls and Nauru Island on Wednesday.

12TH AUG.—President Roosevelt in a broadcast said that "The war against Japan is well in hand."

American bombers attacked Halmahera Island on Friday.

13TH AUG.—Halmahera Island was again attacked. Divao on Mindanao and Kai, Marshalls, Paramushiro also bombed.

Major-General Curtis Lemay has been appointed the Commanding General of the 20th Air Force now operating in the Far East.

14TH AUG.—Admiral Nimitz stated that there is a possibility of defeating Japan without invading Japanese mainland.

Allied aircraft attacked enemy positions in Kai islands. Wewak, New Ireland, and New Britain.

15TH AUG.—Allied air attacks on Halmahera continued. Allied bombers attacked Takao harbour in Southwestern Formoza.

Chinese forces in the Hunan province recaptured several strategic points north of Leiyang on the Canton-Hankow railway.

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MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. V FRIDAY, AUGUST 25, 1944 No. 51

KEEP ON PUNCHING

THE Allies have won a great tactical victory in France, and when the opponent is groggy, that is the time to keep on punching — and punching him hard

WITH all of us resolutely performing our special tasks we can make this week a momentous one in the history of this war—a brilliant and fruitful week for us and a fateful one for the ambitions of Nazi tyrants

GENERAL EISENHOWER, on August 15.

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[NOTE.—*The summary of news and comments contained in the* MADRAS WAR REVIEW *generally relate to events and statements published till Wednesday, every week.*]

JAPAN AT BAY

"The world war has now developed into a conflict of exceptionally gigantic proportions. In all its recorded history mankind has never witnessed anything so massive in scale. Our Empire has also come to be confronted by national difficulties of unprecedented seriousness . . . Even the homeland of our Empire cannot be made secure against the encroachment of the enemy."

—GENERAL KUNISKI KOISO, *Premier of Japan, broadcasting on August 8.*

❖

AT THE MERCY OF HER ENEMIES

"The Japanese Navy which is the means of protection of the very life of Japan will enter into battle only in waters comparatively close to the mainland . . . Japan has but one combined fleet. Should this fleet be destroyed, her sea-lanes would be cut off and this would be tantamount to leaving the narrow strip of land that is Japan to the mercy of her enemies."

—*Tokyo Radio, August 8.*

❖

ONE GOOD REASON—

"More than a million of our troops are to-day overseas in the Pacific . . . the Hawaiian Islands are no longer a mere outpost. The Hawaiian Islands have helped to make possible the victories at Guadalcanal, and New Guinea and the Marshalls and the Marianas. The Islands will make possible future operations in China—make possible the recapture and independence of the Philippines, and make possible the carrying of war into the home islands of Japan itself, and its capital city of Tokyo."

—PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT, *broadcasting on August 12.*

❖

—AND ANOTHER—FROGS AND WEEDS

"I do not think that the Japanese have ever met with such a disaster as the one they faced in Burma. An Englishman and his wife came to see me in London and showed me a letter from their son at the Burma front in which he had said that the post-mortem examination of a dead Japanese soldier had shown that his stomach contained nothing but frogs and jungle weeds. This particularly shows the extent of the disaster faced by the Jap Army."

—SIR FEROZ KHAN NOON, *New Delhi, August 15.*

MADRAS WAR REVIEW

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VIVE LA FRANCE!

PARIS is free at last. The promise General de Gaulle made to the Consultative Assembly in Algiers three and a half months ago that the French Forces of the Interior "will participate with the great military effort of the French and Allied Armies" has been overwhelmingly kept. Millions of people all over the world will share with French men and women the joy which liberation of this beloved cultural capital of the world brings, and which has been their cherished hope for over four years. Paris will live again. France is rising like a warrior from sleep. The wonderful news will stir the hearts of patriots in the lands still submerged and will rouse all such friends of France and of the Allied cause to fight as stubbornly, relentlessly, heroically and as successfully as the brave people of Paris. It is an hour of victory and of supreme happiness for the French, but the battle will have to go on harder now than ever until the Nazi beast is laid low. In the words of General Montgomery: "The end of the war is in sight. Let us finish off the business in record time."

GERMANY'S RETREAT TO WORDS

BELIEVE it or not, Lord Haw Haw, braying as usual from Berlin, has been informing the world that all is well with Germany, that the Allied invasion of Europe is in accordance with high strategic German plans! The German Army is not really in peril, of course, its retreat and even its annihilation are part of the secret plans of the Fuehrer. Germany has stocks of secret V-weapons, says Haw Haw, and besides, Germany's war was predominantly one of ideology—and not a gross conflict of armoured might—a mental and not a material struggle of such unimportant things as battleships, armoured divisions, bombing aircraft; a war, in brief, not of guns and shells, but of words.

NOBODY denies the war of words, but all this tripe about ideology coming from the spokesman of the swaggering hooligans who rolled in armoured might and utter ruthlessness over small innocent countries is an amazing admission of the internal weakness confronting the Nazi militarists.

THERE are several reasons for this retreat to words by Germany, which are necessary in explaining the phenomenal and splendid super-blitzkrieg of our Armies in France. Chief of these are (1) our naval power, (2) our superiority in the air and (3) our moral strength.

Germany's Fatal Weakness

IT has been our naval strength which has enabled us to make colossal invasions, not only in the transport of men, ammunitions and supplies, but in the shelling of enemy ports, submarine bases and invasion coasts. From the ends of the earth distance has been no object since the defeat of the U-boat. There the hunter has become the hunted. As far back as November 1939, two months after Britain declared war, when President Roosevelt repealed the arms embargo which enabled belligerents to carry ammunition provided they could fetch it themselves, and pay for it—the cash-and-carry system—the navy came into its own. For, Germany had neither the ships nor the money. Hitler has limited himself to a continental view, to a German view, rather than to a world view. The world is mainly water but Hitler has all along been thinking in terms of huge land masses—of *lebensraum*—and thus attacked the huge land-mass of Russia. The Allies were wiser, and Churchill in consultation with the leaders of other Allied powers over two years ago laid careful plans which are now maturing speedily, plans which were based on shipping troops and equipment over the seven seas.

GERMANY'S navy about which the Germans themselves must be asking very awkward questions is bottled up more or less permanently in Kiel in the Baltic. The only battleships left (the *Bismarck* and *Scharnhorst* being at the bottom of the Atlantic and the Arctic Oceans, the *Gneisenau* dismantled and the *Tirpitz* crippled) are a couple of old tubs, while for the rest there are two heavy and four light cruisers, perhaps eighteen destroyers and an estimated 50 to 100 E-boats or motor torpedo-boats and possibly

an equal number of R-boats, mine-sweepers, mine-layers and motor gunboats with numerous miscellaneous craft and several hundred submarines. Hardly a formidable fleet to attempt battle with the huge armada of four thousand ships (among which were five hundred battleships alone) which enabled the Allies to land in Normandy. Of course, as far as the landings on the Riviera are concerned, eight hundred ships were sufficient, as German ships have long ago forgotten what the Mediterranean looks like.

The Scale of Allied Power

A belligerent which depends on secret weapons which fail to materialize and which when they do appear are of the nature of the flying bombs, these blindfold targetless rocketings, is in a very bad way. Germans may also be wondering what has happened to the *Luftwaffe* and Goering's pilots.

AS for the Allies, the scale and magnitude of their air attacks is mounting every day. It takes a mighty lot of aircraft to carry 14,000 air-borne troops, yet this was done, while at the same time the R.A.F. and the U.S.A.A.F. were flying four thousand sorties per day. Our Typhoons were largely responsible for shattering the disorderly 7th German Army trapped in Normandy. The Americans brought all rail communications around Paris to a standstill, blowing up hundreds of locomotives and many thousands of waggons and carriages.

THE entire Allied strategical combination of naval, air and land activity is a marvellously beautiful piece of consolidated manœuvres, each part of the attack, on land, sea and in the air, building up the picture of utter ruin and destruction which faces the Germans. While the encirclement of Nazidom goes full speed ahead, constituting a huge total blockade (made certain now that the Turkish gate is closed) the reserve supplies of oil and the internal communications, factories, docks and stores are being destroyed unceasingly in Germany and in the territories which remain within the German Reich. Trapped as they are the Germans will certainly put up a show as they scuttle from one point to another, but their doom is absolutely sealed, as that of Rommel's Army was when locked inside the Falaise pocket.

Moral Strength and Duty

FINALLY our moral strength. Our ideology differs from the enemy in so vastly important a sense, that ideology is hardly the right word for it. Ours is based on the fundamental principles of democracy, a term only viewed with contempt by those inflated barbarian Nazi rulers who drive home their ideas with the aid of the concentration camp and the torture chamber. The Allied idea of a progressive, constructive world is an idea won over by conviction and proved by practice. One thing is certain. Even if the Nazis will not learn, they will know that it is possible to keep promises, and that the Allies intend to keep the promises they have made to the peoples who have been trampled underfoot by the Nazi criminals. We shall liberate these peoples. The German leaders will also know that we keep our word when they understand the meaning of total defeat. The day of reckoning is drawing very near for the fulfilment of our pledges to the subjected countries. Criminals at bay fight hard, but our pledged word will be kept and with it the fate of Nazi ideologists.

THE PROOF OF THE PUDDING

RUNNING COMMENTARY

A Wonderful week for France

At the momentous maturing of his two-year-old plans it was characteristic of Mr. CHURCHILL to want to step ashore when the Allied landings on the South Coast of France were in progress. This young man of seventy has a spirit which inspires the world as the war goes on. He will probably get his own way as soon as the pockets of German garrisons in the south are cleared up. That is a minor reason for his remaining in Italy. It is more likely that the advances being more rapid than were expected—aided in no small degree by the magnificent Men of the Maquis—make possible further combined action on a similar grand scale. At the present rate of progress, it is only a matter of days before the Allies liberate the major area of France from the Estuary of the Seine right down to the Spanish border and the coast of the Mediterranean. The Germans are obviously very weak in Vichy France, and are retreating east of Paris presumably to rally their armies for the final struggle. It is rather strange that we have heard nothing at all about any Maginot or Siegfried Line. Probably loud talk of that will come from GOEBBELS !

At any rate French Forces of the Interior are rousing and rallying the long-enduring people of France, while General DE GAULLE and General KOENIG are there to direct the internal campaign. Bells are ringing wherever the French flag flies in celebration of the marvellous recovery of Paris. Marseilles is free and the freedom of Bordeaux and Lyons lie within sight. It has been a wonderful historic week for France and for the world.

* * *

Marking Time in Italy

As part of the huge European struggle General ALEXANDER's clever stratagem of pushing General KESSELRING's army out of Florence into the big pocket of the Po valley in the Lombardy Plain—so euphemistically called the Gothic Line—is a factor of immense value to the Allies which eliminates this German army from being of any practical use as a delaying force in the carrying out of the victory plans of the Allies. How important the exquisite city of Florence was to KESSELRING may be surmised from his desperate effort to hold up the Allied advance by concentrating five of his best divisions in the semi-circle of hills guarding the city. Angrily, in a typical Nazi spirit of revenge, the guns of the enemy with their barbaric shelling virtuously uphold the words of GOEBBELS: "the German wehrmacht has done all in its power to spare Florence." What General ALEXANDER will do next is speculative. He may either press on and polish off the enemy on the plains of Lombardy, or may use Italy again as a springboard for the assault on the Dalmatian Coast. Marshal TITO's forces offer a brilliant opportunity for a move which would match the fresh invasion of France where the Maquis are giving so much assistance to the Allies. The least that we may expect in a connected united front against Germany stretching right across Southern Europe. Allied strategy in France is a brilliant example of a major military chess move. It is most probable that it will be followed by another big move on the chess-board of the European battle-front.

* * *

Russia Opens Offensive in Rumania

Like a boxer sparring, the Red Army has been trying out a few punches here and there to test the strength of the Germans. The Germans on the other hand are desperately and unsuccessfully trying to break through the Russian wall that separates their forces in Latvia from those in Estonia. But the Russians have pushed them back and have clearly the upper hand in this Baltic fight. The Germans are enduring great losses in men and materials. The Soviet Armies are reported to be making very good progress in the area north of Warsaw, while in the south further bridgeheads have been established on the Vistula. Warsaw is being slowly encircled, and with its fall there may be a spectacular drive to Danzig, by-passing and trapping another German army in East Prussia. This is one likely project. Still further south on this 700 miles front which is occupying so much of HITLER's forces, the Russians have opened an all-out offensive in Rumania where they have made remarkable progress, aided by the retreat of Rumanian armies and the acceptance of peace-terms by the Rumanian Government. At the eleventh hour Bulgaria has flung herself at the feet of the Allies, renouncing her treaties with Germany. These Balkan moves will further hasten the final defeat of Germany.

Allies in Burma Masters of Jungle Warfare

From the Burma front this week has come news of continued success. The heroic legion of men of all races and colours (of whom the Madrassis form a valuable section) who plod waist deep through monsoon floods and harry the broken fragments of Japan's luckless invaders have done a creditable job in clearing India of the last Japanese soldier. India is tactically free but Burma is still infested with a large force of Japanese. In the north several streams of advancing Allied armies are driving the enemy out of the great valleys which roughly run north and south. Everywhere, along the roads, railways and rivers, nothing remains but the remnants of Japan's boasted armies and garrisons, unfortunate myrmidons who, in the graphic words of the English soldier, have been living on frogs and jungle weeds. Thanks to our combined air forces our men are amply supplied with provisions. Here

too in this vital corner of the global war, the long arm of Allied air power is showering destruction on the communications and stores of the occupied territory of Lower Burma. We also hold one end of the vital Mytkina-Mandalay railway line, while the air bases in Burma which have been such a bold feature of the campaign, are more and more useful as the drive pushes down the Tiddim Road, the Chindwin, Kabaw and other valleys. While we have yet much to do we can claim to have the initiative and to be masters of jungle warfare.

* * *

Japan Feeling the Strain of War

It is too early to say that Japan is knocked out. She is far from that. But the first blows have been struck and as the war in the west draws to its climax the Allies are able to punch harder at her inherent weak spots in her far-flung but loosely held territory. The war against Japan must be looked at in its entirety, and it is necessary to link up the Allied victories in the west to see how the deterioration of the German position coincides proportionately with a deterioration in the power of Japan. It is fairly clear that General MACARTHUR is preparing a major attack on the Phillippines from Halmahera. The bombing of harbours such as Davao will ensure that the Japanese navy if and when it appears, shall have no safe anchorage. Another part of the same war strategy is being conducted from Allied bases in China. The Japanese have tasted the bitter pill of daylight raids from super-fortresses in their cities of Nagasaki and Wakama on the island of Kyushu. President ROOSEVELT's orders to aircraft factories to concentrate entirely on the manufacture of super-fortresses, the record long-distance bombers, is bad news for quaking Tokyo and there is no doubt Japan is feeling the strain. The Japanese Government have had to explain something of the perilous situation to the people, for obviously when supplies run short with the cutting of the sea-lanes on which Japan's life depends, the people of Japan are going to be faced with a blockade on a scale unknown even to Germany. The vital fact to remember when considering, for example, the war in Burma or China is that it is one war against Japan, stretching from Burma and China to the Phillippines, the Indies and to Guam.

* * *

The World Security Conference—

Probably the welcome but sudden developments of the war situation in Europe impelled Sir ALEXANDER CADOGAN to call for speedy agreement at the Conference on World Security which opened at Dumbarton Oaks, U.S.A., on Monday. If we can judge from the firm speeches made by the leaders of the United Kingdom Delegation and by the United States Secretary of State, Mr. CORDELL HULL, Europe—and the rest of the world—in the period following on the cessation of hostilities, is not going to be left in the dangerous quagmire of incompetency and uncertainty in which it remained after 1918. This time the gravity of the situation is understood. The men who are meeting have this time a sense of responsibility and realism. They appreciate the importance of planning. The delegates are men in a determined mood. "The military defeat of the aggressor" Sir ALEXANDER said, "must be made clear beyond all doubt, and most of all to the German people themselves, and those responsible for the wanton outrages that have horrified the civilized world must receive their just retribution. On that basis we may hope to build more securely for the future." Mr. HULL emphasized the need for the nations of the world to "maintain according to their capacities sufficient forces available for joint action when necessary to prevent breaches of the peace."

* * *

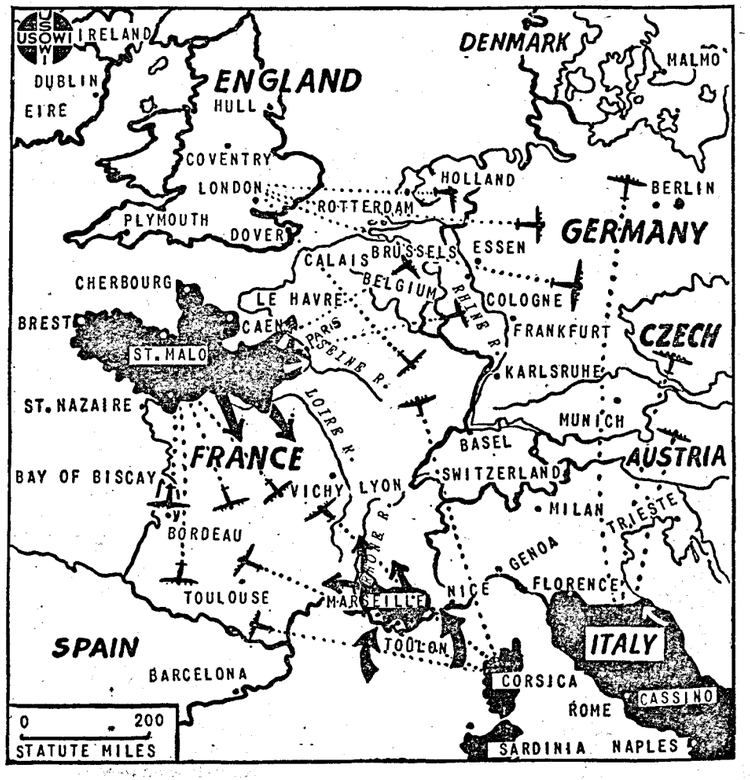
—And Its Momentous Duty

Sir ALEXANDER mentioned the "willingness on the part of what are at present the three most powerful States in the world to achieve some kind of world organization and what is more to achieve it soon." The Conference can have little faith in the kind of organization which the League of Nations represented. Something far stronger and on less national lines, and more in accord with the spirit that lives in the Allied unity of Nations at war is closer to the solution. Never in the history of the world have so many peoples been so drawn together on the basis of common principles as they are today and the representatives of the World Security Conference would do well to forget the pre-war aspect of world life, League of Nations and all, in framing the organization which is to be the

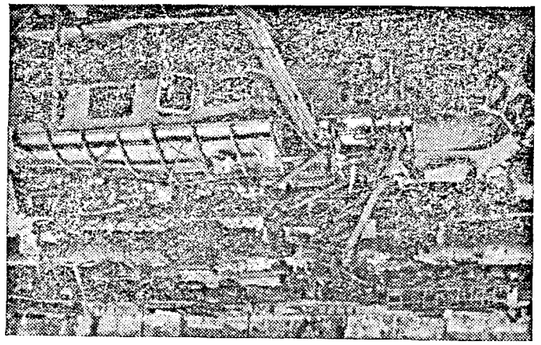
(Continued on page 9)

LIBERATION PINCERS

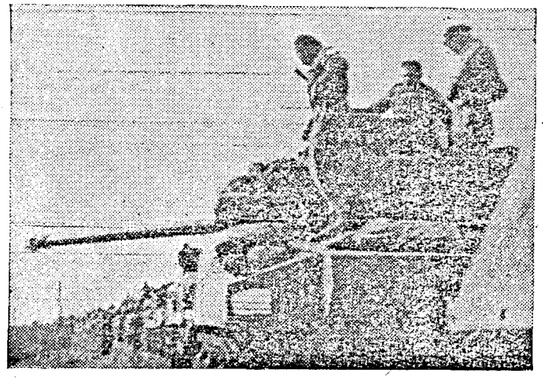
THE POSITION EARLY THIS WEEK



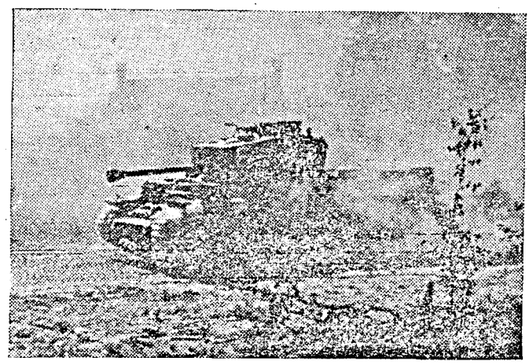
ALLIED MIGHT IN NORTHERN FRANCE



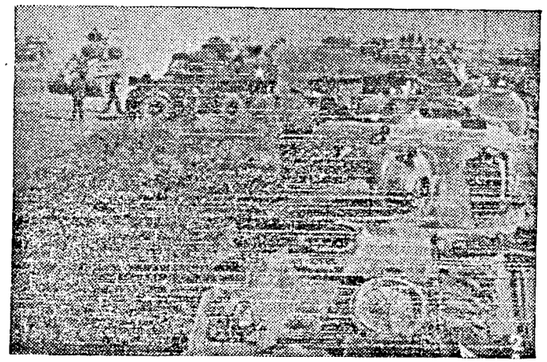
COMMUNICATIONS ARE SMASHED.—Rolling stock on the railway yard at Vire shattered by Allied bombing before the liberation of town.



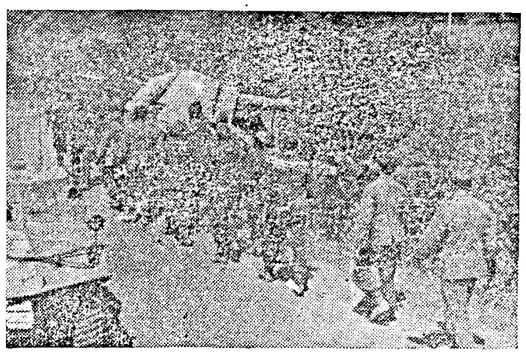
THE TANKS GATHER.—Tanks lined up at the starting point.



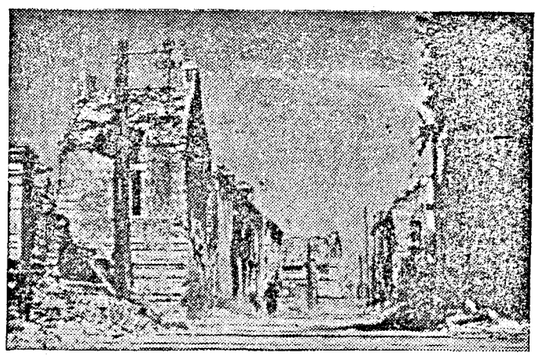
THE TANKS HARASS THE SEVENTH GERMAN ARMY.—A Cromwell tank speeds up to the forward areas.



ONE ACT IS OVER.—Armoured Forces used in the assault on German Armies in Normandy.



PRISONERS ARE TAKEN.—German prisoners captured in the village of Le Plessis-Grimoult on the slopes of Mont Pincon, pass a knocked-out German self-propelled gun.



PATROLLING.—Canadian soldiers patrol the streets of Bourbuebus, one of the towns to fall to the Allies in their advance towards Falaise.

GENERAL KOENIG

The general risen from the people who gave the signal to patriotic Parisians for the insurrection which liberated the French Capital.

TWO years ago, Bir Hacheim was just coming into the history of the second world war. And with the name of this insignificant water-point lost in a desert of sand and stones, there appeared also, for the first time, that of Brigadier-General Joseph Pierre Koenig, who now represents the French Provincial Government of Algiers with the Supreme Allied Command.

He was required by the Allied Command to hold on at Bir Hacheim for ten days. He had 3,600 men, made up of a varied assortment of French troops: men of the Foreign Legion, Marines, volunteers from the French Pacific Islands, and African colonial riflemen. There was an artillery regiment with twenty-four 75 guns. A few more 75s and some 47s had to do as anti-tank guns. Some days before, the Marines had been equipped with Bofors—which they had not had time to learn to operate—for anti-aircraft defence. There was not a single armoured vehicle.

For fifteen days the encircled brigade held on against Rommel's attempts to crush the garrison. On the fifteenth day came the order to retreat, and clearing a path across its own mine-field, it stabbed through the enemy lines, smashed the encirclement, and rejoined the main body of the Allies.

A quarter of its effective strength, 900 men, were left on the battlefield, but it brought back the wounded, three hundred prisoners, and a thousand soldiers of an Indian brigade which it had freed by a counter-attack. Koenig had rejected three successive ultimatums: one a personal note in Rommel's own hand. "The United Nations," said a special communiqué "ought to be full of gratitude and admiration for the first brigade of the Free French Forces and its gallant general."

NATIVE OF NORMANDY

Joseph Pierre Koenig, son of an Alsatian father, was born in 1898, in Normandy. In demeanour and temperament, Koenig is Norman with a vengeance, a very unusual type of Frenchman—for those who associate the French with the small southerner, black skin, black hair, voluble and gesticulating. Koenig is tall, built with the solidity which the old peasant stock still retain in France. Sparing of gestures as of words, he seldom betrays restlessness, nervousness, or haste. He might easily pass for an Englishman, a Scandinavian.

In 1915, at seventeen, he left school at Caen and joined the French Army for the duration of the war. By the Armistice he had won the Military Medal, the Croix de Guerre, and had been mentioned several times in despatches. He chose to stay in the Army, and carved a slow, hard, gallant career. France has a special Military Academy at which N.C.O.s study for promotion from the ranks. He took the course at Saint Maixent: once commissioned he went to Morocco, served in the Foreign Legion, traditionally reserved for keen officers irked by the dreary boredom of town garrisons.

He fought under Lyautey, and under Giraud in the Moroccan colonial campaign conducted by France against Abd el Krim. In 1939 he was still in the Foreign Legion. Forty-one years old, he had grown grey in the service without rising above the rank of captain. The brilliant team produced every year in Saint Cyr and Saumur barred the way to this ranker officer. Captain Koenig sadly spent the "phoney war" period with his unit, in a hopeless watch on the Italian Alpine frontier. At the beginning of 1940, Koenig had high hopes that one remembers to-day with a touch of irony; hastily his regiment was equipped to the last button, ready to embark for Finland and fight with the Finns against Russia. The operation was countermanded. But later the Foreign Legion embarked at Brest, and disembarked at Narvik.

RALLIES TO DE GAULLE

When the evacuation of Norway was decided on, the Legion was brought back to England, and immediately sent into battle in France. For three days Koenig and his company fought desperately behind the little low stone walls of Brittany.

The Wehrmacht broke into France with a might that seemed irresistible and certainly forced conviction on the classic military minds of the French High Command. Brought up on the same "kriegspiel," Keitel and Weygand in reality spoke the same language. The very rigidity of their game, played according to the same strict rules—an over-intelligent game that made no allowances for chance or for human beings either—compelled Weygand to give in with a gesture like that of a chess player throwing up the game when he thinks the end a foregone conclusion, thus elegantly sparing his opponent the necessity of forcing the checkmate.

In vain de Gaulle waited in London for the arrival of Reynaud and Mandel. Those whom de Gaulle saw arriving were just those Koenigs who would not make peace with a world so obviously doomed; who bluntly refuse to take a fact for granted because it is supposed to have been proved.

Henceforth, Koenig's own story is the reflection of the history of Fighting France: recruiting in the French camp in Great Britain throughout the summer of 1940, the ill-starred Dakar expedition, the rallying to de Gaulle of the French Equatorial African colonies, the hero-comic campaign in Eritrea, the fratricidal war in Syria.

In eighteen months, de Gaulle turned this old captain into a young general.

A MAN IN A KEY POSITION

Then comes Bir Hacheim. It was not a military victory in the popular sense. But it restored the French soldier, the man of France, though not yet French military genius.

In Bir Hacheim fate for the first time recast on a tiny scale conditions identical with those of June 1940. The part assigned to the handful of Frenchmen at Bir Hacheim should be almost as obviously hopeless as that of the armies of the Republic in June, 1940.

But it was not fate that dictated Koenig's scornful reply to Rommel's ultimatum. It was just that the moral fibre to say "No" is not dead in France.

One day history may decide the precise moment when Gaullism ceased to be only an incalculating act of faith; in any case, the deed of Koenig at Bir Hacheim was truly uncalculating. As witness his reply to an Italian officer who summoned him to surrender and whom he would not even see:—

"We are men who have lost everything: our country, our homes, our families. One thing only is left us: our military honour. Of that you shall not deprive us."

Koenig now represents the Algiers Committee with the Supreme Command and his mission carries with it the assumption of authority over all parts of France, as they are liberated in the name of the Provincial Government of Algiers.

He is thus in a key position. What he does will weigh upon the future of France.

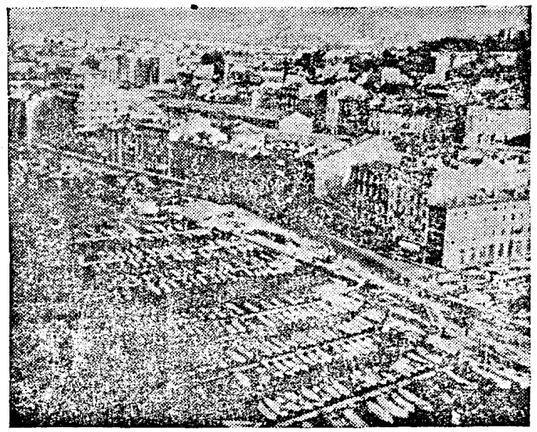
—*From* **The Observer.**

CAPTURE OF MARSEILLES

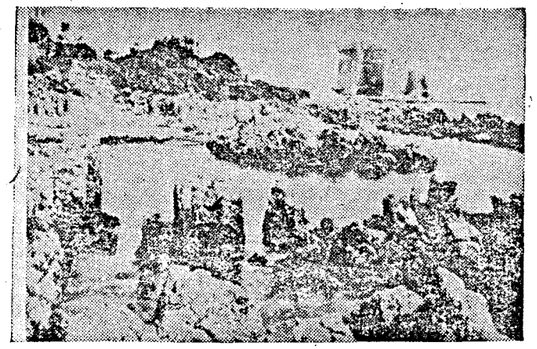
THE SECOND CITY OF FRANCE

MARSEILLES is now liberated. This second city of France which fell into our hands on August 23rd almost simultaneously with the freedom of Paris will be of immense value to the Allies, as it is one of the biggest ports in the world.

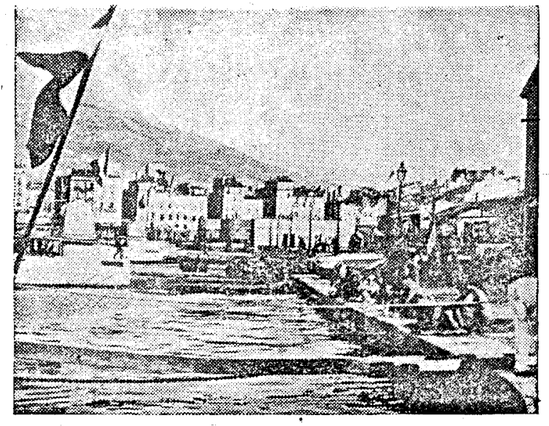
Toulon also is within the grasp of the invasion armies, the suicidal German garrison being completely surrounded.



MARSEILLES.—A general view of the port and town.



On rocky coastlines like this, near Cannes Allied landings were made.



VIEW OF TOULON where German garrison is trapped.

U.S.A. CONCENTRATING ON GIANT SUPER-BOMBERS

The United States War Department announced expansion of production of its giant supper-bombers—the B-29s and the B-32s—designed to reflect "shifting emphasis in the air war." The phrase is seen here as indicating the War Department is planning vast offensives against Japan. The inability of the Luftwaffe to inflict expected heavy losses on Allied airforces is also given as a reason for the new programme, which will gradually cut back production of airplanes of all categories except B-29s and B-32s, and is expected to release 20,000 aircraft workers within the next 30 days. One hundred thousand more are expected to be released by the end of the year, with the slack taken up in more critical war and civilian programmes.

(*Continued from page* 6)

central world guidance tribunal for the settlement of the aftermath problems of war and the maintenance of peace. It is not so much a matter of a settlement by victor nations, as the settlement of world problems on the basis of democratic principles. In a leading article the London *Times* of August 8 aptly called attention to some of the difficult questions which the Conference must face and answer. "What military forces are to be kept available to meet such threats (of possible aggressors)? Will they be joint forces or several forces of particular nations?" The *Times* concludes "It is only on the solid foundation of practical achievement of proved capacity to 'deliver the goods' that the edifice of international security will be built." After this war security to rebuild a shattered world, to give full implementation to the Atlantic Charter and ROOSEVELT'S Four Freedoms, to raise the standards of living throughout the world, including India, to plan our whole global living, to educate and socialize ourselves to be valuable citizens of a peaceful advancing world, to get out of the nationalistic ruts and meet on equality our comrades in other lands, is required. This serious but immense undertaking is no doubt in the minds of the men at the Security Conference. It is idle speculation to say more, but it will be interesting to see what does emerge.

CHURCHILL AND TITO MEET :

THE MEETING IN ITALY.—(Left to right) *Marshal Tito, Mr. Churchill and Dr. Subasic, Prime Minister of Yugoslavia, at the conclusion of the conference held in Italy.*

Wounded Partisan fighters in Yugoslavia evacuated to hospitals in Italy by the Royal Air Force. Here their comrades help the wounded to a Royal Air Force plane.

WE may be sure that the meeting between Mr. Churchill and Marshal Tito, leader of the Yugoslavs and his Prime Minister, Dr. Subasic, which was held in Rome on the 12th of this month, was one of momentous significance to the general strategy of the European struggle.

So much secrecy has of necessity to be thrown over the result of the conference, and has been kept ever since, that we may take it as pretty certain that all plans were laid for the development of operations on the Adriatic mainland.

The presence in Italy at the same time of other Allied chiefs, of Mr. Robert Patterson, the United States Under Secretary of War and Lieutenant General Somervell, Commander of the United States Army Services of Supply, makes it probable that plans for further moves may have been made.

There is already evidence enough this week of the military value of an army of Partisans in the uprisings of the French Forces of the Interior. The mountain guerillas of Marshal Tito have also now become an army of liberation, like their French brothers, the Maquis, and not only for the Yugoslav people, but for the whole south-east corner of occupied Europe.

Measures for the strengthening of that gallant army of resistance in Yugoslavia have already been put into practice for some time, in fact there would appear to be a regular ferry service by air—as the pictures on these pages show—between the Allies on the Italian side of the Adriatic and the Yugoslavs, over the one hundred miles channel of the Adriatic. From Italy the planes carry supplies and ammunition for the loyal patriots and returning they carry the wounded Partisans. The fact that this service goes on so successfully indicates the general weakness of the enemy.

The immense success attending the Allies in France, as well as the crushing defeats to Germany from the Red Armies and from the Allied Air Forces, the Governments of Rumania and Bulgaria making friendly approaches, and the withdrawal of all aid from Turkey would suggest that the time is approaching, if not ripe already, for a sweeping drive by the Allies through the Balkans.

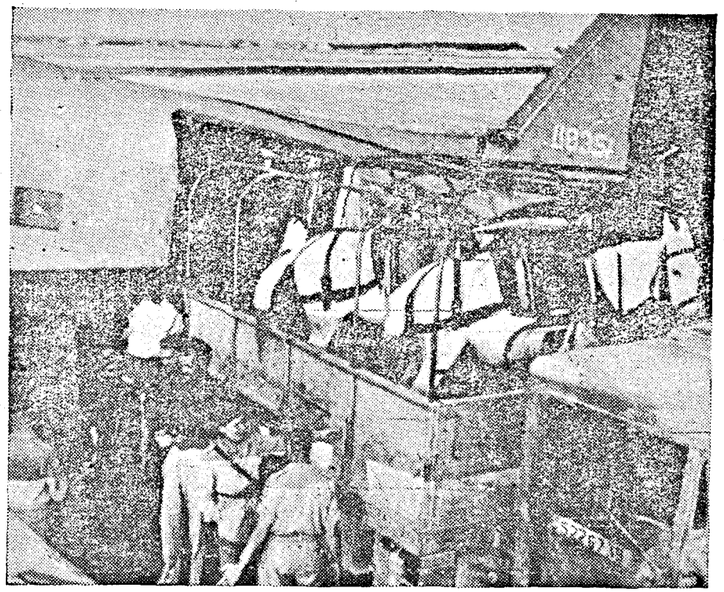
Hitler's world is cracking and crumpling, and with it goes all the quislings and tyrants and power-seekers

WHAT HAVE THEY PLANNED?

who thought to make a place for themselves at the expense of their peoples. Germany and her satellites and supporters grow weaker every day, and the hour is approaching when the word will be given for further open invasion of these prison-houses of Europe, until the ring of Allied Armies which is closing in on German militarism is tightly drawn and victory complete.

Yugoslavia would then obviously appear to be a centre for such a joining-up of forces, with the Russian liberating armies marching across to link up, and with the strength of the combined Allied Air Forces to plaster the pockets of enemy resistance. The countries of Hungary, Rumania, Bulgaria and Yugoslavia especially the latter are extremely difficult terrain for large armies, but equally difficult for defence against modern assault.

Whatever may be we can look forward with expectation to the next big move in this terrific drama of events, and the confident smile of the leader of the Partisans bodes very ill indeed for the enemies of his beloved country.



MULES FOR MARSHAL TITO'S PARTISANS about to be loaded into a Dakota aircraft of the Balkan Air Force at an airfield in Italy.

PARTISANS NUMBER 300,000

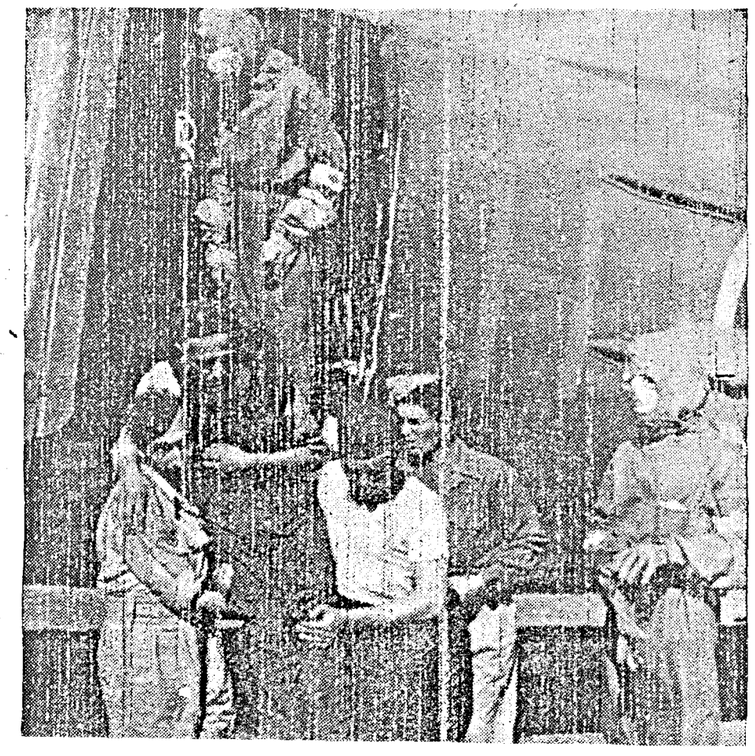
IN 1941 Hitler struck at Yugoslavia. The resistance forces were small and disorganized. To-day Marshal Tito has an army of 36 divisions, besides bands of Partisans carrying on irregular warfare.

A correspondent reports how Marshal Tito, with a fifth of his men, not even equipped with rifles, his guns mostly of light calibre and originating mainly from captured German units, and without tanks or anti-tank guns, has organized his army.

Each Liberation Army division numbers between 3,000 and 5,000 men and is supported by partisan groups numbering from 25 to 50 men.

This National Liberation Army is up against 19 enemy divisions, says the correspondent, six of them German, six of them made up of Fascist Croats (Ustaschis), six of them Bulgarian, and one composed of White Russians under a Quisling General, Vlasov.

The same correspondent reveals that Tito now has 300,000 troops.



Wounded Partisans, evacuated from Yugoslavia in daylight by the R.A.F., being assisted from the aircraft by other Yugoslavs.

WHAT NAVAL SUPREMACY MEANS TO THE ALLIES

HOW NAVY ASSISTS LAND OPERATIONS

BRITAIN'S FLOATING ARTILLERY MADE INVASION POSSIBLE

By PAUL WEST

ON July 14, 1943, four days after the Allied landing in Sicily, the following dialogue was broadcast by the Deutschlandsender radio station:

Reporter: "Your position, then, was already under heavy fire from the naval guns?"

Gunner Schulze: "Yes, at the start we did not even know what it was—these sudden explosions. It was difficult to imagine that the enemy could already have landed such powerful arms."

This dialogue, which might just as well have taken place on August 16, 1944, is of historical significance. It shows that the simple German soldier from the country was taken by surprise, that he had not anticipated the possible use of the Navy in land operations.

To-day, all the world knows that the Allies' naval forces can most effectively exercise the functions of land batteries. The floating artillery first of all shatters the coastal fortifications, then gives the soldiers ashore tactical support in storming the beaches and finally blasts a way for the troops into the interior of the country by demolishing further belts of fortifications and broadening up infantry and tank concentrations, by shelling lines of communication and even by direct intervention in land battles.

These are the new functions of the Navy which were most carefully studied and developed during the war, first by Great Britain alone and subsequently in conjunction with her allies.

Italy was attacked with the assistance of over 800 bombardments by naval guns. From January 1, 1943, to February 22, 1944, the Royal Navy alone shelled the enemy coast on 716 occasions.

SOME COMPARATIVE FIGURES

That was only the prelude to the part the Allied navies were to play in the landings in France. Most people have no notion of the fire power of a battery of naval guns. Take, for instance, a heavy cruiser, armed with 8 eight-inch and 8 four-inch guns. The weight of shells of the eight-inch guns per minute amounts to 5,568 kg. and that of the four-inch guns to 2,024 kg. This means a total fire power of 7,592 kg. per minute. Larger cruisers still, armed with 12 six-inch and 12 four-inch guns, can develop a fire power of 8,480 kg. per minute. Heavy destroyers of the Tribal class can fire 2,177 kg. of shells per minute, while the guns of the modern battleships H.M.S. *King George V* and H.M.S. *Howe* have a fire power of well above 15,000 kg. per minute.

By way of comparison, let us consider the fire power of a German infantry division. The artillery regiment assigned to a division consists of four sections and each section of four batteries. This makes a total of 12 batteries of 4 guns each, i.e., 48 guns altogether. Forty of them are 10·5 cm. (4·2 inch) guns capable of firing a weight of 15 kg. of shell at a firing speed of six shells a minute. The remaining eight are 15 cm. (6-inch) guns, with a weight of ammunition of 43 kg. per shell and a firing speed of five a minute. The artillery regiment of a German infantry division, therefore, can fire a weight of 5,320 kg. of shells a minute.

This is only 70 per cent of the fire power of a British heavy cruiser, 62½ per cent of the fire power of a cruiser of the next largest class and a third of that of a modern British battleship. A squadron of two heavy destroyers of the Tribal class and one lighter destroyer has roughly the same fire power as a German artillery regiment.

GERMANS REALIZE TOO LATE

It was announced that on D-Day the assault fleet included 640 pieces of ordnance with a fire power of 2,000 tons per 10 minutes. In the same space of time a German artillery regiment would be able to develop a fire power of not more than 53 tons. In other words, the fire power of the 80 Allied warships concentrated off the Normandy coast on D-Day corresponded to the fire power of roughly 40 German infantry divisions.

The preceding figures will give some idea of the weight of shell that was rained on the German coastal defences before a single Allied infantryman set foot on French soil or a single gun had been landed.

Events have shown that what Mr. Alexander, First Lord of the Admiralty, said in October, 1943, in a message to Washington on the occasion of the American Navy Day was not an empty boast: "Seapower can take the battle to the enemy and control of the sea gives us the paths to victory."

He was right. The German soldier on the Sicilian coast, in Normandy and in Southern France who was accustomed to dismiss seapower with a wave of the hand realised too late what seapower means.

TO GER

GERMANS LOSING

FORCED TO RISK

By A. J. Mc

ADMIRAL Karl Doenitz, German Naval Commander-in-Chief, is throwing all the naval strength he has left around cargoes which Berlin insist must be delivered to the coastal garrisons.

In the absence of big ships—he has nothing bigger than a few destroyers in any waters outside the Baltic—Doenitz now puts a conglomeration of small warships around every freighter and tanker moving out of port. A single tanker to-day may have as escorts as many as eight of nine E-boats, R-boats (mine sweeper escorts), patrol craft and auxiliaries.

But wherever German ships move Britsn naval and air strength is watching and waiting. The chances of a German coast-hugging convoy getting home unharmed are, in my view, now at least ten to one against.

German naval vessels flung recklessly around freighters and tankers are being put out of action at a greater average rate than Doenitz can stand for more than a few weeks.

LOSSES SINCE "D" DAY

Seven weeks after 'D'-Day, Doenitz has suffered in all waters attacks on no fewer than 231 naval vessels. Of these 95 have been sunk, 25 probably sunk and 111 damaged. The total is of course rising. German shipyards cannot hope to keep pace with such a high scale of casualties, a scale which amounts to more than four warships put out of action every day.

Berlin insists that ships must be used, whatever the dangers, to ease the strain on the bombed, battered and congested roads and railways. Supplies must be landed at coastal areas from Norway to South France, from North Italy to the Dodecanese. And Doenitz must obey.

Recently an urgently needed convoy of nine ships steamed off Heligoland. There was no fewer than 30 naval vessels around the German freighters. R.A.F. Beaufighters flew in to attack. Nearly every ship in the convoy was hit. Four of the nine merchantmen were torpedoed. Two of them were left in a sinking condition. Five of the 30 escorts were left burning fiercely.

The other ships were trying to sneak round the Frisian islands. More Beaufighters swooped on them. The ships

TO THE ALLIES AND THE ENEMY

MANY

FOUR SHIPS A DAY

LAST RESOURCES

WHINNIE

were taken by surprise. Two armed trawlers were attacked by torpedoes, rocket projectiles and cannon-fire.

Ten miles off Ostend, Coastal Command planes attacked two E-boats. Off Cap Dantifer, three German R-boats were severely damaged and one set on fire, when they were intercepted by the British Navy.

Never has a nation been more closely and successfully blockaded. Never was it more difficult for a nation at war to get urgently needed supplies to places where those supplies are needed than it is for Germany today.

OUTNUMBERED AND OUTCLASSED

There is little Doenitz can do but fling in his last naval resources knowing that they are outnumbered, outclassed and outgunned.

Britain's Navy has isolated Hitler from the rest of the world. With the passing of every day his supply problem become more acute. The greater the Allied advances on land the greater the necessity for war cargoes to be delivered at strategic points. Allied aircraft stem the radiation of supplies overland. Allied warships and aircraft stem the flow of supplies by sea.

This is total blockade. This is the Allied stranglehold which must sooner or later bring Germany into submission.

Some German Generals have shown that they realise the impossibility of achieving victory. They find themselves not only cut off from the strongholds of the world but inadequately supplied from their own storehouses.

Berlin admitted that North Africa was lost because the Allies had greater numbers of men and tanks. Those greater numbers were only available because the British Navy took them there.

When the history of this war comes to be written it will be found that seapower was the backbone of the whole Allied war effort. It will be found that Hitler had already lost the war the day he started it by thinking that with an unbalanced fleet he could compete with the sea power of Britain.

"Ever since the Allies landed in Normandy our hinterland has been under perpetual bombardment of an intensity never before matched. No concentrations could be built up within fighting distance of the front. By day our forces go to earth; by night they move."—*Christ of von Imhorn, German wor Correspondent in Normandy.*

TO JAPAN

MOUNTING ALLIED SEA POWER IN FAR EAST

MOVE TO CUT JAPAN'S SEA LINKS

By A. J. McWHINNIE

THE same blockading tactics which Britain's Navy has used so successfully in Europe are now to be employed in an increasing measure in the Far East.

The signs are now plain. The British grip on the Japanese communications between Sumatra and Rangoon is tightening. British naval strength in the Eastern waters has obviously been increased recently despite heavy demands for the liberation of France. And as the German Navy is worn down to impotence, so can even more British Naval resources be flung against the Japanese.

The Japanese will soon find themselves sandwiched and then strangled by mounting Anglo-American naval power, skilfully welded with air power.

So far there have been no signs of any big ships of the Japanese Navy—no more signs than the advancing U.S. sea-borne forces found in the Pacific. This refusal of the Japanese Fleet to accept battle should not be taken, however, as an indication that Japan has realised her weakness and that she may consequently soon sue for peace.

The Japanese no doubt wish the Allies would take that complacent view officially. As it is, the Japanese know only too well that month by month Allied naval strength in the Eastern waters gets greater and Japanese naval strength becomes proportionately weaker despite additions.

NEW BRITISH BATTLESHIPS

British naval dispositions are naturally made in secret, but it is plain enough that successes in the European zone must have released more strength for the East. Japan must also be aware, despite the theory of Hitler and other landsmen in the early days of the war that the battleship has been rendered redundant by air power, that Britain has welded sea power and air power so closely that she is still building new battleships.

Again, there is the strictest secrecy regarding the progress being made with the new 40,000-ton British battleships, the *Lion* and the *Temeraire*. There have been published hints that they are nearing completion. But the Admiralty in London makes no statement, although it is generally recognized that those mighty ships are being constructed with an eye on the special needs for fighting in the Far East.

Sooner or later, the Japanese fleet must fight—or Japan must surrender. All that the Japanese fleet seems to be doing now is averting a major action until the Allied lines of communication are at their longest and the Japanese lines of communication are at their shortest.

If that is so then the Japanese intend their fleet to fight only when the Allies are banging at the doors of Japan itself. And that moment may come, in my opinion, very much sooner than many people expect. It does not necessarily follow that the Allies plan to go island-hopping all the way to Japan.

And Tokyo need not hold too high hopes that Allied fleets will be weakened by the fact that they will be a long way from home when the big fight comes. Great progress has been made in carrying a train of supply ships with the Allied fleets—ships able to supply oil, food and repairs to ships many thousands of miles from their bases. The new technique developed since the war began is giving the warships their own travelling service stations.

GOERINGS GOOD TURN FOR I.A.F.

Tubby, always smiling, P/O Krishna Chandra, the meteorologist at the Ambala training school for Indian airmen and crews, got his qualifications by the kind permission of Reichminister Hermann Goering at the Tempelhof airfield, Berlin. The Nazi airchief would kick himself hard, if he knew how quickly and efficiently his pupil is putting met. boys through their course at Ambala.

P/O Chandra went to London in 1933 to study meteorology and all that goes with it, writes an Indian Air Force Public Relations Officer. He did well but what he wanted for a complete round off was a course at the Tempelhof airfield, Berlin. His English college fixed it, but when he arrived in Berlin he found his course was to follow one just taken by Japanese students. The Japs had made themselves most unpopular by taking forbidden pictures of the aerodrome and were packed off in a hurry. There were to be no more foreign students at Tempelhof.

Chandra argued, and was told to go and see Göering. He did, and had 20 minutes talk with the great man who sat in a special chair to bear his weight, and had a desk with a semi-circle cut out to allow him to get near it.

"He was quite pleasant, very impressive, talked to me about India, and knew what he was talking about," says Chandra. The Marshal gave Chandra a chance to take the course. He took it, and got the special qualifications which make him so useful at the moment.

MADRAS TROOPS' STIRRING TRADITIONS

MADRASSI soldiers have been emphasising anew the stirring traditions which services in past wars won for Southern India.

Since 1940 Madras troops with front line workshops have been playing a vital part as drivers and mechanics; they formed the transport backbone of at least two famous Indian divisions.

On the Burma front, a battalion of the Third Madras Regiment has come successfully through seven months' constant contact with the Japs; they have many dead Japs to their credit and a brave show of captured equipment and Jap insignia to hang in their regimental messes.

Madras troops have a notable military history. Lord Mornington, Governor of the Province in 1797, said of them, "with regard to the military establishment at Fort St. George, I do not believe there exists in any part of the world an army more distinguished for its high state of discipline or for the activity and gallantry of its officers."

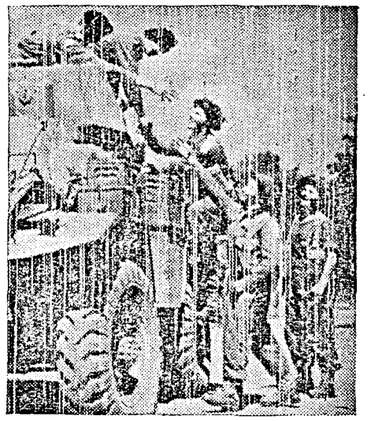
EVEN WELLINGTON WAS ASTONISHED

The Madrassis astonished Wellington, who before Waterloo, was soldiering with Indians "I cannot write in too strong terms of the conduct of our troops (all Madrassis)," he said after one action. "They astonished me."

Sir John Phillipart, who had plenty of opportunity to study the Madrassi, caught a glimpse of the future in 1823. He remarked there were no men whose mind was more consequent to study and that they were particularly good at the mechanics of soldiering. There was not much mechanics about soldiering in those days; to-day there definitely is, and the Madrassi is proving Sir John's words.

These men are among the quickest to learn their way about the internal combustion engine. In Italy they are doing splendid work, repairing and recovering damaged vehicles and their coolness under shell fire is a byword.

Madrassis to-day are still coming forward to fight. The spirit of cheery determination, so marked in the armies of the Carnatic in the old days, is abroad again on the plains and hills of Italy and along the jungle tracks of India's eastern front.



CROSSING OF ORNE.—British and Canadian troops link up after the British forced a bridgehead over the river Orne.

SESHIAH, THE CURIOUS VILLAGER

(By R.G.)

CANTO IV—Second Instalment.

Seshiah, on information bent
And with his country's good content,
Demanded of a Party man
The explanation of the plan
Whereby his leaders wished to right
The wrongs long past, or now in sight;
And very frankly did confess
He found it passing hard to guess
What was the true and real intention
When different leaders chose to mention
Quite different notions: for one said
That in no case might blood be shed,
But one (and he the President)
Said he would use means violent
And take up arms if enemy
Defiled his country's soil, pardie;
And yet a third, with words resplendent,
Said if the land were independent
It would with ease equip and train
And in full warlike trim maintain
Ten million fighting men: and so
It was quite difficult to know
Whether in fact they would dispense
With fighting armies for defence
And, lacking precedent historical,
Keep all their fighting metaphorical,
Relying on words and gracious gestures
And peaceful blokes in homespun vestures,
Or, throwing overboard their saint
As out of date and merely quaint,
Would gird themselves to fight indeed
And make not hearts but bodies bleed.
And much depended, said Seshiah,
On which loud leader was a liar:
For he, for one, would never choose
His life or property to lose
Because the country's government
With methods foolish though well-meant
Resisted the invader only
By bleating like a lost and lonely
Ewe lamb—and lambs at least would not
Invite their fellows to be shot.

The Party Member slightly squiggled—
You almost might have thought he wriggled—
And though in politics not queasy
Just for a moment seemed uneasy:
But then, remembering he'd been told
The politician's rule of gold,
That he is lost who hesitates
But safe he who equivocates,
He thus began: "Our Party's fit
For every task that's given it:
And in a war you'll find it ready
To keep the nation strong and steady
And make things tough for enemies
Whose only power in weapons lies:
We can keep Hitler at a distance
By dint of soulful non-resistance:
But if the people so insist,
We can as soulfully resist."

"MOST EFFECTIVE AIR WEAPON"

WHY THEY WERE CHOSEN TO BATTER RETREATING GERMANS IN NORMANDY

TWO months of battle experience in Normandy has shown that the Royal Air Force has the newest and most effective territying weapon yet produced for air fighting. It is the Typhoon, rocket-firing single seat fighter—Rockphoon to the Royal Air Force—which smashes Tiger and Panther tanks and similar tough targets with the accuracy of a divebomber but without having the vulnerability of that once vaunted plane.

Group Captain Paul Davoud, D.S.O., who commands a wing of Rockphoons, D.F.C., thickset 32-year old Canadian, recently revealed some of the plane's secrets.

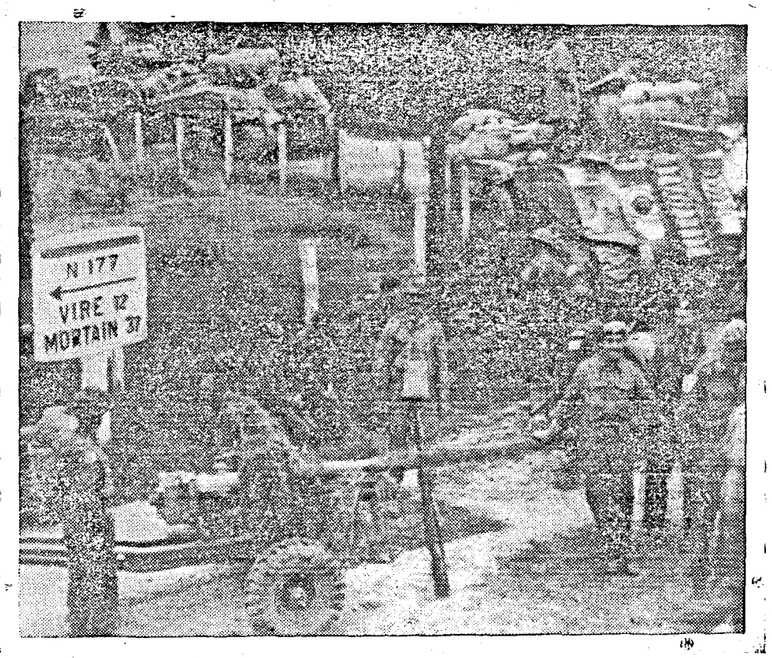
Rockphoons are fitted with four rockets under each wing and the pilot can fire them in twos, fours, sixes or eights. It has four cannon as well.

BIGGEST TANKS JUST CRUMPLE UP

"Their accuracy is so great", Davoud said, "that German prisoners have admitted that they have been given orders when sighting a Typhoon rocket aircraft to get off the road, get under cover and stay there all day if necessary.

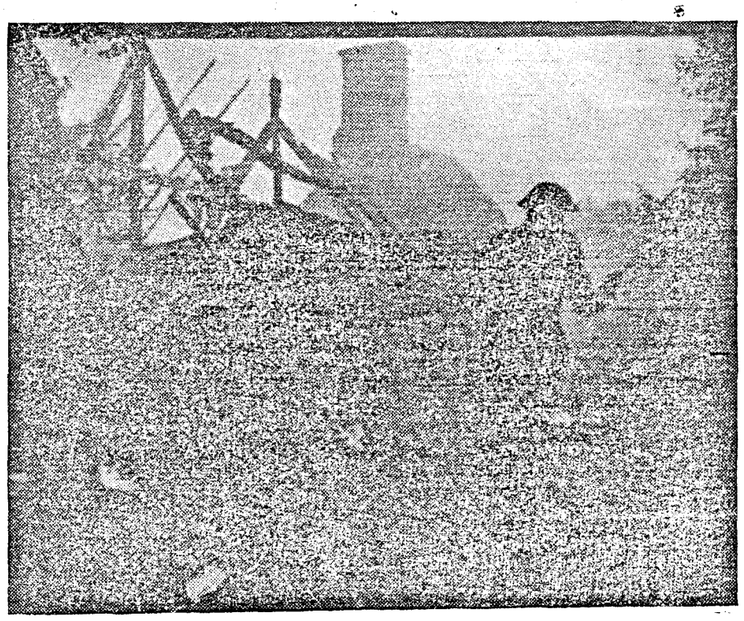
The planes work entirely at the call of ground troops leaving the Spitfires and Thunderbolts to cope with the Luftwaffe.

It has been found that Rockphoons are the best for destroying even the biggest tanks when they have been dug in to form strong-points. "Our men dive on them at all angles and from 100 to 2,000 feet or more", said Davoud. The effect is staggering. The tanks just break up or become infernos.



FRANCE.—German prisoners by the roadside watch tanks and infantry prepare to move forward.

AIRBORNE TROOPS DEPUTY COMMANDER.—Lieut.-Genl. F A. M. Browning, who has been appointed Deputy Commander of the new organization of the Allied combined airborne forces in France.



Mopping up in Normandy at Le Beny Bocage.

TASK FORCE No. 58

A REVOLUTIONARY NEW WEAPON OF SEA POWER

IN THE PACIFIC .. IN THE INDIAN OCEAN .. OUR NAVAL MIGHT GATHERS

By MAJOR GEORGE FIELDING ELIOT.

THE record of Task Force No. 58 in the Pacific is a demonstration of the way in which we have evolved a combination of air and naval might specially adapted to the problem of carrying on a broad, continuing offensive at great distance from home bases over a wide expanse of sea.

The most striking single fact about Task Force No. 58 is its ability to keep going. For over a month it has been in action on a broad front. Between June 10 and July 16 it has carried out six major attacks in the Pacific some 6,000 miles from the continental United States and within 1,500 miles of Japan proper.

Its first action was by carrier-based bombers and fighter planes, together with naval gunfire, against Saipan, Rota, Guam and Tinian, paving the way for landings.

Three days later, thousands of miles northward, the enemy bases of Bonin and Volcano islands, 500 miles from Japan, were heavily hit to neutralize their usefulness as bases for enemy counter-attack and as links in the chain whereby reinforcement might come to the Saipan defenders.

Four days later, westward of Guam, Task Force No. 58 beat down an attack by massed Japanese carriers launched against it and the invading fleet under its protection. Carrier fighters and anti-aircraft fire wiped out 402 attacking planes. The following day carrier groups from Task Force No. 58 pursued the fleeing Japanese force that attempted the earlier air strike. The planes sank at least two carriers and two tankers; dozens of other ships were damaged.

On June 23 Task Force No. 58 struck Pagan Island, in the northern Marianas, keeping the links between Saipan and Tokyo cut. On July 3 Task Force No. 58 hit Bonin and Volcano islands once more, smashing enemy destroyers, supply ships, harbour installations and shore fortifications.

All this time naval units participated in the reduction of Saipan's defences by naval gunfire, guarded transports and supply ships operating off shore, kept a continuous flow of reinforcement material going on the beaches.

The duration of these attacks indicates not only that we have the kind of naval force Japan has not dared challenge in fleet engagement; it means we can make constant use of the seas we command and have the mobility and endurance in a fleet that makes it a new kind of naval weapon.

Besides the staying power of Task Force No. 58 there are several other elements making it formidable. One of these is its range—not only the distance it can obtain from its own bases but the range of seaways it can include in its sphere of effective operation.

In the days it has been at sea it has attacked widely scattered points demonstrating speed and mobility never before seen in large battle fleets.

Its versatility is another characteristic. It has been used against shore batteries, surface vessels, airfields, and against massed air attack. It has destroyed ground installations and shipping, supported landings, covered transports. During all its varied engagements it has been prepared to meet the Japanese fleet.

New principles of naval organization and use have gone hand in hand with improved construction to reduce the vulnerability of our ships. Along with their tremendous increase in effectiveness as a striking force has gone an increase in defensive power.

Task Force No. 58 is not merely a thing of steel, iron, guns, planes. It is a result of independent, imaginative thinking and utilization of bitter lessons, and a daring willingness to explore innovations and modify old concepts. It is a product of seamanship as much as engineering.

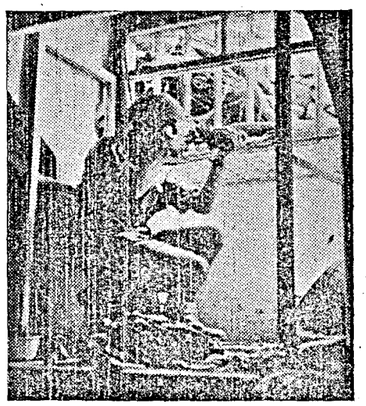
The fleet is no better than the men who command it. In the kind of war we are waging in the Pacific our naval achievements are possible by wide co-ordination over a vast front of all elements of military strength.

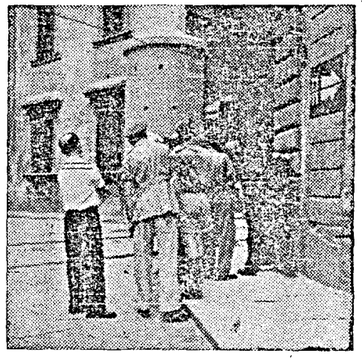
Task Force No. 58 was covered in its operations by American, Australian, New Zealand and Dutch fighting men who are in action against the Japanese in the South Pacific, the raids on Palau and Truk from the south contributed to the success of No. 58.

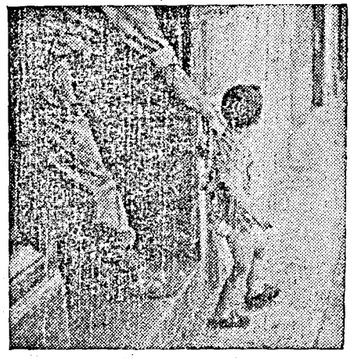
So did the consistent offensive waged against vulnerable communications of Japan's sea empire by Allied submarines and planes.

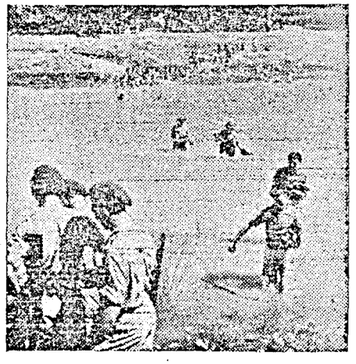
It is the whole integrated complex of United Nations' power exercised against Japan that is reducing her to an island empire without sea power and a foe without hope of victory.

—*From* Contact.









FLORENCE

Pictures show: *final scenes immediately prior to capture of Florence.* Lower photo shows: *crossing of Arno.*

INDIAN SAPPERS LED THE WAY ON LEDO ROAD

AS the Japs retreat into Burma and the frontier roads are reopened the new supply lines to push the war still farther east come into their own again. Few are more famous than the Ledo Road, along which United States trucks are now lumbering with rations and ammunition for the North Burma forces.

But few of the American soldier-drivers who use it realise the debt they owe to the Indian soldier-engineers who laid the foundations for this great war lane two years ago.

The story of the Ledo Road is in fact a story of pioneer effort by British and Indian engineers; as long ago as March 1942, Indian sappers were hard at work on it. For nine months they were alone in the area.

While the Ledo Road is to-day a wholly American project its present advanced state owes much to Indian engineers, tea planters and their labour force, to Indian Army Pioneers and to the Indian States, whose labour units have worked heroically in this area.

Early in 1942 it was decided to push a road through from Ledo towards China. Assam tea planters collected their own labour and recruited thousands of coolies.

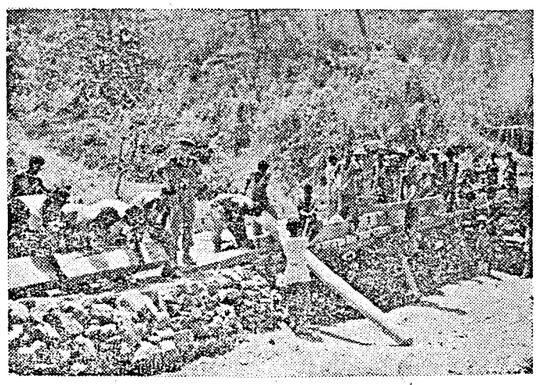
In March the first large party of an Indian mechanical excavating company of the Indian Engineers arrived with their road-making plant from Quetta. From then on, until the monsoon and the then doubtful strategic value of the road put a stop to constructional work, the engineers were engaged in a grim struggle with nature at its "untidiest" and the elements at their worst.

From Ledo the first 20 miles across the plains are a sea of mud for six months of the year. So thick is the jungle that visibility is often reduced to five yards; great trees laced with creepers and giant bamboos shut out the sun. These obstacles, together with malaria, leeches and poisonous insects, made the sappers' task one of the most trying and unenviable in the world.

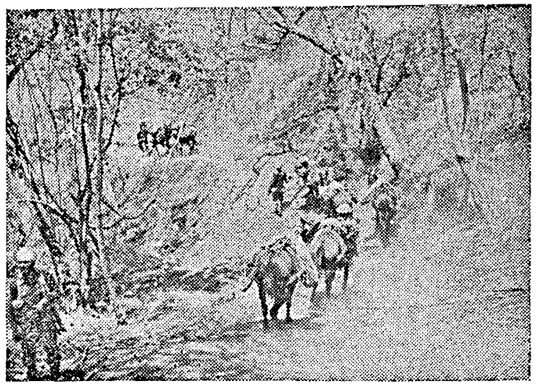
Courage and endurance of a high order were called for. The Indian sappers were not lacking in those two virtues, especially when they began cutting a road on the dangerously steep hill sections.

When the monsoon finally stopped the work the Indian sappers spent six months building airfields in Northern Assam, which enabled the *Usaaf* to give supplies over the "hump" to China.

They resumed in December 1942 when American road construction units began to arrive. The Indians remained in the lead as they had gained valuable experience in cutting through the jungle and working on precipitous hill-sides. By the end of January last year, when they had reached the Pangsao Pass, they had paved the way for a highway down which Stilwell's men marched to success against the Japs in the Hukawng Valley and beyond.



Madrassis constructing a wooden bridge.



Typical jungle road.

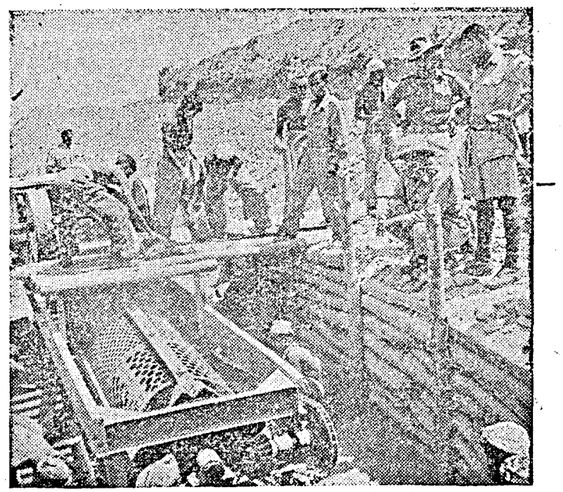
WAR ON MALARIA

EARLY in the campaign on the Indo-Burma front the Army found it had to contend not only with the Japs but with the monsoon and malaria. To defeat malaria, the hidden menace which struck relentlessly at night and wrought havoc among front-line troops, prompt action was vital if the Army was not to be further crippled by this insidious wastage of man-power.

So anti-malaria units came along. Senior medical officers, experts in malariology, were called on to prescribe the best and most effective treatment to carry out the official behest to "stop this malaria."

The advice of two engineers, one in the Irrigation Department, Government of Burma, and the other formerly with the Ouse Drainage Board in England, was sought and about November 1942 the great anti-malaria drainage scheme was begun. An Indian works section of engineers and a total of 4,000 labourers busily engaged over a period of four months.

To-day Manipur Road base is comparatively free of malaria. From a malaria rate of 40 per thousand and even higher per day there has been a substantial decline.



Working a stone-crusher near an air-strip.

WAR DIARY

BRITAIN AND GERMANY

16TH AUG.—Flying bombs were over southern counties in England and caused damage and casualties.

"The flying bomb may be only a forerunner of far more terrible instruments of destruction which will be hurled hundreds and even thousands of miles" said the Secretary of the United States Treasury, Mr. Morgenthan.

Last night R.A.F. bombers attacked Berlin. About 2,000 bombers attacked 21 Luftwaffe headquarter control stations and airfields in Germany. More than 1,000 American heavy aircraft attacked military objectives in Germany to-day.

17TH AUG.—Flying bombs continued to attack Southern England.

Last night over 1,200 Allied bombers attacked Berlin, Stettin and Kiel.

18TH AUG.—Last night R.A.F. bombers attacked Mannheim.

19TH AUG.—After a lull of about 20 hours more flying bombs raided Southern England including London area. R.A.F. attacked flying bomb launching sites in Northern France.

More than 1,000 R.A.F. bombers attacked Berlin, Bremen, Cologne, etc.

* * *

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE ATLANTIC

16TH AUG.—Mr. Morgenthan, Secretary of the United States Treasury, in a broadcast said last night "There can be no peace on earth—no security for any man—woman or child on earth—if aggressor nations like Germany and Japan retain any power to strike again at their neighbours. It is not enough for us to say 'We will disarm Germany and Japan' and hope they will learn to behave themselves as decent people. Germany and Japan must be kept disarmed—and let us not forget that eternal vigilance is the price of liberty."

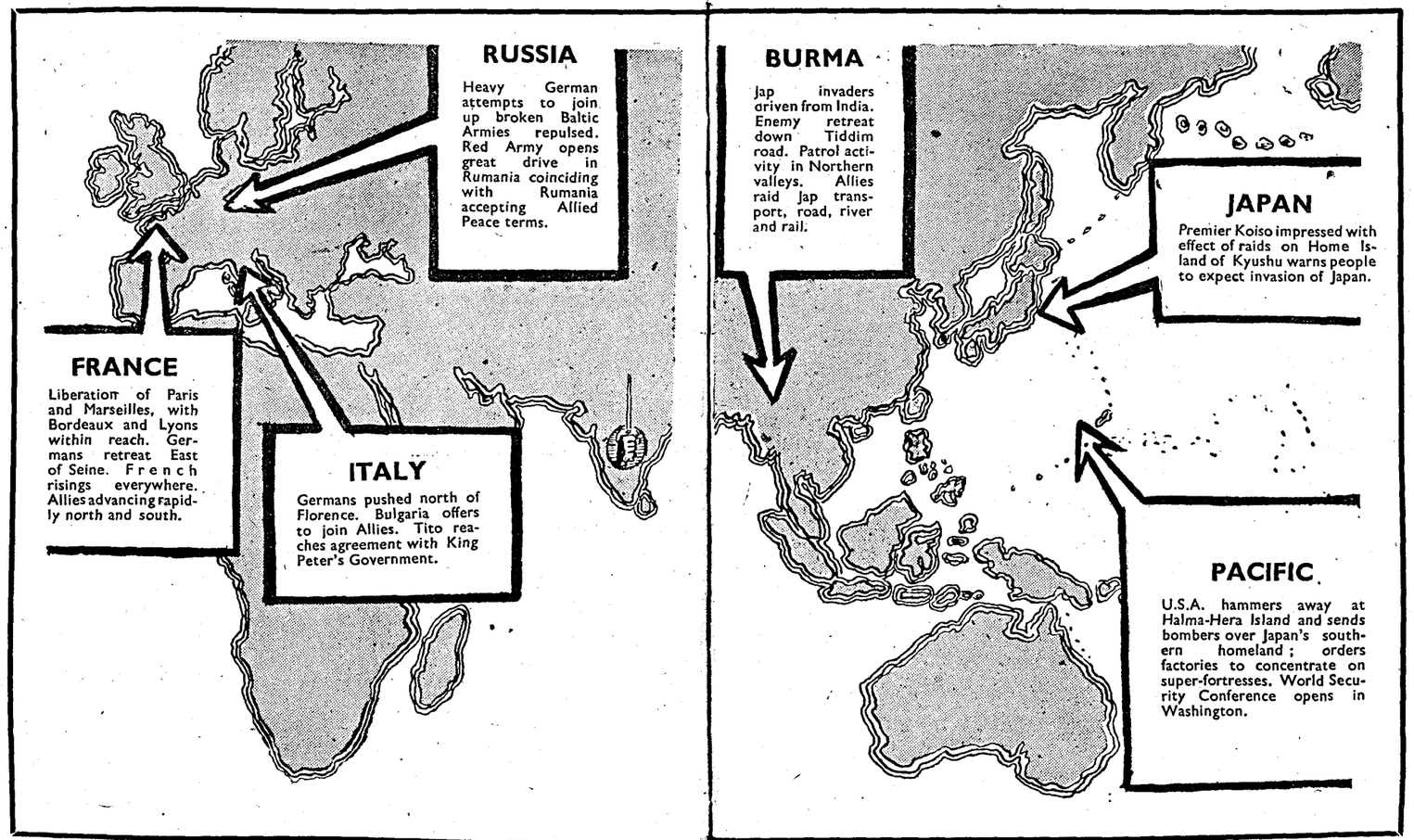
17TH AUG.—President Roosevelt returned to the White House after his 15,000 mile Pacific trip. He said at a press conference that Allied troops would drive in and occupy Germany and Japan even should resistance collapse short of the enemy border.

18TH AUG.—President Roosevelt stated that he was going to confer with Mr. Churchill soon. He added that general understanding had been reached between Russia, Britain and the United States regarding the occupation of Germany.

19TH AUG.—President Roosevelt announced the sending of Major-General Patrick Hurley and Mr. Donald M. Nelson on a mission to China to discuss military and economic problems.

20TH AUG.—27,000-ton aircraft carrier 'Antietam' and two powerful 30,000-ton cruisers were launched at Philadelphia. The United States Under Secretary of the Navy, Mr. R. A. Bard said at the launching "This is the largest launching at one time at one place in navy history."

THE WORLD WAR THIS WEEK'S NEWS



India lies at the heart of this Global war against all fascist tyrannies on all fronts.

21ST AUG.—The International Security Conference began at Dumbarton Oaks. Mr. Cordell Hull and Sir Alexander Cadogan addressed the delegates.

* * *

INDIA, BURMA AND CEYLON

16TH AUG.—Allied troops continued their advance south of Taungni and reached the village of Thaiwagon.

17TH AUG.—The Japs have been entirely driven out of the Manipur State. The 14th Army troops were two miles inside Burma.

18TH AUG.—Japs abandoned their covering positions on the Sittang track. On the Tiddim Road Allied advance continued.

19TH AUG.—The Hon'ble Sir Feroze Khan Noon conveyed the following message from Mr. Churchill to members of the Viceroy's Council.

"I should like to ask Sir F. K. Noon to convey to his colleagues the grateful appreciation of the War Cabinet of the great contribution India has made to the common cause both in the field of supply and in the feat of arms of her fighting men during the five years of war."

The Allied forces drive towards Mandalay along the Mogaung-Mandalay railroad continued in spite of adverse climatic conditions. In the Kabaw valley, units of Kachin Levies were engaged in heavy patrol actions.

20TH AUG.—There was continued patrol activity in the Kazu area and along Nam Tabet river. There are no organized Japs left on Indian soil.

21ST AUG.—Fourteenth Army troops occupied Khuaivum. There was extensive patrol activity in the Kazu area.

RUSSIA AND FINLAND

16TH AUG.—Russian troops captured Sandomierz, Pylva and over 100 localities.

17TH AUG.—Russian troops have entered the East Prussian frontier and in their advance have occupied 30 localities. Other places captured include Vysu and Rapin.

18TH AUG.—The war has crossed the borders of Germany and Germans were dying on their own soil. Russians captured Ahia and Valgemetsi and over 200 localities.

19TH AUG.—In Lithuania Germans launched fierce counter-attacks. Fierce hand-to-hand fighting took place in Warsaw. Soviet troops captured Alukste and over 100 localities.

It is announced that Soviet Air Force has destroyed more than 50,000 German aircraft during the 38 months of war.

20TH AUG.—Fierce tank battles raged in Northern Lithuania. Soviet troops captured more than 250 localities.

21ST AUG.—The Russians have launched an offensive on the Rumanian front. Fierce battles were in progress in the areas of Sodomeni, Helesteni, Potso Gloael, Jassy and south-west of Tighina. Russian forces evacuated Tukums. Over 150 localities were captured in the various sectors.

* * *

ITALY, AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

16TH AUG.—Allied forces crossed Arno in Florence and a little to the west of the city.

17TH AUG.—No major operations were reported.

18TH AUG.—Indian troops in Italy occupied Rosano.

19TH AUG.—Patrols were active on all fronts. Italian-based bombers attacked Ploesti in Rumania.

20TH AUG.—Allied troops occupied Gabrielli, Mondolfe and Pergola.

Count Carl Sforza, Minister without portfolio in the Italian Cabinet,, said that it would be in the interests of Western Powers if Italy retained her colonies.

21ST AUG.—Allied troops occupied Mondavio, Serafine and Palerno.

Mr. Churchill visited the Fifth Army.

King Victor Emmanuel arrived in Rome.

* * *

VICHY, FREE FRANCE AND THE OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

16TH AUG.—The Allies were firmly established in Southern France and all initial objectives were taken. The Allied landings now extend over 120 miles from Cannes to Toulon. The Allied penetration has reached a depth of eight miles in some places. Cannes, the islands of Port Cros and Levant in the Bay of Hyeres and the mainland peninsula of Cape Negre have been captured by assault forces.

The Allies captured St. Malo, Tinchebray, Domfront, Ger, Lauferte Mace and Vassy. The Allied troops were in the outskirts of Falaise.

Mr. Churchill watched the landing operations off the French coast yesterday.

17TH AUG.—The Allied troops were closing in on Paris and were within 23 miles from Paris. Our troops have captured Orleans, Chatres, Dreux, Falaise, Toarn, Conde, etc.

The Allied forces continued their rapid advance in South France. The beachhead itself embraced 500 square miles. Among the more important towns in Allied hands were San Tropez, San Mastine, Saint Pagotael, Frijus and Le Lavandow, Le Muy, Le Luc Lorque and Collorbrieres.

General Sir Henry Maitland Wilson, Supreme Commander of the Allied forces in the Mediterranean, with Admiral Sir John Cunningham, Commander-in-Chief of the Mediterranean Fleet, visited the assault area.

The United States Acting Secretary of War announced that during the first two months of war in West France, the United States Army casualties totalled more than 112,000 including 16,000 killed.

18TH AUG.—The German losses in Normandy in wounded, prisoners and killed were estimated at 400,000. It was declared that the battle of Normandy has been won. Germany's power effectively to resist in France has been crushed. American troops have reached Versailles about 10 miles from Paris. Allied forces captured Vendone, Trun, Chateandon, Saint Calais, Authon, Fromentel, Barbow, Norvy, Mezidon, etc.

Allied forces have gone inland 35 miles from their landing point on the South French coast. The Allies occupied La Napoule, Dragingnan, Vidauban, Le Luc, Besse, Cuers, etc

19TH AUG.—An unconfirmed report stated that "Americans are in Paris," and that the "First American Columns are fighting their way through the suburbs of Paris and knocking at the doors of Paris. Allied troops occupied St. Julien Le Fancon and reached the outskirts of Cabourg, Dives Sur Mer and Dozule.

In South France, the bridgehead was more than 1,000 square miles. Allied troops were within six miles of Toulon. Allied forces occupied La Roquebrussane, Sollies Port, St. Gareoult, Brignoles, Vins and Salernes.

20TH AUG.—Allied troops crossed Seine. General De Gualle arrived in France.

Allied invasion forces in Southern France have crossed the Durance river in several places. They have made another 20 mile advance. Saint Massimin and Barzols were captured. Americans reached Castellane and Aix-en-Provence.

21ST AUG.—Americans entered the suburbs of Paris. Allied troops captured Livarot and Chambois.

In South France Allied advance continued. Allied forces occupied Valensole, Pertuis, Lerevert, Leseaux and Monte Caume.

It is revealed that Mr. Eden visited Normandy Front. General Montgomery, in a special message to all the troops in France has asked them to "Finish the business off in record time".

• • •

THE NEUTRAL COUNTRIES

16TH AUG.—It is announced that "in view of the measures already taken by the Swiss Government to reduce Swiss exports to Axis Europe, particularly war material, the British and United States Governments have informed the Swiss Government that current facilities through blockade shall continue."

• • •

THE FAR EAST

16TH AUG.—Halmahera was raided while naval and air patrols swept all the coast lines of Vogelkop, Dutch New Guinea and targets on New Ireland, New Britain and Bougainville.

17TH AUG.—Allied aircraft attacked Davao, Lolabata and Truk.

The Chinese Minister of War in a broadcast appeal to the Chinese in the South Pacific to assist operations of the Allied forces, said "your liberation is within sight."

18TH AUG.—Allied aircraft destroyed 23 Jap planes on Miti aerodrome in the north of Halmahera Island.

19TH AUG.—Allied planes bombed Kave, Lianing, Harokoe, Namlea and Boeroe. Allied forces made a new landing at Wardo on the west coast of Biak Island.

20TH AUG.—American Super Fortresses raided Fukoka, Moji and Kokura on Kyushu Island and Yarata area on Skikoku Island.

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Chinese troops captured Laotungpo, near Lungling.

21ST AUG.—Super Fortresses again raided Yawata area.

The United States Navy Department announced that American submarines have sunk 19 more Japanese ships in the Pacific. American submarines have now sunk 706 Jap vessels since Pearl Harbour.

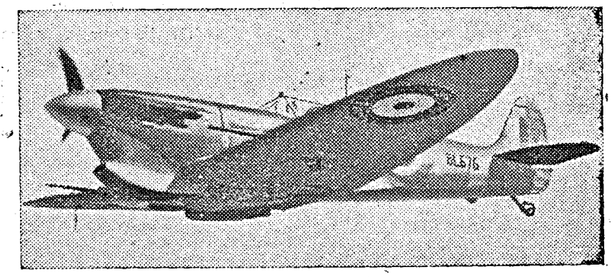
General MacArthur declared that the Allies have achieved air supremacy over Moluccas.

ROYAL INDIAN NAVY COMMISSION FOR NAVAL RATINGS

Ratings of all branches of the Royal Indian Navy may now be selected for commissions. Promotions will be direct, irrespective of age, to the rank of temporary sub-lieutenant, RINVR. and personnel will be commissioned in that branch of the service for which they are specially qualified. This means that after undergoing training as a rating and serving a period at sea, where personal attainments and qualifications are brought to the forefront, the present day Royal Indian Naval Rating is eligible to become a King's Commissioned Officer.

The Royal Indian Navy thus lines up with the Indian Army and Indian Air Force. Keen young men with a predilection for service at sea, who join the Royal Indian Navy to-day know that, provided they fulfil their duties, work hard and show keenness and qualities of leadership, the service presents unlimited opportunities. The patrolling of India's shores as guardian of her sea-borne trade is a job offering many openings and many trades; above all a quality of adventure that should appeal to the youth of independent spirit.

The Royal Indian Navy came into being in 1934 having passed through many stages since 1612 as the Hon. East India Company's Marine, The Bombay Marine, Indian Navy, Her Majesty's Indian Marine, Royal Indian Marine and in the course of these changes saw much activity and accumulated much history. The Royal Indian Navy has added to her historical laurels during this war having many outstanding feats of heroism to her credit. Since the commencement of war the Royal Indian Navy has increased both in tonnage and personnel for in all branches of the Royal Indian Navy recruiting has been good. The ports of India's coast line have produced good sea-faring stock who have proved their value, time and again. The Naval Rating irrespective of any particular branch upholds the traditions of the senior service by his attention to duty at all times in all weathers. He is a disciplined man, conscious of the part he is playing in the defence for freedom. A man who will one day have still greater responsibility.



SEAFIRE OF BRITAIN'S FLEET AIR ARM—Picture shows: *A Seafire—Fleet Air Arm version of the R.A.F. Spitfire—in flight.*

A GREAT RECORD OF BRAVERY
C-in-C's Tribute to Madrassis

The following message has been sent to a newly formed battalion of the Madras Regiment by General Auchinleck, Commander-in-Chief, India.

"I am very grateful to know that this battalion of the Madras Regiment has been formed and that it will take its place in the future side by side with other battalions of the Regiment. As the oldest regiment in the Indian Army, the Madras regiment has a great record of bravery and of long and faithful service. Now that the regiment has been reformed and is again seeing service on the battlefields of Burma, I am sure that it will once more take its place on the right of the line and prove that the men of Madras are as good soldiers to-day as they were 200 years ago. I wish it luck."

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MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. V FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 1944 No. 52

Salute the FOURTEENTH

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[NOTE.—*The summary of news and comments contained in the* MADRAS WAR REVIEW *generally relate to events and statements published till Wednesday, every week.*]

SALUTE THE FOURTEENTH ARMY

They seldom hit the headlines
And they never make a fuss
But they fight the Japs in Burma
Just to help the likes of us.

* * *

In the forest, swamp and jungle
In a climate far from kind
They dream of home—of Mum and Dad
The folks they left behind.

Now the Jap 's a dirty fighter
And you have to get him quick
For he waits for you in tree tops
Like a monkey on a stick.

* * *

So Salute the Fourteenth Army
Who are ready for the day
When they hurl the Japs from Burma
Singapore and Mandalay.

❖

GENERAL GIFFARD'S THANKS FOR RECEPTION TO 14TH ARMY

The following is the full text of the letter from General Sir George Giffard, G.C.B., D.S.O., A.D.C., to His Excellency Sir Arthur Hope, Governor of Madras:—

"General Linsdell has told me of your generous contribution from your War Purposes Fund to be spent on leave details from Fourteenth Army coming to Southern India.

A very large number of the personnel of the Fourteenth Army have their homes in Southern India. The journey from the Burma border is at any time wearisome; and now it is made worse for the men by the congestion due to the short leave season forced upon us by this year's operations.

The special efforts which are being made to improve the reception of leave details from Fourteenth Army returning to India are therefore especially welcome, and will be much appreciated.

On behalf of the troops under my command, I ask you to accept this expression of our grateful thanks."

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VAE VICTIS

IT requires an artist of the calibre of the Prime Minister of England to set out in adequate words the implications of this finished fifth year of the War. Only he seems to be able to paint on the enormous canvas which it presents, and to subject the deepest emotions of hope, intention, courage, sorrow and triumph to the strait-jacket of dignified prose. The Cromwellian Montgomery uses another technique to explain what is happening; he is not ashamed or afraid to attribute directly to Providence the almost incredible revolution of chances which has marked the period, and which is now so convincingly favourable for the Allies. We merely limit ourselves to finding in to-day's whirling triumphant kaleidoscope the justification—at long last—for a fundamental conviction in the breast of the ordinary, decent fellow, Indian or British, American or Frenchman, namely, that somehow and somewhere abstract Good must triumph over abstract Evil, if there is any point or intention in human life. That after all, was about all we had to subsist on four and five years ago; now looking into the sixth year of the struggle, we are the better assured that that conviction was soundly based, and that life will some time be again worth living.

ON September 3rd, 1944, therefore, we thank the leaders, the armed forces, and the home fronts of the Allied Nations from the bottom of our hearts for this confirmation of our fundamental hope. In this last year they have performed miracles of valour and constancy, and at last their reward is at hand.

THE allied invasions of Western Europe will rank among the greatest military feats of all time. A task long accounted impossible by strategical theorists, themselves confirmed in their theories when in 1940 even the megalomaniac Nazis recoiled from a parallel attempt, now faithfully accomplished, the men who live to tell how unfurling the banner of European freedom they carried not only the gigantic paraphernalia of armoured war but even their very landing-ports clean through the mighty fortifications of their continental foe, will be men to be envied indeed, and the repercussions of their crusade have been significant and immediate. The crust of Europe crumbles also in the South-east. The Balkans are chaotic with panic; Rumania has "packed up" and Bulgaria is about to crack—and however profound their present penitence, let not less than justice be the fate of these and other jackal States whose lack of honour or commonsense lead them into the same condemnation as the brigandage and treacheries of Germany! Turkey has washed her hands of her "friend" the enemy, and in the Far East the Jap gnaws his knuckles and changes his leaders as he watches his fleets of ships and planes dwindle, his "Co-prosperity" acquisitions slip from his grasp and the doom of the Nipponese empire staring him in the face.

GIVEN that wise and full justice *will* be meeted to our enemies, we are not of those scribes and news agencies who dwell gloatingly on the 'valleys of death,' and 'lanes of blood' and the 'tanks clogged to a standstill with corpses' with which our enemies are and will be visited; nor do we shake hands very warmly with the American who sneered at a shattered and demented group of German prisoners as being the "people who thought they could rule the world". It is enough for us to admire the indomitable pertinacity, the unity, the organizing talent, and the strategical genius, of the planners of victory; to salute the spirit, the discipline, and the physical courage of the men they sent out into the skies and the seas and the battlefields to win; and to watch—if only on our maps—the precision of invincible moves, the redemption of oppressed lands, and the re-birth of human hope and faith.

THAT is what this new year of combat, as no other one ever has, offers the imagination. Let us not be either so weary of war, or so elated with the certainty of Victory, that we do not seek to make t—by supreme, united, disciplined effort—the *last* year of a noisome struggle which does little credit to the more godlike instincts of the human race. "The Lord mighty in battle has given us Victory," says General Montgomery. "The end of the war is in sight; let us finish off the business in record time."

RUNNING COMMENTARY

Looking Ahead One does not require the supernatural powers of the lama in Calcutta who says the war will be over in October to do a bit of prognostication. Every soldier in the field knows that this is the victory drive to the heart of Germany. It is not the lama of Calcutta who should be regarded as an outstanding prophet, but the common people of all countries who believe in their just cause, who rallied together until today they are an army with banners who sweep across the world wiping out the dark evil which nearly wrecked all the good work and cultural developments built up through the centuries.

For that paranoical house-painter who was mainly responsible for it all, with his hordes of vainglorious German military followers and all their collaborationists, September 3rd this year is a time for very dismal and sober reflections. Gone are the criminal dreams of Nazifying the world. HITLER'S "Friends" are deserting him as the lesser criminals leave their gangster chief and throw themselves before the law as "reformed" types. But as WICKHAM STEED said recently we are not really concerned with what happens to HITLER, dead or alive. What is wanted is the end of his kind, and of German militarism. For the United Nations therefore, the five years of war which have passed must mark only the beginning of the Herculean business of disinfecting the world from the will-to-power aims of ambitious individuals, nations, industrialists and politicians alike. The strength of science and the courage of human kindliness must continue to uphold and defend the citadel of civilization right through the end of the war in Europe and Asia, into the years of peace and reconstruction.

A hint of the part to be played by the National War Front organization in this reconstruction work was given by Sir SULTAN AHMED in New Delhi on Monday, when he addressed the Publicity Advisory Committee. "We are considering," he said, "how best we can use this valuable publicity instrument to serve the cause of the nation in the period of reconstruction which lies before us."

* * *

Making India Sea-minded Another speaker, this time Vice-Admiral J. H. GODFREY, Flag Officer Commanding the Royal Indian Navy, who paid a visit to Madras this week, is anxious that India should be more Navy-minded and sea-minded. He brought a welcome salty tang when he appealed for support for the Royal Indian Navy, for a Navy League for India and for contributions to the Benevolent Fund for Seamen. Fresh and welcome too was his aside that the men who go to sea have no politics. They move in a larger element. It is rather paradoxical to be told that a goodly number of the recruits for the Royal Indian Navy come from places like the Punjab, a thousand miles from the sea! Yet India was not always a land-lubber country. In the past her ships sailed far out over the seas, as may be seen from the sculptures at Borobodur in Java. Recruits who must have leadership qualities are needed, and women are also wanted for the Naval W.A.C. (I). The duties of the latter would be, of course, on shore. A seaman must have all the qualities of the soldier—plus a love of a strange element, the sea. But now, as the war draws to its close in its European phase, the scene will soon be opening when we shall have an intensification of the struggle in the East. In the training of landing crews for combined landing operations, the Royal Indian Navy will be playing a big and interesting part. A naval career offers a marvellous opportunity for all courageous youngsters and for far-sighted parents who would like to have a hand in the ousting of Japan and in the liberation of the many island countries she has overrun, and last but not least in making India completely safe from aggression, now and hereafter.

* * *

Russian Contribution in Rumania Russia's glorious advances in the Balkans with their speedy effect of hustling time-serving nations like Bulgaria into last-minute withdrawals from the war have also helped to exhilarate popular emotions at the closure of this fifth year of war. Rumania is lost to Germany.

Ploesti and the oil region have now been captured and all that remains is the mopping-up of the demoralized remnants of German armies of occupation.

Ploesti is the big town which has figured in many an air assault. Apart from the setback to Germany, and it is considerable, which Rumania's decision to join the Allies brings, and its repercussions on neighbouring States, the vital strategic gain is that Germany's chief supply of oil is cut.

* * *

Oil—The Life Blood of the War Machine Rumania produced almost as much oil as the Dutch Indies. The pre-war figure was six and a half million metric tons per annum. But due to the dislocation and destruction caused by Allied raids, this quantity was not enough, hence Germany sought to build up a synthetic oil industry, manufacturing oil from coal. That is why day by day we hear so much of raids on synthetic oil refineries. For oil is the life-blood of modern war. Take away oil and the war machine collapses. To make Germany militarily weak does not therefore only mean capturing or killing her armies. Blockade and bombing can do the job just as well if not quicker. All that heavy blasting of which we have heard so much during the last few weeks has been to this end, to cripple the armies, to weaken the mechanism of war by oil-anæmia. Germany's oil has been drained. That is the importance of

Rumania, and the underlying significance of all such countries as may have oil in time of war. Oil regions in the hands of the enemy are targets for constant attack. Hence the big raids on Sumatran ports, such as the one this week on Padang. Japan's oil is thousands of miles away and has to be transported by sea. The destruction of harbours and docks means cutting the oil-arteries and so much more of the war machine brought to a standstill, literally dead and useless. Japan may have for the time being what is left of the oil fields of the Dutch Indies, Burma and Borneo, but of what value is it if it cannot be shipped where it is needed ?

* * *

German Army Paying for Hitler's Blunders The Allies in France continue their precision strategy on the largest possible scale. In this last week the combined Allied Armies have radiated out eastwards and north from Paris and it looks now as if the whole Pas de Calais area, with its flying-bomb sites and the remnants of the split 15th German Army, would fall neatly into our hands. Pocketing German Armies and rounding off generals would appear to be a kind of deadly sport in France. Since one would have thought the Germans would have learnt their lesson, there must be several good reasons for their stubborn retention of a strategy which has, after the debacle of Falaise, so obviously failed, and their losses are mounting up and now reach the half million mark. Apart from the telling power and superiority of the Allies in armour, both on land and in the air, plus a direction that is beyond all praise, the main reason would appear to be the very high importance placed by the German High Command on the Channel Coastline. Next reason for the German defeats is the breaking down of morale of the German military machine itself, due to a visible weakness in lack of oil and supplies. Thirdly there is the suggestion made by some observers and commentators, that Hitler has made up his mind that his plan must and will work against the advice of his military advisers, and hence the hanging and changing of German Generals. This if true is only confirmation of the madness of the little corporal who has brought ruin to the German people. They will have to suffer for his mistakes. In the meantime the Allies have a glorious chance of smiting hard at his Armies, and ghostly memories of old world war I battlefields are being revived as General Patton's armoured divisions roar with typical American speed towards the frontiers of Belgium and Germany, while our crack Canadian forces consolidate the ground gained and slog away at the enemy, bagging bewildered Germans as they rush like sheep through the one outlet specially meant to catch them. It is a time of supreme tragedy for the Germans and one and all, especially the youngsters of 15 and 16 will be glad to be taken prisoner.

* * *

The Laval Mystery The episode of the liberation of Paris being announced too soon was an anti-climax which the Allies soon put right. But it would appear there are still fifth columnists working in France, which is only natural after four years of collaboration with the Nazis. The ugly attempt on the life of General DE GAULLE which fortunately failed in its purpose, and the shots fired elsewhere in the City shows how careful the Allies will have to be and how long it will be before Europe is really clean. Also peculiar to say the least, is the mystery of that loathsome creature PIERRE LAVAL, the man who betrayed France and whose work was as dirty and vicious as his appearance. Why he should have been arrested—if the report is true—and denounced by DEAT (his own tool and colleague), is past understanding, unless the Nazis hope to throw dust in our eyes by making him out to be a reformed character who really loves the Allies and the people of France. It will be good if he is arrested and if the Nazis keep him nice and fat for handing over to the Allies.

* * *

The Job Well in Hand From the south of France another German Army is hurriedly pressing northwards up the Rhone valley is a furious race against time as two Allied armies, one from Grenoble and one from Avignon follow on its track. At Lyon, if report is true, this German Army will encounter resistance from the Maquis there who have liberated this important city. Brest has not been forgotten either this week, and it would appear that its capture is next on the Allied time-table. And while these victorious armies are advancing according to plan—we can leave the "strategic withdrawals" to the Germans !—there is no respite for Germany itself, especially for her communications, railway wagons, roads, bridges, docks, and the very few ships that dare the seas. In the Baltic docks of Kiel and Koenigsberg we have also put finishing touches this week on some of the remaining ports of Germany. This will give Russia a chance to capture a few more generals and several more thousands of troops when the Red Armies move forward towards the Baltic. With the whole Rivierra coast now freed of resisting Germans, the base of Toulon free, and Marseilles, the second city of France, at our disposal, the Allies can concentrate on the major job of driving still greater onslaughts on the German Armies in the north. The job is well in hand.

* * *

Churchill Returns to London In Italy too things are smartening up. The Germans have decided it is time they retired to that strangely-titled Gothic Line. The 8th Army is maintaining its great tradition of never losing ground, but pushing ahead. On the Adriatic coast where the country is less mountainous considerable progress has been made.

Italy has been these last few weeks a scene of conferences and meetings, at all of which Mr. CHURCHILL has taken a prominent part. He had talks with most of the leading representatives of the Yugoslav, Greek and Italian people, and also had an audience with His Holiness the Pope. He will return to London with the feeling that his work has been well and skilfully done. His next big job—where he gets his remarkable energy is surprising—is of course the proposed meeting with President ROOSEVELT. That may possibly be after the conclusion of the World Security Conference meeting at Washington, when topics other than the immediate needs of the war are likely to be discussed. Whatever may be, Mr. CHURCHILL can confidently congratulate himself on the progress of events since he took over in 1940. He has borne the strain of these years amazingly well and we may depend upon it he will see that the work he so wonderfully set out to do is finished as he desired.

* * *

Approach of "D" Day in the East The arrival of the new Commander of the Eastern Fleet, Sir BRUCE FRASER, simultaneously with the return from a visit to London of Lord LOUIS MOUNTBATTEN is another dismal piece of news for Japan. They will be kept very busy getting ready for our "D" Day against Japan.

English newspapers are already calling attention to the fact that the Burma campaign would have been world news if the war news in Europe had not been of so momentous a character. But when the conflict in Europe terminates, Burma will be frontline news, and all eyes will be watching Burma, and India, the great base. Last month on the "Triple Seventh" the anniversary of the seventh day of the seventh month of the seventh year of China's battle with Japan, the Prime Minister in his greetings to Generalissimo CHIANG KAI-SHEK sent the message : "We shall fulfill our pledge to bring our whole weight on Japan." Japan in truth is sitting on a time-bomb, and at last this conceited nation is beginning to wake up to the unpleasant reality, as the jittery meeting of the Mikado and his cabinet indicates and the warning issued by Premier KOISO to look out for invasion.

* * *

"On Whole Weight" This is very different from what the Singapore radio declared on June 8th ! "The Allies are busy in Europe. Fate has provided us with an excellent opportunity." To which we gave the raspberry. All Japan did with that opportunity was to lose Guam and Saipan and to let the Allied Amphibious Fleet move up three thousand and seven hundred miles nearer to her positions in the Central Pacific ! When Mr. CHURCHILL speaks of "our whole weight" he means it. That might is now seen in all its glorious and almost inconceivable strength on the continent. It is the avenging might now in action in France, Italy, and over the skies of HITLER'S Europe. It has turned HITLER'S fortress into a prison for the jailer, in which he is confined and where he will be routed out no matter where he may skulk. In the meantime *even with the surplus forces at their disposal* the Allies have been able to recover thousands of miles of the Japanese quickly won and quickly lost empire. The time is coming very very near when Britain will keep the promise Mr. CHURCHILL made on June 30, 1943 : "that every man, every ship and every aeroplane in the King's service that can be moved to the Pacific will be sent and will be there maintained in action by the peoples of the British Commonwealth and Empire, in priority over all other interests, for as many flaming years as are needed to make the Japanese in their turn submit or bite the dust." And the King in congratulating President ROOSEVELT on the capture of Guam described it "as a splendid augury of the coming utter defeat of Japan to which the forces of the British Commonwealth of Nations also will make an increasingly powerful contribution." As we look ahead there is going to be fireworks for the Japanese such as they have never seen before !

BLOOD BROTHERHOOD

(*By* R.G.)

A trickle down a temple,
A pool underneath an arm --
Blood, and the life has run out of a man.
Ranters shouting of blood and soil
Exchange the living blood of simple men
For clots of salt and dried corpuscles.
Bodies are drained, and the limbs,
Ere they rot or are cast into pits
Seem to take on a patrician fineness.
With this outpouring, this sacrament,
The earth is dedicated,
For some to death, and for some to life.
The blood of the murdered
Is not the seed of greatness, no, nor of any good,
(Except corn growing high on old battlefields).
Yet in other veins runs the red river
And the branches innumerable
Carry life to the aspiring tissues.
You in whom the flow is,
In whom warm pulses stir,
Think no mystical nonsense, ascribe no virtue
Beyond that magic. (Is it not enough ?).
Do not suppose that Indians or Jews
Or Germans or Americans or Hottentots
Carry plasmas with sacred missions.
In all the blood proclaims brotherhood ;
In all courses alike till the heart stops ;
And all the dead are dead.
In breeding, not nature, is our difference ;
In mind, not veins, the stamp of Cain.
In the name of all innocent blood
The proud plotters of havoc shall be hunted
Like beasts, erased from the book of Adam.

3 MEN ROUT 15 JAPS ON BURMA FRONT

Madrassis' Valour

Tamu, August 23.—Three men of the 3rd Madras Regiment, on patrol in dense jungle, broke up a party of 15 Japs.

Lance-Naik Krishna Reddy, of the village of Kanipakkapatanam, in the Chittoor district, Madras Presidency, heard a noise behind him and, on turning, saw the Japs, one of whom was in the act of throwing a grenade. The grenade burst, wounding the N.C.O. and another man, but the Naik gave the Japs a well-aimed burst from his tommy-gun and killed two. The rest fled.

"The Greater East Asia War on which the rise and fall of Japan is staked, has now entered into its final stage. Even then with conditions prevailing, I consider it is almost impossible to include the demands of the armed forces and win final victory."

—*VICE-ADMIRAL KATAGIRI, Vice-President of Japanese Aviation Industries.*

THE RIGHTS OF GROUPS

By R. GALLETTI, I.C.S.

DANIEL Defoe said that there were a hundred thousand stout country-fellows in his time ready to fight to the death against Popery, without knowing whether Popery was a man or a horse. Can it be said that in our time there are millions ready to fight to the death for liberty without knowing whether it is a property or a tax ?

Those who have listened to the discussion so far may agree with me that to the Englishman personal liberty is something not merely abstract. Englishmen as often talk of 'Liberties' as of 'liberty' in the singular; and these liberties to possess, to think, to speak and to act amount to something more than a word, and also something more than absence of restraint. They go a good way beyond what Pericles, praising their liberty to the Athenians, described—

> "We have a form of Government not fetched by imitation from the laws of our neighbouring states (nay we are rather a pattern to others than they to us), which because in the administration it hath respect not to the few but to the multitude is called a democracy. Wherein there is not only an equality amongst all men in point of law for their private controversies, but in election to public offices we consider neither class nor rank, but each man is preferred according to his virtue or to the esteem in which he is held for some special excellence; nor is anyone put back through poverty, because of the obscurity of his person, so long as he can do good service to the commonwealth. Moreover this liberty which we enjoy in the administration of the state, we use also one with another in our daily course of life, neither quarrelling with our neighbour for following his own humour, nor casting on him censorious looks which tho' they be no punishment yet they grieve. So that conversing among ourselves without private offence, we stand chiefly in fear to transgress against the public, and are obedient to those that are for the time in office, and to the laws, and principally to such laws as are written for protection against injury, and those which being unwritten bring undeniable shame to the transgressors."

COMPARISONS BETWEEN INDIVIDUALS AND GROUPS

The first necessity of human freedom is security against the non-human. In order to achieve that men band themselves together and so arises the second necessity, the security of man against man. Human organizations secure member against member; but who shall secure the members against the organization, individuals against associations, individuals and associations against the Government? *Custodes quis custodiet ipsos*? Each and every man is to be protected against arbitrary force and fraud, whether these are practised by stronger individuals or by bodies of men strong in their union or by the machinery of the state, in which the sole right to use force is vested by civilized societies.

The English way was to set out claims and when these claims had been fully thrashed out make them legal rights, maintained and enforced by special agents, police and judges, who were bound by law; and in order that the law should not be the fancies of an arbitrary individual or group, to set up legislatures which were committees first of the possessors of property and later of the whole body of citizens.

So far for personal liberties. But the positive side of liberty is the power to act. The right of association once established, the power to act was augmented by combination; and the rights of groups had to be defined. The group may be a person in law; but is obviously not like an individual in point of liberty. A corporation, it has been said, has neither a soul to be damned nor a body to be kicked. It does not 'enjoy' liberty, except metaphorically. Yet it can do what its members individually cannot do, in some respects, while in others it cannot do what they individually can do.

This is a first point of difference. But an even more important point is that while a single individual can never grow so physically strong and so wealthy as to be completely master of the state and all his fellow citizens, a group may grow and grow until its members collectively wield an economic or political power against which other men are helpless. The would-be tyrant forms a private army; the aspirant to economic dominance forms a Trust; the embryo dictator organizes a party to achieve victory in elections or back him up with illegal violence.

THE ARMY AND THE LAW

Because then the group is not itself a living being and because it may dominate the state which maintains and enforces the system of rights, liberty for the group is not the same kind of thing as liberty for the individual. But it would be a negation of positive liberty—liberty to do—to set too narrow limits to the rights of groups.

The necessity and nature of organizations change with the changes of man's way of life and of earning his living. The English notion of the liberty of groups, at the present time would not have been appropriate in the Anglo-Saxon self-subsistent village, any more than it is suitable for Chinese society now. And not the same kind of liberties and immunities are claimed for groups of different kinds. The family church, club, or society for philanthropic purposes needs quite different privileges from the joint stock company or public utility corporation; these again are to be distinguished from the agencies and departments set up by the state to perform functions similar to those performed by associations of individuals; and no other organization is on the same footing as an army, in which rests the state's monopoly of force, with the result that the army can tyrannize over both the Government and the people.

The English people decided in the time of Cromwell that army rule was intolerable and no king or parliament should have the power to become a tyrant by military force. "No standing armies" was for long one of the most frequent and powerful of English slogans; and by a combination of luck and ingenuity English Governments have succeeded both in keeping armies and in keeping them in their place. The army's rights are constitutionally granted and constitutionally limited. As Lippmann says—

THE RIGHTS OF GROUPS

> "In a constitutional regime the army commanders have none of the prerogatives of sovereignty. They can recruit only as many men as the civilian legislature authorizes. They can spend only as much money as it appropriates. They have no general powers to conscript men or money or goods. They cannot determine the purposes for which the army shall be used. They cannot declare war or make peace. Within defined boundaries the commanders have a certain authority under military law. But the military law itself is effective only after it has been reviewed and approved by a civilian authority. . . When an army remains within these limitations it is compatible with a free society; when an army takes to itself general authority to conscript, to declare war, to determine the national policy, to make its own laws and enforce them as it sees fit the condition known as militarism prevails. It means that the military have ceased to be under God and the law. When a bureau of civilian officials does the same sort of thing, it is called a bureaucracy."

Because the English developed early a system of local Government by local councils and limited magistrates they never suffered like France under the Ancien Regime or the Germany of Bismarck and Kaiser William and National Socialism from the tyranny of a bureaucratic group. The law and the judges remained above, and never fell below, both the army and the civil service. And to these organs of the state the English denied the immunities they granted to chartered companies, limited liability corporations, churches, leagues and clubs.

These liberties are, first the right to form to associate together and to create a legal person capable of owning and acting; next, the right to own and possess property, next the right to act for the members through specified managers, with which goes the right to legislate for the internal affairs of the group by articles and by-laws, and also, because action includes persuasion, the right to speak and write for the members and to issue propaganda or to advertise; finally, as associations like individuals are strengthened by acting together with others, the right to enter into agreements and alliances.

All these liberties are to be exercised, whether within the state or beyond its limits, only within the law. The state will enforce against the group the common law of the land; and if the group is incorporated under a charter or under a statute, it will be bound by terms and liable to be punished by the judges if the terms are transgressed.

ECONOMIC EFFECT

Groups then in England can be free on the same conditions as individuals—that they acknowledge the law and concede to others the rights they claim for themselves. The group is free as against its own members if it does not trespass on their individual rights under the law, and it is free as against the authorities if it obeys the law and commits neither crime nor tort.

Economically this freedom of groups has had remarkable effects. The great American scholar Nicholas Murray Butler declared—

> "I weigh my words when I say that in my judgment the limited liability corporation is the greatest single discovery of modern times, whether you judge it by its social, by its ethical, by its industrial, or, in the long run—after we understand it and know how to use it—by its political effects. Even steam and electricity are far less important than the limited liability corporation and they would be reduced to comparative impotence without it."

And Lippmann comments—

> "This is no exaggeration. For without the privileges and immunities of the corporate form of economic organization and property tenure the industrial system as we know it could not have developed and could not exist."

As the English pioneered in modern world trade and modern power industry they had to fit the commercial and industrial group into their system of rights. True to their own judgment, they allowed more freedom to the groups than the Germans or Italians or Russians did. Excessive bargaining power accrued to some who managed and controlled great aggregations of material wealth. And probably the major problem of the English people apart from war, is how to reconcile the immunities of the business corporation with the rights of the individual citizen, employee, customer or competitor.

FINAL TEST OF GOVERNMENT

Some think this will be done by the state stepping into the place of the group and itself becoming the manager and controller of the greater aggregations of material wealth. But the English know that the public official is no more to be trusted with unlimited immunities than the private manager, and are more likely to go on gradually re-defining the rights of the individual and of the group until it is as hard for a group as for any one man to tyrannize over men.

But what of the political party? The English in Stuart times led the way in working out the methods by which men of like sentiments could combine in an area enormously greater than the city state in order to obtain control of the Government of the day.

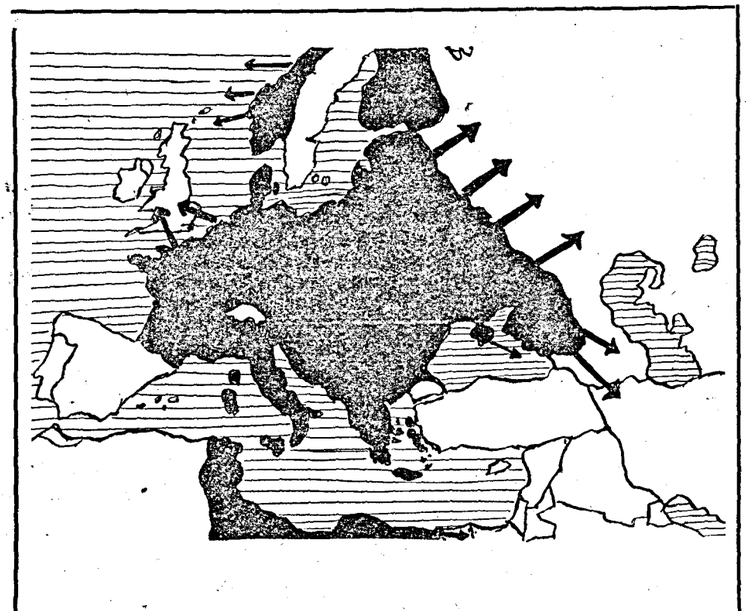
We have seen these methods applied in Russia, Germany and Italy to make a single party master of the State as they might have been applied after the death of Charles I if the army of Cromwell had not been more determined and better organized than the politicians opposed to it. The English have not had to fear a one-party tyranny or to legislate or to use force to prevent it. To say why would mean too long and complicated a discussion. Let it be enough that the army, the police and the judges have been outside party, and in protecting the rights of the individual have saved the rights of that remarkable group which receives visible embodiment on the benches of Parliament as His Majesty's Opposition, with a leader actually paid by the Government of the day for doing his damnedest to criticize them and hamper them and eventually turn them out.

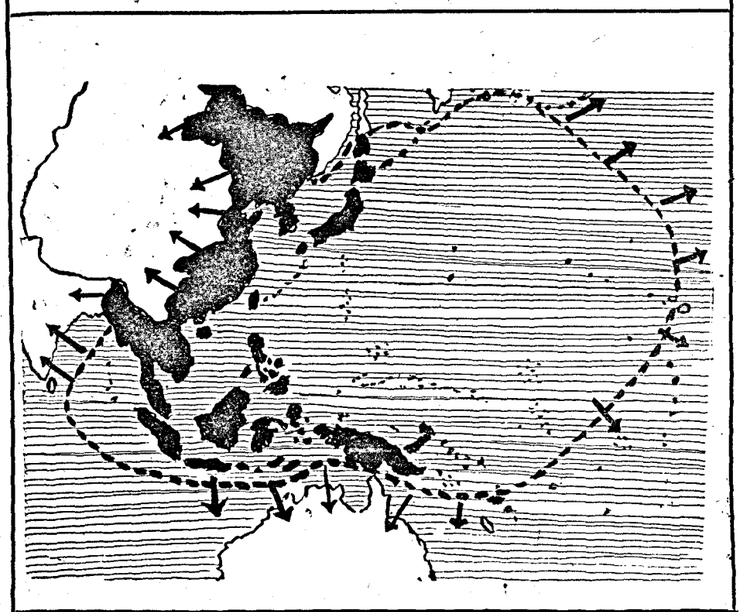
The final test of a free state as the English conceive it, one where the Government is the servant of the people, not the people the subjects and slaves of the Government is whether a man is free to oppose, and to associate others with himself in opposing by all means short of fraud, violence and defiance of the law.

* This is the fifth talk broadcast from the A.I.R. Madras, on the night of 24th August 1944, by Mr. R. Galletti, I.C.S., in the series "The Concept of Freedom." The first, second, third and fourth talks were published in the *Madras War Review* of 21st April, 19th May, 16th June and 28th July 1944, respectively.

TURN OF THE TIDE

Here, briefly, is the epic story of how the evil forces of fascism threatened to engulf the world and how the challenge was met and the world saved by the rallying of the common people of the United Nations.





THEN—THE THREAT

FIVE YEARS AGO the lights went out in Europe. Hitler and the apathy of governments put out these lights. They went out, not because the oil of human kindliness was lacking, but it was unprotected. The outward blackout that settled on the world visibly reflected the weakness of the lamps.

1939 was the Year of Fear when Europe trembled under the heavy feet of German armies accompanied by the terror of the Gestapo.

1940 was the Year of Awakening.—Churchill, the Man of the Hour arose, for strength was needed, and while glorious Dunkirk was there as a warning of what to expect, Britain grew inwardly strong but stood alone. The test came when the German armies swept over the weak nations and the British people were tested with two months of incessant raids. It was also the year when the classic example of the stab in the back was given by Mussolini after the cracking up of France.

1941 was the Year of Experience, of the gathering of the Forces of Freedom and of learning how to combat the evil storming the world. Germany marched on. By the middle of the year she turned on Russia. The Germans entered Libya, but Abyssinia was set free. Italy's collapse had begun. Crete was a lesson in invasion tactics, bitterly and dearly bought. This year also stands out as the year of the signing of the Atlantic Charter on August 14th. But Germany was moving swiftly. By the end of the year the Nazis were in Rostov.

Fascism all over the world revealed itself. The treacherous attack by Japan on Pearl Harbour on December 7th roused America from her dreams of security. At once she went to war with the Fascist powers.

1942 was the Year of the Fascist bid for Power, for world domination. Japan struck mercilessly at island after island, from New Guinea to Burma, while the war was brought close to the shores of India with nuisance raids, but threats all the same on the Madras coast. India was also faced with a new problem, that of coping with lakhs of refugees, but Government and private citizens stepped in and saved the situation.

Meanwhile German armies had reached Stalingrad. The peak of German and Japanese expansion was reached. The Allies were now on the offensive. There were signs of things to come. Malta bravely held out. The R.A.F. were hitting back. On October 23rd began the 8th Army's liberation of Egypt and the great retreat of Rommel. An Allied armada landed on the West Coast of Africa 16 days later. Africa was free. The seige of Stalingrad was raised and the Red Army drove back the German hordes hundreds of miles.

3 SEP. 1939—3 SEP. 1944

1943 was the Year of Ascendancy of the United Nations. It opened with the Casablanca Conference, and during the year there were the historic Conferences at Cairo and Teheran, both attended by President Roosevelt and Mr. Churchill, at the former Generalissimo Chiang Kai Shek was present and Marshal Stalin at the latter. It was a momentous year of preparation.

While the King was in Africa decorating Indian soldiers of the Eighth Army, the invasion of Europe—the first—had begun. Italy crumbled up. Mussolini fled to Germany where little or nothing of him has since been heard. Italy surrendered.

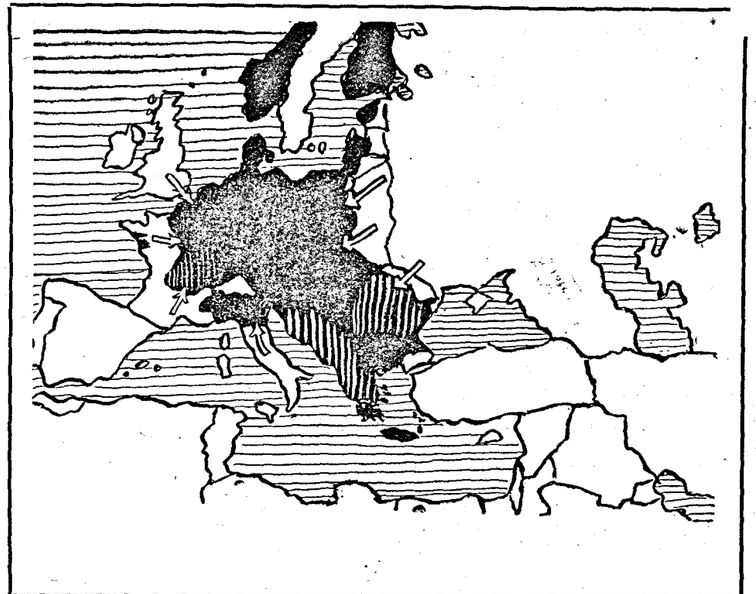
In the Pacific there were successes too. Japan's weaknesses were being discovered. First the outermost Japanese bases were captured. Australia was saved. From Kiska in the Aleutians to New Guinea inroads were made and islands recaptured, such as New Georgia and the Gilberts.

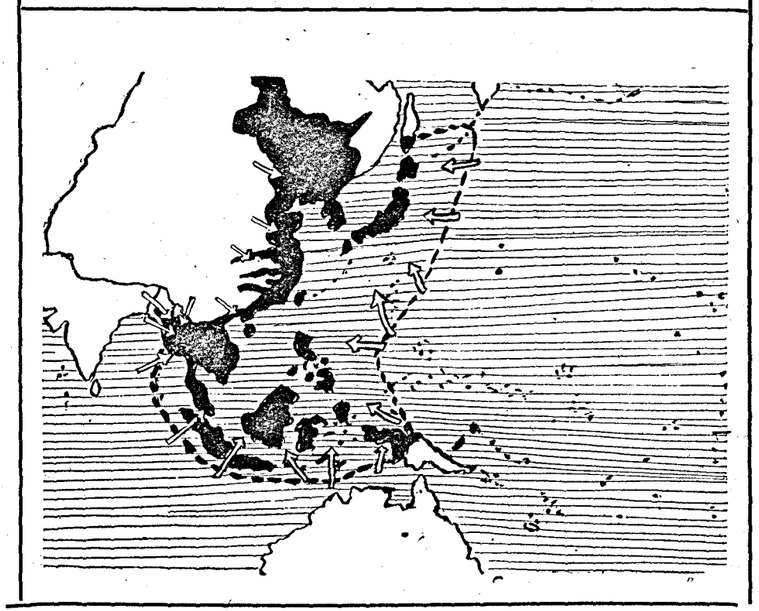
By the end of the year everything was prepared. General Eisenhower was appointed supreme Allied Commander of the British and United States Expeditionary Force organised in the United Kingdom for the liberation of Europe.

1944 has bene the Year of Liberation. As this fifth year of war closes on September 3rd, it may well be called the year of liberation. Its history is so close to us that it need not be recounted here. Invasion has almost become a commonplace. France is more than half freed. Great European cities such as Rome, Paris and Marseilles have been made to live again. It is a long, long way from the fears and pessimism of five years ago.

In India we are safe again. The 14th Army has made huge inroads into the Japanese defences of Burma, while the Japanese from the Mikado down to the lowest slave know that the forces of the United Nations will soon be streaming as speedily into Japan and all her Empire as they are now tearing down the empire of Hitler.

We may look confidently into the future provided we have learnt each one of us, individuals and nations, the significance of the global struggle, learnt to build strongly for peace as for war, to be ever ready to defend the weak, to burn out the dross, to toughen and strengthen our character, to guard the spirit of kindliness so that it shall not be a mere word but a light to blaze over a new world, a new India. We must have the devotion of the common soldier who has made this possible and who will make the sixth year of war one of complete victory.

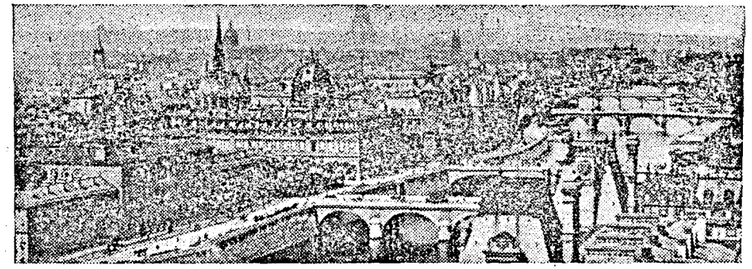




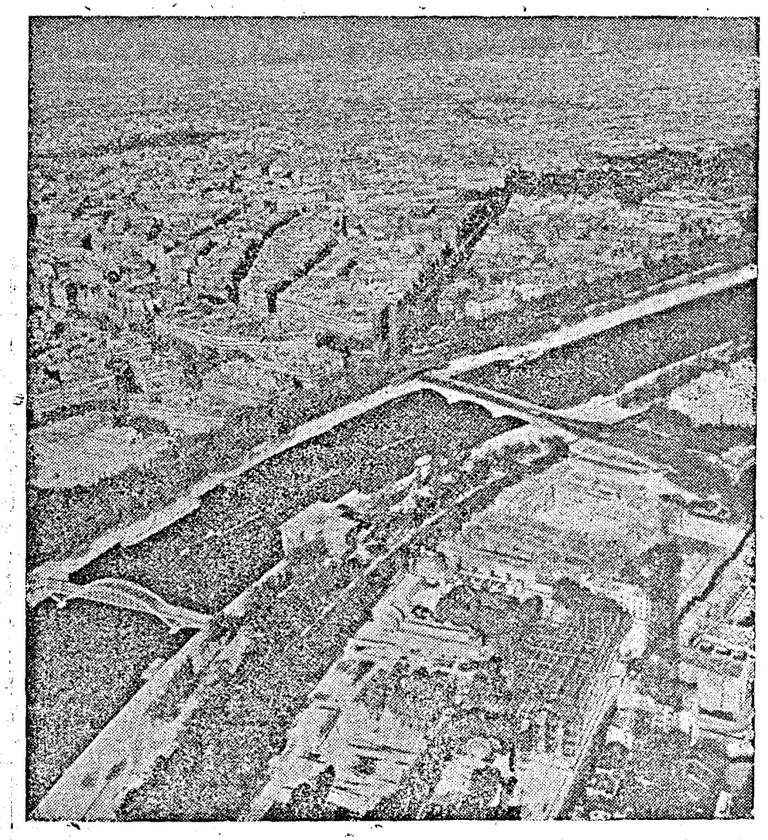
NOW—1944—THE REPLY

PARIS THROUGH THE AGES

With the full liberation of Paris the sun of freedom has risen and it sends its radiance over the whole world. It is a flaming inspiration after all those years of the darkness of the Gestapo, a light before which the forces of darkness must surely perish.



PARIS.—A view from the Saint Gervais Church.



AERIAL VIEW OF CENTRAL PARIS.—Where French patriots stood out against the enemy.

PARIS, the first city of the post-Rennaissance world as Rome was the first city of the ancient and mediæval world, is now freed by its own people and the shame of the Nazis' goose-stepping march down the Champs-Elysees is at last erased. The pall which descended upon the city with its occupation by the Germans, on June 14, 1940, has been gloriously lifted.

Hardly a person alive can contemplate the prospect of a Paris again free without experiencing a thrill of emotion. For Paris is no ordinary city; like Rome, Paris belongs to the world. It is one of the world's leading cultural and intellectual cities, one of the richest in history and art, as well as a great financial, commercial and industrial city. It has been in the process of becoming so for some two thousand years—ever since the Ile de la Cite, the small boat-shaped island in the Seine that is still the heart of Paris, and which was the centre of the heroic offensive was a Gallic fishing hamlet inhabited by the Parisii when Caesar conquered Gaul.

CHARLEMAGNE ENCOURAGED LEARNING

Under the greatest of the Carolingians, Charlemagne, Paris first became a centre of learning; student life tended to concentrate on the left bank, which came to be called the Latin Quarter, and here rose the nucleus of the University of Paris or the Sorbonne (where printing was introduced in France in 1470); other great educational institutions were added, including the colleges of the Institut de France, the College de France, and, farther south, the Observatory and the Institut Pasteur.

On a hill above the left bank, a church was dedicated to Genevieve, patron of Paris; in the 11th century, Abelard (buried in the famous cemetery Pere-Lachaise) was a teacher in the church school. The Pantheon later rose on the site.

From the time of the martyrdom of St. Denis on Montmartre, numerous great religious establishments were founded in both sections of the city. Against Norman raids in the 9th century, the Cite was fortified and a wall built. In the 10th century, the Capetians came into power. Hugh Capet was proclaimed king and made Paris his capital. By the 12th century the Cite was the ecclesiastical and administrative centre, while the merchants and artisans were gathered on the north bank of the Seine, still the centre of the great commercial establishments.

The Port-au-Change, a famous bridge of the period, was the seat of the money changers and the goldsmiths. Under Louis VII the temple (destroyed in 1811) was built for the Knights Templars and the corner-stone of Notre Dame was laid. Philip II built the fortress of the Louvre (to which a palace was added by Charles V), and surrounded Paris with new walls. The streets were narrow and unpaved, but were frequently the scene of georgeous spectacles.

PEOPLE REPRESENTED IN GOVERNMENT

The Crusades gave impetus to the founding of new churches and abbeys, some of which became rich repositories of treasure and art. In 1302 the States-General was established by Philip IV (the Fair), and the administration of the city was placed in the hands of the provost of Paris, who represented the king, and the provost of the merchants, who represented the people.

Charles V instituted a number of public works, and strengthened the walls and fortifications. He it was who built the Bastille. In his reign occurred a popular uprising led by Etienne Marcel. For several years thereafter Paris was the scene of violence and disaster: the massacre of the Armagnacs by the Burgundians; a severe epidemic of the plague, and the capture of the city by the English in 1422. It was successfully besieged by Joan of Arc in 1429, and was not recovered by the French until 1436 when but a small percentage of the population remained.

The close of the Hundred Years' War witnessed the rise of the middle classes and a period of slow recovery in Paris. The city at this time is the Paris of Francois Villon and of Hugo's *Notre Dame de Paris*. In the 16th century a brilliant court life came into being, and a wave of construction, instituted by Francis I, a patron of arts and letters, was carried forward by Catherine de' Medici. For her the Tuileries palace was built near the Louvre, and this section, the Faubourg St. Germain, became a centre of the aristocracy. Catherine also built the Hotel de Soissons, now the site of the Bourse. The Hotel Carnavelet, in the fashionable Marais, was later the home of Mme. de Sevigne and is now a museum of metropolitan history.

WARS WERE COMMON

When Henry III brought a body of Swiss troops into the city, the people, in protest erected barricades in the streets for the first time, and fought the soldiers. This was called the Day of Barricades. In the religious war attendant upon the Reformation, Paris was the scene of the Massacre of St. Bartholemew's Day, 1572, when Admiral Coligny was the first to be slain. Henry IV headed the Protestant troops against the Catholic League led by the Duke of Guise, and besieged the city for three years.

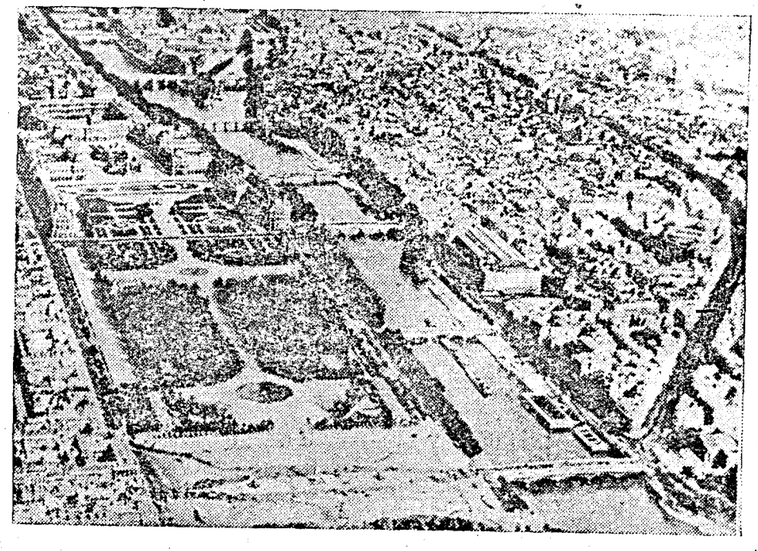
When the starving population refused to surrender, Henry turned Catholic and peace was restored. He beautified the city, opened the Place Royale, built numerous houses and introduced the silk industry. For Henry's second wife, Marie de' Medici, the Luxembourg Palace was rebuilt and its gardens laid out. Richelieu created the French Academy, rebuilt the Sorbonne, and built, near the Louvre, a palace which became the Palais Royal. Louis XIII joined two islets in the Seine to make the Ile St. Louis, a new residential section where Voltaire had his home.

The chief political disturbance of the period was the civil war known as the Fronde. The social and intellectual life of the city reached a new brilliance in the reign of Louis XIV, called the Grand Monarch: Versailles was built; the first of the famous salons was opened at the Hotel Rambouillet; the plays of Corneille and Moliere captivated Paris, which thrilled to the pulpit oratory of Bossuet.

NEW WAVE OF BUILDING

To commemorate the victories of Louis XIV, the Porte St. Denis and Porte St. Martin were built. The gardens of the Tuileries and the Champs-Elysees were laid out by Le Notre, the Invalides (later the tomb of Napoleon) was built, and the church of St. Sulpice was begun. Under Louis, the factory of the Gobelins was made a government monopoly. Louis XV laid the corner-stone of the Madeleine, built the Mint (now also a museum), the Ecole Militaire on the Champ-de-Mars, opened the Place Louis XV (the noted Place de la Concorde where Louis XVI and Marie Antoinette were guillotined), began the Palais Bourbon, now the Chamber of Deputies, and bought for Mme. de Pompadour the palace which became the home of the president. Such improvements as house numbers and mail service were made, but the streets were still narrow, dirty and dangerous. Of several bad fires, the worst occurred in 1772. Sedan chairs were but gradually replaced by carriages.

FRANCE HAS LIT THE TORCH OF LIBERTY



PARIS.—Place de la Concorde.

SESHIAH, THE CURIOUS VILLAGER

(*By* R.G.)

CANTO IV—*Instalment III*

Seshiah, doubtful, scratched his head
And gave a puzzled look and said
"Your meaning's still a little masked;
You haven't told me what I asked.
Supposing that the British go
To-morrow, as you ask them to,
Will you non-violence proclaim,
Say keeping armies is a shame,
Disband your soldiers, bring away
From Singapore and Libya
The troops that guard our outer gates
Against full-armed aggressive States—
Or will you fight? And will you fight
As though you meant it, honour bright?"
The Party Man at this looked sly
And made the following reply:
"You've heard, of course, the way we recently
Our Party Saint threw over decently,
And, saying we were not half-witted
And to no policy committed
That would prevent us taking power
In stress of war and danger's hour,
Offered we would co-operate
And into the war put our whole weight,
Provide only we were not
Compelled to help the British lot
And weren't in any way denied
The right to help the other side.
But now we've had to change, because
The British don't know Freedom's laws
And with all frightfulness insist
On giving our policy a twist
Italian and German to resist;
And will not even apologize
For having made us their allies.
We waited long, but still in vain,
Those powers we threw down to regain,
With others too as compensation
To our immense insulted nation.
We offered—and how much it cost us!—
To sell the leader who once bossed us:
But now with empty hands returning
And cheeks with shame and anger burning
We're going to ask our Saint betrayed
Forgiveness, counsel, strength and aid.
So if he gives our tails a twist
And tells us, we must not resist
Our foes internal or external,
British or German or infernal,
Except by sinless sheer passivity,
But hurl ourselves down a declivity
Like ancient parabolic swine,
It is not for us to repine—
We must do as he tells us; we
Are utterly baffled, but not he!"

The brilliant marriage fete of Louis XVI and Marie Antoinette was marred by a panic in the streets in which hundreds were killed. The resentment of the people increased with their sufferings under exorbitant taxes to support the luxury of the court: the French Revolution was taking form. In Paris, a mob inflamed by a speech of Desmoulins stormed and destroyed the Bastille. The Reign of Terror was ushered in, and the guillotine was erected in the Place Louis XV (renamed the Place de la Revolution). Religious buildings were secularised, and the goddess of reason enthroned for a time in Notre Dame.

ENTER NAPOLEON BONAPARTE

The terror ended with the death of Robespierre and the 9th Thermidor, and was followed by the triumphant rise of Napoleon. For him the Arc de Triomphe de l'Etoile, the Arc de Triomphe du Carrousel, and the Vendome column were erected; he built the Rue de Rivoli, the first iron bridges, constructed the Ourcq canal and aqueduct, completed the Madeleine and the Bourse, and enriched the Louvre with treasures from his conquests.

In the Restoration period, new streets were laid out, gas lights were introduced, and new industries developed. The Luxor Obelisk was set up in the Place de la Concorde and a column on the site of the Bastille. The city was further beautified with fountains, notably that in honour of Moliere, and its old monuments were restored by Viollet-le-Duc. It was also a period of brilliant literary activity in which occurred the "battle of Herani," a clash between the classicists and romanticists over Hugo's tragedy of that name.

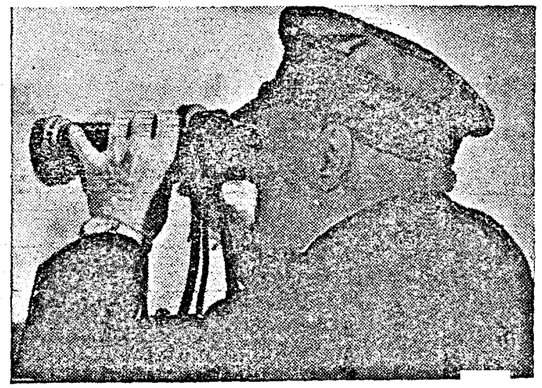
There was still great popular unrest, however, and in the Revolution of 1848 the Second Republic was proclaimed. To Louis Napoleon, who became Napoleon III, is due the development of modern Paris. Under him Haussmann, Prefect of the Seine, planned asphalt streets radiating from an open centre; the Halles Centrales, the opera house and the great railway stations were built; parks (Bois de Boulogne, Parc Monceau) were laid out; new sections of the city were opened, and the old walls replaced by boulevards. This period of great prosperity and civic activity was halted by the Franco-Prussian War (1867–71). The people of Paris, their food supply cut off, ate the animals of the zoological gardens. Immediately after the war, the city established a separate socialist government, the Commune, which was crushed by National troops. Thousands of Parisians were killed and many others were deported to New Caledonia.

THIRD REPUBLIC ESTABLISHED

In the short life of the Commune many public monuments were destroyed. Under the Third Republic the modernisation of 1878 left as a permanent monument the Palais de Trocadero; that of 1889, the Eiffel Tower; that of 1900, the Alexander Bridge and the Grand and Petit Palais where important exhibitions were held. Two great subway systems were constructed. In the World War I, Paris though shelled by long-range guns, remained the unattained goal of the Germans. Early in the war thousands of taxicabs left the city for the front. After the war, the airport of Le Bourget was built.

The industries of Paris include the making of dresses (it was noted before the war as a style centre, a position that fell to New York with the occupation), jewellery, perfume, and china, and also great printing and publishing establishments including the National Printing Press. What has happened to these industries, what has happened to the galleries and museums at the hands of the looting Nazi art "lovers," what has happened to the spirit of Paris once known as Gay, are queastions to be answered later. Meanwhile, it can easily be seen that in the life of this world-city the 4-year German occupation is hardly more than a moment.

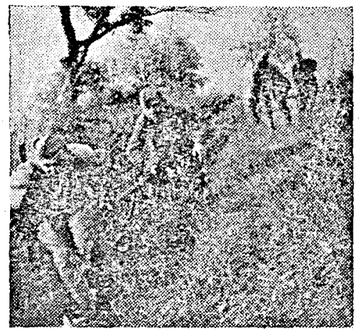
THE MAN WHO LOOKED AHEAD



LIBERATION

So when the world is asleep,
and there seems no hope of
her waking
Out of the long bad dream that
makes her mutter and moan,
Suddenly all men arise to the
noise of fetters breaking,
And every one smiles at his neighbour
and tells him his soul is his own.

—*From* "The Dawn Wind" *by Kipling.*



RUMANIAN FRONT.—Soviet anti-tank rifle crews.

VICE-ADMIRAL J.H. GODFREY, Flag Officer Commanding, R.I.N. (see *comment on page 4*).

ROYAL INDIAN NAVY

COMMISSION FOR NAVAL RATINGS

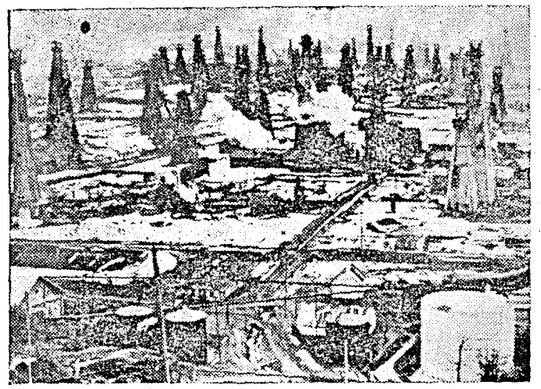
Ratings of all branches of the Royal Indian Navy may now be selected for commissions. Promotions will be direct, irrespective of age to the rank of temporary sub-lieutenant, RINVR. and personnel will be commissioned in that branch of the service for which they are specially qualified. This means that after undergoing training as a rating and serving a period at sea, where personal attainments and qualifications are brought to the forefront, the present day Royal Indian Naval Rating is eligible to become a King's Commissioned Officer.

The Royal Indian Navy thus lines up with the Indian Army and Indian Air Force. Keen young men with a predilection for service at sea, who join the Royal Indian Navy to-day know that, provided they fulfil their duties, work hard and show keenness and qualities of leadership, the service presents unlimited opportunities. The patrolling of India's shores as guardian of her sea-borne trade is a job offering many openings and many trades; above all a quality of adventure that should appeal to the youth of independent spirit.

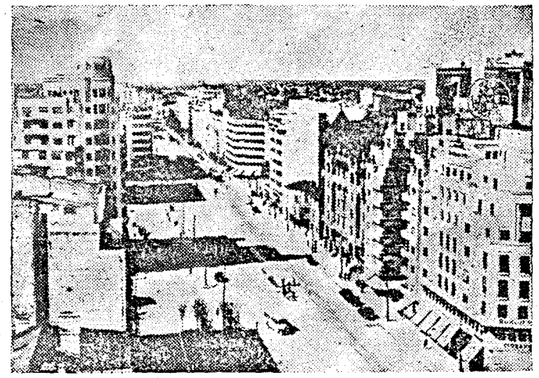
The Royal Indian Navy came into being in 1934 having passed through many stages since 1612 as the Hon. East India Company's Marine, The Bombay Marine, Indian Navy, Her Majesty's Indian Marine, Royal Indian Marine and in the course of these changes saw much activity and accumulated much history. The Royal Indian Navy has added to her historical laurels during this war having many outstanding feats of heroism to her credit. Since the commencement of war the Royal Indian Navy has increased both in tonnage and personnel for in all branches of the Royal Indian Navy recruiting has been good. The ports of India's coast line have produced good sea-faring stock who have proved their value, time and again. The Naval Rating irrespective of any particular branch upholds the traditions of the senior service by his attention to duty at all times in all weathers. He is a disciplined man, conscious of the part he is playing in the defence for freedom—A man who will one day have still greater responsibility.

HITLER'S RUMANIAN OIL-FIELDS CAPTURED

STORY of the BALKAN TREASURE-HOUSE with AN OILY HISTORY



PLOESTI OIL WELLS.



BUCHAREST.

THE decision of Rumania to support the Allies deals a mortal blow to Germany, for Rumania is the most important of the group of States collectively called the Balkans.

Already Hungary, Bulgaria and even far away Finland see how the wind blows, and are veering their course for last minute bids for the best terms they can expect from the victorious Allies. There are signs too that Czechoslovakia is ready to leave the Nazis to their fate.

These Balkan States are predominantly peasant countries, and that is their tragedy, for dictators and leader-run parties can easily win their way to power by working on mass emotion and by making grand promises.

THE CURSE OF OIL

These are the countries of beautiful individualistic peasant costumes, and none are gayer than those of Rumania. Rumania is a land of wooden ploughs, of great rolling open plains, on which, in summer, an endless sea of ripening wheat dips and rises in the breeze.

But Rumania is not all ruritanian operatic landscape. Gaunt oil-well superstructures cover quite a large portion of the country, and have proved more of a curse than a blessing to the simple peasantry. They have brought wealth but they have made Rumania a target of primary military importance, and Hitler's greedy eyes were very early fastened on Rumania for that oil.

The war of 1914–18 is an important landmark in Rumania's history. By fighting then against the Germans, the Rumanians were able, after the war, to satisfy amply their territorial claims. Thanks to her allies, Rumania emerged from the Peace Settlement doubled in size and population, so the Rumanian Government remained anxious to preserve the *status quo* until the outbreak of the present war.

CAROL'S UNSAVOURY REGIME

In 1938 King Carol of Rumania sponsored a new Constitution which enhanced his personal powers. Thus he weakened fatally the genuine democratic forces in the country and sowed the seeds of dictatorship. The many scandals of his personal life and above all his association with his mistress, Magda Lupescu, made him a target for the hatred of his people. He abdicated on September 6, 1940, and left the country. His son Michael succeeded to the throne and Ion Antonescu, who had been restored to power by Carol, became the virtual dictator of Rumania.

With Antonescu's rise to supreme power, German influence in Rumania, which had been increasing since 1933, became paramount. In the hope of preventing further dismemberment—but not prepared like Greece and Yugoslavia, to fight Germany—Rumania entered the war on the side of the Reich when Russia was attacked in June 1941.

Now, when Russia is driving her offensive right into the heart of Rumania, the King, compelled to make an eleventh hour decision by his own people, has arrested Antonescu, declared himself at war with Germany, accepted the peace terms offered by Russia on behalf of the Allies, and has set up a new Government.

The latest news is of the capture of the Ploesti oil region. This was the objective of the Russian armies who have already swept through the country, having captured this week the important Black Sea port of Constanza, which is the end of the pipe line running down from the oil fields. These oil-wells are situated in hilly territory at the foot of the great range that runs in a big arc in a north-easterly direction across the country, the Transylvanian Alps, separating Rumania from Hungary, Czechoslovakia and Poland.

In the post-war world, Rumania and her oil will be one of the big ticklish problems which will face the Allied Nations in their business of cleaning up occupied Europe and the Balkans in particular.

KING OIL.

The part played by oil in the war is bigger than ever, and Allied successes are due to their immense oil resources. Figures talk. Here are the figures of oil production—pre-war. It will be seen that Rumania's place is quite high*. Total world production is 290,000,000 metric tons.

Country.	Annual production in metric tons.	Country.	Annual production in metric tons.
U.S.A.	175,000,000	Mexico	5,000,000
U.S.S.R.	31,000,000	Iraq (Mosul) ..	4,300,000
Venezuela	29,000,000	Colombia ..	3,0 0,000
Iran	11,000,000	Trinidad ..	2,500,000
Dutch Indies ...	7,400,000	Argentina ..	2,400,000
*Rumania	6,000,000	Peru	2,100,000

Smaller producers include Egypt, Burma and Poland.

WAR DIARY

BRITAIN AND GERMANY

22ND AUG.—Flying bombs attacked Southern England.

There are reports in Geneva that Himmler, Goering and Goebbels are opposed to Hitler.

23RD AUG.—Flying bomb raids on Southern districts continued.

Royal Air Force bombers attacked Cologne.

24TH AUG.—More than 1,300 American bombers attacked Merseburg, Misbourg, Ruhland, Bruse, Dresden, Brunswick, Hanover and Kiel.

Flying bombs fell in South England.

25TH AUG.—Germans continued to send flying bombs over Southern England including London area. Flying bomb and rocket stations at Peenemunde in North Germany were attacked.

The ban on the entry to protected areas in England which extended from Wash to Lymington was lifted.

Over 1,300 American bombers attacked Wismar, Lubeck, Rostock, Politz, Anklam, Neubrandenburg and Rechin.

26TH AUG.—For the first time since the flying bombs started more than ten weeks ago London and Southern England has had a lull of more than 30 hours. Royal Air Force bombers last night attacked flying bomb centres in North France.

About 1,000 R.A.F. aircraft attacked objectives in Germany.

27TH AUG.—For a short period during the night the Germans directed a small number of flying bombs against southern counties including London area.

Last night R.A.F. bombers attacked Berlin, Hamburg, Kiel and Koenigsburg in Germany.

28TH AUG.—There was a lull in flying bomb activity. A communique to-night states: "During the week ended to-day it is estimated the enemy launched some 450 flying bombs against Southern England, making a total of approximately 7,700 launched since the attacks began."

Last night a force of Mosquitos attacked Mannheim.

29TH AUG.—The lull in flying bomb activity which lasted since yesterday was broken this morning when missiles were launched against Southern England including London area, Royal Air Force bombers attacked 12 flying bomb sites in Northern France.

The Prime Minister, Mr. Churchill, arrived in Britain from Italy.

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THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE ATLANTIC

23RD AUG.—President Roosevelt in his quarterly Lease-lend report to Congress to-day declared "Until unconditional surrender of both Japan and Germany, we should continue the lease-lend programme, on whatever scale is necessary, to have the combined striking power of all the United Nations as overwhelming and as effective as we can make it".

In yesterday's World Security Conference at Dumbarton Oaks, M. Gromyko, the Soviet Delegate, addressed the other representatives. Mr. Edward J. Stettinius was selected as the permanent chairman of the conference.

24TH AUG.—Mr. Charles E. Wilson, Vice-Chairman of the War Production Board, resigned.

25TH AUG.—Mr. Stimson, United States Secretary of State for War, said "The total United States army casualties up to August 6, 1944 are: 48,880 killed; 125,931 wounded; 42,956 missing and 43,822 taken prisoners".

26TH AUG.—The Soviet delegates presented their proposals to the World Security Conference.

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INDIA, BURMA AND CEYLON

22ND AUG.—Allied troops were within five miles inside Burma and continued their advance.

23RD AUG.—On the Tiddim Road Allied advance to re-engage the enemy continued. Artillery and aircraft were active against the Japanese position on the Tamu-Sittaung track. Patrol activity continued in the Kazu area.

24TH AUG.—Fourteenth Army troops were 10 miles inside Burma.

25TH AUG.—It is officially announced that Admiral Mountbatten returned to Kandy after visiting London for consultations. In his absence the South-East Asia Command was exercised by General Stilwell.

Over 10,000 square miles of North Burma have been recaptured thus far and 42,000 Japs killed.

Fourteenth Army troops made further progress towards the Chindwin on the track from Tamu to Sittaung.

26TH AUG.—In North Burma Allied armies occupied Ingyingon. On the Sittaung track the enemy evacuated a village 13 miles east of Tamu. Pynbon Sakan was also captured.

27TH AUG.—Allied troops advanced more than a mile beyond Pinbaw. It is revealed that during the past six weeks the 14th Army cleared a 70-mile stretch of the Tiddim road.

28TH AUG.—Fourteenth Army troops were within four miles of Chindwin. Allied forces reached the outskirts of Pinbaw.

29TH AUG.—Allied troops captured Pinbaw. There was patrol action in the Kaju area.

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RUSSIA AND FINLAND

22ND AUG.—Russian troops captured Jassy, Targu-frumos, Ungheni, Zambros and over 300 other localities. Russian patrols were operating on the East Prussian soil.

23RD AUG.—Soviet forces captured Vaslui, Akkerman, Denvik and numerous other localities including Benderi, Dembitsa.

24TH AUG.—The Red Army captured Kishinev, the capital of Bessarabia, Becau, Barlad, Husi, Roman, Straseni, Cainari, Lapusna, Baimallia, Cangas, Taraclia, Ciatai-Lunva and hundreds of other localities.

25TH AUG.—Russians captured Tartu in Estonia, Leova, Cahul and many localities.

Rumania declared war on Germany and Rumanian troops entered Transylvania (the territory ceded to Hungary).

26TH AUG.—An official Soviet statement said that the former Rumanian dictator Antonescu was arrested. Rumanian troops have occupied Carpathian Passes.

The Bulgarian Government has assured the Soviet Government of absolute neutrality and has disarmed German soldiers in Bulgaria. It has asked for peace terms.

Russians launched an offensive on a 45 to 50 mile front east of Warsaw. Red Army troops captured Ismail, on the lower reaches of Danube, and over 500 localities and towns in various other sectors.

27TH AUG.—Soviet troops captured Fochani and Ramnico-Sarat in Rumania and Galatz, a port of the Danube. Other places occupied include Moineste, Targoviste, etc.

28TH AUG.—From one of the mountain passes in the Carpathians Russian forces crossed the Hungarian border. A number of Hungarian towns were bombed.

Russian forces captured Brail, Tulcea and Sulina. German resistance ceased in Bucharest.

Soviet troops launched a new offensive on the Finnish front spreading beyond Lake Ladoga.

29TH AUG.—Russian troops captured Constanza, Germany's main naval base in the Black Sea. Oher places captured include Ostrow, Mazowrecki, Breteu, Burza and other localities.

The Soviet forces reached the oil pipeline running from Ploesti to Constanza.

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ITALY AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

22ND AUG.—Allied forces occupied Cerrata, Orchiano and Poggio. Italian based aircraft attacked Vi[illegible] Mr. Churchill addressed [illegible] rmoured Brigade.

23RD AUG.—In Upper Arno valley, [illegible]lied patrols gained new grounds. [illegible]lian based aircraft bombed oil installations in German Silesia, Austria and [illegible]oslavia.

[illegible]r. Churchill received the Italian [illegible]ne Minister, Signor Bonomi and [illegible]hal Badoglio.

[illegible]H AUG.—The battle for the M[illegible]ro river was over with the Allies fi[illegible] established along the river for 12 [illegible]les from Monte Maggiore to the Ad[illegible]c. Allied troops occupied Mount For[illegible] and Cagli.

25 [illegible] AUG.—Mr. Churchill met the Fope[illegible]d discussed many essential questions.

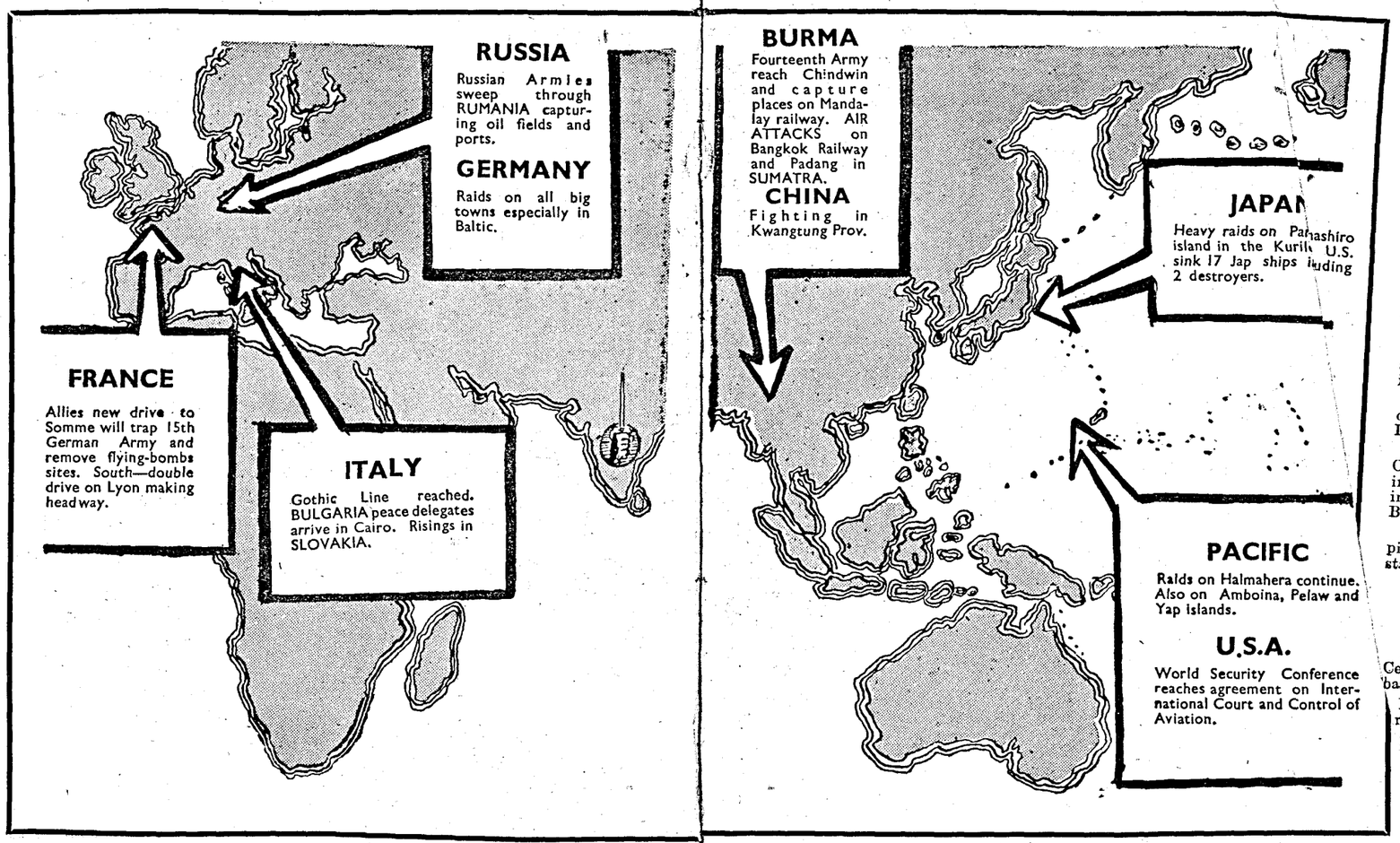
Allie[illegible] forces captured Acqualagna, Castel[illegible]vo, Forniche and La Montanina.

26TH [illegible]UG.—Allied forces on the central [illegible]ont were within 10 miles of German [illegible]ain Gothic line.

27TH [illegible]G.—The 8th Army troops continued [illegible] gain ground towards the Gothic li[illegible] and crossed the Metauro river.

28TH AU[illegible]—Eighth Army troops continued to adance and occupied Isola del Piano, [illegible]mbaroccio and the outskirts of Fan[illegible]

THE WORLD WAR THIS WEEK'S NE[illegible]



India lies at the heart of this Global war against all fascist tyrannies on all fronts.

V211219(3M) N40

The Prime Minister, Mr. Churchill, addressed a message of encouragement and hope to the Italian people on leaving Italy in which he said "I believe the British nation will be happy to see the day when Italy, once again free and progressive, takes her place among all peace-loving nations".

29TH AUG.—Allied troops enveloped Urbino. Germans evacuated Rufino.

VICHY, FREE FRANCE AND THE OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

22ND AUG.—American troops captured Saint Andre de lEure, Nonancourt, Verneuil and other places in West France.

Allied spearheads were within 3 miles of Marseilles. French troops entered Hyeres. Toulon was completely encircled. The area under Allied control in South France was 2,000 square miles.

23RD AUG.—Paris was liberated by French Forces of the Interior. General Koenig has been appointed the Governor of Paris. Allied forces liberated Sens, Pithiviers and Etamps.

In South France, Allied forces occupied Marseilles, Hyeres, Grenoble, Digne, Sisteron, Aspres, Gap, Aint Bonret and Argentiere, etc.

The U.S. Under Secretary for War, Mr. Robert Patterson, and Lieut.-Genl. Brehen Somervell, Chief of the U.S. Army Service of Supply, conferred with General Eisenhower yesterday.

Rumania has accepted Allied peace terms and broke away from Germany. A new National Government was formed. Bulgarian Foreign Minister wante friendly relations with United Nation

24TH AUG.—Allied troops captur directions. Le Beubourg, of Paris.

In South France, Lyons, Borde Salon, Perpignan, etc., were capt It is revealed that Porqueerolles i surrendered on 22nd.

25TH AUG.—Allies captured M reau, Thiberville, Foret de Gatien, Trouville. American ps occupied Cannes and Brasse ne eastern sector of South France.

An agreement was signed in lon by the Foreign Secretary, Mr. den, and the French Commissioner of eign Affairs, M. Rene Massigli, co ing arrangements to be made in co ental France as, and when it is lib d by Allied forces under the Supre Allied Commander.

Arrangements for the adm tration of civil affairs and relate subjects in continental France becam perative to-day by an exchange of lett between General Koenig and General Eisenhower.

General de Gualle was in Paris this evening.

26TH AUG.—American trps entered Montereau, 40 miles east Paris and reached Port Audemer. Min was liberated. Canadians were within eight miles of Rouen.

Churchill on board a British destroyer from which he watched the landing operations take place in Southern France.

South France Toulon was com ly occupied. French forces liberated es, Montpellier and Carcassone.

French Fascists fired shots at General Gualle yesterday but he escaped nhurt. It is reported that Laval, tain, Admiral Decoux and General ridoux were arrested by the Gestapo.

General Eisenhower and the promi nent military chiefs made a ceremonial tour of Paris.

28TH AUG.—Germans abandoned Marne line. Intense activity went on in the three bridgeheads across the Seine between Paris and the sea.

In South France, American troops advanced 40 miles from Avignon. Lyons was occupied by French forces.

29TH AUG.—The Americans captured Soissons and Fismes. The Allied bridgeheads over the Seine at Mantes-Gassicourt and Vernon were linked up, American patrols approached Rheims.

In South France, Allies occupied Montelimar, Vence, Cagnes and Theirs, etc.

South France was almost liberated. Vichy was freed. Allies reached Rheims, 108 miles from German border. Among important towns occupied by Allied troops were Arles, Terascon, Avignon, Cavaillon, Carpentras, Brianon, etc.

27TH AUG.—Allied troops crossed River Seine in several places and have reached Vitiy, Pearj, etc., Bourdenay and St. Lupien.

* * *

THE FAR EAST

22ND AUG.—Mr. James V. Forrestal United States Secretary for Navy, said "With the Japanese we are dealing with a religion, and not with rational men. They will fight with greater savagery as we get closer in."

23RD AUG.—Allied bombers attacked Halmahera.

Japanese Premier Koiso appealed to his people to cope with the unprecedented grave national crisis.

24TH AUG.—Allied bombers attacked Divao, in the Philippines, Halmahera and Palan.

The Japanese Emperor conferred with his Cabinet.

25TH AUG.—Allied troops landed yesterday on Maipa Island, north-west of New Guinea. Allied aircraft raided twice Sumatra yesterday.

The Japanese Cabinet to-day decided to summon a five days' extraordinary session of the Japanese Diet, beginning on September 6.

26TH AUG.—It is revealed that Allied bombers attacked Ceram and Ambonia. Two Japanese cargo ships near Hong Kong were sunk. Amoy was bombed.

27TH AUG.—Allied bombers attacked Palau. It is revealed that Padang and Emmahaven ports in Sumatra were attacked by the Allied aircraft on 24th August. It is reported that Manila, capital of Philippines, is being evacuated.

28TH AUG.—American Super Fortresses attacked the Japanese home island of Kyushu. Allied bombers dropped bombs over Twojima, in the Bonin islands and Volcano islands on August 25. Yap, Truk, Timor and other places were also raided.

Henrich Stahmer, the German Ambassador to Tokyo, conferred to-day with the Japanese Foreign Minister, Mamoru Shigemitsu, on the latest developments in Europe.

29TH AUG.—From Japanese merchantmen averaging 1,000 tons each were destroyed or damaged in Allied air attacks on Celebes.

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VICTORY CALLS

You have called again, Victory,
To guide our way into the future realm of Peace
Amid the echoes of whispering cities.
They could not march to the end of the road
But, as autumn leaves, fell scattered over the earthly floors.
Can we smile at your intrusion upon our heartbreaks
And the tumours of sorrow that have grown?
Can we clasp your hand in fidelity
And be led to open roads of hope once more?
Yes, we welcome you smiling, Victory,
For *they* would have smiled.