



# PUDUKKOTTAI STATE NATIONAL WAR FRONT BUREAU

BULLETIN]

NOVEMBER 14, 1942

[No. 121

LECTURE CXXI.

**ALLIES HAVE WON COMPLETE AND  
ABSOLUTE VICTORY IN EGYPT.**

**AXIS WILL BE THROWN OUT OF AFRICA.**

*Gen. Montgomery to press correspondents.*

*Cairo, Nov. 5.*

I sent for you to tell you that we have won a complete and absolute victory, after 12 days of bitter fighting. We have driven two wedges through the enemy line and our armoured divisions have passed through. Those portions of the enemy's forces which can get away are full in retreat; all who cannot get away will be shortly in the bag.

It is understood that three Italian divisions are transportless.

The enemy simply could not stand the terrific hammering given him and all Arms shared in the magnificent victory. The battle was fought in an almost continuous minefield, and the part played by the Royal Artillery is beyond praise.

The sappers' work was equally splendid under the greatest strain. As for the infantry, once again they have come into their own. It was their battle, and now it is the armour's turn to finish off the enemy.

This battle never could have succeeded if the Allied Air Forces and the Army had not worked as a single entity. With such complete co-operation, we now proceed to the next phase and, as a team, we will hit him for six, completely out of Africa.

## ROPE ROUND HITLER'S NECK.

A striking new war poster placarded through Moscow shows British and American and Soviet hands respectively tugging at each end of a rope looped round Hitler's neck.

The rope is inscribed: "Agreement treaty between the U. S. S. R., Britain and the United States". The poster says: "The evil foe will not find escape from this loop".

## THE GREAT BRITISH OFFENSIVE ROMMEL DRIVEN OUT OF EGYPT.

### DAILY MAIL.

Luck, surprise weather—none of these has played any part in Rommel's defeat. Here was a straightforward, long-prepared pitched battle. Both sides knew exactly where and how the clash would come. No better test could have been arranged for the brains of the Higher Command, efficiency of material and courage—and the determination of the contending armies.

**On this spectacle the gaze of the whole world is fixed. It means more shivers for the Germans in the frosty Caucasus: more sweating for the Japanese in the forests of New Guinea.**

The potentialities of this success are immense. At long last we can see on the not too distant horizon, the prospect of the Mediterranean being opened once more to our Fleet. Here is the Second Front that Hitler dare no longer ignore. We must expect him to strain every nerve now to retrieve what bears every appearance of a desperately dangerous situation. He can do this only by withdrawing forces from other fronts. That in itself at this stage in the war will be a major victory for all Allies—not the least for Russia.

They are likely to see, very shortly, a grim and dramatic struggle for the chain of air-fields stretching across the face of Libya. It may take the form of a race—a race in which Rommel will strive to get his transport as far back as possible before the R. A. F. can get hold of his present forward air-fields to strafe him. If Rommel should lose the race, he risks finding himself at the wrong end of the greatest bombing-strafe that the Desert has yet seen.

Where Rommel will stop, or whether he can stop obviously depends upon the vigour of the pursuit. But the British success, which drove him from his anchorage, has already reached impressive proportions. Gen. Alexander and Gen. Montgomery have done what Rommel failed to do two months ago.

## A REMARKABLE AND DEFINITE VICTORY.

*Mr. Churchill.*

*London, November, 10.*

**In our wars episodes are largely adverse but the final result has hitherto been satisfactory. In the last war, we were working uphill almost to the end.**

We met with disasters far more bloody than anything we have experienced in this. I never promised anything but blood, tears, toil and sweat. Now, however, we have a new experience—a remarkable and definite victory.

Rommel's army has been routed, and very largely destroyed as a fighting force. The battle was fought with one single idea, to destroy the armed forces of the enemy in a place where disaster would be most punishing and irrecoverable.

All the elements played their part—Indian troops, fighting French, Greeks, Czechoslovakians and others. The Americans rendered powerful and invaluable service in the air.

**But the battle has been fought almost entirely by men of British blood and from the Dominions on one side, and the Germans on the other.**

It was intense, fierce and deadly. The Germans have been outfought with the very weapons with which they have beaten down many peoples, such as aeroplanes, tanks and artillery.

**This is not the end. It is not even the beginning of the end. But it is perhaps the end of the beginning.**

### JUSTICE GRIMLY REPAID.

Hence forward, the Nazis will have to face that air superiority which they have often used without mercy against others.

When I read of the coastal road being crammed with fleeing German vehicles under the blast of British tanks and aircraft, I could not but remember the roads of France and Flanders, crowded with helpless refugees upon whom merciless havoc was wrecked.

**I could not help feeling that what was happening was only justice, grimly repaid. The victory already gained gives good prospects of becoming decisive and final, as far as the defence of Egypt is concerned.**

But the Battle of Egypt in itself important, was designed and timed as the prelude to the momentous enterprise undertaken by the United States at the western end of the Mediterranean in which our Army, Air Force and above all, our Navy are bearing an honourable and important share.

The President of the United States is the author of this mighty undertaking and I am his active and ardent lieutenant.

President Roosevelt has declared, and this has been solemnly endorsed by the British Government, that strict respect will be paid to the rights and interests of Spain and Portugal by America and Britain.

To those countries our only policy is that they should be independent, free prosperous and at peace.

*Britain and the United States will do all they can do to enrich the life of the Iberian Peninsula. Spaniards, especially, require and deserve peace and recuperation.*

Our thoughts turn towards France, groaning under the German heel.

*I am prepared to stake my faith that France will rise again. While there are men like General de Gaulle and General Giraud my confidence in the future of France is sure.*

We have no wish but to see France free and strong with her Empire gathered round her and Alsace Lorraine restored.

We have not entered this war for profit, or expansion, but only for honour, and to do our duty in defending right. Let me, however make this clear.

We mean to hold our own. I have not become the King's First Minister to preside over the liquidation of the British Empire.

I am proud to be a member of the vast Commonwealth and society of nations gathered around the ancient British monarchy, without which a good cause might well have perished.

### ROCK OF SALVATION.

**Here we stand, a veritable rock of salvation in the drifting world. We have no need to make excuses for apologies, for our record pleads for us.**

The two African undertakings are part of a single strategic, political conception which we have laboured long to bring to fruition and about which we are now justified in entertaining good confidence.

*This event will be a new bond between the English-speaking peoples and give new hope for the whole world.*

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## WEEKLY WAR SUMMARY.

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7—11—42 to 13—11—42.

**French North Africa.**—On Sunday morning, U. S. Army, Navy and Air Forces, including some 140,000 men landed at several points on the Atlantic and Mediterranean coasts of French North AFRICA, supported by the British Navy and the R. A. F. The British Army has since followed. The aim is to forestall a German occupation of the territory, to effect a wide pincer

combination with the Eighth Army for the annihilation of the Afrika Corps, to open the Mediterranean, especially, the western half and so to liberate FRANCE and crush ITALY.

The occupation of French North AFRICA has proceeded with lightning rapidity. One after another have fallen ALGIERS, RABAT, SIDI FERRUCH, ARZEN, SEGALO, BOUSFER, SOFI, FADHALA, MEDIA, PORT LYAUTEY, MEHEDIA, ORAN and CASABLANCA. *Jean Bart* the French battleship in CASABLANCA is in flames. DARLAN, an Allied 'guest' has declared an armistice and fighting has ceased over the whole territory. Allied Forces are advancing towards TUNISIA.

Violating the Armistice terms Hitler's troops have marched into unoccupied FRANCE and reached the Mediterranean coast. This is the end of Vichy.

Italian troops have occupied NICE and CORSICA.

**Libya.**—After a bitter fighting between EL ALAMEIN and FUKA, EL DABA and FUKA were taken. The bulk of what remains of Rommel's panzers have been driven out of EGYPT; the pursuit is continuing.

On Sunday night a concentration of Axis motor transport was bombed in the HALFAYA and SOLLUM Passes and between SOLLUM and Fort CAPUZZO.

As we go to press, the great news has been received of the recapture of TOBRUK. BARDIA also has fallen.

**Madagascar.**—Hostilities ceased in MADAGASCAR on November 5. An armistice has been signed.

**Russia.**—The brunt of the German attack has been switched to the CAUCASUS. ORDZHONIKODZA and GROZNY are threatened. TUAPSE is under incessant air attack. South-east of NALCHIK the enemy attack continues. On the 9th, 14 tanks were put out of action. At STALINGRAD the Germans appear exhausted and content with sporadic attacks.

**China.**—The Chinese are reported to be making headway at CHENKANG and SHENKANG.

#### **Solomons.**—

Nov. 1. Japanese concentrations near KOKUMBA were bombed.

Nov. 3. Japanese positions to the west of MATANIKAU were raided.

Nov. 4. A Japanese attempt to recapture the Henderson air-field in GUADALCANAR failed.

Nov. 5. U. S. Marines repelled enemy attacks near Point CRUISA.

Nov. 6. Enemy attacks, west of MATANIKAN were repulsed. U. S. troops crossed the Malimbu River, south of KOLI Point on the north coast of GUADALCANAR. U. S. marines advanced a couple of miles further.

Nov. 7. U. S. troops continued to advance from the area near the Metapona River.

Nov. 8. Enemy ground installations on GUADALCANAR were attacked. KOLI Point was bombarded.



# ALLIED Air Raids over ENEMY and ENEMY-occupied COUNTRIES—cont.

Date.	Targets.	Damage caused by air bombardment.	Aircraft losses for Allies.	Aircraft losses for Enemies.
4-11-42 (Wednesday)—cont.				
	<b>RUSSIA.</b>			
	Air combats over the whole Eastern Front.			
	<b>FAR EAST.</b>			
	Landing areas at BUNA (NEW GUINEA).			
	Aerodromes at LAE and SALAMAUA (New Guinea). DILLI (Timor).			
	Koli point (Guadalcanar).			
5-11-42 (Thursday).				
	<b>EUROPE.</b>			
	Aerodromes in BELGIUM and HOLLAND.			
	<b>NORTH AFRICA.</b>			
	Axis troops and tanks withdrawing west of MERSA MATRUH, HALFAYA PASS (Egypt).			
	The harbours at TOBRUK and BENGHAZI.			
	<b>RUSSIA.</b>			
	Air combats and aircraft on the aerodromes along the entire Russian Front.			
	<b>FAR EAST.</b>			
	The enemy positions near OVIVI (New Guinea).			
	SALAMAUA (New Guinea)			
	MAOBISSE and AILEY (Timor).			
	Shipping at BUIN (Solomons).			
6-11-42 (Friday).				
	<b>EUROPE.</b>			
	OSNABRUCK (Germany).			
	A port in North-west Germany.			
	An air-field at CAEN.			
	Sweeps over BULOGNE and CHERBOURG, GENOA (Italy).			

Date.	Targets.	Damage caused by air bombardment.	Aircraft losses for Allies.	Aircraft losses for Enemies.
	<b>NORTH AFRICA.</b>			
	Concentration of motor transport at BUQ BUQ, SOLLUM and HALFAYA.			
	Shipping at TOBRUK.			
	<b>RUSSIA.</b>			
	Air combats all over the eastern battle-field.			
	<b>FAR EAST.</b>			
	The enemy positions near OVIVI (New Guinea).			
	The aerodromes at LAE and SALAMAUA (New Guinea).			
	Enemy naval units near BUIN.			
7-11-42 (Saturday).				
	<b>EUROPE.</b>			
	Railways and other targets in coastal areas in the Low Countries.			
	Shipping in GIRONDE.			
	Factories and railway targets in BELGIUM and HOLLAND.			
	GENOA (Italy).			
	<b>NORTH AFRICA.</b>			
	HALFAYA PASS, SOLLUM and SIDI-BARRANI.			
	Concentration of tanks in the battle area (Egypt).			
	<b>RUSSIA.</b>			
	Air combats and aircraft on the aerodromes along the Russian Front.			
	<b>FAR EAST.</b>			
	BUNA (New Guinea).			
	The aerodrome at SALAMAUA (New Guinea)			
	DILLI (Timor).			

## ALLIED Air Raids over ENEMY and ENEMY-occupied COUNTRIES—cont.

Damage caused by air bombardment. Aircraft losses for Allies. Enemies.

Date. Targets.

**8-11-42 (Sunday).**

**EUROPE.**  
Steel and Locomotive works at LILLE (North France).  
An enemy air-field at ABBEVILLE (France).

**NORTH AFRICA.**  
Enemy troops, tanks and motor vehicle concentrations in the HALFAYA PASS.  
Shipping in BENGHAZI harbour.  
Enemy vehicles at BUQ BUQ.  
The Vichy naval bases at ORAN, CASABLANCA and ALGIERS (all in French North Africa).

**RUSSIA.**  
Air combats over the entire Russian Front.

**FAR EAST.**  
Jap air-field at BUNA (New Guinea).  
The aerodrome at LAE (New Guinea).  
Jap positions on the north-east coast of GUADALCANAR (Solomons).

**9-11-42. Monday.**

**EUROPE.**  
The Docks at ST. NAZAIRE and LE HAVRE (North France).  
Offensive sweeps over North FRANCE.

## ENEMY Air Raids over Allied Territories.

Damage caused by air bombardment. Aircraft losses for Enemies. Allies.

Date. Targets.

**3-11-42 (Tuesday).**

A place on the south-east coast of ENGLAND.

**BRITAIN.**

Two places in EAST ANGLIA.

**RUSSIA.**  
STALINGRAD.

**FAR EAST.**  
Port MORESBY. (New Guinea).

**4-11-42 (Wednesday)**

No information available.

**BRITAIN.**  
STALINGRAD and a place south of NALCHIK.

**RUSSIA.**  
FAR EAST.  
American aerodrome at GUADALCANAR. (Solomons).

**5-11-42 (Thursday).**

Two places on the south-east coast of ENGLAND.

**BRITAIN.**

Two places in South ENGLAND.

**MEDITERRANEAN.**

**MALTA.**

**RUSSIA.**  
STALINGRAD.

**FAR EAST.**  
GUADALCANAR. (Solomons).

**6-11-42 (Friday).**

Two places on the south-east coast of ENGLAND.

**BRITAIN.**  
RUSSIA.  
MOZDOK area.

**FAR EAST.**  
The air-field at GUADALCANAR (Solomons).

1 plane.



## ENEMY Air Raids over ALLIED Territories—cont.

Date.	Targets.	Damage caused by air bombardment.	Aircraft losses for Enemies <span style="margin-left: 2em;">Allies</span>
<b>7—11—42 (Saturday).</b>			
		<b>BRITAIN.</b>	
	No air raid anywhere in	ENGLAND.	
		<b>FAR EAST.</b>	
	<b>American air-field at</b>	<b>GUADALCANAR</b>	
	(Solomons).		
<b>8—11—42. (Sunday).</b>			
		<b>BRITAIN.</b>	
	No enemy air activity.	<b>MEDITERRANEAN.</b>	
	<b>MALTA.</b>	<b>RUSSIA.</b>	
	<b>Russian reinforcements on the river</b>	<b>VOLGA.</b>	
<b>9—11—42. (Monday).</b>			
		<b>BRITAIN.</b>	
	No enemy air activity.	<b>RUSSIA.</b>	
	<b>STALINGRAD.</b>	<b>FAR EAST.</b>	
	<b>Port MORESBY (New Guinea).</b>		

## SIDE LIGHTS.

### FRENCH NORTH AFRICA.

The news of the week is surely the landing of about a hundred thousand Americans in French North AFRICA on both the Atlantic and Mediterranean coasts, supported by the British Navy and Air Arm. British troops have also landed. Coming as it does in the wake of Rommel's flight and retreat from EGYPT it is great news indeed, the most heartening news received for a long time. Several important naval and air bases have already been occupied—ALGIERS, ORAN, CASABLANCA, to name only a few. The reader will get further details from the news section in another part of the bulletin.

Judged from the feeble resistance which the victorious forces are encountering it is clear that the heart of French AFRICA is with the Allies. The fighting, poor at sea and poorer on land is confined to the professionals. Admiral Darlan has been taken prisoner. •

It looks as if it would all be over soon, or at any rate the occupation of the vast territory would be an early accomplishment. If expectations do not fail it would prove the most wonderful *blitz* of the war, earlier German successes notwithstanding.

It is also a marvel of Anglo-American collaboration and of co-ordination of the different armed forces on land, sea and air. To quote the *Times*, 'the clock-work precision with which the occupying troops have been delivered in

such quick succession to their several points of disembarkation and their immediate success at every landing place in establishing their foothold ashore, tends to disguise the remarkable character of this part of the operation.'

It is a brilliant operation, carefully planned and successfully executed with masterly precision.

The step now taken by Anglo-American collaboration is both defensive and offensive. Defensively it forestals German designs on French North AFRICA and a possible attack on AMERICA from the African coast. The United Nations' High Command knew that once Rommel was drawn out of LIBYA, Hitler would not hesitate to use French North AFRICA for his purposes, that is, MOROCCO, ALGERIA and TUNISIA, with Laval's secret consent; they were also aware that once Hitler's grip over the Old world became firm he would not hesitate to lay his hands on the New.

Aggressively the Allied plan is the opening of the western arm of a gigantic pincer which operating in conjunction with the eastern arm under General Montgomery will close relentlessly on the remnants of Rommel's forces now fleeing confusedly out of EGYPT. It will open up finally the Mediterranean and pave the way for an invasion of Hitler's EUROPE. Northern AFRICA is the soft underside of EUROPE. Hitler must hereafter guard not only the Atlantic but also the Mediterranean coast-line of EUROPE, from NORWAY down to CRETE, with his Russian battle-line now double its last year's length. Meanwhile FRANCE and ITALY may crack or open the back-door of EUROPE to the Allies. It looks as if the grand strategy now inaugurated in French North AFRICA is going to be big in results and that Hitler's doom will overtake him by this time in 1943, if the approaching Russian winter does not finish off his ambitions earlier. The fourth war of year may once again prove fatal to German ambitions.

But this is to anticipate the future. Immediately other results are bound to follow. The long expected offensive which the Allies had been preparing for has begun. A Second Front has been opened. As M. Francois Briere, the French Consul in BOSTON, has pointed out the first step in the liberation of FRANCE has been taken. The liberation of TUNISIA, as President Roosevelt has pointed out to the Bey of Tunis, is near realisation. The Italians, it may be remembered, had always their eye on TUNISIA; their battlecry till lately has been 'TUNISIA, CORSICA and NICE'. The Allies are now near the BIZERTA naval base which commands the Sicilian Channel and the Mareth Line, the Maginot Line of French North AFRICA. Allied supplies to EGYPT need no longer go by the circuitous way of the Cape but can be transported across North AFRICA, while Rommel will be cut off from TRIPOLI, his present supply base, and his door of escape in future.

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**THE END OF VICHY.**

Events are moving fast. Dramatic developments are unfolding. Since we wrote the above, Oran and CASABLANCA have fallen. *Jean Bart* is in flames. Admiral Darlan,

a 'guest', and not a prisoner has signed an armistice in the name of French North AFRICA, where the fighting has ceased in consequence and the Allies are advancing towards TUNISIA.

Meanwhile Hitler has broken into unoccupied FRANCE, in violation of the Armistice of 1940 and marched his troops to the Mediterranean coast. Some German air-borne troops are reported to have landed in TUNISIA. ITALY has occupied, NICE and CORSICA. The fate of the French Fleet at TOULON is unsettled.

This is the end of VICHY. VICHY is dead; long live FRANCE. Vichy goes unwept, unhonoured, unsung; she was never more than a ghost, a shadow.

As a B. B. C. commentator has said, "Hitler's decision to move into unoccupied FRANCE was not unexpected." It was obvious that he did not believe that the Allied move into French North AFRICA was going to achieve so comparatively quick a success.

If the Mediterranean route to FRANCE is under the control of the United Nations, and the United Nations have a hold in French North AFRICA, the difficulties of defending the French and the Italian side of the Mediterranean will be enormously increased. Hitler knows perfectly well that when the Allied campaign in French AFRICA is meeting with such speedy success, it may not be long before a chain of nine naval bases will be in Allied hands. These bases are within a few hours' steaming of TOULON. They are GIBRALTER, ORAN, ALGIERS, TRIPOLI, BENGHAZI, GORA, DERNA, TOBRUK and ALEXANDRIA.

The R. A. F., combined with American aeroplanes, would be able to give such a covering to the coastal sea routes that the chances of interfering with the job of supplying these bases would be infinitesimal. There would be of course, the danger of Axis U-boats, but the danger is all the same less, at least, in this region though it may not be less in the North Atlantic routes.

Political necessity prevented Hitler from occupying all FRANCE at an earlier stage. Perhaps not only political considerations and administrative facts prevented him, but also the fact that, from the military standpoint, the occupation of FRANCE would have meant an added strain on the German army and on Nazi man-power.

It is not surprising that Hitler has not moved earlier. His decision now is the direct outcome of Allied military and naval successes in North AFRICA, where, as President Roosevelt said yesterday, the Allies have opened up a strategic second front in 1942, as a prelude to the launching of a full second front later, perhaps in 1943.

The occupation of France is bound to have widespread repercussions. There is no doubt that it will be felt in FRANCE itself as well as in North AFRICA, where the chances are it will anger the people outside Metropolitan FRANCE, and make them stand against the common enemy.

Hitler can now bring the German army to the shores of the Mediterranean and he will have more complete control of Italy. From the purely economic standpoint, Hitler will have the advantages of the free use of such great cities as LYONS and MARSEILLES. From both the political and economic standpoint Hitler's action will no doubt spell the end of the Vichy régime which even till now was only a shadow. Nor it seems inevitable that even this shadow will disappear.

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**EGYPT.** The brilliant landings on the western part of

N. AFRICA have not dimmed the equally glorious victory of the British offensive on the eastern side of Northern AFRICA, in EGYPT. Montgomery, it should be remembered, has dealt a staggering blow on GERMANY's best armoured troops under one of GERMANY's ablest commanders. The victory has not been in territory only which in the Western Desert is cheap, but in thousands of men taken, and what is more valuable, from a military point of view, in the number of tanks and guns captured. The static fight before EL ALAMEIN has been changed into pursuit of the enemy. It speaks volumes for British Organisation and recuperative power that within four months ago of withdrawal before a powerful foe the tables have been so successfully turned.

It also speaks for Montgomery's great generalship. The battle which lasted 12 days altogether fell into two stages: the first stage of 10 days being taken with an infantry drive against the enemy's fortifications, assisted by artillery and air bombardment. This forced a crack in the enemy's armour and was followed by a second attack along the railway coast which gained Montgomery access to the rear of the enemy. Rommel expected an attack on his southern positions but Montgomery delivered his blow on his northern flank. The boasted panzers, unable to take the strain, snapped. Presented with the danger of encirclement Rommel preferred a general withdrawal which Montgomery has now taken advantage of and forced into a flight. The enemy is well out of EGYPT now. The valley of the Nile has been saved and the trapping of the enemy is well afoot.

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**SOLOMONS.** The Battle of the SOLOMONS seems to have

opened a new chapter in American strategy. It has shown a way of destroying JAPAN's sea strength by means of aerial attacks. Most part of the American attack in this area has been launched from the air and this has proved so effective as to result in a temporary withdrawal of the Japanese fleet from these waters. The Pacific Islands are now becoming so many stationary aircraft-carriers, as it were, from which to menace the Japanese fleet. JAPAN's supposed naval superiority due to the nearness of her home base compared with AMERICA's confers no real strength. Battered and attacked incessantly she has already lost a sixth part of her merchant marine. The China Sea, which is JAPAN's sea screen, has been

pierced again and again by American submarines. The Chinese are also doing their bit by destroying the light houses on their coast. And now, the latest American strategy of attacking Japanese shipping from the aerodromes of occupied Islands by means of heavy bombers is proving so successful as to amount to the discovery of a new strategy to break the Japanese power on the sea.

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### KOKODA.

Coupled with the news of this sea success at the SOLOMONS comes the report of the land success of the recapture of KOKODA in NEW GUINEA. The SOLOMONS and NEW GUINEA are twin gates to AUSTRALIA.

In NEW GUINEA the strategic approach to AUSTRALIA is from PORT MORESBY and from mid-summer the Japanese attempt to reach this point has been incessant. Landing first at LAE and SALAMAUA they soon discovered that it was impossible to reach MORESBY from these points as the Stanley Range which lies across could not be scaled from either place. They then advanced to Milne Bay and BUNA, taking KOKODA on the way. They scaled the range from KOKODA and came within 30 miles of MORESBY. But vigorous Australian counter-attacks have so far succeeded that the enemy, forced out of Milne Bay and KOKODA, is now threatened at BUNA also.

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### PREMONITIONS.

We have always noted that Hitler's Beer cellar oratory is an occasion for much boast and more rant. But Hitler's Beer-cellar speech on November 8 on the occasion of the Nazi Putsch is a cry in despair rather than a rant in exaltation of victory. Judged from certain exclamations of his during this performance Hitler is evidently obsessed with the fear of the coming doom, and his mind was running chiefly on capitulation. 'There was a Kaiser once here', he cried, 'The Kaiser capitulated. I will never capitulate'. Hitler is no longer the hero of *blitzes*. He is content to sit and wait before STALINGRAD because 'defence is cheap.' STALINGRAD is 'not worth a second VERDUN.' Further he is also content to yield, to full back and run. 'In North AFRICA', he stated 'the enemy has moved forward and we have moved back. What matters it? We cannot score new successes every week.' His speech ends on a note of despair. 'Pray for GERMANY', he mourns, 'think only of what this war will decide, whether GERMANY shall live or die, and if you realise this, every deed and every thought will be a prayer for GERMANY.'

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### ARMISTICE DAY.

To-day (Nov. 11) as we write, is Armistice Day—a day of silent prayer for the fallen dead, and for the restoration of peace and happiness in a world rent asunder by Axis ambition and atrocities. The peace, which the Armistice Day commemorates, came over the world on November 11, 1918 after a victorious struggle against aggression. November 11 has come again in 1942 but the peace

settled 24 years ago has been desecrated, and the nations have to re-dedicate themselves afresh to winning the peace again, 'in order that we and our children may live in a world made free'. As President Roosevelt has proclaimed, 'Faith can be kept with those who died in the First World War only by the prosecution, to final victory, of the Great War in which we are now engaged'.

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**THE BATTLE OF BRITAIN.** By the command of His Majesty, November 15 will be observed as a day of remembrance of the greatest event of the War—the Battle of BRITAIN—the first turning point, for which, in the words of Mr. Churchill, the gratitude of every home in ENGLAND, in the Empire, and indeed throughout the world has gone out to those British airmen, who, undaunted by odds, unwearied in their constant challenge and their mortal danger turned the tide of the World War by their prowess and devotion. 'Never in the field of human conflict was so much owed by so many to so few.'

The following extracts from the account of the Battle of BRITAIN officially published by the British Air Ministry shows the heroism of these few to whom the world owes so much:—

"When the order to begin the assault on these islands was given, the morale of the German air crews was undoubtedly high. The reason was obvious. For years these young German airmen had been 'groomed' for victory. They were assured of their own superiority as individuals and their omnipotence as a striking force. Had they not seen in the first weeks of the spring of 1940 the terrible predictions of their leader come to pass? Each country Germany had attacked had fallen before the crushing blows of the Nazi war machine, of which they the *Luftwaffe*, formed so vital a part. Now, only the British Empire remained inviolate. As those young airmen had swept across Europe from Poland to the English Channel, so they expected to sweep over Britain, subdue her people and prepare the way for an invading army. Disillusion awaited them. As yet, still flushed with victory, they were to see their comrades spin to earth or sea in flames. Nevertheless, let it be said for the German morale, so near it approached to fanaticism, that it never faltered, even when the *Luftwaffe* was losing seventy, one hundred, and one hundred and fifty aircraft during each period of day light. Certainly the German pilots showed qualities of courage and tenacity; but these were of little avail against the better quality and still higher courage of the British pilots. Even in their hour of defeat some pilots of the *Luftwaffe* thought that the invasion of Britain might take place at any time and that, if it had to be postponed, it would be successfully accomplished in the spring of 1941. It was not, then, any faltering on their part that caused the daylight attacks to die away.

Of the morale of our own pilots little need be said. The facts are eloquent. They had only to see the enemy to engage him immediately. Odds were of no account and were cheerfully accepted. Only a very high

degree of confidence in their training, in their aircraft and in their leaders could have enabled them to maintain the spirit of aggressive courage which they invariably displayed. That confidence they possessed to the full.

By 31st October the battle was over. It did not cease dramatically. It died gradually away ; but the British victory was none the less certain and complete.

It was not achieved without cost. The Royal Air Force lost 375 pilots killed and 358 wounded. This was the price and of those who died let it be said that :

*“ All the soul  
Of man is resolution which expires  
Never from valiant men till their last  
breath ”*

Such was the Battle of Britain in 1940. Future historians may compare it with Marathon, Trafalgar and the Marne.”

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## U. S. ELECTIONS.

In the recent General Elections, in the U. S. the Democratic Party, though it still retains a working majority in both the Houses of the Congress, has lost a number of seats to the Republican Party. This did not come as a surprise as the Gallup Poll had already forecast this coming change. Several reasons have contributed to it ; first, the swing of the pendulum, the inevitable tendency of democracies to change from time to time ; second, the unpopularity of the recent increase in taxation and the revision of the ceiling of farm prices and thirdly, the absence from the polling booth of millions of men who have joined the armed forces or have gone to the war industries. But whatever may be the reason the Axis can have no cause to be pleased with the change inasmuch as the Republican cry has lately been to increase the war effort, to adopt a more dynamic war policy.

## ROOSEVELT'S MESSAGE TO THE PEOPLE OF FRANCE AND THE FRENCH IN AFRICA.

*Washington, Nov. 8.*

### I

My friends who suffer day and night under the overwhelming yoke of the Nazi ! I speak to you as one who was in France in 1918 with your Army and your Navy. I have preserved, throughout my life, a profound friendship for the whole French people. I retain and carefully cherish hundreds of French friends in France and outside France. I know your farms, your villages, and your towns. I know your soldiers, your professors and your workmen.

I know well how precious to the French people is the heritage of your hearths, your culture and the principle of democracy in France. I salute again, and I declare again and again my faith in liberty, equality and fraternity.

There are no two nations more united by the bonds of history and mutual friendship than the people of France and of the United States of America. The Americans, with the help of the United Nations, are doing all they can to establish a healthy future as well as the restoration of the ideals of freedom and democracy for all those who have lived under the Tricolour.

### **NO HARM TO YOU.**

**We are coming among you to repulse the cruel invaders who wish to strip you, for ever, of the right to govern yourselves, to deprive you of the right to worship God as you wish, and to snatch from you the right to live your lives in peace and security. We are coming among you solely to crush and destroy your enemies.**

Believe us, we do not wish to do you any harm. We assure you that once the threat of Germany and Italy has been removed from you, we will immediately leave your territory. I appeal to your realism, to your own interests and your French national ideals. Do not, I beg of you, hinder this great purpose. Render your assistance, my friends, where you can, and we will see the return of the glorious day when freedom and peace will again reign in the world. Long live Eternal France.

## **II**

### **THE JOINT AMERICAN-BRITISH DECLARATION.**

The landing of the American Expeditionary Force on French North Africa is the first step towards the liberation of France. The object of the present operation is to destroy the German and Italian forces in North Africa. Our forces arrive in French North Africa as friends.

**The day when the German and Italian threat shall no longer weigh on French territories, they will leave. The sovereignty of France on French territories remains unaffected.**

We enter to-day into the offensive phase of the war of liberation. This is the beginning. Gen. Eisenhower, Commander-in-Chief of the American Expeditionary Forces, is appealing for the active co-operation of the French in North Africa. Nevertheless, the moment has not yet come to appeal to the French nation as a whole. For the moment we ask the French population in France itself to remain on the alert. The hour of the national uprising has not sounded. We have already promised you that we will warn you when this hour shall have come. To-day, that moment is closer. We will keep our promise.

## **OUR AIMS.**

**DESTROY THE HITLERITE STATE.  
DESTROY THE HITLERITE ARMY.  
DESTROY THE NEW ORDER.**

*M. Stalin, Nov. 6. (25th Anniversary of the U. S. S. R.)*

In the course of the war imposed on freedom-loving nations by Hitlerite Germany, two opposite camps have been formed—the camp of the



Italo-German coalition, and the camp of the Anglo-Soviet-American coalition. It is indisputable that these two coalitions opposing each other are guided by two different and opposing programmes.

The programme of the Italo-German coalition can be characterised as follows—racial hatred, supremacy of chosen nations, subjugation of other nations, in the seizure of their territories, economic enslavement of conquered nations, depredation of their national wealth, destruction of democratic liberty, and the establishment of a Hitlerite régime everywhere.

#### THE ALLIED STAND.

*The programme of the Anglo-Soviet-American coalition is—abolition of racial exclusiveness, equality of nations and the inviolability of their territory, liberation of enslaved nations and the restoration of their sovereign rights, right of establishing whatever régime they like, economic assistance to the countries which have suffered and help to be given to them in achieving material welfare, restoration of democratic liberty and the destruction of the Hitlerite régime.*

The programme of the Italo-German coalition has led to the result that all occupied countries in Europe and the occupied regions of the U. S. S. R. are aflame with hatred of the Italo-German tyranny, and are doing all the damage they can to the Germans and their allies, and waiting for the moment to avenge themselves on their enslavers for the humiliation and violence to which they have been subjected.

#### AXIS EXHAUSTION.

One of the most characteristic features of the present moment is that the isolation of Italo-German coalition and exhaustion of its moral and political resources in Europe, are gradually increasing.

It is progressively becoming weaker. The moral and political resources of the Anglo-Soviet-American coalition are daily increasing, and it is gradually winning millions of sympathisers willing to fight side by side with it against Hitler's tyranny.

If we examine the strength of the two coalitions from the view-point of human and material resources, we cannot help arriving at the conclusion that there is indisputable advantage on the side of the Anglo-Soviet-American coalition.

#### WHAT HITLER SAID.

In an interview with a Turkish General, Hitler had said: 'We shall destroy Russia, and it will never rise again. That is rather silly. We are not burdened with the problem of destroying Germany, because it is no more possible to destroy Germany than Russia. But to destroy the Hitlerite State is possible and necessary.

*Our first aim is the destruction of the Hitlerite State and of the men who inspire it. Our aim is not to destroy all the armed forces in Germany, because this is impossible, but our second aim is to destroy the Hitlerite Army and wipe out its leaders.*

The Hitlerite scoundrels have made it a routine procedure to torture Soviet prisoners, to kill them by the hundreds, and to leave them to die of starvation. They kill the civilian population of our country, men, women and children, old people, our brothers and sisters. Only sub-humans, devoid of all sense of honour, debased to the level of beasts, are capable of acts which they are perpetrating against the defenceless people in the Ukraine. White Russia, the Baltic area, Moldavia, the Crimea, and the Caucasus.

### A VILE SYSTEM.

**They have built Europe over with gallows. They have introduced a vile system of hostages. They hang innocent relatives because some German bully is prevented from raping a woman or committing robbery. They have transformed Europe into a prison of nations, and they call this the New Order in Europe!**

We know the names of those responsible for these outrages, all these jumped-up Governors-General or Near-Governors, Commandants and Sub-Commandants. Their names are known to tens of thousands of the tortured people. Let these executioners know that they will not escape responsibility for their crimes, or punishment of victimised nations.

Our third war aim, then, is to destroy this New Order in Europe and punish its builders. Comrades, we are waging a great war of liberation, but we are not waging it alone. We are fighting together with our Allies. It is going to bring us victory over the dastard enemies of mankind over the German Fascist Imperialists.

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## BRITAIN FOUGHT ON WHEN SHE WAS ALONE.

*New York Times, Baltimore (Maryland), Nov. 5.*

The record of Great Britain in this war is one of great achievements in military and spiritual history. A remarkable fact is not that the British have done so badly in the past two years, but that they have done so well.

Is there a General in the country or a board of strategy, professional or amateur, anywhere in the world that in July, 1940 would have predicted successful defence of Britain, Malta, the Near East and the Middle East? Britain fought on when she stood alone, armed with little more than her courage. I plead to you to bear that fact in mind. Make your lives—each one individually—a kind of a propaganda bureau.

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## VICHY'S THIRD YEAR. THE PORTRAIT OF A GHOST.

*(The Observer.)*

France has entered the third Armistice year in a state of economic disintegration and political chaos. Two years of the *Revolution Nationale*,

which was proclaimed with an air of gloomy solemnity in the summer of 1940, have been quite enough to show the French people that the régime imposed upon them is neither national nor revolutionary. In the summer of 1940, bewildered by the impact of their defeat, they turned their backs on the Third Republic, the symbol in their eyes of disastrous incompetence and corruption. Now in the summer of 1942 Vichy has become that same symbol. Two years ago the end of the war seemed to be round the corner; Hitler's New Order was an irresistible crushing reality; and Pétain's policy of adapting France to the framework of a German-dominated Europe looked like the only prudent way of saving something from the ruins of France's heritage. Now, however, the certainty of a German victory has faded; the reality of the Nazi millennium has turned into a nightmare, repulsive and stifling, but unreal and fantastic, nevertheless; and Vichy's "collaboration", advertised as the wisdom of self preservation, has turned out to be a sort of crazy and myopic suicide.

### THE PEOPLE'S MISERY.

This is the mood of the country which Laval has been called in to tame. Restiveness and bitterness are everywhere. The countryside resents constant requisitions of foodstuffs, which go in large proportions to the Germans. The peasants get no industrial goods and no agricultural tools from the town. They refuse to deliver their products to the Government; between 25 and 50 per cent of expected deliveries to the State could not be collected last spring. Industrial workers have been affected by the wage stop which has been in force, though the cost of living has in the meantime risen by 300-400 per cent. Hopes of the speedy return of the prisoners of war have been frustrated.

In the countryside there is shortage of hands to till the land; and in town unemployment is widespread and many industries—especially those working for consumption—are being run on a part-time basis.

Even industrialists who have been trading with Germany have found the business much less profitable than they expected. From May, 1942, onwards the Germans have forced upon the French exporters an all-round 6 per cent cut in prices; and now only the *Militar-befehlhaber* is competent to decide whether any export prices can be raised on the ground of increases in costs of production. The French industrialist is paid with paper banknotes, the value of which dwindles as the volume of currency swells and the volume of goods shrinks. The issue of banknotes has passed the 12 milliard mark. In June the Bank of France raised the account for payment of occupation costs to the Germans from 169 to 181 milliard francs. All in all, the sums paid by the French for the occupation of their country amount to about 300 milliard francs.

The political régime has survived in the protective shadow of the invader, but it has no staying power of its own. It has lived two years on abusing and blaming the faults of the Third Republic but it has been unable to set up any positive political system. It has abandoned liberalism, but kept "liberalistic

weakness"; it has imitated Fascist and National Socialist gestures without being able to arouse any response on the part of people. The old party system has been officially destroyed; but Déat's and Doriot's attempts to establish a State-controlled monopoly party on the German or Italian pattern have ended in failure.

The *Legion Française des Combattants*, the diluted organisation of ex-Servicemen, has been unable to cope with its task of providing the political buttress of the régime; it has only become a lifeless semi-bureaucratic skeleton interfering with the working of the normal administration. Marshal Pétain's moral authority has remained Vichy's only political asset. But even this is being wasted by innumerable personal interventions to defend compromised subordinates. Déat recently compared Pétain to Hindenburg; the analogy was meant to indicate that the Pétain régime is merely the preparatory period for the French variety of National Socialism. But history does not repeat itself. No French Fuhrer has yet appeared to release the old and helpless Marshal; and none is likely to appear.

#### ALL THINGS TO ALL MEN.

Laval tries to play the "man of providence"; but his only merit has been to bring into this anti-parliamentary régime his unique talent for the worst type of parliamentary intrigue and demagogy.

The peasants' anger is being roused by hints that their fathers and sons, prisoners of war, could have returned long ago had not the workers of the Nord refused to go and work in Germany. And behind the scenes there is tireless manoeuvring for power. Darlan is in control of the Army; Laval tries to get in touch with the Army leaders behind Darlan's back. He has succeeded in wresting the Gendarmerie and the *Garde Civile* from Darlan and in putting them under his own control. And quite recently the *Legion Anti-Bolchevique* was also turned over to Laval. The scramble for power in a powerless State—this is the true picture of official France in the summer of 1942.

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## FOUR "BURMA ROADS" TO CHINA.

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The Air, with the giant new American freight-carrying planes ferrying back and forth between China and India and Russia. Large new airfields are being speeded to completion near Chungking and other Chinese military depôts, and in north-eastern India. These big mechanical birds can shuttle back and forth from Indian bases, or from Siberia and Turkistan, with considerable frequency. Most of them have considerable full-load cruising ranges. Flying over the mountains to India, or over the steppes into Russia, they can cover in a few hours distances that trucks require days to negotiate. Planes of this type might even be able to carry the big guns and light tanks and armoured cars that China needs.

The "Red Route", running through north-west China into Siberia, over which a trickle of Russian supplies has reached China for the last four years. It is a combination rail and motor highway that runs through Lanchow in the corridor-like Province of Kamsu and through the far north-western Province of Sinkiang to Sergoopol of Alma Ata in Turkestan, where it taps a Russian rail road recently double tracked and given seven times greater carrying capacity. It is the second of four possible avenues to Chungking each having a potentially greater capacity than the famed Burma Road, which still remains open.

The Assam Road which is being chiselled, literally by land, out of the cliffs of the Himalayas and flung across some of the largest rivers of Asia to connect with the Indian railway system in northern India. The Chinese builders of the Assam Road have had to cross at least three mighty rivers, the Yangtse, the Mekong and the Salween. Their route also takes them across the upper reaches of the Irrawaddy. Some of these rivers are less than 50 miles apart, separated by mountain ranges rising 10,000 ft. and more. Once across the mountains, the road-makers descend to one of the mightiest rivers in all the world—the Brahmaputra.

The Age-old Caravan Trail which winds from Chungking across the windt swept "roof of the world" to Lhasa and through the Himalayan passes to India. This caravan trail was in use from Chungking to Chentu, thence along relatively flat highlands, much of which already can be crossed by car, to Chamdo. From there it climbs upward for about 80 miles through mysterious passes of the Himalayas that James Hilton made the locale of "Lost Horizon" until it reaches Lhasa. Thence across the upper stretches of the Brahmaputra to Darjeeling.

## CHINA'S GRATITUDE FOR RELINQUISHMENT OF EXTRATERRITORIAL RIGHTS.

"We have been fighting this war for the salvation  
of the world through first saving ourselves."

*Marshal Chiang-Kai-Shek, Chungking, November 1.*

"We are now presented with a golden chance to attain national independence  
..... We must strengthen our preparations for the big offensive that is to come  
and fulfil our obligations in the common fight against aggression.

"One of the deepest causes for gratification, we and our fellow  
countrymen find in the recent events is of course, the abolition of the unequal  
treaties.

"In this respect there is nothing specific to report at present, but I wish  
to stress the importance of the fact that Great Britain and the United States

should spontaneously have made this proposal with such a sincerity of intention that an entirely satisfactory outcome of the negotiations is already assured us in principle.

"I believe the essential thing at the moment is that we have gained equality in status with other nations.

**"We are to exert ourselves not to fall short of our Allies' expectations of us or of worthily playing the part of a modern and independent nation.**

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## 'FEARS ARE LIARS.'

*(The Illustrated London News).*

War has its ups and downs. We are apt to forget this. Nothing could well be more foolish than the people who announce that victory will come in a fortnight, except those who declare that defeat may. Often both are the same people. They think when the news is good that it must therefore, go on being good, and when it turns bad they think, in their disappointment, that it will never turn good again. They are like the poor gulls who used to gamble on the Stock Exchange on the principle that a rising market would rise for ever, and a falling market fall for ever, and who consequently were always out in calculation. Battles in the Western Desert seem particularly well adapted to illustrate the truth of this. Here, again and again, hopes have proved dupes and fears liars. The only lessons that seem to emerge from them are: Don't speak too soon and Never say die. Both are invaluable lessons, especially the latter.

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## WAR COMPARISONS.

A family car uses as much petrol in six months as a large bomber in an hour.

The steel in a car is about equal to that in twenty-six machine-guns.

A large bomber tyre uses as much rubber as seven car tyres.

A parachute requires as much silk as 200 silk stockings.

There is enough steel in one set of golf clubs to make a machine-gun.

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## GERMAN PERSECUTION OF JEWS.

**WE MUST RESOLVE NEVER TO REST UNTIL  
NAZISM IS TOTALLY SWEEPED AWAY.**

*(1) Mr. Churchill.*

The systematic cruelties to which the Jewish people have been exposed under the Nazi régime are amongst the most terrible events of history and have placed an indelible stain upon all who perpetrate and instigate them.

(2) *Dr. William Temple, Archbishop of Canterbury.*

Upon Jews the fury of the Nazi evil has concentrated its destructive energy. There is a settled purpose to exterminate the Jewish people if it can be done.

(3) *General Sikorski, the Prime Minister of Poland.*

As a soldier, I warn the German torturers that they will not escape retribution for the crimes they have committed.

(4) *Dr. Hertz, Chief Rabbi.*

There can be no safety for our children and no safety for the heritage of man anywhere so long as men, who call evil good and take darkness for light, continue to blight the souls and lives of men. We must resolve never to rest until Nazism is totally swept away.

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## 'V' DIARY 1943.

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The War Time 'V' Pocket Diary and Engagement Book issued last year by the War Information Bureau, Pudukkottai, has been brought out for 1943, revised and enlarged.

The Diary is issued in 3 bindings, Linen Rs. 1-4-0; Sheepskin Rs. 1-8-0; Morocco leather Rs. 2-0-0; postage extra, that is *four annas* for sending a copy by registered book-post and one anna more for every additional copy placed in the same packet. The prices have not been raised in spite of increase in size and in the cost of materials.

**ALL THE PROFITS OF THE SALE GO TO THE WAR FUND THROUGH THE PUDUKKOTTAI DARBAR.**

All orders should be addressed to the Secretary, National War Front Bureau, Pudukkottai (South India), accompanied by remittance—in cash or cheque. Copies will be despatched by V. P. P., if desired.

# PROGRAMME OF LECTURES

OF THE  
Pudukkottai State National War Front Bureau.

Villages: 7 & 7-30 p. m., Municipal office: 7-45 p. m.,  
C. S. M.: 10 a. m., Rani's & College: 10-15 a. m.

## LECTURE CXXI—(Batch 2).

14—11—42	Municipal Office.	18—11—42	College (A) English. College Tamil (Branch School).
15—11—42	Kudumiyamalai. Parambur.		Panayappatti.
16—11—42	Nachchandupatti. Virachchilai.		Bangiyan.
17—11—42	Vengalur. Konapattu.	19—11—42	Kodumbalur. Viralimalai.
18—11—42	C. S. M. High School. Rani's High School.	20—11—42	Poongudi. Satyamangalam.

## LECTURE CXXII—(Batch 3).

21—11—42	Municipal Office:	25—11—42	College (A) English. College Tamil (Branch School)
22—11—42	Alangudi. Vadakadu.		Ramachandrapuram.
23—11—42	Annavaasal. Kilakkurichchi.		Rayavaram.
24—11—42	Kulipirai. Sundaram.	26—11—42	Kilaiyur. Karambakkudi.
25—11—42	C. S. M. High School. Rani's High School.	27—11—42	Valaramanikkam. Embal.

**THE FOLLOWING PLACES WILL BE VISITED BY THE ADVERTISING PARTY OF THE NATIONAL WAR FRONT BUREAU FROM 4 P. M. TO 5 P. M. ON THE DAYS NOTED BELOW. THE STATE BAND WILL PLAY; POSTERS WILL BE EXHIBITED; AND HAND-BILLS WILL BE DISTRIBUTED AND EXPLAINED.**

14—11—42	Tirumayyam.	21—11—42	Vettamviduthi.
15—11—42	Virachchilai.	22—11—42	Embal.
16—11—42	Arimalam.	23—11—42	Mullangurichchi.
17—11—42	Konapattu.	24—11—42	Ramachandrapuram.
18—11—42	Kilanilai—Puduppatti.	25—11—42	Rayavaram.
19—11—42	Alangudi.	26—11—42	Kulipirai.
20—11—42	Pappapatti.	27—11—42	Pudukkottai.