

MADRAS



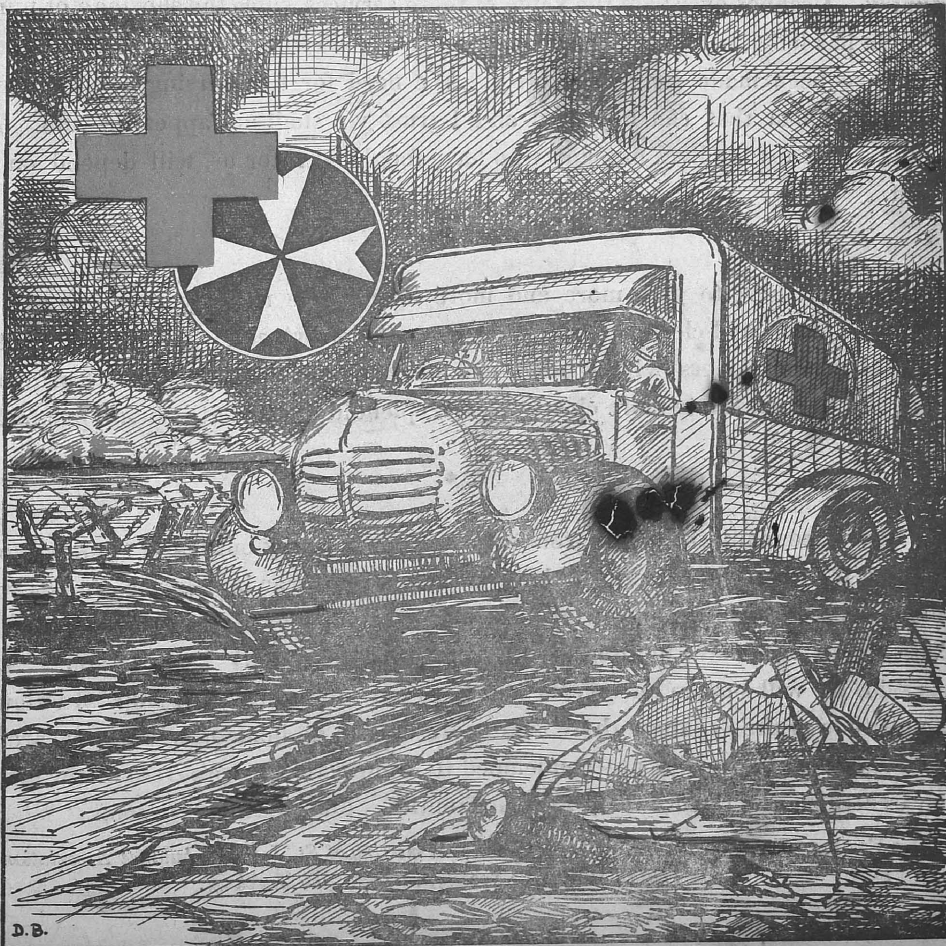
REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. V

FRIDAY, MARCH 31, 1944

No. 30



CONTENTS

	PAGE		PAGE
EDITORIAL—			
Misericordia	3	<i>Red Cross Over All. (By R.G.)</i>	7
Red Cross Week. By Mrs. G. G. Armstrong	4-5	The Work of the Red Cross. By Mrs. F. Fickling ..	8-10
Prisoners, Privations, Parcels and Presents. By Mrs. H. S. Town.	6	War Diary	10-12

[NOTE.—The summary of news and comments contained in the MADRAS WAR REVIEW generally relate to events and statements published till Wednesday, every week.]

INDIAN RED CROSS WORK—THE VICEROY'S APPEAL

Members of the nursing divisions have assisted at military hospitals all over the country. I cannot over-rate the value of these services, since the shortage of nurses in India has long been a matter of deep anxiety. I strongly support the appeals that have been made for more nurses. We need for the nursing services every suitable woman that can be found and I trust we shall not appeal in vain. The comfort, perhaps the lives of many who have fought well for us, will depend on the result.

◆

We shall have to give more and more help to the military hospitals and we shall need closer and closer co-operation from the provinces. The appointment of regional commissioners will, I hope, make it possible both to help the provinces more and to co-ordinate more closely all the splendid effort that is being put forth.

◆

There are many thousands from whose minds a heavy burden of anxiety would be lifted if they could be assured that our prisoners of war in Japanese hands were being treated humanly and were receiving food and comforts through the Red Cross, but I fear I have nothing to add to what General Jolly has told you. As she has said, we will sustain our efforts and keep our stores ready to ship. In view of the attitude of the Japanese there is no more we can do immediately but we are not forgetful of all those who are condemned to endure till the progress of our armies can free them and restore them to their families. May that day be soon.

HIS EXCELLENCY LORD WAVELL, *at the annual meeting of St. John Ambulance Association and Indian Red Cross Society, in Delhi, on March 22.*

MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. V

FRIDAY, MARCH 31, 1944

No. 30

MISERICORDIA

MISERICORDIA is a beautiful Latin word.

THE very shape of it is enough to switch one's mind from Anger, Hate and Revenge, to Pity, Mercy and Succour.

IT won't spoil morale if we in Madras dwell for a moment each day for a couple of weeks on these more tender and pleasing traits of human make-up.

THE papers tell us that a certain country sadly but proudly expects to have half a million casualties soon and suddenly.

HALF A MILLION more are thus to be added from one country alone to the figures of four years of bloody war on the Seven Seas, three Continents, a multitude of islands and the corridors of the sky.

NEVER mind what country this is. There are several others with the same grim expectations. And a large proportion of those casualties will be deaths.

BUT there are hundreds of thousands of the not-killed and more still who will again escape immediate death. Again, never mind whose nationals they may be. They are human beings—the young and the strong and the brave—and they are, or will be Sick, Wounded or Prisoners of War.

THEY NOW need, and **WILL** need, *all* the help that the Red Cross and St. John, throughout the world, can possibly give them.

THIS great organization is doing its noble best, but it cannot yet do enough. It wants help—badly. It wants for this year alone, and for India alone, three crores of rupees to carry out the work it can see ahead, to say nothing of what it cannot foresee.

**Madras will—MUST—help it
AD MISERICORDIAM!**

H.E. THE GOVERNOR'S APPEAL



H.E. SIR ARTHUR HOPE.

The Joint War Organization of Red Cross and St. John strives to fulfil one of the noblest of human desires, the relief of suffering.

It provides comforts for the sick and wounded and much needed amenities for Prisoners of War in enemy hands.

I commend this appeal to the people of Madras with complete confidence that they will once again demonstrate their unsurpassed generosity and practical sympathy for this excellent cause.

ARTHUR HOPE,
Governor of Madras.

RED CROSS WEEK

By MRS. G. G. ARMSTRONG

THERE have been recently a good many advertisements in the papers about the work of the Joint War Organization of the Red Cross and St. John and mention of a special Red Cross Week. In most parts of India, this week was celebrated from January 30th to February 6th, but some parts of the country are making this special appeal at a different time and Madras is one—not merely from a general desire to be different, but because this date clashes with the War Savings Campaign, and although the need for Savings is never over, any more than the need for help to the Red Cross, it seemed inadvisable to press both upon the public at the same time. So the special Red Cross appeal in the Madras Presidency will be from the 1st April culminating in the Red Cross Sunday on the 16th.

Various questions are asked about this Joint War Organization of the Red Cross and St. John. One is, why

Joint? Why does it take two bodies to do the same thing? Well, they are aiming at the same thing, assistance to the sick and wounded, but St. John does it by providing men and women training first aiders and nurses, and the Red Cross does it by providing things, hospital equipments and stores, comforts and amenities for the patients, supplies for prisoners of war. Obviously these two sides are allied, but equally obviously they are different.

It is also asked, what are the relations between the Joint War Organization and the Red Cross Society? The Indian Red Cross Society is a body governed by an Act of the Indian Legislature, which lays down its constitution, rules of membership, and scope. Its work is the relief or prevention of suffering within India, chiefly by work among mothers and children, health education and relief work in such disasters as flood or famine. The Joint War Organization is a temporary

and much more elastic body, with no special membership rules, formed to take over for the time being that great branch of disaster relief work resulting from the war. It is quite distinct from the Indian Red Cross Society, though naturally the same people very often work for both. Its scope too goes far outside India, it is responsible for supplies to Indian hospitals in the Mediterranean area, in Persia and Iraq, in Aden and Ceylon; and it will be responsible for hospital supplies for all troops going from India on the South-east Asia Campaign, whenever and wherever that may be. This is no small task; no wonder we want money.

Another question arises; why is not everything provided by Government; why do we have to do this? Well, for several reasons. In the first place, the scheduled supplies for hospitals are admittedly inadequate in several respects. Of course they ought not



Her Majesty the Queen, visiting India House, displayed a lively interest in the parcels of comforts being packed for despatch to Indian Prisoners of War, by Indian ladies in London.

to be; but can we be content to sit back and say so, to leave it at that and let the men go without? Of course, the ideal thing is to change the schedule, but that apparently takes an earthquake plus a miracle; miracle workers will be gladly welcomed, but meanwhile the rest of us feel we must do something in the hospitals. Then there is the question of speed a word unfamiliar to most Medical or Ordnance stores. Things are wanted urgently; we are an organization uncomplicated by the red tape which can supply at once and argue about the sanction afterwards. Also, even with the best supplied hospitals there are extra comforts and amenities for the patients which will make the hours pass more quickly, games and books, occupations and handicrafts, which we can supply and must.

The other great branch of Red Cross work is the provision of supplies for

prisoners of war. We pay for the weekly parcels packet at India House for all the camps in Europe where there are prisoners from India, and we are sending bulk shipments of food, clothing and medical supplies to the prisoners in the Far East. The Japanese ship which

came here in October bringing exchange prisoners took back a full cargo of supplies for those left behind.

All this costs money, and much more money every year. Last year the appeal was for 1½ crores of rupees, which was secured. This year it is estimated that 1¾ crores will be needed for the hospitals and 1¼ crores for the prisoners of war, making a total of 3 crores, for which this special appeal is being launched. Madras hopes to raise 30 lakhs. Contributions may be sent either to the Governor's War Fund, earmarked for the Red Cross, or to the Joint War Charities Depot, Banqueting Hall, Government House, Madras, which is the provincial branch of the Joint War Organization. These also should be earmarked for Red Cross as distinct from Amenities for Troops Work. It is not just in one week we want help, but all the time.

At a regimental dinner the colonel came round and put a friendly hand on the shoulder of the young subaltern.

"Look here, my boy," he said in his fatherly way, "this is your first dinner and I know you won't mind a little advice from me. Go easy with the decanter and don't try to stick it too long. Here's a good tip for you. You see those two candlesticks there? Well, when you begin to see four instead of two, clear off."

"Righto," said the boy, "but I can't see more than one at present!"

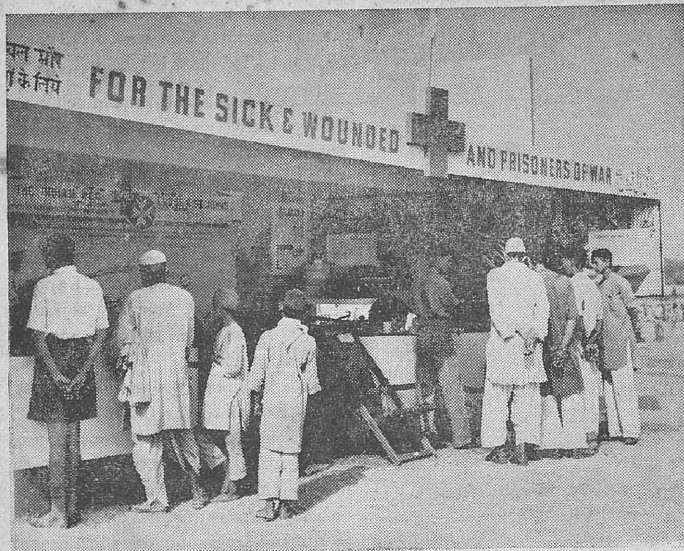
FOOD PARCELS FOR INDIAN PRISONERS IN EUROPE

From reports received from Geneva, the total number of Indian prisoners of war in Europe remains at about 11,500 including 1,250 in works detachments in Italy but expected to be moved to Germany if not already there, states the latest Quarterly Report of the Indian Comforts Fund, London.

During the period under review (the 13 weeks ending 29th January, 1944) 128,872 food parcels were packed and despatched to Geneva. Twelve thousand parcels are now being sent to Indian prisoners each week. Next of kin clothing parcels numbering 5,920 were also despatched. In addition, Indian games and musical instruments received from India were despatched to the Indian camps, while a consignment of hair oil was sent for the use of Sikh prisoners of war.

For Indian seamen, the Fund distributed at ports 6,474 bundles of clothing. Entertainments have been continued at ports and grants varying from £115 to £1,250 were made towards the institutions for Indian seamen at London, Glasgow, Falmouth and Swansea. Occupational therapy has been started for sick Indian seamen in recognized hospitals to whom special X'mas gifts were also sent.

The Fund issued the usual clothing and comforts to the 9th batch of Bevin Boys on arrival in England and contributed financially towards an outing for them in London. The balance in favour of the Fund on 31st January was £31,571.



FOR THE SICK AND WOUNDED AND PRISONERS OF WAR—At a
Red Cross and St. John's Exhibition Stall.

PRISONERS, PRIVATIONS, PARCELS AND PRESENTS

By MRS. H. S. TOWN

HAVE you ever thought what it must be like to be taken prisoner by the enemy?—to be placed in a prison camp, with barbed wire round it, to have no freedom and to be guarded by sentries all the time?—to be poorly fed and with many other discomforts to put up with?

Have you ever thought what a terrible feeling of frustration and despair our prisoners of war must have?

No doubt comfortable homes, loved ones, may be a wife and family have been left behind, good jobs given up and one of the fighting services joined at great sacrifice, because the prisoner's country is at war, fighting for its very existence.

Think of the prisoners having nothing to do but sit around thinking of loved

ones far away, and comrades still free and fighting for the cause for which so much has been given up.

Perhaps it is winter time and to add to either miseries, clothes, blankets and food are insufficient, the prisoners are cold, miserable and unhappy; the inactivity is irksome after the very active life that has been led.

Day after day goes by with nothing to break the monotony, only two meals a day are served, a slice of bread and a pint of soup in the morning, and the same for the evening meal, every day and every meal it is the same kind of soup; it may not seem too bad for the first few days, but think of it day after day, always the same with never a change, month in and month out, may-be for years.

But the Red Cross and St. John have changed this monotony, for every week, every prisoner of war in Europe receives a food parcel. Just think what it must mean to the prisoners, the joy the parcels must give, even just the receiving of them, the realization that the people in their own country have not forgotten them but remember and think of those who have fought for them and have been captured.

The Red Cross and St. John in India send money to the British Red Cross and St. John, they and the Indian Comforts Fund purchase food, pack the parcels and dispatch them to Geneva, where the International Red Cross have a huge organization to distribute these parcels to the Prison Camps.

The parcels contain food that all Indians can eat, no matter to what caste or community they belong, it is food to which they are accustomed to have in their own homes, such as dhal, curry powder, salt, fruit, dried vegetables, fish, chocolate, sugar and so on.

We know that the parcels are looked forward to and that they are appreciated as many letters of thanks have been received. We know that many of our prisoners would have died but for the parcels sent to them by the Red Cross and St. John.

But can we continue to send these parcels?

We must, and can if the public give generously. Each of these parcels cost Rs. 7-8-0 and one and a half lakhs are spent every week, this alone for food parcels to our prisoners in Europe.

Not only are food parcels sent, but parcels of clothes, each prisoner receiving one every six months; many kinds of useful things are included, such as combs (special ones for Sikhs), mirrors, soap, etc.

(Continued on page 8.)

RED CROSS OVER ALL

(By R.G.)

All you who pass by
and see this begging-bowl held out - - think,
Is your heart human, or empty and dry ?
Is it nothing to you that men lie
in the dark night hopelessly and cry
for such a little thing, water to drink ?

Always, always, and in all
countries flood, famine and fire - -
Man's enemies, that never sleep, never tire,
never give quarter - - in their onfall
silent or shattering are cutting down both tall
and little ones. And war heaps higher

the havoc. Though death spare there is pain
and mutilation, leaving the living dead,
the hands unable to lift bread
to the mouth, the mouth with the unsaid
words crowding and clamouring in the brain,
the eyes never to see again.

Is your hand closed, not to spend
a minute's help or a kindness ? This cross
blood-red on its white ground, whose arms extend
from little Switzerland to the world's end,
challenges you to answer the sign of the opened
hand, to make good a little of the endless loss - -

not with clenched fist nor with arms
bombastically shot from the shoulder, but receiving
freely and freely giving, to wrap harms
in healing, while loving-kindness charms
away the frozen eyes, and in relieving
the woeful and wounded the cold world warms.

(Continued from page 6.)

Books, games and musical instruments and all kinds of things for amusement and education are sent to the camps, many Prisoners of War have studied for and passed examinations while in a Prison Camp.

All these parcels are of course presents to our prisoners; and at Christmas time when many people in India and everyone in England give presents to their friends, special presents of sweets are sent to the prisoners so that they may know that they are not forgotten at a festive time.

We are unable to send parcels like this to our prisoners in the Far East, the Japanese will not help us, they do not like representatives of the International Red Cross to visit the camps and only allow them to go to a very few, they do not send lists of the prisoners' names nor do we know where many of our prisoners are. However, we do what we can, and send as often as possible, bulk cargoes of food, clothing and medical stores. We know that some of these shipments have arrived and that the articles have been distributed. We shall go on trying to do more and more for them, but we need your help.

All these parcels and shipments cost a great deal of money and more and more is needed as time goes on. The Red Cross and St. John is supported entirely by voluntary contributions, so when you are sitting in your comfortable home, eating good food in plenty, free to go and come as you wish, Prisoners of War, give generously, to the Red Cross. HELP US TO



Not an ambulance but an operating theatre! Outside, the Red Cross, symbol of mercy and of relief for suffering. Inside, every facility for performing emergency operations within sound of the guns! Here is a case brought from the battlefield.

THE WORK OF THE RED CROSS

By Mrs. F. FICKLING

I will not take up your time by describing the origin of the Red Cross Association and how it works. What we are more concerned with is what it does. I think the main question to be answered, at least I think it is a question most usually asked, is: "What is it the Red Cross does that Government cannot do or should do." It has been suggested that much of the work attempted by the Red Cross Society is properly the responsibility of Government, and on this account people decline to subscribe to, or assist in any way whatever, the Red Cross Funds. There are many people who perhaps feel that they do not wish to give donations for planes and tanks, but nobody can take exception to helping by money or by work, the relief of suffering, or the provision of comforts for their own kind, who are sick or wounded far from home, or who have had the misfortune to be prisoners of war in enemy hands.

The very nature of Red Cross assistance is supplementary and emergency service. Let me give you a few examples:—

The soldier, the sailor or the airman is well looked after in the essential things of daily life, but it is the little extras which mean so much and make them feel that they are in our thoughts.

Consider the sick or wounded. Perhaps some of you have been lying ill in hospital yourselves at some time or other, and know what it means to have your friends and relations come to visit you, bringing with them those little personal comforts. Think then of our wounded and sick men in hospitals far from their own homes. As far as medical assistance is concerned, you can rest assured that the very best aid is available, but that can so often be of no avail unless a man feels contented in mind and as happy as he can be under the circumstances.



Getting the theatre ready. The theatre itself is in a lorry, behind which is a trailer containing all the necessary equipment. Here are two officers, one a surgeon, placing in position the floor connecting the lorry with the trailer.

It is the Red Cross service which provides them with those little comforts and personal requirements, which make a man feel that after all he is not quite alone in his suffering.

As most of you know, the Red Cross Women's Work Parties all over India are constantly making hospital supplies. This is where the *Supplementary* service comes in. Naturally Government supply the basic essentials, but with the increased war activities, more and more supplies are needed,

and I should like to urge those of you who can form or join a Work Party, and to those of you who are already doing this work, to increase your efforts in your Work Party output. Headquarters in Madras will send regular parcels with various articles to be made up, which are then returned to Madras, from where they are despatched to the various hospitals either in the war zones or in India. All the materials for these are supplied by the Red Cross out of voluntary

donations. Let me make it quite clear that the bulk of these supplies are for Indian troops.

Another section of this service is the "Amenities for Troops" Fund, which is purely intended for the fit men. Among other things such as books, games, wireless sets, gramophones and records, woollen comforts, like pullovers, socks, helmets, gloves, mufflers, etc., are knitted for them by the Women's Work Parties.

Now for the way in which the *Emergency* service is provided. Supposing there is an outbreak of dysentery or malaria in some station in India and the hospital authorities have difficulty in providing the extra equipment required. The Red Cross Organization has managed to save such situations time and time again, by supplying that extra equipment, until Government supplies are available.

I should like to point out at least *one* aspect of the work of the Indian Red Cross which cannot be discharged by any Government. I refer to the work in connexion with Prisoners of War.

By the very fact of being at war, any approach by a hostile Government to another hostile Government, with which it is at war in respect to prisoners of *that* war, must naturally be viewed with the greatest amount of suspicion, and it is here that the Red Cross alone plays the part of mediator. Indeed we can go further and say that the Red Cross is *more* than mediator, and becomes an unofficial guardian of those rights to which a prisoner of war is entitled, and which in former years have been honoured by *belligerent Nations* throughout the world. Never before have those rights been so *flagrantly dishonoured* as by the Japanese in respect of the prisoners of war taken in Burma, Malaya and Hongkong. Even so, *such* information as we *have* in regard to the prisoners, and such small comforts as

they have been able to receive, is entirely due to the unflagging work of the International Red Cross Association, backed up by the various National Associations, of which the Indian Red Cross plays such a prominent part. It may not be generally known that the Indian Red Cross regularly sends out parcels of food-stuffs and clothing to prisoners in the hands of those of our enemy who admit parcels.

Lakhs of rupees have been spent to send parcels of food and comforts to Indian prisoners of war in German hands, through the India House in London. Bulk supplies have been sent to Prison Camps in Japanese occupied territory. When, as we hope, the Japanese do allow parcels, we want to be ready with the funds, so that there shall be no delay in relieving the lot of our men in their hands.

These are only a few examples,—and there are many more—of what the Red Cross Association does for our men.

To bring this matter forcibly home, we should not forget that Malabar has perhaps the foremost place throughout the Madras Presidency in recruitment to the various Active Services, and we should remind ourselves that within the near future it is inevitable but that some of these sons of Malabar will be at grips with the enemy. It may be that very soon the services of the Red Cross will be needed in ameliorating their sufferings and easing their lot.

With this thought in mind, is it asking too much for the fullest possible support to be given to the Red Cross funds now? It is no use waiting until greater calls still come upon the Red Cross; by our support and gifts at this time, we should endeavour to enable the organization to prepare the way for what is to come, and thereby provide for the comforts of the men from Malabar, whether they are fit and



PARCELS FOR INDIAN PRISONERS OF WAR—A busy scene at an Indian Red Cross Goods Shed.

well, whether they are sick or wounded or whether they are unfortunate prisoners of war.

—A talk given recently at the Tellicherry Propaganda camp.

Once upon a time an absent-minded Professor took a Pair of Trousers to a Paper Salvage man. Shortly afterwards he called back, looking very anxious. "I beg your Pardon," he said. "I only intended you to have the Five Pound notes in the pocket. The trousers belong to my wife."

WAR DIARY

BRITAIN AND GERMANY

22ND MAR.—Mr. Churchill opened the debate in the House of Commons on the war medals and decorations.

German planes raided London and other areas in South-east England.

Berlin was heavily bombed in daylight to-day.

Hitler has summoned the Rumanian Prime Minister Marshal Antonescu and the Deputy Prime Minister Mihail Antonescu for a conference of great importance.

23RD MAR.—Allied bombers in strong numbers were over West Germany. Objectives in Berlin and Frankfurt were bombed by over 1,000 bombers. Hamm, Achmer, Hardorf and Brunswick were also attacked.

24TH MAR.—Mr. Churchill addressed the United States troops in Britain.

General Montgomery, Commander of the British Invasion Armies, told that he found the army in very good trim and believed that when it went into battle it would prove the best army the country ever had.

Their Majesties the King and Queen and Princess Elizabeth toured for two days inspecting troops covering a very big area.

The Commons to-day went into secret session to discuss the tank position.

Mosquitoes last night attacked Dortmund and other targets in Western Germany. United States bombers attacked industrial targets at Frankfurt and Schweinfurt in daylight to-day.

25TH MAR.—Over 1,000 aircraft took part in the Bomber Command's attacks on Berlin, Kiel and other objectives in Western Germany last night. Two thousand five hundred tons of explosives were dropped on Berlin alone.

German aircraft raided London and other places last night.

26TH MAR.—Mr. Churchill in a broadcast talk reviewed the war situation.

Mosquitoes attacked Berlin and targets in Western Germany.

27TH MAR.—Last night Allied aircraft attacked Essen, Hanover and other places in Germany.

His Majesty the King took the salute at a parade which formed part of "Salute the Soldier" war savings drive.

28TH MAR.—German aircraft were over west of England, South Wales and parts of South and South-east England and dropped bombs at a number of places. An alert was sounded in London to-day.

Last night Mosquitoes of the Bomber Command attacked objectives in the Ruhr.

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE ATLANTIC

22ND MAR.—President Roosevelt's head cold is better.

The United States Chief of Staff, General George Marshall stated that American Air Forces were now "approaching complete air supremacy in practically every theatre in which they are in operation at a much faster pace than the United States Army dared to hope".

The Senate has approved an appropriation of \$1,350 million as the United States contribution to the U.N.R.R.A.

23RD MAR.—The United States Navy took over from the Royal Air Force the operation of a British Naval airbase to hunt German submarines in the Bay of Biscay.

The House of Representatives Foreign Affairs Committee voted in favour of giving Congress the final say in the settlement of Lend-Lease contracts.

24TH MAR.—President Roosevelt proposed to-day that the free peoples of Europe and Asia should temporarily open their frontiers to the victims of Axis oppression.

The Secretary of State, Mr. Cordell Hull talked to Republican Congressmen about the future of Germany and Japan.

President Roosevelt told his press conference to-day that the United States will have five-million members of the armed forces overseas by July 1.

25TH MAR.—Senator John Connally, Chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, announced that Mr. Cordell Hull, United States Secretary of State, is preparing to seek Congressional aid in drafting an American plan for the international peace organization.

INDIA, BURMA AND CEYLON

22ND MAR.—Japanese columns have crossed into Manipur State between Tiddim and Imphal. Allies advance continues in other areas in the Burma front.

The Commander-in-Chief has issued a statement on the situation on the Burma front.

23RD MAR.—Jap forces have developed a counter-thrust along a 200-mile front. Allied opposition continues. Allied bombers attacked objectives in Taungup, etc.

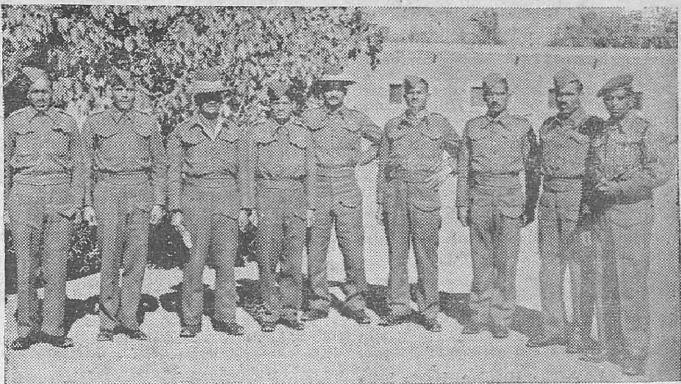
24TH MAR.—To-day's Allied communique narrating the fighting on the Burma front says that in the Hukawng Valley Allies continued their advance.

Ceylon, "the springboard for Far East defences is right in the war and well prepared for anything," stated Dr. C. D. Horsley, Bishop of Colombo.

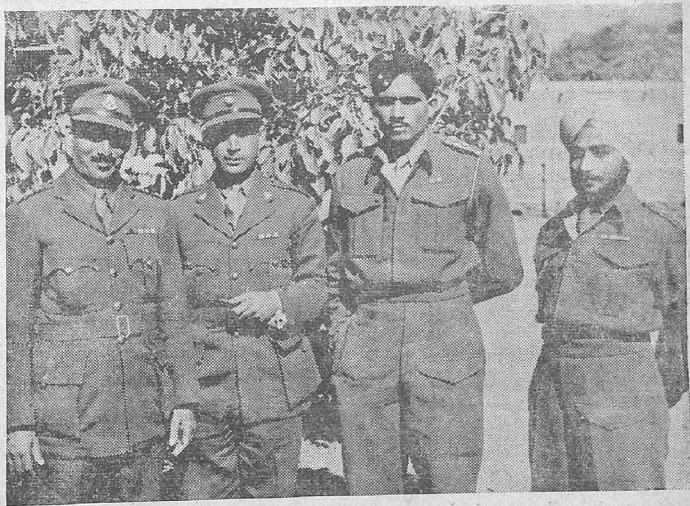
25TH MAR.—In the Mogaung Valley the Allies have occupied the town of Shaduzup.

A small number of enemy aircraft attacked an airfield in Cox Bazaar area this morning.

26TH MAR.—Sir Claude Auchinleck, Commander-in-Chief, witnessed a display by an Indian Armoured Corps.



ESCAPED INDIAN PRISONERS.—This party of Indian soldiers escaped from prison camps in Italy during the fighting and managed to reach our lines. They were sent back to North Africa and from there have just arrived at Karachi. Photo shows escaped V.C.Os.



King's commissioned officers now safely back in India after their escape from Italian prison camps.

East of Mayu range, the enemy made two attacks on Allied positions on 24th and 25th, says to-day's Allied communique.

27TH MAR.—There was considerable patrol activity on the main Arakan front during the night of March 24-25 and during the following day. On March 26, Allied troops cleared the enemy from a hill feature in the hills bordering the coastal plains says to-day's communique from South-east Asia Command.

28TH MAR.—Operations to clear the Imphal-Tiddim Road of the Japs continue satisfactorily says to-day's Allied

War Communiqué. On the North Burma front Chinese troops occupied Hkaw-Glawyang.

RUSSIA AND FINLAND

22ND MAR.—Soviet troops have captured Pervomaisk, Konstantinovka, Gorohovka, Nadishino and numerous other localities.

23RD MAR.—The Russians have begun a new offensive in Tarnapol-Proskurov direction. They have occupied Kapuchintsy, Trenbowla, Peshki and hundreds of other localities.

The United States Secretary of State, Mr. Cordell Hull, indicated that negotiations between Soviet Russia and Finland had not been finally terminated. Mr. Eden said in the Commons that the Russian Government has kept informed of the progress of the Russo-Finnish armistice negotiations.

24TH MAR.—The Red Army is continuing its progress towards Rumania and at one point it is within 15 miles of the Rumanian border. The Russians have cut the Tarnopol-Lyov railway and crossed river Serets. They have captured Voznesensk, Czortkov, Husiatyn, Zalescyk and 400 other localities.

25TH MAR.—The Russians have captured Proskurov, Deazhynya.

26TH MAR.—The Red Army has reached the Rumanian border. Soviet forces have captured Balti and Reutel.

27TH MAR.—The Russian forces have captured Kamenets-Podolski and other places.

The Red Army captured Monasterzyska, Potokznoty, Koropets, Vokovtsi, Germolintsi, Harodenka, Zastavna, Sovran and several district centres and localities.

28TH MAR.—The Russians have captured Nikolaev, Gvozdetz, Slobodka and other places.

ITALY, AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

22ND MAR.—Bitter hand-to-hand fighting took place in Cassino. In the lower Garigliano Valley and the Anzio beach-head, the position is generally quiet. On the Eighth Army front there has been patrolling and artillery duels.

23RD MAR.—Hard fighting continued in Cassino. Patrols were active in the Eighth Army sector and in the Fifth Army Allied bridgehead.

24TH MAR.—Very heavy fighting continued in Cassino. Elsewhere patrols clashed with the enemy on all fronts.

Allied Supreme Commander of the Mediterranean, General Sir Maitland Wilson, left Cairo to-day for his headquarters after the Balkan talks.

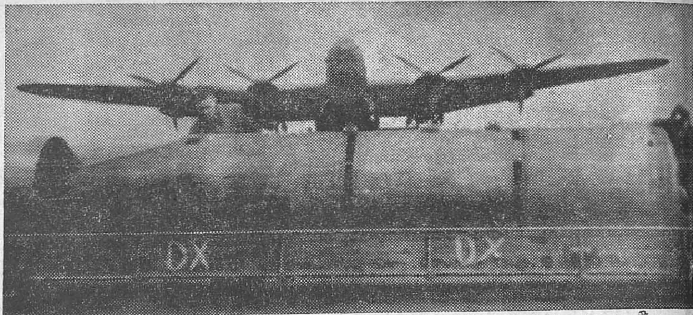
25TH MAR.—Heavy fighting continues in Cassino where the general situation remains unchanged. Patrols were active on all fronts.

26TH MAR.—The pace of fighting in Cassino slackened. In other fronts patrols were active.

27TH MAR.—The Germans still fight hard to hold Cassino. Weather hampered important fresh developments in other fronts.

28TH MAR.—Three small attacks against Allied Fifth Army bridgehead were repulsed. Allied patrols engaged the enemy on all fronts.

Mr. Churchill stated in the Commons to-day, "I certainly have not concealed my disappointment that progress has not been quicker," when questioned about the operations at Cassino and other Italian fronts.



R.A.F.'s NEW 12,000 lb. BOMB.—One of the first photographs of the R.A.F.'s new 12,000 lb. bomb which is being used with devastating effect on enemy factories in Europe. In the background is a Lancaster bomber.

VICHY, FREE FRANCE AND OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

23RD MAR.—German troops have moved from Hungary to Rumania and occupied the country. General mobilization has been ordered in Hungary. Bulgarian regents have been summoned by Hitler to meet him.

Laon and Lyons in France were attacked by Allied bombers.

24TH MAR.—German airfields at Nancy and St. Dizier in France were bombed by United States aircraft.

25TH MAR.—Bulgarian Regency Council has accepted all Hitler's demands concerning the utilization of the Bulgarian army.

26TH MAR.—Last night aircraft of the Bomber Command attacked objectives at Aulnoye and Lyons in France.

27TH MAR.—Military objectives in the Allies Courtrai, in Belgium was also attacked by Allied bombers.

28TH MAR.—More than 500 Allied bombers attacked nine aerodromes in Southern and Central France yesterday and marshalling yards at Tours.

United States Flying Fortresses bombed enemy aerodromes to-day at Chateres, Chateaudun, Rheims and Dijon in France.

THE NEUTRAL COUNTRIES

22ND MAR.—Mr. De Valera, Premier of Eire, warned the people of the terrible risk in depending for any essential commodity on supplies from abroad.

28TH MAR.—Mr. Churchill stated to-day that the British Commonwealth was in full agreement with the United States approach to Eire on the subject of Axis diplomats in Dublin.

THE FAR EAST

22ND MAR.—The Allies have captured Amirap and Elomusao in Bismarck Archipelago.

The Jap Premier Tojo has made a statement on the war. "The war situation is truly grave" he says.

23RD MAR.—A Japanese destroyer and two cargo ships have been sunk off Sitape, in New Guinea. To-day's communiqué issued by Admiral Nimitz says that Ponape and Kusaie in Caroline Islands were attacked by the Allies on Tuesday.

The former British Ambassador to Japan, Sir Robert Craigie told that Japan will fight to the last.

24TH MAR.—Aerodromes in Rabaul and other military targets in the Wewak and Bougainville area were attacked by the Allied aircraft.

The United States Navy Department announced that United States submarines have sunk 11 more Japanese ships in the Pacific.

25TH MAR.—It is announced that Wake Islands and four Japanese bases in the Marshalls and two in the Carolines were attacked by United States aircraft on Thursday.

26TH MAR.—It is reported that American destroyers have shelled Pituliu Island in the Admiralty group.

27TH MAR.—United States aircraft bombed Paramushiro, Onnekotan, and Shimushu in the Kurile's chain. Ponape Island in the Eastern Carolines was also attacked.

28TH MAR.—It is reported the Allies have occupied Awo and Ndrova Islands in the Admiralties.

ELEPHANTS HELP I.A.F.

Elephants are helping to make airstrips for hurricanes of the Indian Air Force in the dense jungles of Arakan. They use their trunks to remove thickets and bushes.

In the evenings the officers and men go for joy-rides on them.

The elephants are specially trained in placing heavy logs. They are partners with British and Indian soldiers-engineers who are helping to push the war into Burma.

The elephants have been specially drafted into one of the strangest armies in the world, the vast concourse of men, animals and machines which is opening up the wild jungle tracts. Officers with many years' experience in elephant work in Burma are in charge of them.

RED CROSS
AND
ST. JOHN AMBULANCE
(MADRAS)

devote themselves entirely to helping our
SICK, WOUNDED & PRISONERS OF WAR

Rupees Thirty Lakhs

for Comforts, Food, Clothing, Books,
Games, Gramophone Records, etc.

Is Badly Needed and Every Little Helps

Please send your subscriptions to :

Hony. Secretary,

Jt. War Charities Committee,

Banqueting Hall, Madras,

or to **H.E. the Governor's War Fund,**

earmarked 'Red Cross and St. John'

RED CROSS & ST. JOHN



D.B.

BRING AID AND COMFORT TO THE
SICK & WOUNDED