

# MADRAS WAR REVIEW



A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. V

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 29, 1943

No. 9



## *Fight for Life and Liberty*

GENERAL EISENHOWER

*THIS is a hard, bitter and bloody war. It will be a long, long way to final victory, and the road must continue to be watched*

*OUR men know it. They are ready for it, but they want to be always sure, above all, that the Home Front stands firmly behind them. They want to know that the folk back home really realize that we are all in it together, fighting for our life and liberty*

*General EISENHOWER, Allied Supreme Commander, speaking over Algiers Radio on Sunday (October 24)*



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## MADRASSIS FIRE VICEREGAL SALUTES

As a tribute to the brilliant stand which some of its units made in the Western Desert last year, the Indian Artillery was selected to fire the Viceregal Salutes last week. On three successive days, to mark the arrival of Lord Wavell, the departure of Lord Linlithgow, and the swearing-in of the new Viceroy, they fired salutes of 31 guns at Delhi.

The gunners firing the salute were Madrassi Troops, from an Indian Field Artillery Training Centre. *Madrass Gunners were chosen for this distinction to mark their own battle honours of the Middle East last year, when a Madras Field Battery, literally fighting to the last man, and the last round, knocked out 57 German tanks before being overrun.*

The saluting troop included a V.C.O. and a Havildar who served with the Madrassis in the Western Desert. The rest of the men who fired the salute were all Tamils and Telugus, brought to Delhi for the occasion.

## UNITY VITAL FOR VICTORY AND FUTURE PEACE

"The only answer to divide and conquer is 'unity.' The enemies of our future peace and security are desperately trying to break that unity. On the brink of defeat, it is their last desperate hope.

*"We must be vigilant lest either thoughtless or malevolent criticism, or needless talk, should serve the enemy by engendering prejudices or bad feelings between ourselves and our fighting allies.*

"Above all else now unity is imperative. Great events are now impending. The Foreign Ministers of Russia, the United States, and Great Britain are conferring in Moscow to-day.

*"That there is unity, and will be ultimate unity, so far as the three Governments are concerned, I am certain. That there may be differences of opinion would be natural to human relations. That there will be frank and free discussions of honest differences is right and proper. The great essential necessity is confidence in the integrity and good faith of one another. Unity is desperately vital to complete victory—and equally vital to future peace".*

—MR. JOSEPH DAVIES, the former U. S. Ambassador to Moscow, in a speech at New York.

## "THIS IS OUR WAR AND IT MUST BE WON!"

"I don't pretend to have access to the secrets of the General Staff, and I cannot tell you when or where the great attack on the Japanese territories will be launched. It may well be that months of waiting lie ahead. But this I do know, that in the great attack, India will have a proud and vital part to play, a part which she will play with determination and indeed with a high sense of privilege, because it will release from Japanese tyranny and cruelty so many lands with which we, in this country, feel close sympathy and connexion. There is not a man among us to-day who does not realize that the victory of Japan will mean the end of all those great prospects which are now opening out before India. We are not prepared to become the vassals of the arrogant Japanese, or to see our ancient culture destroyed by a race which respects neither culture, nor religion, nor even humanity. We know that this is our war, and that it must be won.

—SIR SULTAN AHMED, when opening the War Services Exhibition at Indore on October 23.

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## THE FALL OF DNEPROPETROVSK

DNEPROPETROVSK, the third largest city in the Ukraine and one of the greatest Russian industrial towns, which was occupied by Hitler in August 1941, has been recaptured by the Red Army under the command of General Konev. Though this was considered inevitable after the Russian bridgehead south of Kremenchug spread across the only railway link from Dnepropetrovsk to the west, *Reuter's* Military Correspondent says that it has come a little more quickly than seemed likely at one moment. This great city of steel and iron contained some of the extensive heavy industries in Russia. Before the Germans captured it, there were at least 28 steel mills and factories in the city itself and another 30 on the outskirts. Its output of cast iron alone was estimated to be one-third of the Soviet Union's total supply. It was also the centre of the Russian metallurgical industry. But all possible machinery had been removed before the Germans came. With the capture of this city, the whole German front in South Russia has crumbled down. The German left flank in the Dnieper Bend is retreating as fast as it can, and Soviet troops are pursuing the Germans into the mining town Krivoirog. The Soviet triple thrust from the north, east and west is moving south-west to trap the enemy in the Dnieper Bend and the Crimea.

IT may be stated that the Russian new offensive and its speedy results along the whole front from White Russia to the Black Sea must have come as a great surprise to the Germans. They must have been under the impression that the Russians would take some considerable time to reorganize their rear and then resume their advance. The big obstacle of the Dnieper would, they thought, make them halt and take time to consolidate their new positions. But their calculations were upset by the Red Army's crossing of the Dnieper and successfully establishing four bridgeheads across the river. One was north of Kiev, another south of Pereyaslav, the third south-east of Kremenchug, and the fourth north-west of Dnepropetrovsk. So far as the middle Dnieper is concerned, if the Russians are able to make a breach from the bridgehead north of Kiev to the Pripet Marshes, they will outflank Gomel and Kiev, and cut Hitler's forces in Russia into two separate armies without any real links east of Poland.

### German Objective in the Ukraine

SO far as the general objective of the Germans as regards the Ukraine is concerned, it is clear that it has not only not been achieved, but that Germany has also lost enormously in men and material in making the attempt. In 1941 when Hitler realized that he could not defeat Britain, his slogan became "U-boats and Ukraine for Victory." By U-boats he wanted to cut the Atlantic life-line of Britain, and by the conquest of Ukraine, he thought he could exploit its great wealth and thus make the Allied blockade powerless. He said five years earlier (1936), "If we had the Urals, if we possessed Siberia, if we had the Ukraine, National Socialist Germany will be swimming in surplus prosperity." In an article in *Das Reich* in the autumn of 1941, Dr. Goebbels began to dream that "the wide spaces of the East open up tremendous possibilities of economic development and loosen the throttling grip of the blockade." The Allied blockade is still a problem with the Germans, though its pressure on German economy may be slow. In the Ukraine, Hitler's objective has not been realized, as the Donbas, the richest industrial area in the whole of Russia, is now in Russian hands as also the eastern half of the Ukraine, while the western half is seriously threatened by the fast pace of the Russian advance.

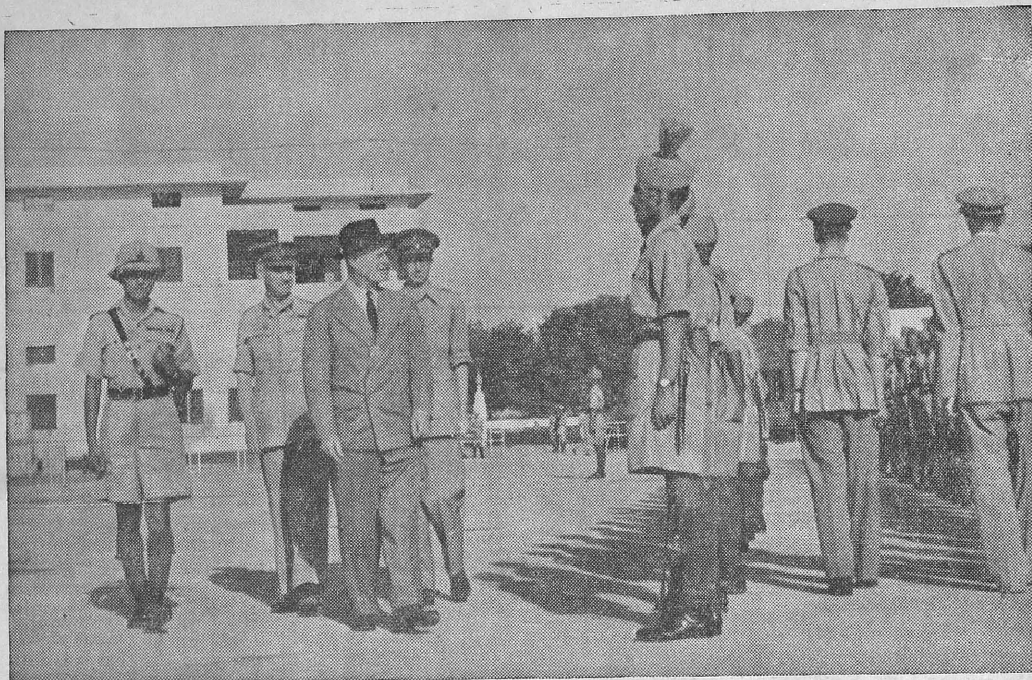
### Result of Scorched-earth Policy

IT may be asked whether, during the period when the Donetz Basin was in their hands, the Germans derived any benefit of considerable material value. This is extremely doubtful, for the Russian scorched-earth policy was so thorough in its destruction of mining equipment that the Germans could not have got even one-tenth of the coal normally produced in this region. It is estimated that before the war the Donetz Basin produced about 90 million tons of coal which was 60.8 per cent of the total Russian output. Even the 9-million tons that the Germans might have got must have been utilized to satisfy the demands of the eastern occupied territory, and there would have been nothing left to send to Germany for the requirements of the industries there.

### German Failure—Goebbels' Admission

THE German failure in the Ukraine in exploiting its agricultural potentialities was due to a number of reasons, such as shortage of tractor power, labour and fertilizers, and the effects of Allied blockade. It may be pointed out that the Ukraine, even in Russian hands, provided only enough grain to satisfy the local needs of the population. This was due to the fact that in this region the Russians embarked on large-scale plans of industrialization. The best agricultural crops here are vegetable oil crops, which provided 100,000 tons of oil before the war. The Germans might have been able to manage to get about 30,000 tons. The Ukraine

[See eighth page bottom



*His Excellency The Viceroy Viscount Wavell's arrival at Wellington aerodrome. The Photo shows Lord Wavell inspecting the Guard of Honour.*

## RUNNING COMMENTARY

### Kesselring's Retreat in Italy—Effect of "Stalingraditis"

Marshal KESSELRING is falling back. The Allied triple thrust on Italy's narrowest section has forced him to do so. Referring to the retreat of the German Army to the zigzag mountain ramparts guarding the roads to Rome, *Reuter's* Special Correspondent at the Allied headquarters says, "It is VON ARNIM's strategy before the Tunis plain once again. The Germans are making a coast-to-coast withdrawal to the high Appenine mountain line from Mount Massico on the west through Venafro to the Adriatic shore near Vasto. As the Allied troops advance, they are finding decreasing opposition. Again, after nearly six months, General ALEXANDER's army group is faced by a line as strong as the Enfidaville-Djebel-Manisour-Medjez-Sedjenane line in North Africa. General MONTGOMERY is in his old position on the right flank, but the Fifth Army has replaced the First on the Allied left."

This sums up the present position on the Italian front. The German retreat is due to "Stalingraditis," as Mr. WICKHAM STEED would say. For, ever since the Stalingrad disaster, the German High Command has become afflicted with the fear of encirclement. This has been admitted by the Germans themselves. Referring to the German evacuation of Naples, a Berlin spokesman said that because of the risk of new Allied landings in Naples, German Generals thought it "far too risky to keep troops in the city." A fortnight ago (October 16), the German News Agency reported that German forces on the Rome-Foggia highway had "withdrawn to the mountains to avoid encirclement." The next day, the Vichy radio spoke of "fresh Allied landings north of the Volturno line" and said that the Germans might withdraw on the ground that "General CLARK apparently intends to outflank KESSELRING's forces by the new landings."

### Superior Allied Strategy—Brilliant Pincer-Movement

This retreat to avoid encirclement is a recognition of superior Allied strategy, which has forced the Germans in Italy to fight, again and again, under unfavourable conditions. It must not be assumed, however, that the Volturno line is the last German defence line before Rome. Though KESSELRING is fighting a delaying action, he will make a stand wherever he can. He may perhaps choose a possible line about 40 miles north of the Volturno river, which may extend from Campania in the south to Tuscany in the north interrupted by the southern end of the Lepini mountains reaching the sea near Gaeta.

As regards the crossing of the Volturno river itself a tribute to the brilliant manoeuvre of the Allies is necessary. After the capture of Naples, the Fifth Army struck across the swollen Volturno river, and after three days of heavy fighting, penetrated into German positions and forced the enemy back. It was a pincer movement that was very well executed. On one side, that is the enemy's right flank, British troops landed from the sea north of the Volturno river, and on the other, namely, the left flank, American troops advanced north-east of Capua. Faced with a simultaneous threat to both his flanks, Marshal KESSELRING had no other go except to withdraw his forces which were concentrated along the central part of the river to oppose Allied bridgeheads.

\* \* \* \* \*

### Who will capture Rome—Eighth Army or Fifth?

It is also important to note that apart from the successes of this pincer movement, the landing of fresh British troops further up the Italian coast was accomplished. This shows that the Allies have complete control of even Italian coastal waters and are able to carry up sea landings successfully in co-ordination with the main offensive on land.

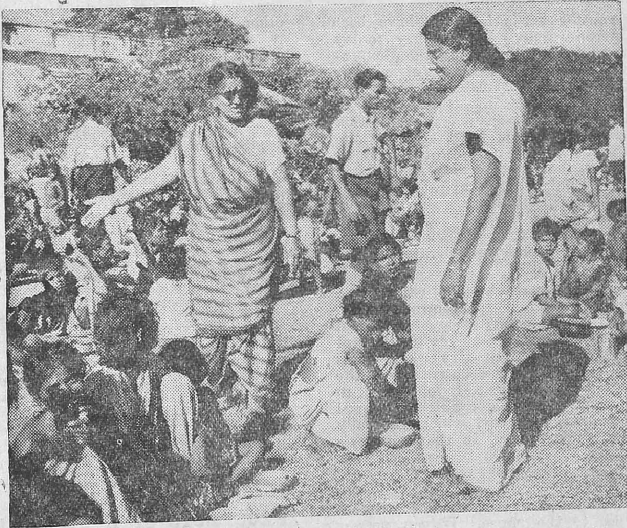
(Continued on page 10)

## FLOODS IN MADRAS—RELIEF WORK



Owing to the breach of a number of lakes outside Madras, due to heavy rains, floods invaded the City on Sunday, October 10. A large number of streets were submerged under knee-deep and waist-deep water. The floods caused much damage, particularly to dwelling-places in low-lying areas. Photo shows a portion of Mount Road under water.

A large number of people, particularly dwellers in slums, were rendered homeless on account of the floods. The National War Front and A.R.P. organizations in Madras threw themselves heart and soul into the relief work, and did excellent service in feeding the homeless and providing them with accommodation. Photo shows public-spirited ladies enthusiastically taking part in the relief work.



The Government made elaborate arrangements for the feeding of the poor and homeless people. Photo shows a group of eager and expectant children—the sight of food brings smiles to their faces!



# POST-WAR INTERNATIONAL CURRENCY

By DR. D. W. DODWELL

*[A large part of this informative and illuminating article was broadcast as a talk on Thursday, the 21st instant, from the All-India Radio, Madras. In this article, Dr. Dodwell discusses the respective merits of the Keynes Plan and the White Plan, and points out that in the opinion of many people, the Keynes Plan is much the better of the two, as it proposes to establish a genuine international currency unit which will be made, by general agreement, legal tender for payments between Member-States. Referring to Keynes's visit to Washington, Dr. Dodwell has expressed the hope that his discussions with American experts would produce a plan acceptable to all, which would be a sound basis for post-war world prosperity. It seems from a Washington message, dated October 22, published in last Sunday's papers, that this hope is about to be realized. The message says that a compromise agreement is believed to be near between the British and United States monetary experts on the question of stabilization of currency. It is stated that the American Plan has been substantially altered as a result of the discussions between Mr. Harry White and Lord Keynes. The completed plan which will be announced in the near future, would, we hope, achieve the aim of stabilizing post-war monetary systems. Ed., M.W.R.]*

**M**ONEY is sometimes said to be the "root of all evil." No doubt there is much evil connected with it, but also much good. Like all inventions it is a good servant, but a bad master. Certainly modern life, as we know it, could not go on without money. It is just possible to conceive of a State which might organize production on modern lines under a rigid central control and distribute the products to the citizens by a system of universal rationing. That is the only way in which a modern community could do without money, and it is not likely that it could continue long without falling back on coupons to be issued in return for work and spent according to the worker's choice, on the available consumers' goods. Such coupons would, of course, be money. Without money you cannot combine an elaborate organization of production based on specialization and the division of labour with a large amount of free choice by consumers as to what goods they will consume. Soviet Russia in its early days made an attempt to abolish money, but the experiment did not succeed.

Many things—from cowries shells to coins—have been used as money at different times. Our money to-day consists firstly of coins and notes issued by the Government or under its authority, and secondly of current deposit balances in banks. The coins and notes are "legal tender" money, that is, the law requires everyone who claims payment of a debt in the country in question to accept these coins and notes when tendered in settlement of the debt at the value marked on them. Bank deposits give the depositors the right to draw out "legal tender" money from the bank when they want it, but to a very great extent these deposits are transferred from one depositor to another on the books of the banks in such a way that they settle transactions without any use of legal tender money, and so themselves operate directly as money.

All this money is only national and you cannot use it directly to make a payment outside your own country. Money is only current, that is, passes freely from hand to hand in making payments on account of its general acceptability within the particular country where it is legal tender or, in the case of bank deposits, gives the right to obtain legal tender money. If you want to make a payment to someone in another country you need to do it in the other country's money, which generally means buying a bank draft expressed in that country's money, from your bank.

## BALANCE OF PAYMENTS

A bank in India will sell you a sterling draft for rupees at a little under 1s. 6d. to the rupee. If you possess sterling or a claim to be paid sterling in the United Kingdom, a bank here will buy it or collect it for you and pay you for it at a rate of a rupee for a little more than 1s. 6d. There has to be a small difference between the buying and selling rates so as to give the banks something to cover their expenses in doing the business. Suppose more Sterling is sold to the banks for rupees than is bought from them for rupees. This would tend to make the rupee worth more in Sterling and alter the rate of exchange but for the fact that the Reserve Bank of India does for the other banks what they do for you. It will buy any amount of Sterling with rupees at one rate and sell any amount of Sterling for rupees at a slightly lower rate in Sterling for the rupee. Thus the net excess in the Sterling due to residents in India as a result of all current transactions is sold to the Reserve Bank and held in its balances, and this is what keeps the rate of exchange stable. The balance of payments between the two countries is bound to balance in a sense, but it balances because the value represented by the excess Sterling claims due to India cannot be transferred to India in the abnormal circumstances due to the war and therefore has to be lent by the Reserve Bank on behalf of India to the United Kingdom.

Thus, for the present, India is a heavily surplus country and the United Kingdom a heavily deficit country in regard to their balance of payments. The disequilibrium arises entirely from payments in connexion with the war and is therefore allowed to continue. Before the war such a continuing disequilibrium would have led to drastic steps to correct the balance, because no country could

afford to let its short term debt to other countries pile up indefinitely and the other countries would not continue to do business with it on that basis.

## COMPETITIVE DEPRECIATION OF CURRENCIES

Difficulties in regard to the balance of payments were both symptoms and causes of the world financial crisis in the early 1930's. Deficit countries which were worried as to how to pay their way took what seemed the obvious course of cutting down their purchases, i.e., their imports in one way or another. By various devices they ensured that imports should only come to them from countries which would take their exports to the same extent. All this reduced the volume of international trade and therefore the prosperity of all countries. Often a country that was in difficulties deliberately depreciated its currency (that is, reduced its value in exchange with other currencies) in order to discourage imports and encourage exports and so snatch an advantage in competition with other countries. That is a game that all can play, and it was found that the competitive depreciation of currencies only led to more and more trouble all round and a further contraction of international trade owing to the unstable and uncertain rates of foreign exchange.

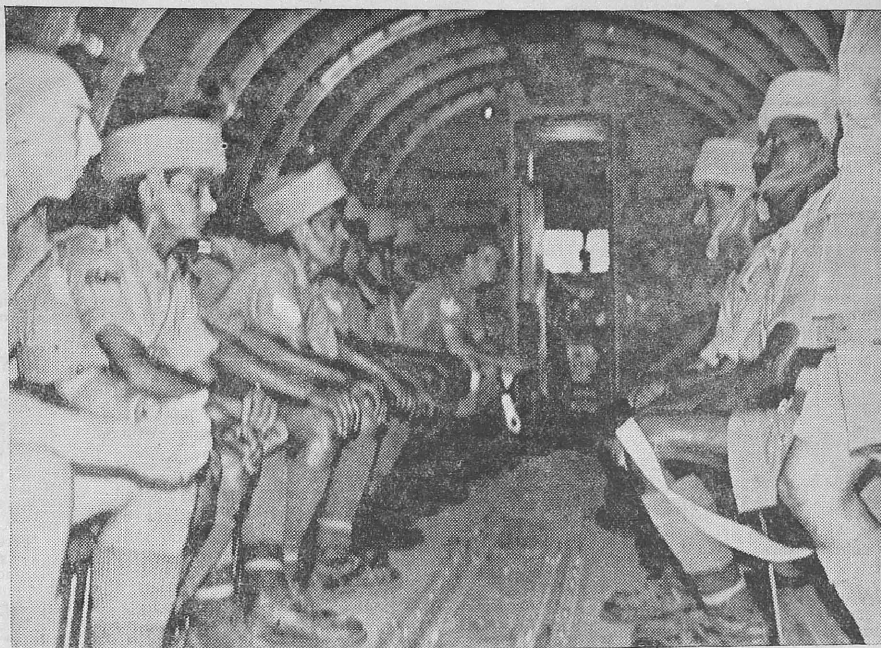
Now that victory is appearing on the horizon, it is high time to think deeply on the problems that will face us after the war and how to build a better world than we had succeeded in doing after the last war. The problem of an international currency is one that deserves and is being given high priority. When you think of the trouble that was caused in the inter-war period by disorder in the relations between the various national moneys, it is clear that we shall have to make more satisfactory arrangements this time if international trade is to be revived and expanded to the extent necessary for world prosperity.

The phrase "an international currency" conjures up visions of coins and notes that would be legal tender anywhere in the world. How splendid it would be if one could travel all over the world with a wallet full of notes that would be accepted at their face value in any shop in any country! No more of that tiresome changing of money at every frontier and always feeling that someone has "done you down" on the deal. And what a boon it would be for business men if they could draw cheques on their banks in a world currency that would be acceptable to exporters all over the world in payment for goods!

## PROSPECTS OF A WORLD CURRENCY

This will come in time, I am sure, but I fear it is more than we can hope for as an early post-war prospect. A world currency will come only with a federal World State which can make its money legal tender throughout the world and it will take us some time to work up to that. So long as the people of each Nation-State are determined to remain at least nominally sovereign in economic affairs, the right to issue and control their own money will not be given up. If then a true world currency is beyond our reach at present, we must try for the next best thing, that is an agreement between Governments to observe certain rules and an orderly procedure in regard to international payments and exchange rates. Though the League of Nations broke down politically in the inter-war period, it had some success in getting the nations to work together in economic matters. There is, therefore, good reason to hope that a Currency League of Nations, if it can once be started on the basis of the common purpose and goodwill of the United Nations, may soon become firmly established and grow continuously in strength and usefulness.

After the last war it was thought that all would be well in regard to international monetary arrangements if all countries could get back firmly on to the gold standard. Before 1914 the international gold standard worked very well. Gold reserves were well distributed. Most national moneys had fixed values in gold and were convertible into gold on demand, so that exchange rates were steady. A deficit in the balance of payments was met by exporting gold and this had an automatic tendency to restore equilibrium in the balance of payments. There was a



INDIAN  
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Fully versed  
in theory, they  
now await  
their turn for  
the first thrill-  
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jump from a  
flying air-  
craft.

contraction of credit and fall in prices in the country exporting gold which tended to encourage exports and discourage imports, and an opposite effect in the country receiving gold. Under this system gold was practically an international currency and so long as it worked smoothly international trade flourished.

Unfortunately the efforts to restore this system after the last war were not successful. Largely owing to the attempts to collect reparations and war debts and to the very high American tariff, the movement of gold became a one-way traffic, and the great bulk of world's gold came to be locked away in the United States of America. The United States authorities regulated credit as they thought best for the internal conditions of the country and did not allow the huge gold imports to have the automatic effect that they would have done under the old system. The burden of trying to adjust the position and restore equilibrium was thrown entirely on the deficit countries. They found that the attempt to maintain the gold value of their currencies meant a continual contraction in credit and fall in prices with consequent increase in unemployment. More and more the gold standard seemed to them a rigid strait jacket which was stifling them and preventing all freedom of movement. When they gave up the hopeless struggle, as Great Britain did in 1931, they felt it a merciful release.

The experience of the inter-war period proves conclusively that the international gold standard cannot be restored successfully in the disturbed conditions following a world war. All countries wish to follow a policy of full employment after this war and place that object above the maintenance of stable foreign exchange rates. At the same time it is generally agreed that exchange rates should be as stable as is reasonably possible consistently with the freedom of each country to follow a full employment policy and that some guarantee is needed that countries will not embark again on a policy of competitive currency depreciation.

## TWO PLANS

Two plans have been drawn up for an association of nations to make orderly arrangements for payments between countries after the war. One bears the name of Lord Keynes of the United Kingdom who advises the British Treasury in these matters, the other that of Dr. Harry White, the monetary expert attached to the United States Treasury in Washington. The two plans have a great deal in common, but there are also striking differences.

The Keynes Plan proposes an international clearing union which would act as a World Bank for the member states and keep accounts for each of them in terms of a new unit called a "Bancor." The Bancor would have a fixed value in gold at any given time, but this value could be changed by the Governing Board if conditions

made a change desirable. Any member could get a credit in Bancor by paying in gold. Apart from that, credits and debits would arise only from the settlement of balances of payments between member-states, and total credits would necessarily equal total debits. Each member would be given the right to overdraw its account up to the amount of its allotted quota, which would be based on 75 per cent of the average of its imports and exports over a certain period. The quota would also determine the number of votes to be exercised by the representative of each member in the Governing Board. The value of each member's money unit in Bancor would be fixed by agreement when it joined the Union. After that it would only be changed by permission of the Governing Board, except that under certain circumstances a member would have the right to reduce the value once up to 5 per cent without permission but after consulting the Board. Under this system disequilibrium in the balance of payments of a country would appear as a credit balance in Bancor for a surplus country and a debit balance in Bancor for a deficit country. When either a credit or a debit balance had exceeded on the average of a certain period of a certain proportion of a member's quota, the member would have to discuss with the Board the causes of the disequilibrium and possible remedies. In the case of an excessive debit balance, the Board would have power to require the member to take certain action in some circumstances. But excessive balances in either direction would be discouraged, and a certain percentage charge would be payable on both credit and debit balances.

## INTERNATIONAL STABILISATION FUND

The White Plan proposes an International Stabilization Fund which would maintain a reserve of gold and of all members' money to be built up by quota contributions. Each member would be allowed to draw on this reserve to an extent governed by its quota by buying with its own money the foreign currency needed by it in order to settle its balance of payments. This is a generalized form of the system by which a national Central Bank or Stabilization Fund keeps reserves of gold and foreign exchange on which it can draw to settle an adverse balance of payments. The accounts of the Fund would be kept in terms of the "Unitas," a gold unit equal to ten times the present gold content of the dollar, but this would be merely a money of account; no payments would be actually made in it. In this system a disequilibrium in the balance of payments would appear in an undue increase or diminution in the amount of a member's currency held by the Fund. The provisions regarding discussion of the causes of disequilibrium with the Governing Board and adoption of remedial action by deficit countries are on the same general lines as in the Keynes Plan, but less emphasis is placed on the responsibility of surplus countries.

It is not worth while now to discuss the detailed provisions of the two plans. Both of them aim at giving members greater security and confidence that they will be able to meet an adverse balance of payments for a time without taking any hasty panic measures. There will be time to consider the matter carefully and choose the best remedies. Under either scheme the advice of the Governing Board should be of the greatest value in helping a member to find the right solution of any difficulty before it reaches a very acute stage. Under either scheme day-to-day foreign exchange business would be conducted by the ordinary banks in the usual way and only the residual balance against a country would have to be settled by its Central Bank because the other banks would demand foreign exchange from it at the fixed rates to that extent. Suppose that India had to pay a net balance in Sterling to settle its account, i.e., persons in India needed Sterling to pay for excess imports to that extent. Under the Keynes Plan the Reserve Bank of India would instruct the Clearing Union to debit it and credit the Bank of England with Bancor on the books of the Union. In return for the Bancor credit the Bank of England would credit the Reserve Bank with the corresponding amount of Sterling which the Reserve Bank would sell to the other banks for sale to their customers. Under the White Plan the Reserve Bank would get the necessary Sterling by buying it from the Stabilization Fund for rupees, which would stand as a credit balance of the Fund on the Reserve Bank's books.

#### BANK CREDITS ON AN INTERNATIONAL SCALE

Most people outside America think that the Keynes Plan is much the better of the two. It proposes to establish a genuine international currency unit, which by general agreement will be made legal tender for payments between member-States. This unit is to be used only in the form of bank deposits, thus extending the use of bank credit from the national to the international field. By this means the Clearing Union could start work without having to collect contributions of gold and foreign exchange from the members; all it needs is a book in which to make entries. Lord Keynes considers that the use of bank credit in this way would have a powerful expansionist influence on international trade. Remembering how international trade was restricted and obstructed and cut down in the inter-war period, we should surely welcome a weapon that can be used with the opposite effect.

The White Plan seems to reflect, or allow for, the American feeling that money is only good, hard money if it has a solid backing of gold and that a country that can sell more than it buys has earned its net credits fairly and they are nobody else's business. There have been several revisions of the White Plan and only scanty details have been published in India. At first it proposed that 1/8 of the members' contributions should be paid into the Fund in gold. Afterwards this was changed to half the contributions, and this aroused very strong protest. The London *Economist* said that the Plan was becoming merely one for the restoration of the gold standard and would be quite unacceptable to Britain. There has since been another revision which makes the proportion payable in gold vary according to the stock of gold and foreign exchange each country has.

Lord Keynes has been visiting the United States of America to discuss these plans with the American experts. He has a great reputation as the economist who has always been right in his practical advice to Governments. He was right as to the economic consequences of the peace after the last war and as to the results of Britain's return to the gold standard in 1925. At that time his advice was not acceptable to the British Government, but they now realize its value. It remains to be seen how far he can convince the American Government and people in this matter of international currency. Let us hope that the discussions will produce a plan acceptable to all which will be a sound basis for world prosperity.

#### THE FALL OF DNEPROPETROVSK—(Continued from page 3)

produced about 36,000 tons of cotton, and it is estimated that the Germans must have been able to get 17,000 tons. In 1939 the Russian flax crop amounted to 30,000 tons, but it is highly probable that the Germans would have got nothing at all from flax crop. All that they managed to get out of the Ukraine was not even sufficient to supply the needs of the German army of occupation. Goebbels admitted these difficulties in December of last year. He said, "If the eastern territories so rich in raw materials and fertile lands were added to the European resources, our continent would possess an inexhaustible potential of life, but so far we have not had enough strength to organize it."

#### A Major Achievement of the War

THUS Hitler's Ukrainian adventure has been a failure, like his Caucasian one. By recapturing the Donetz Basin and clearing the Germans from the eastern half of the Ukraine, the culmination of which is the capture of Dnepropetrovsk, the Red Army has staged what may well rank as one of the major achievements of this war.

#### WHO QUILTS?

By R.G.

While Englishman and Indian stand  
Together, clasping hand in hand  
With friendly rivalry to fight  
The tyrant and defend the right,  
Both smile contemptuously to hear  
The parrot crying in their ear  
"Quit India" . . . Answer it we may  
"They say. What say they? Let them say."  
That Scottish motto, old and proud,  
Best answers the defeatist crowd.  
The British are not used to quit  
Nor wont to sulk and simply sit  
While there are friends in need of aid  
And debts of honour to be paid.  
Though Englishmen and Welsh and Scots  
On their escutcheons have their blots,  
Through centuries their honour stands  
Comparison with other lands!  
And those who say that Britain's word  
Is false prove but themselves absurd;  
And those who Britain's freedom scorn,  
When freely proffered, must be born  
To pettifogging, chains and lies.

Fit piglets for New Order sties.  
The nobler Indian, generous, brave,  
Taught by tradition to behave  
Like Rama and acknowledge worth  
Wherever it is found on earth,  
Salutes the warrior of the west;  
And thanking heroes now at rest.  
Munro and Lawrence, Elphinstone,  
Cubbon and Cotton and Willingdon,  
Dalhousie and the doughty Bobs,  
Cornwallis, Curzon, other nobs,  
And simpler souls like Nicholson,  
In life beloved by everyone,  
In death a legend . . . now at last  
The benefactions of the past  
Rising to pay in full, he shares  
Both Britain's freedom and her cares.  
He takes responsibility  
And strides forth equal, great and free;  
And England's hands to him deliver  
What blesses both the willing giver  
And willing taker . . . freedom's rule,  
Learnt in the ancient English school,  
Formed slowly through long centuries,  
Our heritage . . . now also his.  
Once English help his country built;  
In England's need his blood is spilt.  
Shall poisonous tongue and sneering lip  
Kill the fair promise of partnership?  
Partners for long in weal and woe  
And partners still against the foe,  
If either should present a bill  
Of nicely-reckoned good or ill,  
Both smiling tear the thing to bits:  
"Quit India? No. Let's call it quits."



## PRE-REQUISITES OF A WORLD WITHOUT WARS

By BERTRAND RUSSELL

WE all hope that, when this war is over, some way will be found of preventing the occurrence of another great war for a long period of time. It is obvious that, if civilization is to survive, we cannot do with a world war every twenty-five years. At the same time, there are some evils which we judge to be even worse than war; we do not choose to secure peace by submission to Hitler. The problem is to find a way of securing world peace without sacrificing anything that reasonable people think worth fighting for.

"Liberty" is a good watchword, but is not sufficient as an international principle. There should be liberty to do certain kinds of things, but not certain other kinds. Primarily, there should be no liberty to make aggressive war. It is obvious that this requires some supernatural authority with a preponderance of armed force and a judicial body entrusted with the duty of pronouncing quickly whether, in a given case, aggression has taken place. It requires that most of the great powers shall be opposed to aggression, and shall be willing to punish it even when they are not directly concerned. All this could, at least for a time, be achieved by a prolongation of the alliance of the United Nations, with the admission, gradually, of such other nations as agreed with their aims. But in the long run something more explicit would become necessary.

### DIMINISH MOTIVES FOR AGGRESSION

If peace is to be secure, formal provisions against aggression will not be sufficient. There must be a diminution of the motives for aggression. This would require various changes.

Colonial territory not ready for self-government should be internationalized. This applies especially to Africa. The private imperialisms of England, France, Belgium and Portugal are out-of-date and an encouragement to aggression on the part of countries which, like Germany, have no colonial possessions. Ultimate self-government should be the goal, and everything should be done to make it feasible as soon as possible; but in the meantime, joint administration by the civilized nations seems the nearest practicable approach to justice.

There should be free access for all to every important raw material. In the internationally administered colonial areas there should be no favoured nation as regards the investment of capital.

Certain places of great strategic importance, such as the Suez and Panama Canals, Gibraltar, and Singapore, should belong directly to the international authority, which should garrison and maintain them.

The original international authority should consist of the United States, the British Commonwealth (i.e., Great Britain and the self-governing Dominions), the U.S.S.R.

and China. They should form an alliance to which, from time to time, they could invite other States to adhere. One condition of adherence should be that the State in question either is a democracy or has a constitution accepted by a majority of its citizens in a plebiscite conducted by the Alliance; another should be that it does not contain any considerable geographically concentrated group which would prefer to be independent of it. These conditions having been fulfilled, and the State in question admitted to membership by the Alliance, its constitution should not thereafter be changed by force. It could, however, be changed by a plebiscite conducted by the Alliance, and such a plebiscite should be held whenever a sufficient demand for it had been proved, or, in any case, at periodical intervals, say every twenty-five years.

There should be important advantages in belonging to the Alliance. In the first place, protection against attack, for an attack on any member of the Alliance should be treated as an attack on the whole. The colonial regions would be available to members of the Alliance and to them only. There should be lower tariffs for goods passing from one country of the Alliance to another than for goods imported from outside the Alliance. In all such matters as loans, members of the Alliance should receive preferential treatment. The result would be that most nations would be anxious to qualify for membership. Membership should be a privilege, and there should be no undue haste to make it world-wide. Given victory in the war, and continued co-operation among the present United Nations, the Alliance would, at least at first, be strong enough to prevent war. It could, therefore, impose in the interests of continued peace whatever conditions of membership seemed desirable to that end.

All this could be accomplished if the statesmen of the United Nations considered it desirable, although the practical obstacles are very grave. In the most powerful nations, the main obstacles are isolationism and pride of sovereignty. By "isolationism" I mean unwillingness to intervene in a dispute unless it quite obviously affects national interests. It is typified by Chamberlain's remark that Czechoslovakia was a long way off. Litvinov's dictum, "Peace is indivisible," is one of the truths of which nations learn slowly. We shall not get international government until governments of all countries, and a considerable section of the citizens in the leading Democracies have become persuaded that the constant exercise of police power in every part of the world is the only way by which any important country can keep out of war. Until this is understood, the natural desire to relax after the effort of war will cause people to accept easy solutions and to fancy that nothing is needed beyond the temporary punishment of the defeated nations.

### DO YOU KNOW THAT

India makes 90 per cent of the articles required for the army. There are 2,000,000 handlooms in India.

The 450 tons of railings which used to enclose Hyde Park, London, are now anti-aircraft guns. Five tons make two Bofors guns.

There are 40,477 miles of railways in India. They carried in 1941-42, 623,000,000 passengers and 97,000,000 tons of goods; and earned a gross income of Rs. 1,44,690,000. About 758,000 persons are employed by the Indian Railways, the annual pay roll amounting to Rs. 39,14,00,000. Production of clothing in India for the army has risen from 200,000 garments in September 1939, to 8,000,000 garments a month today. In the first quarter of 1943 British aircraft production was 55 per cent more than in the same quarter of 1942.

There are 300,000 miles of roads in British India and the buses and lorries plying on them amounted to 40,000 in 1938-39.

One hundred tons of coal are required to make a tank. There are today as many as 70,000 different pieces and shapes of fabricated materials in a single aircraft.

Clothes rationing in Britain has saved 5,000,000 tons of shipping and over £600,000,000 expenditure in clothes.

Total electric energy consumed in India in 1941-42 amounted to 2,356,628,000 units.

Pride of sovereignty is an even graver obstacle. It is difficult to imagine America or Great Britain or Russia going to war in obedience to a majority decision of an international council, unless there were a strong national feeling on the side of the decision. But there can be no international authority without a limitation of national sovereignty. On this ground, I think the best that can be hoped is a prolongation of the present Alliance.

The victory this time will not be simply an Anglo-American victory. There will be not only Russia, but behind Russia there will be Asia. To fit Asia into any such international framework as America and England might desire will be difficult. I assume that India will be free, probably with some form of Pakistan. Hindu India will wish to co-operate with the Chinese. Muhammadan India will wish to collaborate with its more western co-religionists. Neither party will wish to have any pact with white men, whether European or American. Further, assuming Japan defeated in the present war, the victory will not be purely Western; a great part of the credit will go to China, which resisted Japan for years without outside help.

### ASIA'S EQUALITY

Hence, Asia may be expected to demand more complete equality than heretofore. It will require considerable tact and liberality if this demand is not to lead to a general hostility of Asiatics towards Europeans and Americans. They have certain large grievances. India, China and Japan are over-populated and desperately poor; at the same time, they are severely restricted as to emigration, particularly to Australia and the United States. Neither Australia nor the United States is likely to alter its policy in this respect. But India and China are likely to increase their strength by industrialization, and sooner or later Japan will be allowed to revive. I wish I could believe that we of the West shall adapt ourselves to this changed situation quickly enough to prevent a very dangerous division of the world into two hostile camps. This is, in my opinion, the greatest danger to world peace in the coming half-century. It is also a grave obstacle to the establishment of any effective supernational authority at the close of the war, since any such authority would probably seem to India and China a mere device for prolonging white supremacy.

There are two opposite forces that tend to produce great wars. On the one hand, there is the overweening ambition of the strong; on the other hand, there is the discontent of the less fortunate nations. In the present war, there will be not one victor, but four. This diminishes the danger of imperialism; it makes the immediate task of adjustment more difficult, but gives more hope of a settlement leaving no one power unduly preponderant. Given wise statesmanship, there is considerable hope that the imperialism of the strong may be kept in check. The discontent of the weak, however, will present very difficult problems. There will be, to begin with, the defeated nations. The world will not be tolerably secure until Germany and Japan have some measure of contentment without any chance of conquest, and this will probably require a generation of re-education. But there is another problem which will be more immediate, namely, what to do with the nations that Germany has conquered. Poland—to take the worst case—has been made to suffer appallingly and is, presumably, filled with a passionate and vindictive hatred of the Germans. However deeply we may sympathize with Poland, it would be unwise to allow our sympathies to hurry us into unstatesmanlike acts of revenge. Some Poles, for instance, urge that East Prussia should be given to Poland. This would merely reproduce on a larger scale the troubles at Danzig which precipitated the present war.

There will be troubles also in the Balkans; the Yugoslavs will probably wish to be rewarded at the expense of the Hungarians and Bulgarians, and so on. In the Balkans the liberal principle of self-determination satisfies no one. There will have to be an imposed territorial settlement with severity toward all who try to upset it. But the settlement itself should be as nearly just as the complicated racial situation allows.

### PROBLEM OF SMALL STATES

Small states, as the course of the war has shown, can only survive through the protection of great states, and in return for such protection the small states should be required to accept certain obligations. They must accept whatever territorial settlement is arrived at. They must be compelled, for certain purposes (especially tariffs), to unite in a federation with their neighbours. What is more difficult, they must be required, when the international authority judges it necessary, to accept the protection of a foreign garrison which should not be drawn from only one nation. We cannot risk again the piecemeal conquest of one small nation after another, while those who wish to save them from conquest are compelled to look on helplessly.



JUNGLE WARFARE TRAINING SOMEWHERE IN INDIA.—Officer unloading ammunition from the hoist improvised from a Bren-gun tripod.

In conclusion: while there is not much hope of a settlement at the end of the war which will deal radically with the problem of future wars, there is hope of a settlement which will prevent another large war for a considerable period of time. Much may be done to solve the problem of private imperialisms and the problem of small independent nations. There is every reason to expect that the settlement will do justice to Asia by removing all outside control except possibly such control by an international authority as ought to exist everywhere.

These hopes I believe to be not Utopian, and, if realized, they will be the beginning of a new system through which the peace may gradually become secure.

*Condensed from "Free World," New York.*

### FROM UNDERGROUND FRANCE

A Frenchman went to the Kommandantur to inquire how he could become a naturalized German. The officer-in-charge warned him patronizingly. "Do you realize, my friend, that as a German citizen you will be liable to the draft? You might even be sent to the Russian front and get killed."

"So what?" came the reply. "Then there'll be one damn Boche less."

### RUNNING COMMENTARY

*(Continued from page 4)*

On the Adriatic coast, the Eighth Army led by General Montgomery controls the lateral road from Termoli to Vinchiatturo, and this control has given considerable impetus to the encircling movement which has forced the enemy to withdraw. The question arises whether the Eighth Army will have the honour of capturing Rome or whether the Fifth Army will get the laurels. It may be stated that a drive from the Adriatic coast towards Rome in the western plain has greater difficulties than from the west. It seems, therefore, that we must look to the Fifth Army rather than to the Eighth Army for the advance on Rome.

## CHINA'S HOPES IN WAR AND PEACE

By DR. T. V. SOONG, *China's Minister for Foreign Affairs.*

*"During these six years we have had millions of soldiers killed and wounded, while tens of millions of civilians lost their lives directly through slaughter, disease, and hunger in this most barbaric of invasions. . . . Our people have been, and are, suffering terribly. But like London in the blitz, we also can take it, and now the end of the long, long trail is in sight."*

SOON after my arrival in Britain I received the representatives of the Press, who asked me many interesting questions on China. From them I have obtained an idea of the kind of questions you might like to ask me.

You would probably start by asking how China, with very little military equipment, could last all these six years of warfare. To tell you the truth, our people do not think that there is anything particularly heroic about our resistance. The Japanese had long been planning to overrun China, to conquer all the Far East, and then to dominate the world. We are their neighbours, and we knew what they were planning, but when we told you and the rest of the world hardly anyone believed it. It was fantastic to think of it, and fantastic it really was. But it was true. In 1931 they invaded Manchuria, which comprises three of our richest provinces, where are situated forty per cent of all the coal mines and sixty per cent of all the iron mines in China. World war number two really started then.

Next they struck at North China, bit by bit, and wherever they went they looted and burned and ravaged and slaughtered. We saw clearly with our own eyes what was going on. We had to fight, prepared or unprepared. If we had not fought we would have become slaves, and after us our children and our children's children. If we were to fight, we at least would have a chance to pull through.

And so fight we did. During these six years we have had millions of soldiers killed and wounded, while tens of millions of civilians lost their lives directly or indirectly through slaughter, disease, and hunger in this most barbaric of invasions.

We have inflicted two million casualties on the Japanese Army. Our losses have been very much greater, but we need to make no apologies, as we have been poorly armed. Our people have been, and are, suffering terribly. But, like London in the blitz, we also can take it, and now the end of the long, long trail is in sight.

### MILITARY EQUIPMENT

I have often been asked how we are as regards military equipment. As you may know, we manufacture only infantry arms and light guns; we do not manufacture heavy guns, tanks or planes.

For the first three years of our war we were receiving aid in munitions from Russia; but when Germany attacked Russia we were frankly told that we could no longer expect any more help. Fortunately, by that time President Roosevelt had introduced the Lend-Lease policy and we were able to get some arms from the United States.

You in Britain could not help us. You yourselves were unprepared, and some of the supplies that you asked for from the United States were the same as what we asked for from them. Thus it was that America has furnished us the bulk of war materials, as well as financial support. In fact, when the first shipment of American arms for China arrived in Rangoon we had to share a portion of these few precious weapons with your troops in Burma.

When Burma fell it was no longer possible to send arms and munitions overland. The route by air from India to China was still open. But until recently we were unable to get sufficient transport planes. The need for transport planes was very great. Our American friends needed them in the Solomons and in the Aleutians. More were needed to prevent Rommel from entering Alexandria. The Battle of the Atlantic also required many transport planes. The result was that there were only a few planes available for the Chinese route.

Now, with the increasing production in arms and in aircraft, the situation looks much more promising. The American authorities are straining every nerve to increase the tonnage carried from India to China. But we must re-open land or sea routes to China in order that the Chinese Armies, long without supplies from abroad, can have enough weapons to launch the counter-attack against the Japanese. When we have got these weapons we shall be able to do even more in helping to defeat the Nazis of Asia.

### CHINA'S HOPES

Now, you will no doubt wish me to tell you what China's hopes are after the war? These hopes are centred on our country's internal reconstruction. We have no territorial ambitions. Naturally, we want to recover all Chinese territories, but we have no designs on a single inch of foreign soil. The attention of our people will be focussed on the task of national reconstruction. You



"BLITZ CAMP" OF A FAMOUS BRITISH REGIMENT IN INDIA.—Every battalion undergoes a toughening up assault course. Obstacles of whatever nature must be overcome. When it is barbed-wire the men either wriggle eel-like underneath or throw themselves upon it to give quick passage to those following.

must realize that under the leadership of the Generalissimo this war has been carried on, in spite of all difficulties, by the determination of the mass of our people who have offered their lives, their fortunes, and their happiness willingly and ungrudgingly. The strength of China to-day lies in her national unity, which is now supported by the whole country. The common man believes in it, and is willing to give his all for it.

#### CHINA'S PLANES FOR THE POST-WAR ERA

You are now thinking of social security after the war. Likewise, our people are thinking and planning how to improve our national standard of living. Victory over Japan will lose much of its meaning if we cannot achieve it. China is principally an agricultural nation, therefore it follows that the easiest and quickest way to raise the standard of living is by improving agriculture. No longer will the Government stand by idly, leaving things to the farmers themselves. We shall have farm credits, co-operatives, improved irrigation and fertilizers, agricultural stations and modern transport. We believe that with all these measures the Chinese farmer in ten years will have his income doubled.

It is, however, not in agriculture that we shall find our most difficult problems. Our greatest difficulty—and we have no illusions about it—will lie in building up our industries, both heavy industries and light industries.

Of course, we shall meet problems as how to acquire the necessary scientific technique and capital to start the thousand and one factories we are planning to build. As I said, we know it will be difficult. But we are determined to build up our industries, because without them we cannot raise the standard of living of our people very much, nor play a great part in the new economic co-operation of the world. Therefore, we are resolved that there shall be no gap between our demobilization after the war and our mobilization for building up our industries.

But we have a great advantage, because we do not need to start our industries from scratch and slowly, like you or the United States. We could at once make use of the most modern technique. To acquire such techniques is not really so difficult. To-day they can be readily obtained like any other goods if one is willing to pay the price. Our own engineers will go abroad in large numbers to learn these techniques, and on their return they will have highly skilled foreign engineers, even executives, to help them start their new factories and plants.

My answer to the question as to whether the necessary capital for industrializing China is available is that we believe we could acquire foreign credits after the war on terms acceptable to us. We take it for granted that the industrial growth of China is mutually beneficial to us and to the advanced industrial nations. China will become a market for them, as she has never before been, in which to sell machines, ships, locomotives, and the like, and such consumer goods as we shall not be able to manufacture ourselves; and when the standard of living of our people is raised the whole world will be benefited. Think of the new market of four hundred and fifty million people, many of whom have been up till now too poor to buy from you.

#### RUSSIA'S EXAMPLE

In our planning, although our political systems are different, we find an interesting example in Soviet Russia. In twenty-five years, from a principally agricultural country almost like ourselves, Soviet Russia has become a nation with an economy where industry is balanced with agriculture. How did she achieve it? She had little capital herself and she had the greatest difficulty in acquiring any capital from abroad. Yet, by dint of unrelaxed labours and by denying her people of daily necessities in order to find money with which to build her factories, Russia has achieved an industrial miracle.

Russia did this by the hard way. In her case it was described as a terrific achievement at terrific costs to her people. After the war we feel that we shall not have to reach our goal by the hard way. But if we should have to do so—that is to say, without outside help—then with our new national spirit, like Russia, we shall not shrink from denying to our people consumer goods in order that we may have our industries.

Our people, who have willingly sacrificed in war, will willingly sacrifice in peace.

In this immense task which we have set ourselves we shall, of course, need peace, and we need peace as desperately as anyone else. I assure you that we are anxious, as we have always been, to make our contribution towards building up a system of world-wide collective security, so that our children and your children will not have to go to war once more against militaristic powers. In both peace and war we shall stand shoulder to shoulder with our friends and Allies, the British people.

—Broadcast in the BBC's Empire and Home Services.

## RUSSIA: ALLIED CONVOY COMES IN

By RITA WRIGHT

THE convoy was in! After a long and hazardous journey the British and American seamen were taking it easy in the northern Soviet port. There was to be a concert in the International Club in the evening, followed by dancing. In the meantime some of the fellows had gone off to a movie, others were taking a walk along the embankment, where the trees were beginning to bloom, while one group of English sailors accepted an invitation to visit a neighbourhood kindergarten.

The guests were rather surprised and a little embarrassed at the rousing reception given them by the children until they learned that the parents of most of the kiddies were also seamen and realized that their blue uniforms evoked memories of distant daddies. It wasn't long, however, before the English "uncles" (all men are "uncles" to Soviet children) were feeling quite at home among all these chubby little boys and girls, who must have reminded them of their own kiddies in England.

"Sparks," a tall English wireless operator, whose brand-new beard grown during the voyage hid a youthful chin, was suddenly attacked by little Vasya, aged three, the youngest of the group.

#### "PICK ME UP"

"Vozmi menya na ruki!" pleaded the little tot, stretching out his arms in a gesture too eloquent to require translating. Sparks picked up the child and tossed him into the air. With his chubby arm around the wireless operator's neck, the beaming youngster announced: "He's my daddy!"

It was easy to forgive Vasya his mistake, for his daddy, one of the heroic submarine men guarding the Soviet northern waters, had left home when the child was only one and a half. To little Vasya he has become a sort of legend and no doubt the tall, bearded lad from Lancashire was just what little Vasya had imagined his daddy must be like.

The English sailors, it happened, could not have chosen a better day to visit the kindergarten. They were just in time to attend a farewell party for the senior age group—the eight-year-olds, who would be going to school soon.

The performance opened with chorus singing by all the children. Then came national dances, with the little performers dressed in gay costumes cleverly fashioned from coloured paper and bits of cloth. The most charming of all were the costumes of the tiny Nenets (Eskimos) with their long fur suits and sticks. A group of boys dressed as pilots did a dashing Russian dance with all the traditional steps. Ukrainian lassies with wreaths in their hair were followed by graceful little Georgians; Tatars in stripped robes gave way to enchanting Russian dolls in sarafans and kerchiefs. All the numerous nationalities of the vast Soviet Union were greeting the English guests, and the latter, perched awkwardly on the low nursery chairs, applauded the young dancers till their hands ached.

#### SMOTHERED WITH QUESTIONS

At the tea that was served after the concert, the director of the kindergarten was smothered with questions by the visitors. What interested them most was what the parents of these children were doing. In most cases, the director told them, their fathers were serving with the country's armed forces, while their mothers were working for victory on the production front. The English sailors had an opportunity to meet some of the mothers when they came to take their little ones home as the afternoon wore on.

The first to arrive was a thin and delicate looking woman wearing the uniform of an army doctor. The chief of one of the big army hospitals in the districts, she had until recently worked right at the front. At eight every morning she brought her two little boys, aged five and seven, and at five in the evening she took them home, put them to bed and, after a brief rest, went back to the hospital.

The next was a smartly dressed blonde, manager of a clothing factory producing uniforms for the Red Army. Women of all walks of life were represented here, from the charwoman in the municipal office to the professor of a medical institute.

## RUSSIA'S MEDICAL FRONT

OF Russia's 5,100,000 battle losses, the Russian War Relief organization says 2,000,000 are back in the war. Seventy per cent again are fighting soldiers. With this announcement the bureau tells the first story of another of this war's medical miracles.

On the 2,000-mile front, in all the war, only 1.5 per cent of the Russian wounded have died. This is slightly higher than the remarkable recovery rate at Pearl Harbour, 96 out of each 100. The report says the Russian recovery rate is 98.5 per cent of all wounded. The Russian rate is a half per cent worse than the Guadalcanal miracle of 1 per cent of wounded dying.

This Russian miracle started 20 years ago. Then Russia had only 20,000 physicians. By 1940 she had 160,000, just about equalling the doctors in active practice in the United States. That wasn't enough for this war. Accordingly the Russians stepped up their doctor graduation rate from 12,500 yearly to 42,000 in 16 months. Ahead of the Germans they moved medical colleges, everything but the buildings, back beyond the Urals. The Kharkov Medical Institute loaded faculty and students on goods wagons and third-class coaches, with truck-loads of books and laboratory equipment. Three days later the classes re-assembled, in Chkalov, in the Urals, 1,000 miles away!

To the doctors they added nearly half a million *feldschers*, doctors with less training than M.D. Half of these *feldschers* were women. Their duties are in the front lines at the height of battle, alongside soldiers under fire. The *feldscher* story is already an epic, and one of the three main causes of the high rate of life-saving. No. 1 saving is by use of sulphanilamide drugs, which delay the onset of infection. No. 2, but equally important, is transfusion.

The third great life-saver is getting the wounded out during the so-called golden hours, the first six after they are hit. The Russian method is the job of the 400,000 *feldschers*. These medical attendants carry shovels, transfusion, first aid. They crawl on their bellies, men and women, to the wounded as the men fall. They dig in, if necessary, to make a first-aid shelter when no shell-hole or foxhole is convenient. They load the wounded on their backs, all the time crawling on their bellies back to the first evacuation posts. The *feldschers'* mortality rates are high. Russian officers try to keep the women out of the most dangerous places, but don't succeed altogether.

### NOT KIND WOUNDS

The wounds of this war are not kind compared with the last. They are worse. Fever bullet holes, more flesh torn away in chunks by mines, more bodies filled with metal splinters. More burns, which before transfusion would have been sure death from shock to a high percentage of the men. Mortality from brain wounds in the last war, says Professor Propper-Grashchenkov, was 35 per cent; in this war 5 per cent. So it goes, always down, among the wound deaths.

Many new medical methods have been introduced in the U.S.S.R., in spite of almost insuperable difficulties. Their flying ambulances are mostly ancient wooden crate-type aircraft. Women fly many of them. But the fields required by these ships are comparatively small, and often are made on the spot during battles. The Russians employ large numbers of para-doctors. They jump with the troops. They also help to keep alive the widespread guerilla fighting in seized territory.

The para-doctors operate hospitals concealed in forests. They conceal their wounded in occupied villages when the case demands housing. "The Germans will never know how we do it," they assert. "We have hundreds of loyal friends everywhere. Of course, there are times when the Germans find wounded men in concealment. When they do the penalty is death, both for the wounded man and the family that hide him. But such cases are rare; the underground system works pretty efficiently."

In Russia blood donors, volunteers, get extra rations. They write letters to go with their blood, the letter going to the wounded recipient. One of the quoted letters reads:

"I am 65. My wife is 52. We are both happy to give our blood to wounded soldiers.—Maxim Litvinoff." The writer is Russia's Ambassador to Washington.

The Russian War Relief report has some answers to a question the civilized world has been asking for nearly two years—what is typhus doing to the German army? The German soldiers, the report declares, are bringing typhus to occupied Russian villages. That is amazing. For Russia, not Germany, is a site where typhus has

been supposed to be endemic. The report says the Russians of today have had a cleanliness (personal and civic) fetish for 20 years which has largely freed them from typhus. It required nearly 1,000 Russian physicians to clean up the villages recaptured from the Germans this year until they could be considered medically safe for Russia's present standards. Typhus infection, the louse-spread, famine disease, was one of these clean-up jobs.

An interesting account of South African help to Russia's medical front is given in an article by J. Harvey Pirie, M.D., in *The Outspan*, Johannesburg:

Almost all troops nowadays are artificially immunized against typhoid and smallpox by vaccination before taking the field. A vaccine works on the principle of a "hair of the dog that bites you"; it is a preparation of the actual causative germ of the disease it is going to give immunity against. It may be a living, attenuated or modified culture of the germ: this is the case in the original "vaccine" used for vaccination against smallpox, and an avirulent living culture of the *Bacillus pestis* is now frequently employed to give immunity against bubonic plague. Other vaccines consist of killed cultures of the causative germs. Inoculation against enteric is a good example of this type. Vaccines against dysentery and cholera are also used to some extent.

### BACTERIAL INFECTION

Recovery from a bacterial infective disease is accompanied by the development in the blood of "anti-bodies" which make the individual immune for a longer or shorter period (it may be for life) against another invasion by that particular microbe. Vaccination has a similar effect. Although admittedly the immunity so afforded is not usually so solid or longlasting as that given by an actual attack of the disease, it at any rate may last for some years and give very effective protection for that period. The success of such measures is seen in the virtually complete disappearance of smallpox and enteric from armies in the present war.

When preventive measures break down, or cannot be taken, we still have for some bacterial infections another line of defence, namely, the use of a curative serum. This is prepared by inoculation of animals, usually horses, with the bacteria or bacterial poison or toxin against which "anti-bodies" are desired; when the horse has been sufficiently immunized—a process which may take some dozens of inoculations of gradually increased strength and extended over a period of months—it is bled, and the serum separated from the blood after it clots is used for treating patients. In this serum they get a quantity of ready-made "anti-bodies" able to act on the invading bacteria or their poisons in the interval before such bodies have developed in the patient's own blood.

Such sera are particularly effective in neutralizing the poisons or toxins of diphtheria and snake-bite and against such infections as dysentery and cerebrospinal fever. They are also almost the only treatment available for tetanus and gangrene.

For some years now South Africa has been practically self-contained in the matter of vaccines and sera through her preparations at the South African Institute for Medical Research and at one or two other small institutions. The Union's needs have been fully supplied and a sufficiency left over for some of our near neighbours. Since the outbreak of war the overseas supplies previously obtained by various African territories have been cut off and application has been made to South Africa to fill the breach. It has been possible to do this to a considerable extent, although not completely. The latest appeal from outside our borders for help has come from the Soviet Union through "Medical Aid for Russia." It has been intimated that the most appreciated gift which can be produced in South Africa would be vaccines and sera for the prevention or treatment of certain war diseases.

Anti-dysentery and anti-gas gangrene sera have already been sent by air via Cairo and Teheran. Other sera or vaccines may possibly be added to the supplies. One which certainly will be added very soon will be a unique contribution by South Africa to the war effort of Russia—anti-typhus vaccine.

Typhus fever, known in the past under such names as war fever, gaol fever and camp fever, more than any other follows in the paths of war and famine. Almost every great war has been followed by severe and terribly fatal epidemics of typhus. In the last war in Russia there were estimated to have been three million cases

(Continued on page 14)

## ANGLO-SOVIET SCIENTIFIC TIES

By SIR E. JOHN RUSSELL, F.R.S., Director, Rothamsted Experimental Station, Secretary, Anglo-Soviet Scientific Collaboration Committee

ON April 13, 1903, the most distinguished British scientists met together in London to listen to a paper written by Kliment Arkadyevich Timiryazev.

Timiryazev, one of the leading plant physiologists that Russia has produced, was well-known in Britain, and the English edition of his book on plant life had a wide circulation. He devoted his life to a study of the whole of the green plant in nature's carbon cycle and photosynthesis. He is noted, in particular, for his pioneer work on the spectral analysis of chlorophyll, from which he concluded that the active wave lengths in photosynthesis were red, and not, as hitherto believed, yellow. His work on chlorophyll preceded, and indeed inspired, that of Wiltatter.

It was in recognition of the importance of his work that the oldest and most distinguished scientific society in Britain, the Royal Society of London, invited Timiryazev to deliver the annual Croonian Lecture.

### COMPARISON WITH 'GULLIVER'

His paper was entitled "The Cosmic Function of the Green Plant," and in his opening paragraphs he compared himself to a character in one of the most widely-read British classics, "Gulliver's Travels." The first object which attracted Gulliver's notice when on his visit to the Academy of Lagada was a man of meagre appearance with his eyes fixed on a cucumber sealed in a phial. On Gulliver's questioning him, the strange personage explained that for more than eight years he had been absorbed in contemplation of this bit of apparatus, trying in vain to solve the problem of storage of the sun's rays in this recipient and their possible utilization.

"Now to begin with," Timiryazev said, "I must frankly confess that I am just that sort of man. For 35 years I have been staring, if not exactly at a cucumber in a phial, still at what comes to the same thing, at a green leaf in a glass tube, and breaking my head in vain endeavours to clear up the mystery of bottled sunshine.

"If I venture to bring before this illustrious society the modest results of this long-continued work, it is in the hope that this theme may have real, though very distant, connection with the subject which Dr. Croone, the generous and enlightened founder of this lectureship, considered as most fit for the occasion."

Timiryazev's audience of 40 years ago must have been gratified to hear that this distinguished Russian was aware of the long and honourable tradition of the Society, aware even of the satire the Society called forth when it was first founded. But the man of meagre appearance staring at a cucumber in a phial had been proved to be more than the mere mocking invention of Jenathan Swift: he was a prophetic vision of Kliment Arkadyevich.

Mechnikov and Mendelejev were members when Timiryazev's lecture was read, and although it is at present impossible to consult the full records of the Society for the year 1903, for they have been stored away out of danger from Fascist bombs, it is probable that among the audience were such men as Ronald Ross, Lister, Bryce, Flinders Petrie and Sherrington. Sir William Huggins, astronomer, was president that year, and foreign secretary was the distinguished botanist, the son of Darwin, Francis.

### LEADING DARWIN PROTAGONIST

Timiryazev was for 50 years the leading and most ardent protagonist of Darwinism in Russia and edited the first complete edition of Darwin's writings that was published in Russian. His contact with Darwin had a profound influence on his work and outlook. In his lecture he said, "It is with veneration that I recollect these words heard many years ago at Downe from the late Darwin himself, 'Chlorophyll is perhaps the most interesting of organic substance.'"

Petrovsky Academy, at which Timiryazev had held the Chair of Botany and which was renamed Timiryazev Academy after the Revolution, is associated in English minds with two other distinguished scientists, Professor V. R. Williams and Professor D. N. Pryanishnikov.

### PLANT NUTRITION

Professor Pryanishnikov has long been recognized in England as one of the world's leading scientists of the physiology of plant nutrition. The investigation he made at Timiryazev, then Petrovsky Academy, on the assimilation of nitrogen by plants and on the relations of soil properties to plant nutrition won him international fame and have been the starting point of many further and fruitful investigations both in Europe and the United States.

The scientific traditions of our two countries are old and honourable. Our scientists have acknowledged and helped each other in the past. May they continue to do so now and in future. Long live Anglo-Soviet scientific collaboration!

### RUSSIA'S MEDICAL FRONT

(Continued from page 13)

from 1917 to 1921. What Lenin is reported to have said became literally true: "We must conquer the louse or the louse will conquer us."

There are grave fears that there may be a repetition of this fearful loss of life in the present war, as the conditions that prepare the way for its spread already exist. Shortage of food and clothing, destruction of houses and transport facilities, all leading to overcrowding and filth: these, together with the indifference provoked by famine and tyranny, make the population an easy prey for typhus. Last winter saw some typhus occurring. This one is likely to witness more devastating outbreaks.

Fortunately a preventive vaccine can now be made, and the South African Institute of Medical Research has agreed to supply Russia with as much as they can possibly turn out. It is expected that their output will reach a figure of something like 100,000 doses per month. It is understood that most of the American laboratories have closed down on anti-typhus vaccine preparation, at any rate on any large scale, so it looks as if South Africa will be almost the only country taking the field at present on this particular battle-front. This material is being sent to Russia by the quickest possible means, and it is hoped that it will be directly instrumental in saving many lives.

—Condensed from the Express and Journal, Adelaide.

## THE CUP THAT CHEERS

At a coffee house in a State somewhere in South India, British and Indian soldiers are treated regularly, every Monday and every Thursday to steaming cups of coffee.

A hundred and fifty men go at a time, and they never fail to pass the word round. So that when the next Monday and the next Thursday come along, another batch of a hundred and fifty soldiers are waiting impatiently to taste the much-advertised South Indian coffee.

Coffee was but the beginning of cordial relations between the owner of the coffee house (an Indian civilian) his friends and the soldiers. Entertainment of various kinds followed with drinks and music.

Now soldiers and civilians cross sticks on the hockey-field and team spirit grows stronger every day, binding man to man, whether soldier or civilian.

"There is a lot in a cup of coffee", British soldiers are saying though they do not fail to add: "Almost as much as in a cup of tay."

## KEEPING OPEN THE WAR-CHANNEL LINES

*Jack McLaren describes the wartime work of the world-famous Corporation of Trinity House—the body responsible for the beacons, channels, lightships and lighthouses round Britain's shores—and tells how its seagoing tenders are. . .*

HERE in London River I have just been aboard a ship with a famous name—*Discovery*, the second of her line. The first was Captain Scott's *Discovery* of South Polar fame, and this other one, *Discovery II*, has also made voyages to the Antarctic in the cause of scientific research.

To-day she is one of some ten vessels engaged in a remarkable and vital form of war service. She is a Trinity House tender.

What is Trinity House? Most Australians will have heard of Capt. W. R. Chaplin, because he was the first captain of the *Fervis Bay*, which went down in that glorious action defending the convoy against a German surface raider in the Atlantic. When Captain Chaplin retired from the Merchant Navy he became one of the Elder Brethren of Trinity House.

I asked Captain Chaplin to tell me something of Trinity House when I saw him recently. The Corporation of Trinity House, he said, is an organization whose activities, which include certain pilotage duties, are principally those of installing and looking after the lights, buoys, beacons, and other seamarks along Britain's shores. Members of the governing body—known as the Elder Brethren—sit with the judges in the Admiralty Courts as nautical assessors in marine cases. The Elder Brethren is a small and highly select body. Its members include the King and the Prime Minister. Trinity House is an institution whose roots go back deep into history, to the time of Henry the Eighth who, in 1514, granted it its first charter. That charter describes the organization as the 'guild or fraternity of the most glorious and undividable Trinity of St. Clement.'

### THAT ANCIENT AND ROMANTIC INSTITUTION

From 1795 until the blitzes of 1940-41 headquarters of Trinity House were on Tower Hill, London, in a fine building, designed by Samuel Wyatt, overlooking the Thames and the grey stone turrets of the Tower of London. I have been in that building. On the ground floor I saw large models of modern lightships equipped with all kinds of ingenious devices. On the first floor, at the top of a noble staircase, I looked at large portraits in oil of Elder Brethren of bygone ages. There was a peculiar and satisfying thrill in being there in the heart of that ancient and romantic institution. But that historic building no longer exists. It was destroyed in one of the German blitzes on London.

Let me tell you about the vital wartime work of *Discovery II* and the Trinity House tenders. The word 'tender' is apt to be misleading to the landsman; it suggests the very small craft that comes alongside a liner to take passengers ashore. Actually, it here means 'lightship or lighthouse tender,' and the vessels are fine, seagoing craft.

To-day there are few lightships to be tended. They have proved vulnerable to attack by enemy aircraft, and their places have been taken by long lines of lighted buoys. It is the Trinity House tenders' principal job to keep these lines of lights in working order so that our convoys can travel safely at night. They are called war-channel lines. Without them the convoys would be almost entirely held up at night, so causing delays and interferences with schedules—and that would suit the enemy.

But don't imagine that these lighted buoys give forth broad streams of light as did the lightships of peace time. The war-time lighting conditions are exactly the opposite of peacetime, when the idea was to send out as much light as possible as far as possible. The blackout at sea is as complete as the blackout on land. These buoys—large affairs of several tons each—give only a dim, low-angle light, much like the dimmed-out traffic-lights of a town. The similarity extends even to their colours, which are red and green. From one of these dimmed lights to another the convoys make their way through the night.

With naval escort and fighter protection the Trinity House tenders work along these war-channel lines in daylight, each along its own particular stretch. They repair damage to buoys, ensure that everything is in order for the convoys when darkness falls.

A buoy that has something wrong with it is called a 'casualty.' The Trinity House men speak of these in the same way as soldiers may speak of human casualties in battle. Their ships are specially fitted to deal with the 'casualties' on the spot; they have electric workshops complete with lathes and provision for welding.

It may be that a buoy has become a casualty through being fouled by a mine. Getting it clear means ticklish

work for the men of the Trinity House tender, especially in rough weather. It may mean launching a motor boat and working from that.

Sometimes it is found that the enemy has laid mines close to a buoy. He hopes that a ship, closing in on the buoy to get a bearing, will strike the mine and be blown up. The Captain of *Discovery II* told me of at least one instance when mines had been so laid round a buoy that the only thing to do was to blow the buoy up.

Sometimes casualties come about by a merchant ship fouling a buoy with her propeller. Getting the tangle of the buoy's heavy chain free of the propeller there at sea often calls for much hard work and ingenuity from the men of the tenders. In other instances a buoy may have been pushed out of position by a ship brushing against it. The men of the tenders have to watch for this and put the buoys back into line. Whatever happens, the war-channel line must be accurately marked; divergencies may lead unfortunate vessels straight into minefields.

Then, too, buoys and their chains have to be replaced for various reasons. In certain areas sand gets in between the links of the buoy's chain—called the 'nip' of the chain—and wears them remarkably thin. Chains have to be hauled in and examined for this contingency, and, where necessary, replaced. There is, too, the work of charging the lighting apparatus of the buoys from time to time.

And, too, fog-bells and fog-guns have to be kept in order. A story going the rounds of naval circles tells of a German E-boat captain signalling back to his base: 'I am being attacked by the enemy and am engaging him.' What he thought was one of our naval vessels firing at him was simply a Trinity House fog-gun booming out its warning.

Marine surveying and marking the positions of wrecks are other tasks of these Trinity House vessels. This marking of wrecks is most important. A large vessel was sunk off the English coast; and when she settled most of her upper works were awash. It wasn't long before a Trinity House vessel arrived to mark her position, but even in that short interval another ship had already found her—a Greek merchantman loaded with esparto grass. The first that the Greek captain knew of the wreck was when he found that his vessel was riding on top of the sunken vessel's forward well-deck.

### DANGER FROM ENEMY

Trinity House tenders are liable to attack by the enemy as they carry out their work on the war-channel lines. The Germans would give a good deal to put out those long lines of lights or even make gaps in them. The tenders have been repeatedly attacked by bomb and machine-gun. I was told of one tender that was attacked by seven enemy planes while towing a lightship. Each plane dropped a bomb. Luckily, all missed. Some tenders have not been so lucky; I heard other stories of ships being blown up.

Fog, once the seaman's enemy, is welcomed by these men as they work on the war-channel lines. Hidden by fog they can work more or less in peace and get on with the job. I heard of men working on buoys while from down through the fog above them came the drone of a Dornier circling about, probably looking for them. It was a matter of working fast to get the job done before the fog lifted.

In the early part of the war these tenders had to take whatever was coming to them, for they were unarmed. One master of a tender told me that the very day war was declared he was chased by a submarine. He also told me that one of the finest sights he had seen in his life was that of numerous units of the Royal Navy putting out to sea that very same day. The vigour with which he described the ships coming out, from cruisers to minesweepers, told me most positively that the spectacle of the Royal Navy coming out to war had made a more lasting impression on him than the chase by the submarine. To-day, armed, the tenders are always ready to defend themselves. They train their guns on any planes that come too close.

Trinity House is going to see that those war-channel lines are kept open till peace comes again and the need for those dimmed lights disappears, and once more we can say to the ships, which Kipling called 'swift shuttles':

Swift shuttles of an Empire's loom  
That weave us, main to main,  
The coastwise lights of England  
Give you welcome back again!

—From a broadcast in the BBC's Pacific Service.

## THROTTLING OF JAPAN

### NAVAL AND AIR PREPARATIONS AHEAD

By A. J. McWHINNIE

IT is to the Far East that our men of the Royal Navy now look eagerly for the prospects of the greatest naval battles in history. It is to the Far East, to the eventual big-scale line-up against the Japanese that we are expanding our navy at a rate never touched in our long naval history.

Four years ago we called up our naval reserves in readiness for war. Britain could muster a navy of 143,000 men. The strength of the British Navy to-day is something around the million mark. And the number is increasing. The Navy has priority over the other services. Men in the new call-up classes are drafted into the Navy—that is where they are needed most.

This concentration of naval strength to be ranged eventually in force against the Japanese is no new departure. Here is just one little indication.

I know months ago that selected naval officers with special linguistic abilities were being withdrawn from their ships to learn the Japanese language. Meanwhile, the Fleet Air Arm is concentrating on the big fighting close combats which lie ahead of them.

#### EXPANSION GOES ON

You have noticed little news about aircraft-carriers, the big fleet carriers lately, but they are out, constantly at the ready just as the same. Their chances of getting a full-scale fight on this side of the world are not so great as they were. With the Mediterranean open, with

the whole of North Africa at our disposal as a spring-board, with the Italian fleet in our bag, the days of the aircraft-carriers for Malta convoys are over. But there are big chances for the aircraft-carriers just the same, and though the opportunities for big aircraft-carriers in this hemisphere have been reduced, the expansion goes on to a greater extent than ever before.

My own estimate is that when the big line-up of the combined Anglo-American fleets in the Pacific is an accomplished fact, the Allied naval strength will be at least three times greater than Japan's naval strength.

#### BIG-SHIP-FIGHTS

Japan gives us opportunities of big-scale big-ship-fights. She cannot avoid them. Her life-lines are spread fan-wise from Japan to all those strategic islands. Cut those life-lines and the island garrisons will be beaten into submission. To safeguard their supply ships the Japanese must give them naval protection.

We want great Allied naval strength to meet those Japanese ships in battle. It will be a long job, but there are hundreds of thousands of seasoned, fully-trained British naval men looking forward to showing their naval strength in fights which the hesitancy of the German and Italian Admirals denied them in these waters. The war in the Pacific is essentially a sea war and very largely it will be a war of the aircraft-carriers, the "flat-tops." Testing time is coming closer for sea and air power to show on a bigger scale than ever before what it can achieve—Condensed from a recent B.B.C. talk.

## CAMPAIGN IN NEW GUINEA

AN Australian officer, speaking in London about the campaign in New Guinea, emphasized its trying conditions, especially in the early stages and the ferocity of fighting. He had previously served in North Africa, including the defence of Tobruk, and considered that New Guinea made heavier demands on troops than any of the operations in which he had been engaged in the Mediterranean theatre.

Dealing with the advance from Port Moresby to Buna, he pointed out that the troops, with the same equipment and carrying practically everything on their backs, were engaged successively in three climatic regions. The climate of Port Moresby was of comparatively favourable sub-tropical type. From it the troops climbed 5,000 feet over the Owen Stanley ridge and then down into a steaming tropical plain in the north, covered with jungle and swamp, swept by terrific rains and infested with disease.

Disease took a heavy toll, perhaps heavier than it should have, since not only the force as a whole but also individual soldiers had to buy their experience. The percentage of sickness was extremely high, and service in comparatively healthy Libyan desert did nothing to provide immunity. Malaria was the most serious scourge, but "scrub typhus" came a good second and there were others.

At first, the men were inclined to cut their trousers and shirt sleeves in order to give themselves greater freedom of movement. The danger of this procedure was, however, forcibly impressed on them.

As the organization improved, thousands of local inhabitants were employed in spraying every stagnant pool, bushes and long grass near the camps. Propaganda was also employed on a big scale and to good effect. The Japanese were equally subject to malaria and took intelligent precautions. Their medical services and sanitary discipline were, however, apt to break down under the stress of fighting and when it did, they died in circumstances of horrible misery and squalor.

Few campaigns have been more dependent on the air. Both landing and dropping of supplies were carried out from the first, but to begin with, they were rudimentary. Before the officer left, this feature had been systematized. In the Markham valley, parachute troops were dropped, both American and Australian, but while the Americans were trained, the Australians formed a unit which it had been decided to use in this manner at the last moment. Most of the men made the first jump of their lives and went straight into action. They took great pride in this unprecedented achievement.

Transport work was carried out by the United States Transport Command whose aircraft were fitted for stretchers, so that after bringing up supplies, they could take back the sick and wounded. In the operations, too, the United States provided the greater proportion of aircraft and Australia the majority of land forces. Co-operation between them and between both and naval forces was excellent.

#### MERE PREFERENCE!

The C.O. was annoyed because he'd given a private leave to go to his mother-in-law's funeral. And now he'd learned the old lady wasn't dead. He demanded an explanation.

"Sorry, sir," said the private, "but I didn't say the wife's mother was dead. I just said I'd like to go to her funeral."

#### 'V' DIARY, 1944

(Will be ready in October)

As the prices of the various bindings have been increased by 4 annas by the Darbar and as the postage for a single copy has been reduced by 3 pies, the rates have been revised as follows:—

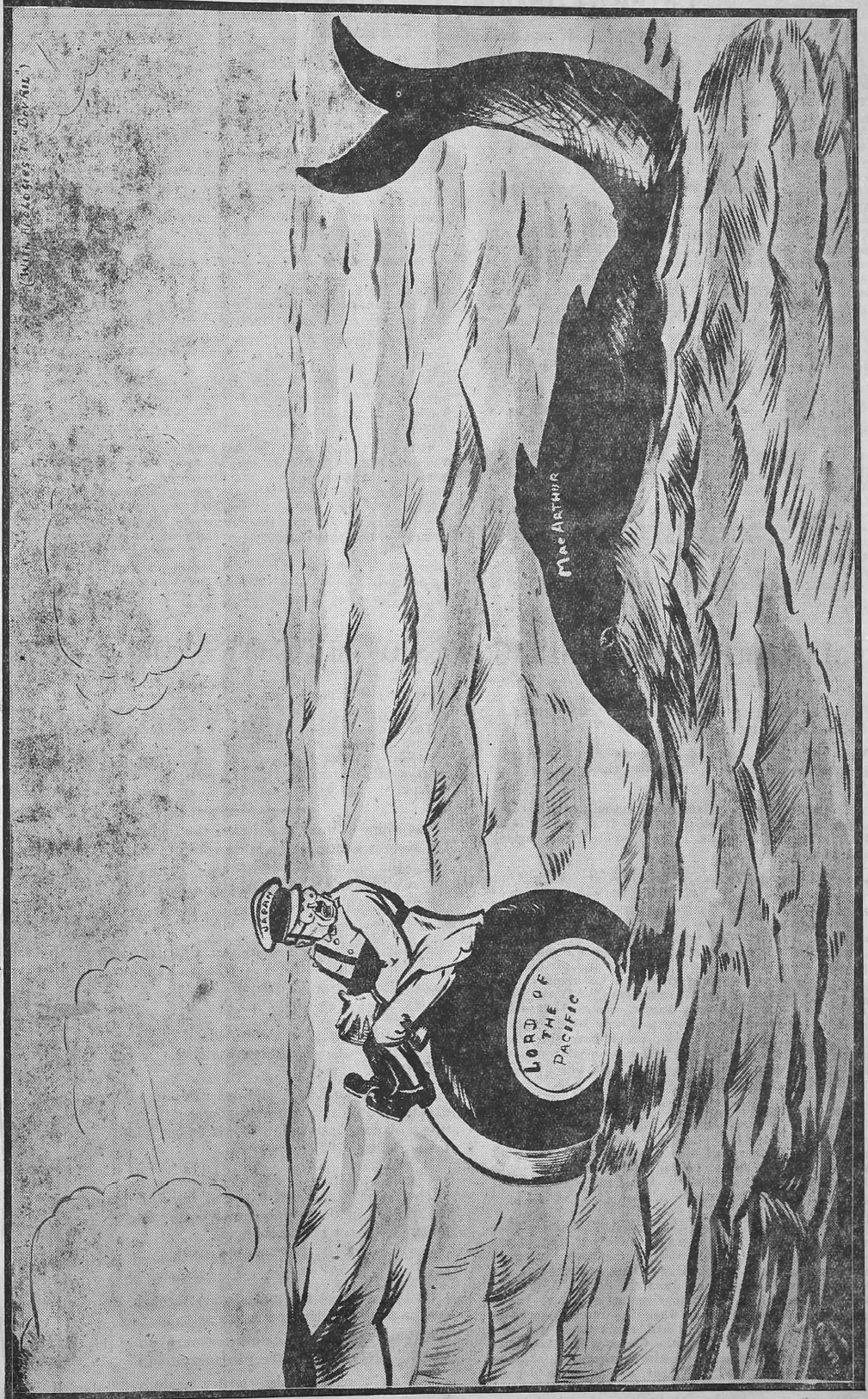
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“THAT SINKING FEELING!”

—Specially drawn for the MADRAS WAR REVIEW.

## TWO-WAY BOMBING OF GERMANY

By WING COMMANDER L. V. FRASER

TWO-WAY bombing of Germany opened with an attack on South Germany from the Middle East on October 1. The immediate effect of the bombing of these South German and Austrian targets is, of course, to strike at those dispersed industries driven from the Ruhr by the British-based bomber force. A secondary effect—but equally important in the long strategic view—is to draw off Germany's already strained night fighter force from the western front and leave the targets there even more vulnerable than they are now.

Nazi defence against night bombing is centred now mainly in night fighters. This is a comparatively recent development. Formerly it was flak, plenty of it. Then it was flak aided by heavy searchlight concentrations. As bombers of the Royal Air Force, the Dominions air forces and the United States of America Air Force persisted in their attacks and showed a constant and comparatively low casualty figure, the enemy turned to night fighters. He assisted them with searchlights and hanging flares. Allied bombers still hit their targets and got back with the same constant casualty figure.

The enemy increased his night fighter strength on a defensive belt running from the southern end of Norway through Denmark to North-West Germany and the Low Countries to Dijon on a point halfway down the eastern frontier of France. But he increased it in a very significant manner.

At the beginning of 1942 Germany's night fighter strength on the western front—that is, on that Norway-France belt—was less than 200. By the beginning of 1943 it had more than doubled; now it is probably well over 500. This represents almost a 300 per cent increase, and almost all of it has been absorbed by the Reich itself.

Moreover, day fighter strength devoted to purely defensive purposes has also been enormously increased. There could be no clearer indication of the enemy's rapidly increasing need for defence against the mounting weight of Allied bombing offensive against Germany and the occupied countries.

This rob-Peter-to-pay-Paul policy has widely-felt repercussions. The increase in fighter strength has been obtained at the expense of Germany's long-range bomber force. Not only is the Reich's production turned away from bombers but crews also are diverted. Germany's long-range aircraft and personnel position has been serious for some time, and it continues to be serious. Another important feature of this diversion of day and night fighters to the defence of the Reich itself is that it has caused serious depletion of the air force used against the Russians on the eastern front. There in many areas German armies are fighting without air cover.

The significance of the first raid by Allied Fortresses based on North Africa on Southern Germany thus emerges. It was the first. There will be more. There will be more in greater force, with greater effect on more precise targets. As airfields on the Italian mainland are made ready for Allied operation, they will be as regularly delivered as the almost nightly blows from Britain.

Hitler's answer must be to rush fighters to South Germany. It is unlikely that he can supply this need from his factories. They are already at the limit of production, and all of them are coming more and more within easy reach of Allied bombing. So production is more likely to diminish than increase. Fighters for the protection of Southern Germany can come from only one place—the western front. When the two-way bombing attack gets into its swing, the strain on the German fighter belt will be so great that something must break.

## GERMANY'S IMPENDING LOSS OF MANGANESE ORE

SIR THOMAS H. HOLLAND, Munitions Member of the Government of India during the first World War, writes in a letter to the editor of *The Times*:

Your military correspondent's comment published on September 25 included this sentence which has strategic significance:

"Now that the Russians have actually reached the Dnieper bend, it is most important from the German point of view that they should be prevented from flowing round to the south of it."

Both belligerents—certainly the Russians—know from their technical advisers that if the Germans are forced to withdraw from the Nikopol area, which is just round the bend, where the old salt trade route from the Crimea crossed the Dnieper, they will soon be staring with alarm at an impending manganese famine and will not have more than just a few months more to stare, for one-half to two-thirds of the steel furnaces under their control will fail to supply further "battle scrap." During each of the three years before the war, Germany doubled her normal import of manganese ore to nearly 500,000 tons of high grade quality; all countries which have since been enjoying the blessings of the "new order" could not raise between them more than about half this quantity, mainly of low grade material.

Nikopol, consequently, secured a real prize. Pushing on last year to the Caucasus, the Germans hoped to secure Chiaturi too. But in that they failed through the skill and bravery of the Russians who knew that loss of their two main sources of manganese might have been really embarrassing until the Ural deposits near Magnitogorsk could be fully developed.

In the opening address to the British Association Conference on July 24, 1942, it was pointed out that it was the necessity of securing Russian manganese even more than petroleum that made Hitler break another of his pacts and invade Russia on June 22, 1941. A possible shortage of petroleum did not then seem likely, but a rough calculation shows that when the reserve stocks of manganese which the French had accumulated for war emergency began to get low, the Germans had to manufacture some new excuse to rob the inexhaustible supplies of Russia, knowing full well that a manganese deposit cannot be "scorched" like an oilfield, and that fact may soon tend to cramp Goebbels' style when he tries to comfort the home front with the familiar formula that

everything of military importance has been destroyed at Nikopol before withdrawing "according to plan."

The Dnieper has been forced to follow this loopline because of the resistant rocks which include other valuable minerals, but the manganese is one of strategic value and, as the Americans would say, it is essential and cannot be replaced in quantity by any other substance.

Returning to duty from leave, the soldier, loaded to the eyebrows with kit, boarded a tram for the station. When the conductor came round for the fare, he offered him a workman's return ticket.

"This won't do, chum" said the conductor; "It's meant for workmen only."

"Issat so?" replied the soldier, shifting his pack to an easier position. "Well, if I haven't a spot of work to do, I'd like to know who has."

\* \* \* \* \*

The latest joke going the rounds of Berlin tells of an anti-aircraft soldier in Germany who got a gold medal with this citation:—

"During an R.A.F. raid over Berlin, after having exhausted all his ammunition, he continued to shout 'Boom-boom!' at the top of his lungs, obtaining the same result."

\* \* \* \* \*

The Home Guard sentry stared into the darkness of the night. Suddenly there was a crash, then a silence, followed by very strong language.

"Halt! Who goes there?" he challenged in ringing tones.

At that moment the moon came through the clouds and he saw his orderly officer rising to his feet.

"Why the so-and-so didn't you warn me of this trip wire?" protested the officer in angry tones.

"Well," replied the sentry calmly, "then I wouldn't have known if it would work, and I spent two hours fixing it up."

## WAR DIARY

### BRITAIN AND GERMANY

21st OCT.—His Majesty the King dined with Field Marshal Smuts and Mr. Churchill.

It was disclosed that another contingent of American Forces arrived in Britain.

Admiral of the Fleet Sir Dudley Pound died.

Royal Air Force bombed Leipzig, Berlin and targets in Western Germany.

Luftwaffe raiders bombed London and places in Southern England and East Anglia.

22nd OCT.—An air-raid alert was sounded in London area. A few enemy aircraft crossed the Channel, raided several places.

23rd OCT.—A small number of enemy craft crossed Kent and Sussex and flew in as far as the Home Counties, East Anglia and London area. Bombs were dropped at widely different points.

Royal Air Force made a heavy air-attack on Cassel in Germany. Frankfurt was also bombed.

Brigadier R. E. Laycock was appointed to succeed Lord Louis Mountbatten as Chief of Combined Operations.

24th OCT.—Seven German planes were shot down by Royal Air Force fighters. Leaflets containing a warning of "mysterious plans to overthrow Hitler regime" are circulating in Germany. Signs of internal crisis increased.

There was some enemy activity over parts of East Anglia, South-East England and London area.

25th OCT.—Enemy aircraft bombed places in the coastal districts of East Anglia.

Loss of two British warships 'Charybids' and 'Limbourne' was announced.

26th OCT.—Royal Air Force medium bombers and fighters attacked airfields in France.

### UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND ATLANTIC

21st OCT.—President Roosevelt conferred at length with the Chief of United States General Staff, General George Marshall and Admiral William Leahy, President Roosevelt's Personal Chief of Staff.

Mr. Prentiss Brown, Price Administrator, resigned.

22nd OCT.—President Roosevelt was confined to his bed with "a slight cold and a few aches in his body."

The resolution pledging the United States to join with free nations in preserving the peace of the world, brought forward by Senator Tom Conally was approved by the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

Mr. Henry Morgenthau, the United States Secretary of Treasury, arrived at Malta.

23rd OCT.—President Roosevelt remained in bed. He is suffering from influenza.

Coal strike in several places was reported.

24th OCT.—The monthly reports on United States Munitions Production issued to-day shows a slight increase in September.

The Vice-President of the War Production Board, Mr. Charles Wilson announced that United States plane production during the last 21 months ending September 30, totalled 110,000 and soon output would be one every five minutes.

26th OCT.—President Roosevelt's condition continued to improve.

### INDIA, BURMA AND CEYLON

21st OCT.—Mr. Churchill announced that the Commons would debate food situation in India in the next series of sitting but one.

22nd OCT.—An Air Ministry communiqué stated that 60,000 pounds of high explosives were dropped in blasting Jap positions in Myittha.

The Post-war Reconstruction Policy Committee on Trade and Industry met at New Delhi under the chairmanship of the Hon. Sir Azizul Haque, Commerce Member.

23rd OCT.—Sir Sultan Ahmed speaking at the opening ceremony of sixth War Services Exhibition at Indore referred to the coming offensive from India.

Allied planes attacked enemy airfields and targets in Maiktila, Heho, Thedaw, Akyab, Kalembo, etc., on Friday.

Lord Louis Mountbatten returned to New Delhi.

Buthidaung, Kalembo and Taungup were bombed.

24th OCT.—Jap communications and troop positions in West Burma were bombed by Royal Air Force fighters.

26th OCT.—His Excellency the Viceroy visited incognito destitute centres in Calcutta.

Sagaing in Burma was bombed. Enemy aircraft were over Cox's Bazaar area and some bombs were dropped yesterday.

### ITALY, AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

21st OCT.—Allied troops captured Busso and Oratino and General Montgomery's spearhead thrust forward in a struggle for a central height on which the success of the Battle for Rome depends.

Royal Air Force bombers attacked Maritza on Rhodes, Melos, Syros and Cos.

22nd OCT.—Paranello, Piedimonte and Alife were captured by the Allies.

23rd OCT.—The Eighth Army captured Luparo. The Eighth and the Fifth Armies advanced further five miles towards Rome.

Lieutenant-General Remato Ricci Commander-in-Chief of Mussolini's Fascist Voluntary Militia, has been shot by anti-Fascist students in Milan. Admiral Antonio Legnani, Minister of Marine in Mussolini's Republican Fascist Government, was killed by two Italian naval officers.

24th OCT.—Allied advance continued on all sectors. Montenero was captured.

Airfields in Crete were bombed by Royal Air Force bombers.

25th OCT.—The Fifth Army captured Sparanise.

It is reported that Mussolini will broadcast on Thursday to celebrate the 21st anniversary of the March on Rome.

26th OCT.—Seven more places were captured by the Allied Forces. They were Boiano, Spinete, Patrella, Palatta, Francolise, Raviscanina and Rocchetta. Allied advance continued all round and Kesserling's armies fell back.

### RUSSIA AND FINLAND

21st OCT.—Large-scale evacuation of Crimea by Germans began. Fierce battles raged in Melitopol.

Military questions were discussed at Tripartite Conference. Marshal Stalin received Mr. Eden.

22nd OCT.—The German forces were in full retreat in the Dnieper bend. Dnepropetrovsk was completely outflanked. Soviet troops were only 20 miles from the important mining centre of Krivoi Rog.

The Tripartite talks continued.

23rd OCT.—Melitopol was captured. Germans launched fanatical counter-attacks north of Kiev.

Substantial progress was made in the Three-Power talks. Mr. Cordell Hull received the Chinese Ambassador.

24th OCT.—Soviets broke through at several points near Orsha. The battle for the liberation of Ukraine has reached its last phase.

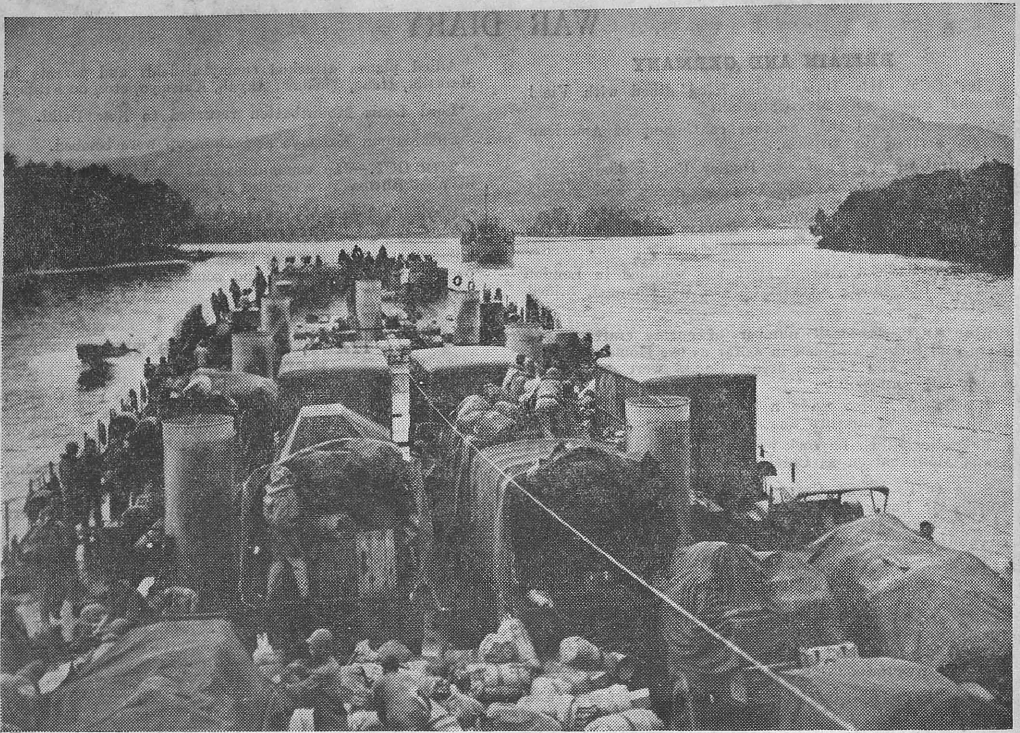
25th OCT.—Dnepropetrovsk and Dnieproperehnsk-Kamenskoye were captured by the Russian forces. Krivoi Rog was under Soviet gunfire.

M. Stalin saw Mr. Cordell Hull.

The meeting of the experts began in the Tripartite Talks.

26th OCT.—Last German defences before Krivoi Rog were stormed.

United States Acting Secretary of State, Mr. Edward Stettinius, told the press that everything was going on smoothly at the Moscow Conference.



*SUPPLIES FOR ALLIED OFFENSIVE.—Two first (landing ships for tanks) vessels loaded with troops and supplies approach Rendova Island as the Allied offensive got under way in the Central Solomons. United States forces occupied Rendova and from there shelled Munda Point, strategic Japanese base on New Georgia Island. United States ground troops captured Munda on August 6.*

### VICHY, FREE FRANCE AND OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

21st OCT.—Nish in Yugoslavia was bombed.

22nd OCT.—M. Laval has concluded a new agreement with the German Labour Chief, under which the German Government will present no more new demand for French labour in 1943.

24th OCT.—United States planes attacked airfields at Beauvais-Nivillers, Andre de Leure and Montdidier in France.

Allied planes were over Budapest and bombed Vienna and other places in Austria.

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### NEUTRAL COUNTRIES

21st OCT.—The Syrian delegation, consisting of the Premier and the Foreign Minister, arrived at Cairo to discuss with the Egyptian Premier, the question of Arab Federation.

22nd OCT.—An air alert was sounded throughout the greater part of Switzerland last night when a foreign aircraft of an unknown nationality flew over the Cantons of Tessin and Grisons. Flares were dropped at several places.

The Syrian Premier and Foreign Minister were received by King Farouk.

23rd OCT.—On its way from England to Stockholm a Swedish transport plane was shot down off Swedish coast and 13 persons were killed.

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### THE FAR EAST

21st OCT.—Japanese counter-offensive against Finschhafen made some progress. Seventeen out of 55 Japanese planes were shot down in South Bougainville area.

Chinese troops captured Potein and set on fire the Japanese occupied town of Shintungchen.

Lord Louis Mountbatten met Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek at Chungking. He left the city after his five days talks.

22nd OCT.—Enemy made some progress north of Finschhafen for the third day in succession. Enemy installations at Kalul, Minea Island were attacked.

23rd OCT.—Allied bombers dropped over 200 tons of bombs on Jap troops in New Guinea on a single day, it was revealed.

The Japanese continued to force their way in Western Yunnan.

24th OCT.—Celebes was raided. Kalika was completely occupied.

The British Military Mission arrived at Sydney.

25th OCT.—Jap counter-attacks around Finschhafen were repulsed. Twenty enemy aircraft were destroyed at Wewak. A Japanese cargo ship was destroyed off New Britain.

An important session of the Jap Diet met.

Chinese and Japanese forces fought desperately for the control of Salween river crossing at Luku.

26th OCT.—Allied airmen destroyed 123 Japanese planes at Rebaul.

### THEIR FIRST NIGHT!

To two recruits on their first night guard appeared a dark figure.

"Halt! Who goes there?"

"Orderly Officer."

This nonplussed the recruits. They whispered together.

"Come on! Come on!" said the Orderly Officer, testily. "You've had me standing at attention here for five minutes."

More whispering, and then a flash of inspiration.

"Orderly Officer! Stand at ease!"