

# SOLDIER

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Keepers of the Tower

(See page 2)



## SOLDIER Cover Picture



Photograph: M. Berman (Sjt.)

**T**HE white-haired, mild-faced gentleman holding the long-handled axe is 85-year-old John Fraser, the oldest Yeoman Warder of the Tower of London.

The axe, which is at least 500 years old, is the symbol of Mr. Fraser's office, Yeoman Gaoler, a post that once bore the high-sounding name of Gentleman Gaoler. Although the axe has never been used for execution, it was carried by the Gaoler when he conducted State prisoners to their trial. When the prisoner returned from the trial the blade of the axe was turned towards him if he was convicted, away if acquitted.

Mr. Fraser might almost be described as the original answer to the advice, "Get some service in, chum," for he has been in uniform for 68 years, 25 spent as a regular soldier with 5 Northumberland Fusiliers and 43 years as a Yeoman Warder. The uniform he is wearing in the picture, which was taken on top of the Bloody Tower with the White Tower in the background, is the State Dress of the Yeoman Warders and is Tudor.

Standing next to Mr. Fraser in the picture is Mr. Arthur Cook, wearing the blue undress uniform designed in 1858, which is worn by the Warders for everyday use. Mr. Cook, formerly of the Somerset, is the Chief Warder, whose duty it is to conduct the 700-year-old Ceremony of the Keys.

## RELEASES AND DISCHARGES

Mr. George Isaacs (Minister of Labour) gave in the House of Commons the following figures of releases and discharges from the Forces and auxiliary and nursing services from 18 June to 30 September this year:—

Service	Class A	Class B	Other releases and discharges	Total
<b>MEN</b>				
Navy .....	43,359	1,131	10,739	55,229
Army .....	155,915	11,105	30,142	197,162
Air Force ..	60,001	5,662	14,573	80,236
<b>Total</b>	<b>259,275</b>	<b>17,898</b>	<b>55,454</b>	<b>332,627</b>
<b>WOMEN</b>				
Navy .....	10,786	3	2,107	12,896
Army .....	45,697	27	5,890	51,614
Air Force ..	27,575	18	6,579	34,172
<b>Total</b>	<b>84,058</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>14,576</b>	<b>98,682</b>
<b>TOTAL MEN AND WOMEN</b>				
Navy .....	54,145	1,134	12,846	68,125
Army .....	201,612	11,132	36,032	248,776
Air Force ..	87,576	5,680	21,152	114,408
<b>Total</b>	<b>343,333</b>	<b>17,946</b>	<b>70,030</b>	<b>431,309</b>

The following are releases and discharges from the Forces and auxiliary and nursing services during September 1945:—

Service	Class A	Class B	Other releases and discharges	Total
<b>MEN</b>				
Navy .....	21,822	634	3,403	25,859
Army .....	49,046	6,776	11,799	67,621
Air Force ..	27,384	2,207	2,586	32,177
<b>Total</b>	<b>98,252</b>	<b>9,617</b>	<b>17,788</b>	<b>125,657</b>
<b>WOMEN</b>				
Navy .....	3,293	3	384	3,680
Army .....	6,213	24	1,790	8,027
Air Force ..	9,693	7	1,092	10,792
<b>Total</b>	<b>19,199</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>3,266</b>	<b>22,499</b>
<b>TOTAL MEN AND WOMEN</b>				
Navy .....	25,115	637	3,787	29,539
Army .....	55,259	6,800	13,589	75,648
Air Force ..	37,007	2,214	3,678	42,969
<b>Total</b>	<b>117,451</b>	<b>9,651</b>	<b>21,054</b>	<b>148,156</b>

# LETTERS

**O**N this page some weeks ago there appeared a leading article, written by me, which bore the heading "... Let Him Stand Forth."

Nothing which we have published in SOLDIER has brought nearly the same volume of correspondence which that article brought.

Below you may read some (but by no means all) of those letters. Each of them has something in common; it is, Sincerity. It shines out like a beacon in the darkness and for this let us give thanks, for it is a quality not easily distinguishable in our Age.

You may also remark another quality, implicit or explicit, in these letters. It is a wholly spiritual one; that of Faith.

**N**OW it is of no moment that some SOLDIER correspondents say that I was preaching Fascism in the "... Let Him Stand Forth" leader — and that they forgot that Jesus Christ required, demanded and got disciples.

It is of moment that they were stirred to write sincerely of their faith — and that their faith should so clearly be that of the Man of Nazareth.

"... Let Him Stand Forth" was no cry for a new demagogue. It was an appeal to every man to rise up and lead the way in the battle which now engulfs us.

No good comes of whistling in the dark and none comes of an attitude which will not face facts.

The reek of Hiroshima is heavy in the air, will you but sniff; this world in which we live is confronted with the ultimate disaster, Oblivion.

It can be avoided in one way and one way only — by each of us realising the burden that lies upon him and thereupon to determine that he will stand forth.

Editor-in-Chief.

**Y**ou may like to know that I read your Editorial in SOLDIER No. 16 to some 40 Ordination Candidates who are at present attending a Pre-Vocational Training School here and they were deeply impressed with it. I only hope you may find your man to stand forth! — Rev. Mark Green, SCF, Warden, The Church House, 8 Corps District.

**I**f any reader of SOLDIER felt in himself a warming feeling that in him there were some or all of the fine qualities you mentioned, then let him not delude himself with the idea that he is a Messiah but let him get together in a political party with those who share his ideas — he will find plenty if he looks — and let him then fight and work and organise on equal terms with these others. — Cpl. P. G. Maxwell, 15 Scottish Inf Div, HQ Signal Office.

**D**id not the Germans allow themselves to be led because it was easier to let somebody else do what should have been their own job? Broadly speaking we all head for the same goal, and with more thought and learning we shall astonish ourselves by being on the right road — together; and with a pacemaker rather than a leader.

Let us obey our conscience and we shall cease to be "as men afraid"; but until we do pursue that painful procedure, do not encourage another dictator, SOLDIER. It was the "Leaders of Men" who caused the war. — Sjt. L. M. Brown, REME, 21 Advance Base W/S.

**Y**ou suggest that if there is a man sufficiently strong in the world, we, the soldiers, would follow him, if he could cure the ills of the world. How are we to know that he is capable? It doesn't need that excellent institution ABCA to make one realise that we went to war because the German nation thought they had such a man. Promises often make very thin pie-crust, and one man's estimation of his own powers cannot be taken for granted like that. We don't need a man to lead us. We're capable of saying what we want and I think we're capable of ensuring that we get it, too. If we can do that in our own country the rest of the world must benefit, and anyway I haven't seen much despondency in Belgium or Holland.

We're not afraid, Mr. Editor. I think we can save ourselves. — Bdr. A. Symmons, 'C' Troop, 317/165 HAA Bty RA.

**I**t was a pleasure to read something that was not so materialistic-minded

as the daily Press. We have only been too ready to pray to God, when our leaders have seen fit to call our country to some thanksgiving service, or when we have been in danger. Surely, now, we can see that without His aid every effort is doomed to failure. — Pte. J. Nolan, SP, GHQ, 2 Ech.

**M**ay I make an emphatic protest against the pessimism of your editorial of 29 September. We can face reality without falling into a state of misery, fear and helplessness. No democracy was ever created without some suffering and pain, and no doubt there will be much more before we gain the happiness we common folk believe to be possible. But that is no reason to lapse into morbid self-pity, the pity that stifles action.

We do not cry, as some German people once cried, for a mystical leader. We have faith in ourselves, in our two good hands, in our achievements and our organisations. We have not failed in the past and, confident in the strength of the ordinary people everywhere, we shall not fail in the future. — Sjt. H. C. Rogers, British Liaison NCO, 21 Belgian Pioneer Coy, Armée Belge en Campagne.

**I** feel obliged to register my strong disapproval of the editorial in a recent issue of SOLDIER. It all sounds beautiful — perhaps almost as beautiful as it did to the war-dazed Italians when Benito Mussolini appeared on the scene to save them from every ailment in the book — but not so beautiful today.

As an example of Utopian idealism I give the editorial first-class honours. As a constructive suggestion towards a better order in this world I consider it deplorable, and conducive towards apathy within the BAOR as they (in your own words) wait for him "to help us save ourselves, for we know we are on the edge of disaster, and we are as men afraid."

Speaking for myself, I have already chosen my representative, who will, in due course, stand forth in that good old redoubt of democracy, the British Houses of Parliament. — LAC F. R. Kirby, PBX, 105 Staging Post, RAF.

**T**hank you for the splendid leader "... Let Him Stand Forth" in issue No. 16. This is what we want to help us save the world from self-destruction. Good for you — please let us have some more of this. — L/Cpl. W. G. White, 90 TM Sec, 2 Coy, 17 Cheshire Yeomanry L of C Signals.

(More Letters on Page 23)

## Snapshot (7)

on

# JOBS

## ADVERTISING

**A**DVERTISING is a specialised job. It is not an open profession which you can practise after passing certain examinations. Although the paper shortage has led to severe restriction on advertisements it is expected that return to normal will lead to increased activity. To meet this expansion many agencies expect to train their existing staff in statistics, market research and public relations. As a new entrant to the profession you can expect only a small wage until you have gained experience—and experience is the only way to success. Vacancies in advertising include posts as copywriters, layout artists, outdoor publicity men, retail display men, and circulation and advertising managers.

## QUALIFICATIONS

You should have a good general education, preferably to matriculation standard. And unless you have an imaginative nature as well it would not be wise to enter the profession. No academic qualifications are necessary, but you should have in your general make-up something of the journalist or artist or both. You should be able to write clearly and concisely, and any commercial or industrial experience will be of value. Although members of the profession assert that you must have "advertising sense," it is more probable that this is acquired through experience and not found as a natural "gift".

## TRAINING

The Advertising Association says: "It is possible for an inexperienced man to begin work with an agency or newspaper at a small salary while taking one of the approved courses in his spare time. We are able to provide necessary text books and a list of suitable technical schools. We are always ready to help in this way." The Institute of Incorporated Practitioners in Advertising say: "We always help where we can. If a man comes to us for advice we give him an interview, and tell him the best course that he should take. The Institute has two examinations—the Intermediate and the Final. If you can pass these you will be well on your way to success."

Entrance fee for both examinations is £2.2.0. Examinations held by the Advertising Association are similar, the two examinations held being divided into four parts which students are advised to take separately. Entrance fee for each division is £1.1.0. Service entrants 10s. 6d.

Further information may be obtained from: The Institute of Incorporated Practitioners in Advertising, 48, Russell Sq, London, WC. 2, and the Advertising Association at 110, Fleet St, London, EC. 4.

Ex-Servicemen can also get training at technical colleges with financial assistance from the Government under the Further Education and Training Scheme regulations.

## PROSPECTS

Junior posts may bring a salary of £300—£550 per year, while senior posts carry £600—£1,000 per year and more.





Lt-Gen Sir Frederick Morgan, CB, at the desk in Frankfurt from which he is directing the UNRRA operation to relieve distress in Germany during the coming months.

# UNDERSTAND UNRRA



The core of UNRRA's problem. All his belongings are in his sack, and there are a million like him.

**T**HE first sentences in the new history of Europe are now being written. The great cracks in the social structure of the western world are being cemented so that the United Nations can build again.

But life looks like being pretty bleak this winter. Coal must be found to keep people warm and factories working. Food must be distributed so that the majority will benefit.

Germany, as is just, will bear the harder burden. Two members of SOLDIER staff, John Hallows (Sjt), reporter, and M. Berman (Sjt), photographer, toured the Allied zones to describe the work that the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration — UNRRA for short — is doing, and to see how the Ruhr miner is being induced to do his share in his country's rebuilding and reparation.

Two more of SOLDIER staff, Robert Blake (S/Sjt), reporter, and F. O'Neill (Sjt), photographer, went to see how the same problem of coal is being tackled in Lancashire. For Europe's problems are the same, however much they may differ in degree.

## They were Slaves

The problem of the Displaced Persons is UNRRA's special task. When the Allies swept into Germany they found millions of men, women and children from other countries working for the Germans in the factories, in the mines and on the farms. They found people living in billets in the towns and in camps in the country. And the Allied armies did an amazingly fine job in getting them back to their own countries. But many remain, and they constitute a major problem.

They have to be identified, fed, clothed and, if possible, their relatives found. Otherwise the coming winter would be grim indeed for them. UNRRA is the official, though civilian, body which looks after them, working in close accord with the Military Government.

The DP's are already looking eagerly to UNRRA to help solve their problems. For example, no fewer than 1,000 letters a day are being received from people who want to find relatives roughly torn from them by the Germans and consigned to some unknown fate. To many the reply must be a tragic one, but to others UNRRA's researches bring a happiness they had never hoped to regain.

When the world sees UNRRA working to its full efficiency it will realise that the 47 United Nations can really join in a great humanitarian task, and will face the future with renewed hope and confidence.

(SEE FOLLOWING PAGES)



She would have a hard time this winter if there were nobody to look after her. Arrangements to do so are well in hand.



# WINTER CAMPAIGN

A British soldier, Lt-Gen. Sir Frederick Morgan, CB, has arrived in Frankfurt to lead the representatives of 47 nations who are members of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration in their work of feeding, clothing and bringing back into full life the hundreds of thousands of people, exiles from their own countries, who are now in Germany.

He is doubly enthusiastic about his job. In the first place he, like the 3,000 men and women from all over the world who form his staff, wants to put an end as quickly as possible to the sufferings of the stricken families who were torn from their homes by the Nazis and forced to work as slaves in Germany. Secondly, he says UNRRA is the first great effort that the Allies have made to rebuild the world.

## Europe Will Revive

"I, like many of the older people, have been through all this before," he told a SOLDIER staff writer. "I have fought in a war against Germany and seen a stricken Europe gather itself together. The problems of the Displaced Persons are not new. They are greater today, but what gives me new hope and faith is that they are being tackled differently."

Sir Frederick is Director of Operations in Germany, and that means he is commander-in-chief of men and women from Britain, France, the United States and most countries in the world. In the coming winter the occupying armies are going to find themselves in frequent contact with the people who wear khaki and olive-drab uniform without insignia but with the white letters "UNRRA" on their crimson shoulder-flashes.

"I want every soldier to understand," says General Morgan, "that not only does UNRRA—which is a purely civilian organisation—need their help, but that UNRRA is helping them—by doing a job which would otherwise have to be done by the Army."

## UNRRA's Task

"The first, and at the moment the only task that UNRRA has in Germany is to care for those unhappy souls who were forced from their own lands to come here to work for the Nazis. Helping the Germans is not part of that task."

"In the first few months after VE-Day the Allied soldiers sent home no fewer than five-and-a-quarter million people who had been used as slave workers by the Germans. There are left 1,288,860 people living in camps in the country. There are others who are not in the camps. In the British Zone alone it is estimated that there are another 42,000 living in the woods and on the march. Still more are working for their old German employers."

"There are probably equal numbers of DP's in the American and French Zones not yet officially accounted for. There are, too, women from Allied countries who married Germans before the war and who have children born in Britain or France. They retain their British citizenship and have a claim on UNRRA. But they have children who are legally Germans and they are torn between the two. There are also the children of slave workers who were born in Germany and who have lost touch with their parents."

"Now, while I admire greatly the work of the armies in getting more than 5,000,000 home, I must say that the million odd who are left are a much bigger headache. The people the armies got home were more or less able to travel under their own

steam and were anxious to return to their countries. It was summer and the sun was shining. The people we have to deal with are in the main people who for one reason or another do not wish to get back home or who cannot prove that their nationality is the one they claim."

"Each person and each family is a separate tragedy. Each presents a difficult problem. Each has a case that has to be examined before a decision can be made as to which country he belongs to."

"Since Germany is under Allied Military Governorship, all work must be subordinate to the military commander in each zone."

## Urgent Needs First

"This is how we are tackling it. Agreements are being made with the Allied Governments which lay down, among other things, the scale of basic necessities with which it is thought the DP's can live through the winter. It will be the task of the armies to see that they get these basic supplies."

"It has been agreed that as far as possible the German people will feed these homeless ones and warm them. Rations will be on a much more generous scale than those allowed the Germans—I would emphasise that the needs of the DP's will always come before those of the German people."

"As I have said, nearly all these families are already living in camps. Some of these camps were built for them by the Germans, others were prisoner-of-war camps, but they have been made more comfortable. Rooms that housed three or four slave workers have been knocked into small flats which are quite comfortable. We have issued them with winter bedding. German coal will be supplied for heating."

## Education and Games

"My staffs will move about the camps and see to it that the occupants get amenities and luxuries to make their enforced stay as pleasant as possible. There will be educational materials, sports equipment, books and games."

"My position is not comparable with any military position because in each zone the work of UNRRA will be done under the guidance of the military commander. But I shall have representatives with the Army. In the field we shall operate with teams of six or eight workers."

"One of UNRRA's great humanitarian works is the Central Tracing Bureau. As soon as UNRRA men and women came into Germany with the first Allied troops they began entirely of their own goodwill to try to trace missing persons for their families in Poland and other countries. Thousands of families are now living in re-united happiness because of the work and patience of our experts."

"So far our work of feeding and clothing is being confined to the DP's and those unfortunate people who are being called Persons of Indeterminate State. But if at any time the United Nations feel it necessary to give general help to the German people, then UNRRA would probably be called upon to help. But that would be a political decision."

Typical D.P. problem—14 days  
Ivan was born in the camp.  
His mother is Belgian, his father  
Yugo-Slav.



Germany now feeds ex-slaves better than her own citizens and university professors living up with farm workers are more than grateful.



E. Cammermeyer  
Hamburg—45.

Friends in Adversity—  
Dutch and Italian types in the camp.

# NEW START

WHEN the soldiers who were to run 1115 Displaced Persons Camp arrived in Hamburg at 3 p.m. on 4 May last they found that the Zoo which they had been allotted had been used for some time as a hospital camp for the German Navy. Only a few patients were left, however, and within 24 hours the camp was ready for the Displaced Persons who were arriving in huge numbers.

Few of them had any identity papers; nationalities were doubtful. Transport, though obviously an urgent priority, was almost impossible to obtain and the small staff of 10 found at once that a 24-hour working day was an immediate necessity.

## 24-Hour Influx

In those early days "Camp Zoo", with a sleeping capacity of 1,850 at the most, found itself dealing with a many as 3,000. It seemed as if all Europe was swarming into DP Camps; arrivals came by day and night. Sleeping accommodation was so heavily taxed that for a time the overflow, having been clothed and fed, had to sleep each night in the municipal air-raid shelters, returning to the camp in the morning for breakfast.

During the first month or two between 30,000 and 60,000 Russians passed through "Camp Zoo". In one fortnight 32,000 Italians were sent from the camp to the next stage of their journey. The staff might have been forgiven for wondering, at times, whether it wouldn't be better to join the DP's. But they carried on, even with the extra tasks which came along, such as when they were asked to issue immediately 50,000 rations to other camps in the area.

## The Drill

Capt A. J. K. Appleton, RA, is Commandant; his next-in-command is a quartermaster-serjeant borrowed for attachment, and then comes Bdr. Harry Cox with a handful of men. Yet that team has had so much practice that it can pass 300 DP's through the camp in an hour. This works out at one person every 12 seconds, which is amazing when you see the process through which they must go. Bdr. Cox gets them first, and he has an interpreter to assist. Then they are deloused. There is the by now familiar process with the power spray and the DDT, the familiar tins of AL 63 Mk. III. Then comes the medical

inspection and the issue of clothes if they are necessary.

Every person in the camp is issued with a meal-card and the food, standard UNRRA ration, is excellent. The long, low dining-hall, adapted by the Russians in the early days, is brightly decorated in white and red, and serves each evening as a dance-hall or theatre. The way in which the DP's of the world settle down anywhere and at once begin to build is one of the most reassuring factors of all.

Since so many people in this camp are waiting for transport, it may happen that they are there for weeks, but that doesn't mean that they are prisoners. From nine in the morning until 1030 curfew each evening they are free to leave the camp. Curiously, they nearly always prefer to continue in their communal life.

## All are Hopeful

Each afternoon you will see a discussion group organised by themselves. A queerly-assorted group of many nationalities (there are now 21 in the camp; originally there were nearly 60) dressed in an astonishing collection of clothes will be seated in one corner of the dining room. Some of them are discussing politics, others talking of what they plan for the future; the older people are there to dream and think about the past. But none of them is without hope. During the past six months they have touched the very bottom of existence and now, by contrast, everything seems bright again with possibility.

The children of DP camps are unperturbed. With the adaptability and tireless energy of all children everywhere they settle down within an hour or two of their arrival.

So, too, do most of the parents. All that they once possessed is gone, except new-found, indomitable qualities of the spirit. They have a confidence in the future which is striking. For six months they have lived precariously on the margin level, the lowest level of existence. They have no goods, no chattels; but they have a knowledge now which they lacked in the old days when they, too, were householders.

They have rediscovered the old truth that, however dark it is, there is always light enough to take the next step.

COURTMAN DAVIES (Sjt.)

A Danish family—the Nicksens have settled in a typical camp bungalow for a few days.



"Granny" Nielsen has fought famine for her brood for six years but now she has ample bread.

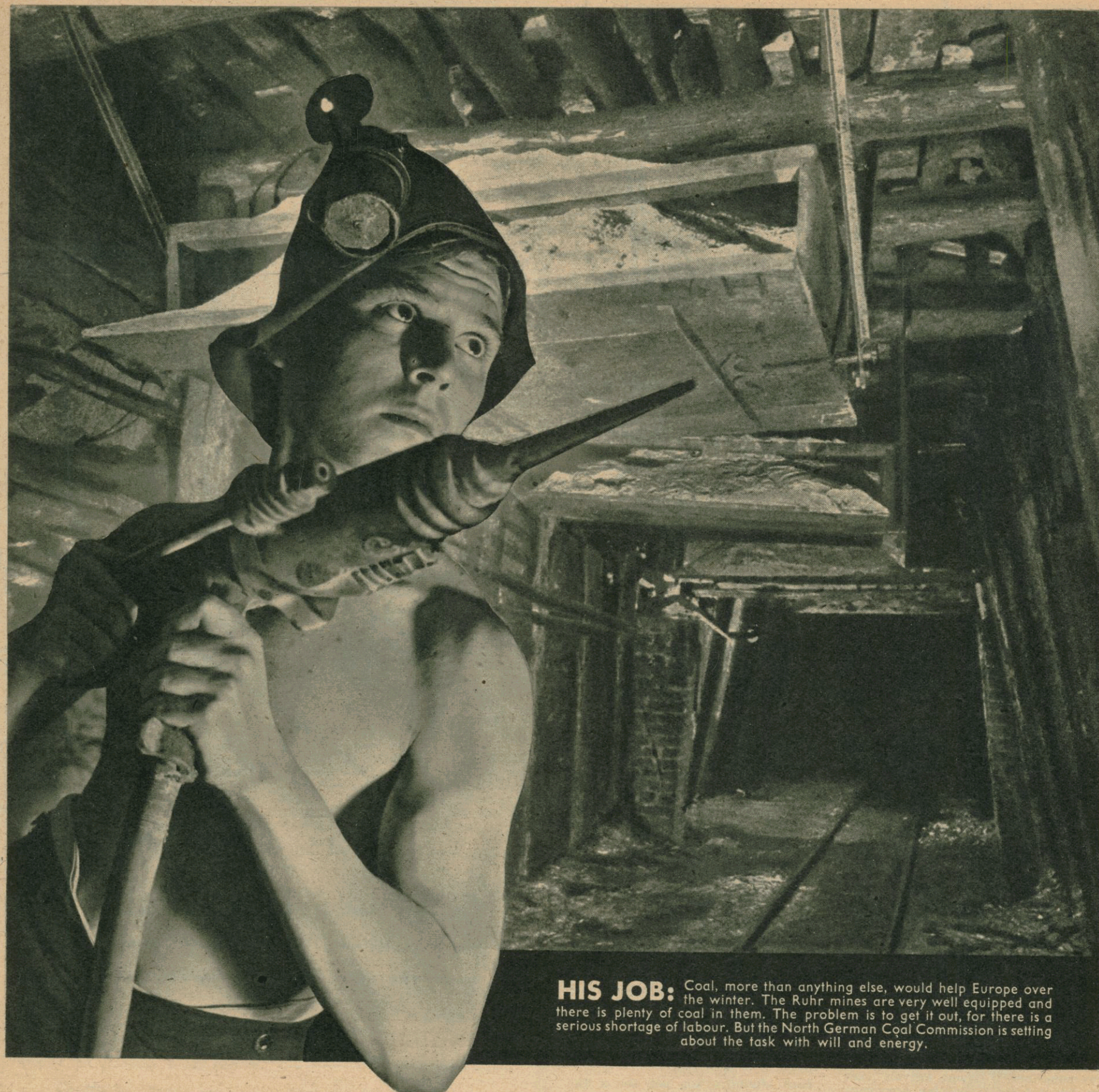


Bdr. Harry Cox camp receptionist welcomes a Spanish woman.

RUHR MINERS:

Over





**HIS JOB:** Coal, more than anything else, would help Europe over the winter. The Ruhr mines are very well equipped and there is plenty of coal in them. The problem is to get it out, for there is a serious shortage of labour. But the North German Coal Commission is setting about the task with will and energy.

# RUHR MINER

THE answer to the question: "How will Germany live through the coming winter?" lies in the great blackened scar across the industrial heart of the country that is the Ruhr, and in the blue-pitted hands of Leo Iselmann, coal hewer, and his 175,000 colleagues.

Coal is vital to the life of Germany this winter — even more so than to Britain. Organised life came to an end in the country when the war ended. With the help of the Allies it has been restarted, but through the veins of the country runs not blood but coal and electricity.

Given sufficient coal the now-stagnant transport highways can be reopened. Food for both DP's and Germans can be carried where it is needed. Cement and other materials can be taken to the towns. Homes can be heated.

The coal is in the Ruhr. The problem is: "Will Leo and his friends get it out?"

At first view of Dortmund, Bochum, Dusseldorf and Essen anyone would say, "No." But the Allied experts who are now in charge of the coalfields, and the Germans too, say it can and will be produced. The pits are, in the

main, working again, and all depends upon Leo and the rest of the miners.

Leo says he can get the coal if he and his family get sufficient to eat.

Now the Ruhr, even to a man who has seen the results of bombing in most theatres of the war, and who was prepared by the long years of newspaper headlines—"2,000 Tons on Essen," "Day and Night Raids on Ruhr," and "Ruhr Hammered Again"—is something of a shock at first sight. It would be less of a shock if the district had been levelled as the Romans levelled Carthage or as the Allies flattened Cassino. But here is a giant human hive, still

one of the world's greatest industrial districts with hundreds of coalmines, steel plants, power stations, and by-product factories, which has been blasted almost out of existence but which somehow still clings to life.

## After the Raids

With praiseworthy hard work and great ingenuity the people of Essen have built homes for themselves in the wreckage of their town. Leo Iselmann has made himself a weatherproof home in which he and his family can and will live warmly and healthily this winter. They are living in better conditions than many people in bomb-damaged houses in London.

Leo's home and life are typical. Leo is 42 and is an underground worker for Krupps. Rather more of a mechanical specialist than the usual coal-face worker in Britain, Leo spent three years at a mining school before he was permitted to operate even the simplest of the underground machines

with which Ruhr mines are filled. He is quiet-mannered and serious-minded.

He used to live with his wife and 14-year-old daughter and 70-year-old mother in a three-roomed flat in a modern building quite close to the Krupps railway sheds, largest of their kind in the world, and the Krupps mine in which he himself worked. On the other side were other vital parts of the Krupps combine. Naturally this corner of Essen got very special attention from the RAF. Leo remembers 30 nights when it seemed to him that he was living in a particularly nasty hell.

The block of flats in which Leo lived got a direct hit, like 75 per cent of the 2,500 flats all round about him which were owned by the mine and tenanted by miners and their families. Leo's wife was killed. The rest of his family escaped.

They lived as best they could until November of last year when the whole mine had to close to give the workers time to build some sort of shelters for themselves. Leo looked round the

wreckage and decided that the cellar could be made habitable. He burrowed through the rubble and cut a door in the wall of the building above ground and another hole for a window. Some furniture was salvaged from his old flat. Some more was got from the authorities. Electricity was laid on from the nearby mine.

Today his cellar home is warm, well-lighted and dry. The three people use one room 10 ft. by 5 ft. but they will get through the winter quite safely there.

Leo is very industrious and handy with his fingers. Even so he thanks his stars that he did live in a large building so that he is now safe beneath the rubble. Another peculiarly German advantage from which he is benefiting is the local habit of using large stoves for cooking and heating. These were almost indestructible by bombs and were rescued from the wreckage to warm the cellars. The stoves are in one piece and all that is needed is a new flue-pipe. Leo, like thousands of Esseners, has rescued his stove and it is now warming his cellar. That could not be done with an English kitchen range.

## What He Eats

Leo says his problem is food. Weekly rations for his family of three today are 3/4-lb. meat or sausage, 6 oz. butter or margarine (they have had mostly butter but are now often getting margarine), 15 lbs. of bread, 12 pints of skimmed milk, 3/4-lb. of sugar or marmalade or honey. They are also entitled to quantities of potatoes, vegetables, flour and beans.

These supplies are erratic. Potatoes are now almost non-existent even in the Black Market. The reason is that the war ended when German farmers should have been planting potatoes. In defeat they omitted to do this vital job. Had Germany held on for another year potatoes would have been brought from Holland, Denmark and Belgium, but now Leo is going without.

This official ration provides each person with a daily diet of 1,200 calories against the British civil ration of 2,800 calories. Some people, of course, can afford to supplement it from the Black Market. Prices here are: coffee 600 marks a pound (£30 sterling at German civilian rates of exchange); bread 100 marks (£5) a three-pound loaf; and butter at 200 marks (£10) a pound.

Few Germans have any faith in their own currency. The miner earns the equivalent of 8s. to 12s. a day on his output. His rations, rent and clothes cost him about 3s. to 4s. a day, but he does not think the surplus is worth saving. He will pay almost any price for commodities provided he has the money. Goods, and particularly food, are worth much more than dubious marks.

## Special Ration

As Leo is a heavy worker below ground, he gets a special dinner in the mine canteen. This used to be one of the showplaces of Krupps. The kitchen was all-electric, the dining-room spacious. Now it has been burned out and repaired so often that there is very little left, and the miners say they will not be able to use it in the cold spells.

On the day Leo showed me his home the menu for the special dinner was cabbage soup. It was not particularly appetising to an English palate but there were cereals in it, it was thick and hot, and apparently it was nourishing.

When he goes down the mine he takes with him six slices of dark bread, spread with a carefully weighed portion of butter, not margarine, and a small piece of sausage about 1 1/2-in. square. The men have just had, too, their first tobacco issue—seven German cigars a head for underground workers. They are promised more, but they do not know when they will get it.

So working as a miner means more valuable food for Leo. He, like most of his friends, takes the whole or part of his underground "haversack ration" home to his family. The authorities turn a blind eye to this "crime." They know that if the miner were not permitted to do this he would simply absent himself from work for a couple of days and wander off into the country

in the hope of returning with a half-sack of potatoes from a friendly farmer. Some of the men are very frank. They say, "We are only working for food for our families."

The authorities in closest contact with the Ruhr miner say that he does not appear to have any great interest in politics. Men to whom I spoke professed an interest in the miners' unions which it is proposed to permit. But it was not the same sort of interest that the British miner has. Unions were not allowed in Hitler's Germany. There was a miners' spokesman who carried grievances and points of view to the employers, but they only listened if they wished to.

## Temporary Unions

Today the miners have miners' councils which are acting as unions until more elaborate organisations can be formed. The leader of Leo's council said, "Soon we shall be properly organised as are the miners in Britain. But the men cannot work without more food, and it will be very much easier to get coal if the men have something to smoke."

Above the town, in the great, ugly baroque mansion that used to house the Krupp family, sit the Allied experts whose job it is to see that the Ruhr is kept working to provide the coal to keep Germany alive. In contrast to the dark, dreary town, the mansion, which cost £400,000 to build one year after Krupps had made a fortune in the Franco-Prussian war of 1870, has been untouched. The fountains play in the sunshine.

One man watches the production graph most carefully—the production controller of the North German Coal Commission. This is how they look at their task.

Before the war the Ruhr, largest single group of coalmines in the world, produced 120,000,000 tons of coal a year. That provided a large proportion of the coal that Germany required, not only for heating and power but for synthetic petrol and rubber and the making of steel. It also provided for export to Italy, Scandinavia and other European countries.

## Men Who Vanished

When the NGCC arrived in Germany their task looked most formidable. Some of the great steel pit headgear had been cleanly uprooted by RAF bombs and was lying at all angles. Some pits had been idle for months.

They made a rapid survey of the coalfield and production was at once restarted. In May it was at the rate of 6,000,000 gross cleaned tons a year. Many of the miners had vanished. Some had gone with their families to safer places; others had been pressed into the Army and were prisoners of war in Allied hands; others had been killed in the raids; still others were just missing.

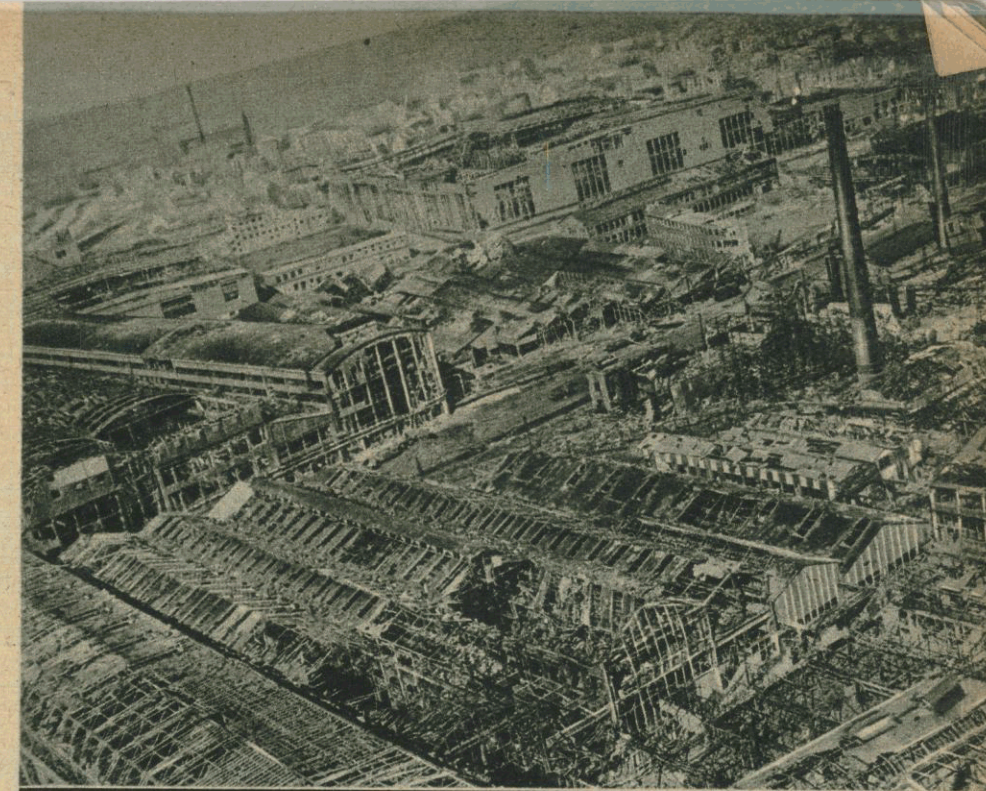
As fast as possible all available men were put to work. A graph of forecast production was drawn up. Production rose steadily until it is now at the rate of 36,000,000 tons a year. It is estimated that, allowing for war damage, possible production is 90,000,000 tons a year, and all that is required to reach that figure is more labour.

In 1938 the Germans had 310,000 men in the pits. In 1941 they had 325,000 and in succeeding war years they had 411,000 and 414,000. They, like other people, found that the miners' production fell during the war and they had to put in more labour to keep up their gross figures.

Today the Commission employs 175,000 men and could find immediate jobs for another 100,000. But although the need for men is great the German mine authorities are not finding it easy to get them.

The manager of Leo's colliery said: "Just as in England, we are finding that men are not anxious to work underground. We could do with many more young workers, particularly youths coming from the Russian Zone who otherwise will have no jobs to go to. We propose to house them in hostels when we can find them."

That, then, is the picture of the Ruhr today, the heart which must beat strongly before life can be restored to the rest of the body.



**HIS TOWN:** This is a part of Krupps works at Essen after visits by the RAF. It is amid wreckage like this that the Ruhr miner lives and works, though his chief worry is not housing but food.



**HIS HOME:** Above: Leo Iselmann has lifted the paving stones and hacked a doorway into a cellar, where he lives with his 70-year-old mother. Below: Carefully weighing the daily ration of meat for Leo and his mates.



# LANCASHIRE MINER

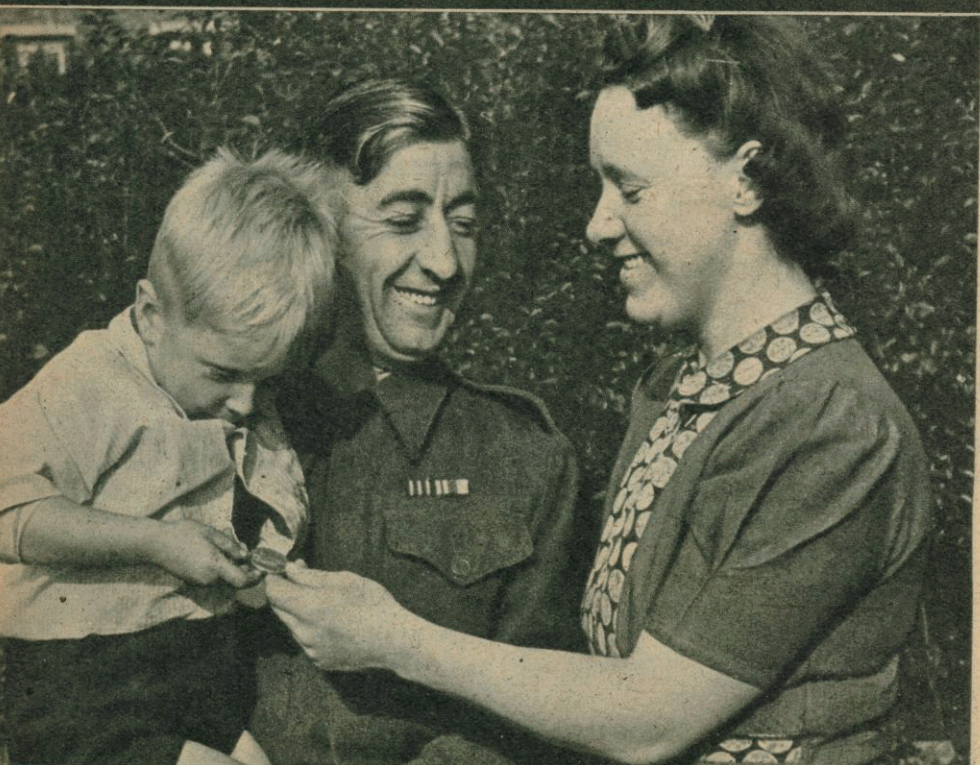




Harry Edwards, just up from his 7½-hour shift, turns his face towards home, a square meal and a hot bath. He still wears a steel helmet—a reminder that the dangers of the pit have something in common with those of the battlefield.



There's not much room to swing your pick in a coal seam, and to get the coal in any quantity needs long and specialised experience. Most miners now have electric lamps, though some carry oil lamps to detect explosive gas.



Transformation scene. Harry Edwards, with the ribbon of the MM, which he won in 1940, on his uniform, in the garden of his home with his wife and youngest son. He was released in Class A in September, with Group 14.

# Pte. Edwards M.M. goes back to the Pit

**H**ARRY Edwards is a Lancashire coal miner. His father was a miner, and his father before him, and so there was nothing strange or startling when 21 years ago he first went down the pit to work eight hours a day on the hard, back-breaking work of hauling coal tubs. He belonged to the world of coal and it was the only world he knew. His father had spent 55 years as a collier. It was the family profession. Only a few months ago Harry Edwards, the coal miner, was Pte. H. Edwards, MM, of the British Army, once of 9 Battalion King's Own Royal Regiment. He came home from Egypt last September to be released with Group 14 at Ashton-under-Lyne. His job, which he had left in 1939, was waiting for him. Within a few days of his release he was working again in the same pit he had left six years before.

## Up At Five

The day's work for Harry Edwards begins at five o'clock in the morning. After a light breakfast he takes the bus from his home in Atherton to the nearest point to the colliery, walks the last mile along the bleak, deserted pathway among the slag heaps to the pit-head. He wears his old battledress trousers, the Army boots which he brought home with him. He carries sandwiches in a tin and water in a container. As a collier he works on the morning shift from seven till 2.30—a seven-and-a-half-hour stretch beneath the ground.

At the pit-head Harry Edwards goes first to the stores, much like a quartermaster's, where he draws his miner's lamp and steel helmet. The lamp, which is electric, is connected to headgear and must be worn on every descent.

By 6.30 a.m. the first arrivals are crouching in the tiny cage which drops them at breathless speed to the bottom of the shaft—"leaving stomach in mid-air like," says Harry, who after so long away had forgotten what it felt like to be a human plummet. At the bottom there is still a mile to go before reaching the coal face.

## Peak Output

Gin Colliery, to which Harry Edwards has returned, is one of several in the district of Astley, not far from Manchester. Every day 420 tons of the finest coal that Lancashire can produce comes to the top of the 360-yard shaft. Three hundred and forty men work day and night in the alternately shadowed and brilliantly lit galleries and along the coal seam. The output today, according to the manager, is at its maximum.

Harry Edwards' work as a collier is simply "to get coal." Once a "shot" has been fired (coal is blasted from the seam with explosive charges), he takes a pick and cuts coal and shovels it into the empty waiting "tubs", which, when full, go rattling away to the bottom of the shaft before being taken to the surface for sorting. It is hard work—harder because of the dusty, heat-ridden atmosphere which fills the narrow approaches to the seam from which the coal must be dug.

## No NAAFI

At 10 o'clock Harry Edwards knocks off for a 20-minute break: There is no tea, only water carried in the tin containers. "It's better," the men say, "because of the heat." Although classed as a "cool" mine the Gin Colliery, at the coal face, is hot enough to make a man sweat whether he works or not.

At 2.30 p.m. Harry Edwards comes back along the 12ft-wide gallery, climbs into the cage again and shoots, hot and dirty, to the cool air above. Once out he feels "pretty much tired"—but, if he wants to, he can take a hot shower immediately in the colliery's own baths after handing in his miner's lamp. Actually he doesn't, but catches the bus home, where he has a hot bath, gets into his suit and sits down to what is as near to an old-fashioned Lancashire dinner as rations will allow.

As a coal miner Harry Edwards receives extra rations. His wife can buy him 12 ozs of cheese—a 10-ounce increase above the normal civilian ration of two ounces, while at the pit-head an industrial canteen supplies daily meals containing extra meat, which, if he desires, he can obtain at a nominal charge.

## 1940 MM

The service career of Harry Edwards was not uneventful. In 1940 he was a dispatch rider with the King's Own in France, and it was for taking a message from his brigade headquarters through a village under heavy shellfire that he was awarded the Military Medal. He received it from the hands of the King at Buckingham Palace. Later, he was sent overseas, first to North Africa in 1943, then to Italy in 1944, and to Palestine and Egypt in 1945.

Some time ago a number of newspapers reported that visiting American mining engineers took back to the United States a report that British mining equipment was 50 years out of date. Harry Edwards has his own ideas. "It's not quite as bad as that," he says, "not as I see it anyway, although there's always room for something better. The manager here reckons you couldn't put this new machinery into the Ginpit, says there's no room for it. As for strikes about it I wouldn't like to say—most trouble starts when a man has to change his job and his shift, or when our ideas don't tie up with the owners'."

If a collier has a grievance he has to take it to the under-manager. If that doesn't help he goes to the Union representative, who in his turn goes to the under-manager. Should this fail to settle the dispute the under-manager, the Union representative and the man concerned all go to the manager of the pit, who will later contact the local branch of the Miners' Federation. More often than not the matter can be thrashed out in the privacy of the manager's office, but if it can't then it may even go to the headquarters of the Federation in London.

## Likes The Work

On the general subject of coal mining Harry Edwards has his own views. He is 38 years old, has three sons aged four, six and 12 years respectively, and has been married for 13 years.

"I came back to the pits," he says, "because I have always been a collier and will always be one. I like the work and have always found it interesting, although I admit that when I first went down a mine I didn't have a lot of choice."

"Before the war I was getting 18s. a day—now I shall get something like 23s. a day. I don't think it's enough, for those who have never been down a pit don't know what we have to do or how we do it, and very often they are the first to complain about the miners' demands."

Of his three sons he says, "If I have my way not one of them shall ever go down the pit. For them there must be something better. I am going to see that they get it."



You can't smoke on the job in a mine, so when you come up you lose no time in lighting up. "Save a match, chum", says Harry Edwards.

# THIS WINTER — In Germany

**R**UDOLF Petersen, Bürgermeister of Hamburg, has issued this warning to the townspeople:—

"Winter with its terrors is almost upon us. The true seriousness of the situation is not sufficiently realised. People think it impossible we should get no coal when the production has increased to 125,000 tons a day and the papers report an improvement in rail transport and Rhine shipping. It is dangerous to harbour illusions. We shall not have any coal for household use this winter, and there will only be the minimum of light and power for household and industrial use. The decrease in the ration per head will be severely felt."

"We must make most drastic efforts to suppress the Black Market in all its forms, and stop thefts of fuel and waste of light. No more than one lamp must be allowed to burn in any single room and no power must be used for the manufacture of articles not essential to maintain the standard of living."

"We should stop non-residents of Hamburg from moving into the area, so that we can arrange accommodation for those citizens who still live in cellars and sheds. We should use all the facilities the British have given us to evacuate to Holstein the 35,000 non-residents who have already made their way into the city and who are not doing important work, provided we do not separate families who are already living together here. These regulations are sometimes hard in individual cases, but it cannot be helped."

"We must try with all the means in our power to fight epidemics likely to arise owing to the impossibility of heating living-rooms, and the low resistance of the population caused by years of war and malnutrition."

# — In England

**I**t has been officially stated that the fuel outlook for Britain this winter is the toughest for six years. The greater part of the Government coal dump reserves, which saved much hardship last winter, has gone, and the domestic problem is even more acute than the industrial. Householders must not use coal, gas or electricity when not absolutely necessary until the real part of the winter sets in, which may be after Christmas.

Mr. Aneurin Bevan, Minister of Health, said in a recent housing debate that there would be great suffering this winter which could not be relieved by fresh building, and continued: "I propose to make an appeal to all persons with accommodation in their homes to make it available to those who need it. I want to rely substantially on voluntary effort, but if there are people who have accommodation grossly in excess of their reasonable requirements, then it will be necessary to give the local authorities power to requisition."

Sir Ben Smith, Minister of Food, said in the House of Commons that his first duty to the country was to restore the cuts made in the ration since VE-Day. There was a possibility that non-rationed goods might yet have to go on the ration.

Sir Wilson Jameson, Britain's chief Medical Officer of Health, has said in an interview: "There is no reason why we are likely to suffer more from epidemic diseases this winter than in the early days of the war, but the psychological stimulus of winning the war has been removed, and one of the incalculables this winter will be how far people will lie down under the threat of illness. There is a shortage of doctors and a serious shortage of hospital help. Everyone must do his best to help the overworked medical profession. It is the medical Battle of Britain."



# Britain's New Army



## MANPACK CARRIER

Three straps round waist, chest and forehead support the new manpack carrier, which has been warmly praised by all who have used it in trials. Here it is seen carrying the Vickers MG tripod and dial sight.



## PONCHO

The Poncho, which replaces both ground-sheet and gas cape, gives complete protection from rain even when worn over full equipment. The jungle service hat is equally useful for shading the eyes and neck, and preventing rain drips.



Left: special "fishnet" veils, treated with an anti-mosquito chemical, afford several days' protection at a time in malarial regions, when worn with the jungle suit. Right: the Poncho is tied with a cord at the neck and the sleeves are "made" by fastening press-studs.

IF existing plans are to be fulfilled, Britain's New Army will be the best-equipped in the world, and the British soldier will possess the most efficient and up-to-date clothing and personal kit that our scientists and War Office can produce.

Primarily designed for troops serving in the Far East, but also with a view to its adoption by the post-war Army, the design for an entirely new set of clothing and equipment has been approved, and a number of the improved articles have already been issued to units in the Far East.

Since the beginning of the war, War Office officials, scientists and chemists of the Ministry of Supply have collaborated with civilian firms in their efforts to give the British soldier the best clothing and equipment possible, and research has been carried out in laboratories in Britain, Australia, Canada, India and America. Ideas have been interchanged between these countries.

Ideas for improvements have been encouraged from all ranks, particularly those in the Far East. Only the tooth-brush, hair-brush, comb, field dressing and lanyard have not been improved in some way.

## Comfort and Protection

In the scores of experiments carried out in Britain and abroad in producing the new clothing and equipment, these considerations have always been paramount—the lightening of the load, comfort and protection against jungle pests. By the introduction of the new clothing and equipment for use in the tropics the over-all weight can be reduced by as much as 16 lbs.

Among the items developed for the Far Eastern theatres, enthusiastically welcomed are three jungle-green handkerchiefs—the first handkerchiefs ever to be issued by the British Army.

Another innovation applauded by those who know the difficulty of keeping out the rain with a ground-sheet mackintosh, is the Poncho (described by the Oxford Concise Dictionary as "a South American cloak"). The Poncho, which is made of double-texture water-proof cloth, can be used as a rain-coat reaching well below the

knees, even when worn over full equipment, a ground-sheet, a one-man tent or sleeping bag. Also, a large tent can be made by fastening a number of them together. The neck-piece is built on to the garment and is tightened by a cord, while the sleeves are made by fastening press-studs on the edges. It weighs only 3 lbs 8 ozs as compared with the combined weight of 5 lbs 8 ozs of the present gas-cape and ground-sheet, both of which it replaces.

The new lightweight blanket is of super-quality wool, and can be packed into a space only half the size occupied by the present blanket. It is also 1 lb 10 ozs lighter.

A large rucksack takes the place of the kit-bag and valise. It is made of special lightweight duck, and is large enough to contain all the personal clothing and kit required on active service. The top compartment, which is water-proof and rests at the head of the rucksack when worn, is fitted with three small pockets and is designed to contain the kit that a man may require quickly, to obviate turning out the kit-bag for something that has worked its way to the bottom. The main compartment is surrounded by three large pockets, one on each side, capable of carrying a boot and a spare pair of socks apiece, and a



Two-piece jungle suit is mosquito-proof.

## FISHNETS AND FILTERS



Right: using the new water filter, the bowl being the improved helmet previously described in SOLDIER. The dangers of contaminated water are greatly reduced by this new piece of equipment.



# Will Have This Equipment

more capacious pouch pocket on the front. All the buckles are of the new quick-release type.

The new boots are sewn with rot-proof thread and are water-proof. Extra-thick soles are provided with rustless screw-on steel plates, or bifurcated studs, and the laces are rot-proof.

The new jungle service hat has many advantages over other tropical head-gear. Its wide brim has a two-fold purpose in keeping the rain from running down a man's neck, and shielding the eyes and neck from the sun. It can be screwed into a tiny ball and put in a trouser's pocket.

## Trousers Stay Put

The two-piece jungle suit, issued to take the place of the bush-shirt and drill trousers, is made of a close-weave material and is 100 per cent mosquito-proof. The jacket has two breast pockets, and the trousers six—two bellows pockets at the rear, one thigh, one for field dressing, and two side pockets. The trousers have a wide waist-band and are self-supporting.

A lightweight jersey-pullover, similar to the present garment but reinforced with drill at the elbows and shoulders, has slits and button holes for shoulder tabs, and is worn as an outer garment.

The attention that has been paid to the necessity for freedom of movement and coolness is exemplified in the new underclothing, which consists of cotton poplin shorts with self-supporting waist-bands to replace the cellular drawers, and a cotton poplin vest weighing only 3½ ozs.

Dyed green and rot-proof, the new socks are also immune from shrinkage, while the towel is 1½ ozs lighter than the present issue.

The utility petrol lighter, for use in climates where it is often impossible to keep matches dry, contains two fuel tanks, each lasting for five days. It has a glass-fibre wick, a spare flint, and a wind-proof shield.

A popular feature of the new kit is the aluminium alloy soap container

weighing little more than one ounce. The stainless steel shaving mirror, contained in a rot-proof case, has a dual purpose, for it can be used to attract attention by flashing the rays of the sun in any direction by means of a central aperture which is lined up with its own reflection in the mirror.

## No More Lost Razors

Washing and shaving is also made much easier by the provision of a larger capacity water-proof holdall, fitted with long tapes so that it can be tied round the waist while ablutions are performed.

The new "housewife" is made of waterproof material and contains rot-proof thread and wool and special rust-proof buttons and needles.

A revolutionary idea for protection against mosquitos is the issue of "fishnet" veils for the face, hands and feet, which are treated with a new mosquito-repellent fluid. The nets are effective for several days. When worn with the jungle-suit they allow a man to sleep all night without waking to use anti-mosquito repellent every few hours, and also permit a man to sleep in the open air.

There is good news for hairdressers too. A new barber set, comprising scissors, clippers, two hair-brushes and combs contained in a rot-proof case, is issued on the basis of one per company.

Carrying heavy loads of ammunition, rations, weapons and clothing is also made much easier by a new manpack carrier of lightweight aluminium alloy which, with the fastening straps, weighs only 4 lbs 1 oz. It has an adjustable shelf on which heavy weights are



Another view of the manpack carrier, showing its versatility and convenience. The soldier scaling the cliff is carrying a three-inch mortar baseplate.

rested, and is held in position on the back by a waist and chest strap, and a wide strap passing over the forehead which helps to keep a man's spine in a straight line when he is lifting a load.

Among other new items which may be available are a pair of sun-spectacles with large eye-pieces for men who suffer from sun-glare; a water-proof wallet for protection of personal letters and photographs; a medical first-aid outfit to be issued on a section basis; a lightweight clasp knife, embodying a tin and bottle-opener; a water-proof bag to assist river crossings; five yards of rot-proof cord for general use; an alloy razor weighing only three-quarters of an ounce, for thick and thin blades; a combination knife, fork and

spoon which fits into a mess-tin; and a canvas water-filter for individual use when the unit water-purifier is not available.

All the new jungle clothing is dyed green, even the towel.

Use of the new equipment will doubtless lead to the adoption of many of the articles for troops in all theatres, either in substitution of existing equipment and clothing, or as new items. The rate and extent to which the new articles can be introduced for general use cannot yet be foreseen, but much work has been done and more will be carried out to ensure that the British soldier has the very best clothing and equipment our scientists can design and our factories can provide.

Below: some items of the new equipment, including lightweight blanket, haircutting set, boots with rustless studs, alloy soap-box and razor, shaving and signalling mirror, combination knife, fork and spoon, clasp knife, and canvas holdall with waist tapes.

Right: the rucksack will replace the kit-bag and valise. The top compartment has three pockets and the side compartments are each big enough to carry a boot and spare pair of socks. Quick-release buckles are a special feature.

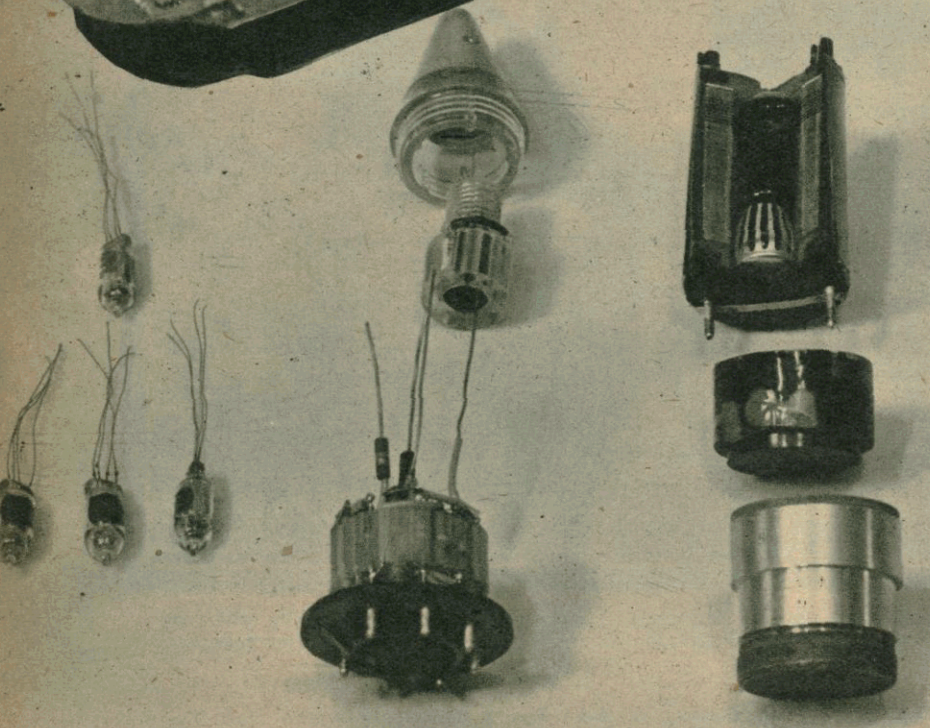
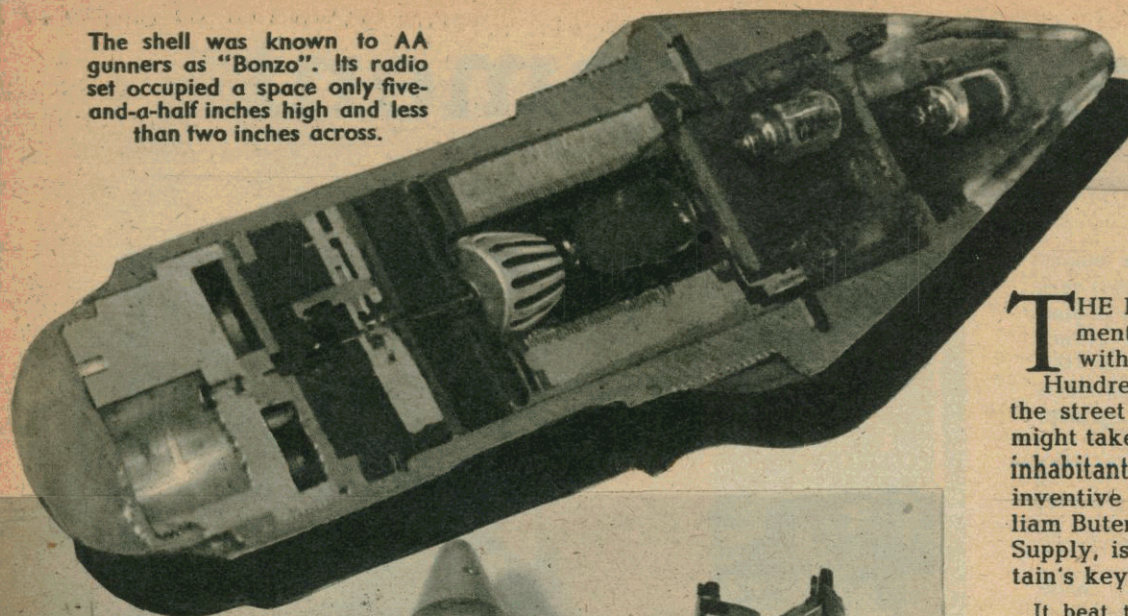


## HOLDALL AND RUCKSACK

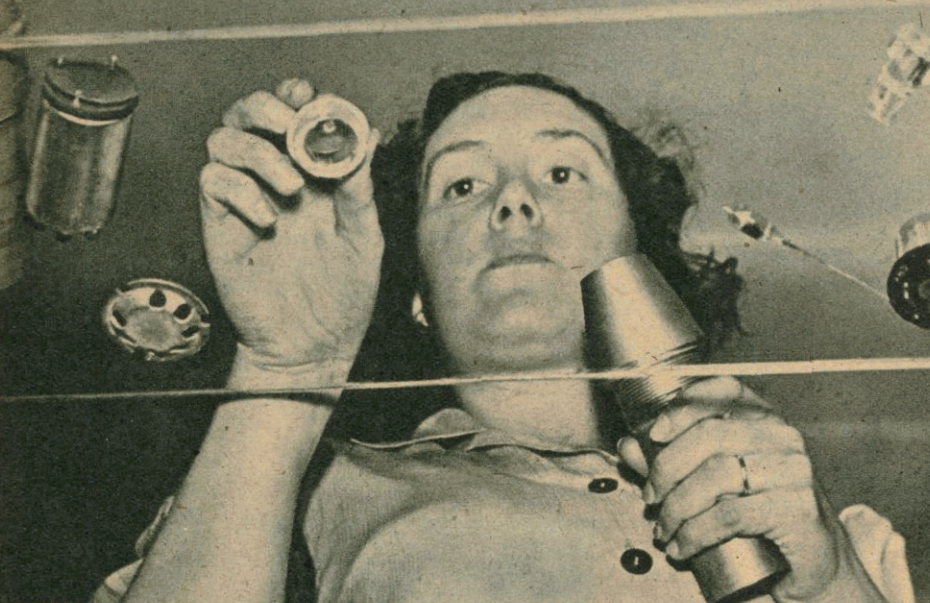




The shell was known to AA gunners as "Bonzo". Its radio set occupied a space only five-and-a-half inches high and less than two inches across.



The principal components of the fuze: — left: the valves, about three-quarters of an inch long. Centre, top: Antenna cap. Middle: oscillator unit. Bottom: amplifier (one-and-a-half inches across). Right, top: battery and acid. Middle: delay switch igniter. Bottom: safety device.



Mrs. "Bunty" Elliott, wife of an RE captain, helped to develop the fuze, and is writing its history. She was captured in France in 1940 and spent three years in a German prison camp.

# THE WONDERFUL STORY OF DR. BUTEMENT — AND FRIENDS

THE Nation, and London in particular, owes a debt to William Butement, a tall, dark, good-looking man of 40 who loves to play "Bears" with his two young daughters at their home in Tadworth, Surrey. Hundreds owe their lives to him. Yet, if you passed William Butement in the street you probably wouldn't bother to look twice. If you did, you might take him for a shop-walker or a bank clerk. But many Londoners and inhabitants of Southern England are alive today only by virtue of the inventive brains of William Butement and two other scientists. For Dr. William Butement, Assistant Director of Scientific Research at the Ministry of Supply, is one of the men who invented the "radio proximity fuze", Britain's key secret weapon.

It beat the flying bomb, saved the Allied Fleets from disaster when the Japanese threw in their "suicide" aircraft in the Battle of the Pacific, and played an important part in repelling Rundstedt's offensive in the Ardennes last December. Eminent scientists describe it as being second in importance to the discovery of the atomic bomb.

## Thumbnail Valves

Dr. Butement is one of a team of British scientists who helped to perfect the "radio" fuze, and with Dr. E. S. Shire and Dr. A. F. G. Thomson, then both of the Air Defence Research Development Establishment of the Ministry of Supply, he is responsible for the actual invention of the secret fuze — the smallest radio station in the world, only six inches high, with minute valves no larger than a thumbnail — which revolutionised anti-aircraft gunnery and, combined with the use of centimetric Radar, gave the AA guns a deadly precision seven times greater than was obtained with the ordinary clockwork fuze shell.

The new fuze, known officially as the "VT" (Variable Time) fuze, eliminates all the intricate and complicated calculations necessary to ensure that a shell explodes within "killing" range of a target, and dispenses with the need for a gun number to be especially trained in the delicate art of setting the mechanism correctly.

Now, as long as the new "radio shell" passes within a certain distance of the target, about 60 to 100 feet, pre-determined to be within lethal range, the projectile will explode.

## Shell that "Listens"

The miniature radio station, which contains a receiver and transmitter combined, and forms its own aerial with the body of the shell, is fitted into the nose-cap. When the shell is fired, a glass phial, filled with electrolyte, is shattered by the force of explosion, and the activating acid is flung by centrifugal force between the plates of a tiny battery. In a second the battery comes to life, and the transmitter begins to send out a series of pre-determined electro-magnetic waves or impulses at the rate of 186,000 miles a second — the speed of light.

These waves are reflected back by any object in close proximity to the shell, and received by the radio station while the shell is in flight. Owing to the difference in the velocity of the shell and the speed of the target the

transmission and receiving impulses are of a different frequency, so that the original and reflected waves combine to produce what is known to the scientific world as a "beat" signal.

As the shell nears the target, the "beat", which resembles a discord obtained by striking two adjacent notes on a piano, increases in strength and is amplified so that when the shell passes within the lethal area, a small booster charge, set in the base of the fuze, is detonated. This booster charge in turn detonates the main charge in the main part of the shell. Complete destruction, or at least very heavy damage to the target is certain.

To ensure that the fuze is not fired by reflection of radio impulses from the ground, a safety device is employed to short-circuit the connection between the wireless set and the booster charge until the shell has passed out of range of the earth. This safety device also prevents any possibility of the shell being exploded by rough handling on the ground. Concealed in the base of the fuze is a self-destruction switch which explodes the shell when it has travelled for a fixed distance.

## In "Bulge" Battle

This radio proximity fuze was used operationally not only in British and American AA shells, but was employed with very great success in three-inch and five-inch naval shells, and in field artillery pieces.

When the Nazis launched their desperate effort to break through the American lines in the "Battle of the Bulge" last December, the Americans used it to explode artillery shells 20 or 30 feet above the ground. The air-burst shells created tremendous havoc among the German troops, and helped to "winkle" them out of slit trenches during the subsequent advance.

When the secret fuzes were first issued to AA batteries defending Southern England the men firing the guns knew them only as "Bonzo" — an improved type of shell which had an uncanny ability to hit the target.

One of the first occasions on which the new fuzes were used in Britain was in 1944 when five aircraft appeared over a defended area in one of the Southern Counties, and failed to give the recognition signal. An AA battery opened fire with "Bonzo", and with the first five shells four of the aircraft were severely damaged. The planes were

British aircraft returning from a massed assault on Germany, and the crews had forgotten to give the recognition signal. Fortunately there were no casualties to the crews, although they were considerably shaken. The success of the "VT" fuze had been proved, but if further proof of its efficiency was required it was provided some months later when, in August 1944, there was a remarkable decrease in the number of flying bombs that reached their targets, and an astounding increase in the total brought down. Many AA batteries hit all the targets presented to them. In March this year only eleven V.1's reached London — a tribute to the accuracy given to our AA guns by the new fuze.

## How It Began

It was in October 1939 that the problem of inventing a projectile which would chase an aircraft in the sky by means of some kind of remote control on the ground was first discussed. Dr. Butement, then of the Air Defence Research Development Establishment of the Ministry of Supply, had long been interested in the development of our AA weapons. In particular he had thought of an idea to use a shell or a rocket containing an ordinary wireless receiver and controlled from the ground, which could be exploded by the use of Radar equipment, and he put his suggestion to Sir Alwyn Crow, Director of Projectile Development, Ministry of Supply.

As a result of the interview, Dr. Butement was placed in charge of the research team, which included Dr. Shire and Dr. Thomson. For weeks they worked on the idea, and then, while sitting by his fireside at home one evening, Dr. Butement thought of a combined receiver and transmitter which could be placed into the nose-cap of a shell.

Next morning when he entered his office, Dr. Butement told Dr. Shire: "I think I've found a much better way to do it." To his surprise Dr. Shire replied, "Yes, so have I." They compared notes and discovered that they had both hit upon the same idea, the same night, in their homes! The radio proximity fuze, which later was to play such an important part in repelling German secret weapons, was born. Dr. Butement wrote a paper on the invention and submitted it to the Radar Applications Committee of the Ministry of Supply in June 1940, and eventually the patent was filed in the names of Butement, Shire and Thomson.

## Biggest Headache

During their research Dr. Butement and his two companions came face to face with a number of technical difficulties, especially in the initial stages. Perhaps the greatest of these was the problem of producing valves able to withstand the enormous strain and

tremendous acceleration of a shell when fired — about 20,000 times that of gravity. At the beginning Professor J. D. Cockcroft, Chief Superintendent of ADRDE, was the driving force behind the investigations, and he carried out a number of successful experiments on valves of all types, finally proving that a certain type could be made to stand up to the strain.

Later in 1940 certain Radar information, including ideas about the radio proximity fuze, was passed to American scientists and enthusiastically taken up. The Americans were not so far advanced in the scientific field with proximity fuzes, but they had been working on the problem. Both countries carried out experiments, and in England a number of commercial radio organisations were co-opted to the effort. A number of fuzes were built in England, but American production facilities were far greater than ours, and most of the fuzes were made in the United States.

There were many other difficulties. For instance, there was the problem of providing an over-riding fuze so that if the shell did not pass sufficiently close to the aircraft to explode it, it did not wait until nearing the ground on the return journey before exploding, with consequent danger to the civilian population. The design of a battery which could be built into a shell and which would not deteriorate in store, ensuring that the fuze was not so sensitive that it exploded in rain or near a cloud, and the problem of mechanical strength needed to survive being shot from a gun, were all difficulties that were overcome after much experimenting and hard work.

## Triumph for Youth

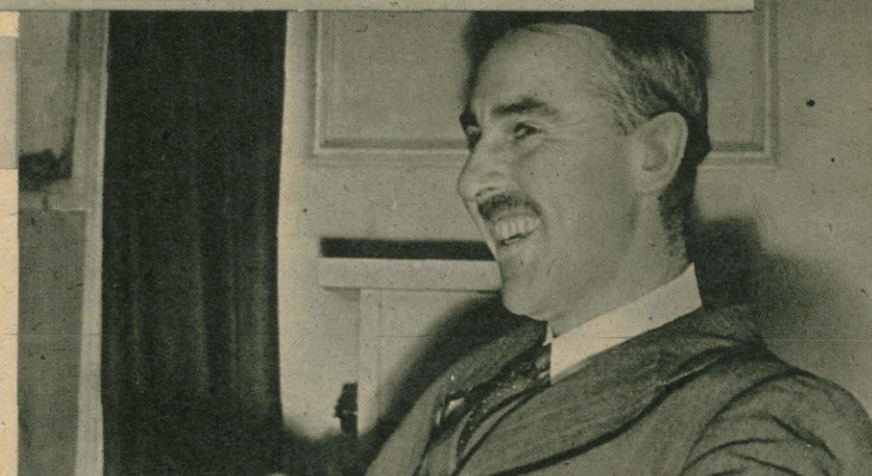
Dr. Butement is convinced that the invention will have many repercussions in peace-time, especially in the field of miniature wireless sets.

He looks very young to be a famous scientist, and he has no pretensions about himself. "I'm just an ordinary kind of chap — nothing unusual," he would say. It is a remarkable fact, too, that the men who worked in Radar and kindred scientific subjects are all quite young. With very few exceptions their ages are in the region of 30.

Dr. Butement's parents were New Zealanders, and he was born at Masterton, New Zealand. His father served with the Anzac forces in the last war, and he has lived in England since 1915.

Several years ago he wrote to the three Services asking for a job. The War Office replied and offered him a vacancy on Radar research which he accepted. From that small beginning developed the shell which was the perfect answer to one of the most formidable secret weapons the enemy levelled at Britain.

E. J. GROVE (Capt.)



Dr. Butement sitting by the fireside in his Surrey home. He is a New Zealander by birth, and his father was with the Anzac forces in the 1914-18 war.



Mr. Alexander Rangabe, who was responsible for the development of the dwarf valves.

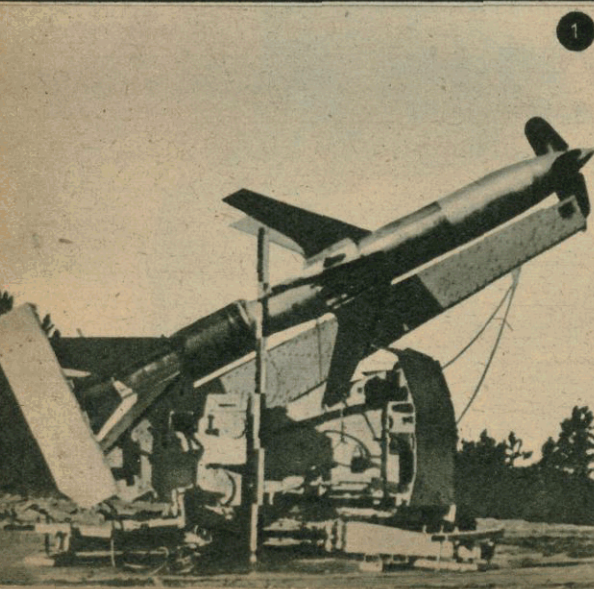


Dr. E. S. Shire, co-inventor of the fuze which beat the flying bombs.



"I have come to regard it as one of my babies", says Mr. David Stenning, one of the original members of the team which developed the invention.

# ... AND HERE IS THE "RHEINTOCHTER"!



1. The Germans were outstripped in the race for the discovery of the "radio shell" — in fact they never really hit upon the idea of a radio proximity fuze at all. Their secret AA weapon was a one-and-a-half ton rocket called the "Rheintochter", a cumbersome affair, seen here on its cradle, intended to be steered to the target by a ground radio.

2. The "Rheintochter" came too late to be used operationally, but experiments were made on the coast of France and in the Ruhr. The explosive charge weighed only 330 lbs. Here it is seen at the moment of firing. The cloud of smoke and dust raised was a great drawback to its use. Its effective ceiling was 28,000-30,000 ft, and its maximum range 16,500 yds.

3. It was a two-stage weapon, the initial launching charge at the base burning for only a very short time. This boost section was arranged to fall away after igniting the main propellant, which burned for 50 seconds and gave a speed of 400-500 mph. The picture shows the tail falling off after exhaustion of the boost charge.

4. The forepart speeds on as the tail drops clear. The nose contained a mechanical proximity fuze device which would have been operated within striking distance of an aircraft. Before the end came German scientists were considering the application of proximity fuzes in their ordinary shells, but their investigations were very limited.

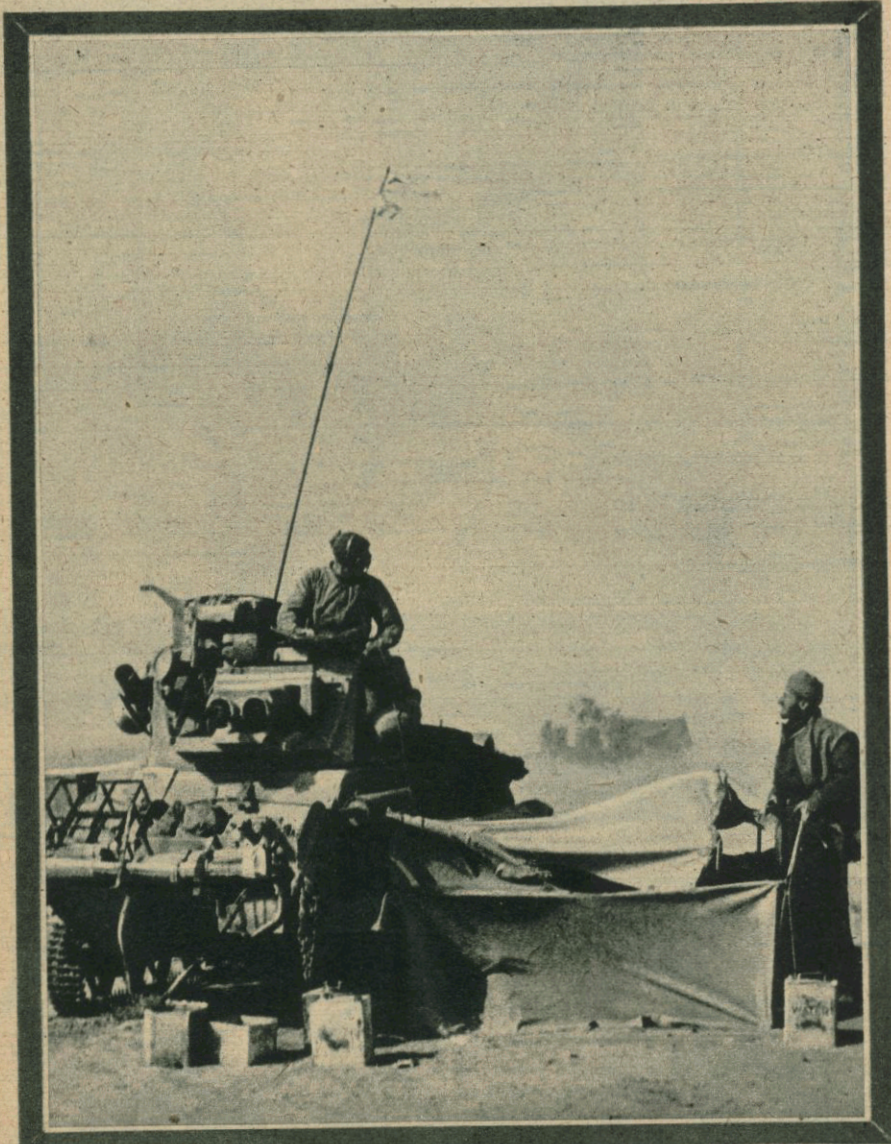






## "A MARCH

## UNSURPASSED



**BREW-UP:** The Division were desert-wise in the earliest days of the campaign. Above: tankmen of 7 Queen's Own Hussars are bivouacking during a sandstorm.

**S**TANDING at the head of the Ays—the high-speed road that leads to the centre of Berlin from the Reichsautobahn—is a 10 ft.-high signboard which proclaims to every traveller to the Reich capital the proud achievement and outstanding history of the "Desert Rats" of 7 British Armoured Division.

This board marks the end of a journey of persistent and victorious battle with the Wehrmacht; a journey on which thousands made the great sacrifice, knowing that ultimately the end of the road would be reached.

The simple lettering, flanked by the distinguishing little red rat in the upper corners of the board, states: "This Axis has been laid from El Alamein to Berlin via Africa, Italy, France, Belgium, Holland, Germany." And against each country is bracketed a few of the places through which the Desert Rats have carried their armour in triumph.

When the "Coppers" of the Division Provost Company had finished placing the signboard in position after Maj-Gen Lewis Lyne, CB, DSO, had led his Division into the bomb-blasted, shell-torn Reich capital, an embittered German civilian read the inscription three or four times in silence. Then he turned away to comment sourly: "And the Führer told us these British would not fight. No Army in the world could have stopped them."

### Child of the Sands

It was at Mersa Matruh in the Egyptian desert—later to become a headline battle place-name—that 7 British Armoured Division was born. It was during the time of the Munich crisis in 1938, and Maj-Gen P. C. S. Hobart, the armoured fighting vehicle expert of the old Tank Brigade, was given the task of forming a new kind of British fighting unit. He gathered about him the HQ Cairo Cavalry Brigade and Signals; 3 Regiment, Royal Horse Artillery; 7 Queen's Own Hussars; 8 King's Royal Irish Hussars; 11 (Prince Albert's Own) Hussars; and 1 Battalion, Royal Tank Regiment.

This array was impressive in regimental title only, and the equipment of the new force appears ludicrous in the light of the hitting power of a modern armoured division. The 3 RHA had 3.7

in. howitzers. The armour of 7 Hussars was two squadrons of light tanks but no .5in ammunition, while 8 Hussars had Vickers guns mounted on 15-cwt. trucks, and the "Cherry-pickers" of 11 Hussars had armoured cars which were almost museum pieces.

Fifty-eight light tanks were the resources of 1 Battalion RTR—all the light tanks available when the unit left England in March 1938—but the track mileage was nearly expired and the few new tracks available in the desert would not fit.

General Hobart metaphorically rolled his sleeves up and set to work to reorganise, re-equip and train the Division. When war broke out it had been strengthened in every way by fighting men and fighting machines. Most important of all, he had devised a system of administration for a mobile formation operating in almost waterless desert with no communications.

The first tension brought about by the declaration of war on Germany relaxed and, in common with our Forces in France, the Division settled down to a period of watching and waiting. In January 1940 the command changed to General Michael O'Moore-Creagh, and it was not until the following June, when Italy came into the war as the Axis second string, that there was any action. Then 11 Hussars made the first

7 Armoured Division, created and moulded in the desert, became a fighting formation whose fame and nickname echoed round the world.

of their characteristically brilliant reconnaissance moves and crossed the Libyan frontier to capture Sidi Omar. It was a bloodless victory, for the Italian garrison did not know that war had been declared!

The first big offensive of the Division did not start until December 1940 with the battle of Sidi Barrani. As was unofficially reported at the time, "acres of Italians" surrendered, and early in the New Year the 4 and 7 Armoured Brigades pushed west to lay siege to and capture Tobruk. This was followed up by a push as far west as Benghazi and the "Cherry-pickers" had even reached Marble Arch when the Division moved back to Cairo to rest and refit.

### Premature Joy

There was optimistic talk that the desert war was over, but this was short-lived. In April the German counter-attack started at Agheila and elements of the Division rushed up to Tobruk, but Rommel's Afrika Korps meant serious business and was not easily checked. Tobruk was surrounded and the eight-month siege was on. From then on the Seventh were in all the shifting fortunes of General Auchinleck's campaign until December, when they had the supreme satisfaction of relieving the beleaguered garrison.

Brigadier J. C. ("Jock") Campbell, VC—the grand soldier who gave his name to the famous "Jock Columns" of British desert warfare—took over command of the Division in January 1942. General "Jock" was awarded one of the three Victoria Crosses gained by the Division at the bitter battle of Sidi Resegh—the other two being post-

At this stage 131 (Queen's Royal Regiment) Brigade joined the Division as a Lorried Infantry Brigade. They came from 44 (Home Counties) Division—"Saturday Night Soldiers" of the Territorial Army who were soon to prove themselves masters of the long-trained Wehrmacht.

### Half-Way House

Back over old familiar tracks and wadis, through Tobruk and dozens more sites of past engagements, the Desert Rats harried the fleeing Afrika Korps until, just before dawn on 23 January 1943—exactly three months after the opening of the battle of El Alamein—the reconnaissance armour of 11 Hussars, followed by Divisional Tac HQ, entered Tripoli unopposed. The half-way house had been reached and every preparation was immediately made for the drive on the last lap of the desert campaign.

Before the end of the month the Division, now under the command of Maj-Gen. G. W. E. J. ("Bobby") Erskine, was moving west again in the spearhead of the Eighth Army's pursuit of Rommel. In spite of all kinds of travel difficulties, ranging from rain-sodden salt marshes to minefields, booby traps and demolitions, the enemy was kept on the run.

When he tried to make a stand at Medenine, to the east of the Mareth Line, he discovered the stuff the Queen's were made of. They stood their ground against heavy and concentrated panzer attacks and, with the help of 65 Anti-Tank Regiment (Norfolk Yeomanry) and Shermans from 1 Battalion RTR, they brewed up all tanks

## Throughout All the Story of War"

humorous awards to Lt. Ward Gunn (3 RHA) and Rfn. Beeley (1 KRRC). There was mourning for the loss of a real comrade in arms throughout the Division when General "Jock" was killed in an accident at Bug-Bug shortly after taking over command.

In the early summer news from the Western Desert cockpit was grave. Rommel launched his determined attack towards Cairo and there was apparently no stopping him. The 7 Armoured Division were always in the fight but had to give ground—ground which they knew well—all the way back to El Alamein.

### El Alamein

Then, in October, came the great and decisive battle of El Alamein, the battle which sent hope rocketing high among the people at home, the battle which marked the beginning of the downfall of German military might. The 7 Armoured Division was given the major role of holding the formidable 21 Panzer Division and clearing the minefields in the south. This was achieved and a bridgehead formed. In the face of concentrated fire the Infantry moved through. During the next few days Rommel's carefully prepared defence scheme was systematically wrecked and the long chase across the desert was under way.



"Electric Whiskers": General Bergonzoli was a celebrated prisoner.

which reached or penetrated their position, and forced the rest to quit at a smartish pace. A total of 45 tanks were destroyed on the Divisional front in the 24-hour battle of Medenine—a blow from which Rommel never recovered and which destroyed any hopes he may have had of holding the Mareth Line.

Wadi Akarit and Sfax followed quickly as "scalps", the "Cherry-pickers" again being the first into Sfax, beating 51 Highland Division by a short head for the honour. Enfidaville, Medjez el Bab and finally Tunis followed. At Tunis the irrepressible "Cherry-pickers" were once more first past the post. They chased the tattered remnants of the Afrika Korps right into the city, where the enthusiastic reception from the French population was almost as embarrassing as the mass of prisoners who clamoured to surrender.

### Vanguard of Armies

Thus the Division entered Tunis first among all the troops of the United Nations in North Africa. The 2,000-mile "swan" from El Alamein had been completed in six months almost to a day; the desert war was over and the Allies had chalked up their first big victory over the Axis powers.

There had been suggestions that the Division would take part in the Sicily fighting—in fact General Erskine landed his Tac HQ at Augusta in preparation—but that phase of the war in the Mediterranean was bypassed so that the Desert Rats might be the first armoured division into Italy. 131 Brigade Group, under the command of Brigadier L. G. Whistler, landed at Salerno and fought in the beach-head, and 22 Brigade (Brigadier W. R. N. Hinde) joined them in the bitter fighting up to the Vietri Pass on the road to Naples. **CONTINUED ON PAGE 16**

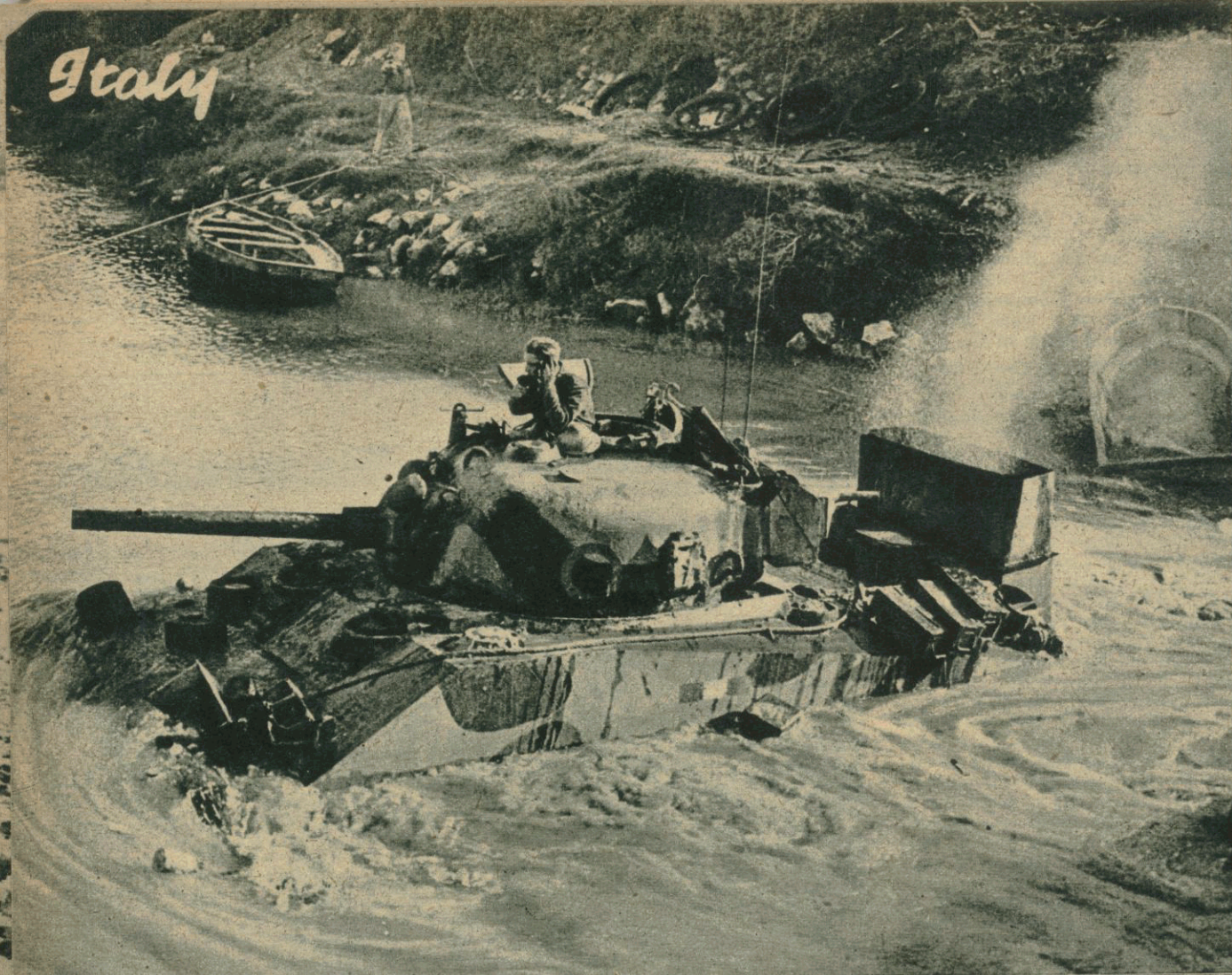


**CAPTIVES:** Above: a throng of tattered prisoners of the desert war are being embarked in lighters at Sollum under the rifles of the victors.  
**CONQUERORS:** Men and machines were lined up with parade-ground smartness when Mr. Churchill inspected soldiers of the Royal Tank Regiment at Tripoli.





Italy



Sherman tanks fording the Volturno. 7 Armoured Division took a leading part in some of the bitterest Italian fighting before being recalled to Britain to prepare for D-Day.

France



Soon after landing on 7 and 8 June 1944 Normandy fighting. Above: tanks are seen

Germany



The Division found themselves in the thick of the moving to take up positions near Villers Bocage. The Division had its HQ in a small farming village outside Hamburg, and it was there that the surrender of the city was made. Officers are seen (above) entering the Town Hall.

## "A MARCH UNSURPASSED THROUGHOUT ALL THE STORY

The 1/5 Battalion of the Queen's figured in a very spirited battle for the bridge over the River Sarno at Scafati during this advance, and, under Lt-Col Michael Forrester, severely bounced the Hermann Goering Division which was trying to blow it up.

### Italian Chapter

First British troops into Naples were the armoured cars of the King's Dragoon Guards, who were temporarily under command, but the main body went round by Vesuvius with 22 Brigade in the spearhead. The next hurdle was the crossing of the Volturno, carried out very successfully by the Queen's Brigade, and so up to the banks of the River Garigliano, driving the bitterly resisting enemy yard by yard. Then news came through that the Desert Rats were to go back to England, and in December they were on the high seas for home.

H. M. the King inspecting troops at Tripoli, which the Division were first to enter.

By this time there were many characteristics whereby a Desert Rat might be identified without reference to the Jerboa divisional sign on his sleeve, and, apart from certain peculiarities in dress, not the least of these was his own particular brand of slang which embraced many odd words of Arabic and Italian. When soldiers gathered in the old public houses of Norfolk for the evening pint after a day of training for Normandy, the locals never failed to wonder at the queer phrases of which they could make neither head nor tail.

### First Armour In France

And so the day arrived for which all the peoples of Europe had been waiting: 6 June 1944—D-Day. And, as usual, 7 Armoured Division was in front from the start, getting the first armour ashore on the Arromanches beaches on D plus 1 and 2. The concentration was made just north of Bayeux and the Desert Rats went into their first engagement at Tilly-sur-Seules. Villers Bocage was the next objective, but as elements of 22 Brigade arrived in the town they were counter-attacked by 2 Panzer Division; and one squadron of 4 City of London Yeomanry were cut off as the Brigade withdrew to high ground

to establish a line with the Americans. It was at this time that the 1/6 Queen's had a sharp engagement with panzer grenadiers who almost overran the position, but the Surrey-recruited soldiers would not budge and finally threw the enemy out with very heavy casualties.

Several tasks in the closing of the Falaise Gap were allotted to the Division. Any large-scale armoured action was handicapped by the adverse ground, but the Infantry took its full share of the dogged individual fighting which terminated in the closing of the Gap and the break-out towards the Seine.

### 1,000 Prisoners Daily

The Seine was crossed at the picturesque township of Les Andelys after a 30-mile "swan" from Lisieux, and then the armour came into its own with the Desert Rats keeping company with 11 Armoured Division and the Guards Armoured Division in parallel thrusts across France. An average of 40 miles and 1,000 prisoners a day was maintained by the Division until the Somme was crossed and the battle passed into Belgium, where the Desert Rats' first action was to liberate Ghent.

Then on towards Antwerp and across the maze of canals to the bridgehead on the Albert Canal to reopen the road to the Airborne men of Arnhem (the road had been cut at Eindhoven) before taking part in the attack on s'Hertogenbosch and clearing up the area south of the Maas and north of Tilburg.

### New Commander

Maj-Gen. Erskine had left to take over the post of Chief of the Allied Military Mission in Belgium, and Maj-Gen Lyne assumed command of the Division in November. Just before Christmas the River Maas was crossed and certain elements of the Lorried Infantry Brigade took up positions near Sittard just inside the German border.

Fighting in the white hell of bitter winter weather, the Desert Rats thought longingly of burning North African days as they engaged the enemy at

Echt and Schilburg and up to the River Roer. The Queen's Brigade had ceased to exist by this time: the 1/6 and 1/7 Battalions were withdrawn and replaced by 2 Battalion Devonshire Regiment and 9 Battalion Durham Light Infantry, from 50 (Northumbrian) Division.

### "The Long Swan"

Just before the final attack to clear the Maas pockets the Division moved back to Weert to prepare for the Rhine crossing and eventually followed the assault troops over on 27 March for the final real encounter with the Wehrmacht in the classic defence position of the Teutoburger Wald, which was held by fanatical fighters of the German NCO School. But the opposition crumbled and the final "long swan" was under way—across the River Weser and up to the outskirts of Bremen before moving sharply east to Hamburg.



Brigadier J. M. K. Spurling, DSO.

Hamburg was the end. While the Division closed in on Hamburg and the guns of 3 and 4 RHA pounded targets ahead of the armour closing in on the banks of the Elbe, a white flag party crossed into our lines.

The surrender of Hamburg paved the way to the general surrender of the German armed forces. While Karl Kaufmann, the Gauleiter, was surrendering the city to Brigadier J. M. K. Spurling (commanding 131 Lorried Infantry Brigade) in the ornate council chamber of the City Hall, Admiral von Friedburg and monocled General Kinsell, Chief-of-Staff to Field-Marshal Busch, who had been passed through our lines, were at Second Army HQ negotiating for the final fall of the curtain.

The last chapter of the Desert Rats' glorious history of victory was written when the Division was ordered to occupy the British occupational zone of

## OF WAR" CONTINUED

Berlin. The only regret was that the entire Division could not travel on the last "swan". It was operationally necessary to leave behind in Schleswig-Holstein the men and armour of the Inniskillings and 1 and 5 Royal Tank Regiments, the guns and Gunners of 15 Light AA Regiment, which had been shooting hell out of the Luftwaffe from the desert onwards, and 1 Battalion Rifle Brigade.

The German capital had been a dream so many hundreds of miles away—a dream expressed in simple slogans like "Berlin or Bust" chalked on the sides of fighting vehicles. But it came true in the magnificent victory parade down the Charlottenburger Chaussee on 21 July, when Mr. Winston Churchill stood in the Union Jack-draped stand and took the salute as the massed armour, guns and Infantry passed by: 3 and 5 Royal Horse Artillery, 8 and 11 Hussars, 3 Independent Company of the Royal Northumberland Fusiliers, the massed carrier, mortar and anti-tank platoons of 131 Lorried Infantry Brigade, the Divisional Royal Engineers, 1/5 Queen's and 2 Devons, the men of 131 Field Ambulance and 507 Troop Carrying Company of the RASC, who had also started the journey at El Alamein.

### Tale For The Ages

"Dear Desert Rats," the former Prime Minister called them when the victory parade had passed and the dust of Berlin had settled on the streets again. "May your glory ever shine," he added. "May your laurels never fade; may the memory of this glorious pilgrimage which you have made from El Alamein to Berlin never die..."

"Yours is a march unsurpassed throughout all the story of war. May fathers long tell their sons of their exploits; may you all feel that in following your commanders you have accomplished something which has done good to the whole world, has raised the honour of your own country, and of which every one of you has a right to be proud."

JOHN GORDON (Capt.)

Berlin!





# ARMY MUSIC BRINGS



Western Command Symphony Orchestra playing in Chester Cathedral.

## "This is How it Goes," says Captain Fenby

Captain Eric Fenby, music composer, author and broadcaster, was born at Scarborough in 1906. In his childhood and youth he spent his time teaching himself music, studying to become a composer.

He went to France in 1928 and offered to become an amanuensis to the composer Delius, in whose work he was keenly interested. Delius, who was then blind and paralysed, accepted, and for six years Fenby became his hands and eyes until his death in 1934.

On his return to England Fenby wrote a book called "Delius as I Knew Him," gave talks on music for the BBC, and judged at British Music Festivals. He also wrote compositions for the films, the best-known of which was for "Jamaica Inn."

In 1940 he was called up into the RA and in 1941 was transferred to the AEC. His ambition after his release is to finish a symphony started in 1938.

## "And This is How it Comes," says CSM Rawsthorne

When you see "Burma Victory", the official Army film of the Burma campaign, you will hear music specially composed for it by CSM Rawsthorne. He was born in Lancashire in 1905, and from 1926-30 studied at the Royal College of Music, Manchester, where he met a fellow student who was to become his wife — Jessie Hinchliffe, now a violinist in the BBC Symphony Orchestra.

After travelling around Europe, he spent two years composing for the School of Dance-Mime at Dartington Hall, Totnes, Devon. Then he settled down in London to what he called "the humdrum life of a composer", writing music for his publishers, the films and the radio.

He was called up in 1941 to the RA and, like Fenby, transferred to the AEC. During the war he composed a fantasy overture called "Cortège", which was broadcast recently by the BBC and was also played during the Promenade season this year. He has also found time to re-score a piano concerto he wrote in 1938, which was performed on the last day of the Promenade season.

# BACH TO BARRACKS



WHEN Dr. Malcolm Sargent, conductor of the Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra, recently returned from a tour of the United States, New Zealand and Australia, he declared, "The youth of the world is clamouring to hear good music."

A BBC official estimated that of the 300,000 people who packed the Promenade concerts this season, one-third were Servicemen and women.

Reports show that wherever orchestras and opera companies perform to troops the audiences are so large that many have to be turned away. In fact, as a recent newspaper headline stated, "Music is Booming", and, what is more important, this boom looks as if it is here to stay.

In the Army the desire for music started in a small way in the early stages of the war. It began in barrack rooms, in Nissen huts, in canteens and in fields, when small groups of music-lovers got out their portable gramophones with carefully preserved records and gathered round to listen.

## Pioneers

It began when other men, who before the war had never seriously bothered about music, in their off-duty hours sat down and listened and liked what they heard. Soon, everywhere, troops who were keen on music were getting together in their units and holding regular gramophone concerts. These small music groups started quite spontaneously without any sponsoring from Army authorities, but the set-up was very much a mushroom growth, entirely localised, lacking organisation. This was the situation as Eric Fenby



found it when in 1941 he was posted to the Army Education Corps to teach and encourage the appreciation of music in the Army. He was told, "Your job is to go around to the troops and organise, stimulate and foster their interest in music and give it direction." Quietly he got down to work. He realised from the outset that half the battle was already won. Soldiers were keen to hear music and they had the will to listen. He knew that without that will he could talk about music until he was black in the face without gaining results. What he wanted to instil in his audiences, however, was not only the will to listen but the ability to listen with meaning. He wanted them to get enthusiastic about music, to try to understand what composers were saying and doing. He wanted them to be able to seize the melodic germ in each piece of music they heard, and allow their imaginations to work until they could see that germ grow, add colour with instrumentation, and finally express the manner and mood of the composer in all its fullness.

## Three Ways to Listen

Music, he knew, appealed in different ways to different people. Some listened to music with their heart, others with their feet, and others with their head. Those in the first category were swayed chiefly by the emotional appeal of the composition; those who listened with their feet were influenced by the rhythm and movement; those who used their head thought in terms of sound and developed a critical sense

of what they heard. But to Fenby the greatest moment in listening came when all these appeals were combined and music catered not to a part of a man, but to the complete man.

This was Fenby's ambition for his students, and to achieve it he had to find a method of presenting music in a concise and entertaining way. He realised that he was dealing with adults, many of whom, however, had no musical background or education whatever. To talk down from the technical heights of his own knowledge would be useless, and so he had to turn his experience into language that a layman could grasp, and present it in lively terms that would be both enjoyable and instructive.

His programme took him to every Command, where he spent a month in each district. At one time he was giving over 60 lectures a month to music groups varying from 20 soldiers to 500. After visiting the units themselves he gave short courses to the men they had selected, advising them on the best way to present their programmes.

## Familiar Tunes

He was always careful to use the same equipment as the units were using. A portable gramophone and a few carefully selected records were all that he required. The music he used at first to demonstrate his points was always familiar — tunes like the "Londonderry Air", Paul Robeson songs, dance music. To convey to his listeners the scope of music he would play one

composition in different ways, first perhaps with the voice, then with the piano, finally with full orchestra.

He found that many soldiers had no idea what an orchestra was like, so after giving them a brief talk about it he would split them up into groups and nominate one group as the strings, another group as the wood instruments, another as the brass, and so on. Then he would put on an orchestral record and get each group to shout out when they heard their instruments playing.

## It's Like Painting

He also got them to pick out the musical phrase that ran throughout a piece of music that was being played, and showed it as a diagram on a blackboard. Then he explained how this phrase was developed and coloured by the different instruments in the orchestra.

A favourite comparison he used was painting, showing that musicians used notes as artists use paint. In all his teaching he aimed to make his audience do the thinking and to present music as an enjoyable and interesting game.

By 1943 things were going with a swing. ENSA music, gramophones and records were arriving in quantity. The BBC were assisting by giving special performances to the troops and allowing them to visit orchestras at rehearsal. More instructors were brought in to help Eric Fenby, including two composers, Alan Rawsthorne and Norman Demuth.

During the later period of the war Fenby concentrated on providing a course for unit music instructors which forms a part of the Army Education Scheme. In this course he teaches his pupils how to put music across in simple conversational terms as an attractive, entertaining subject. Yet, because he is essentially a composer rather than a teacher, he always finishes by putting the teaching of music in its proper perspective. "The work of an artist," he tells his pupils, "is to be looked at, not talked about. The same applies to music. The meaning of

music is in music alone, and in spite of all the talk about it people will always end up by wanting the music they love."

This, then, is briefly the story of the work of Eric Fenby, Alan Rawsthorne and others who have taught music in the Army. Sometimes they have been met with indifference, but much more often their efforts have been appreciated by the soldiers they have met. From the many talks they have had with Servicemen and women about music, Fenby and Rawsthorne can gauge with fair accuracy the musical taste of the Army. Rawsthorne, asked if there was any preference for a particular composer, said that any music that was richly scored and had tremendous splashes of sound was always well received. Tchaikovsky was an undoubted favourite, perhaps because his compositions were varied and gay, and had a personal expression that appealed directly to his listeners.

## Doesn't Click

He also said that the new audiences created by the war were for the most part unbiased. Serious music was fresh to them and they were as willing to listen to modern composers as to old masters. Fenby, however, said that, except in isolated cases, he had found little appreciation or understanding of modern music. Whereas the older composers used a range of sound that was familiar, the modern composer uses a whole gamut of sound in his own individual way. The development of orchestral technique among musicians nowadays gave greater scope for design in music and the modern composers were using these resources to the full.

## Future is Bright

Both agreed that the future of music in Britain looks bright. Music, said Fenby, was becoming decentralised from London. Listeners must now be encouraged to go and see the orchestras themselves and not be content to listen only to the radio and gramophone. When soldiers return to civil life they must get their local authorities to foster all forms of musical enterprise. If composers knew that there were enough good orchestras to play their music, they would respond by producing plenty.

A recent report from the Royal College of Music, stating that so many students wanted to enrol to become instrumentalists that two out of three had to be rejected, seems to indicate that there should be no shortage of musicians in the future. What remains to be seen is whether the present hunger for music will die and be remembered just as a wartime phenomenon, or whether it will live and become an integral part of the lives of those who have been awakened to its existence and its need for satisfaction.

C. W. SMITH (Lieut.)





# END OF A WONDER TEAM

When England's Soccer sorcerers fell to an average Welsh XI at West Bromwich the jolt was tremendous. Here are the lessons that can be drawn from the downfall of a team which looked as if no other on earth could beat it.

SITTING in the shadow of the main grandstand at West Bromwich, where Wales had just beaten England in the Victory Soccer international, quicksilver Stanley Matthews, greatest of all wing forwards by most people's ranking, shook his head sadly and said, "I guess it had to come."

He was right. For three years England's team had gone through one international match after the other without defeat. And that wasn't all. During the six seasons of war-in-Europe football, they had won 19 matches out of a total of 30 played, and lost only five.

The Scots had been badly thrashed. Their last seven games against England ended in defeat and the full wartime record read: Played 15, England victories 11, drawn 2, lost 2; goals 53 against 20. Included in the list were Scottish set-backs by margins of 8-0, 6-1 and twice of 6-2.

A magnificent run, made by a team which, showing little change, had been written up almost everywhere as, the best international combination ever to be seen in the whole history of big football. It was the Wonder Team—yes, a side ranked by plenty of the critics even higher than Scotland's celebrated Wembley Wizards of famous memory.

Well, football form is a curious thing. It comes and goes in cycles. England just couldn't be approached through the war years. Then, suddenly, an in-different-looking Welsh eleven goes out before a 56,000 West Bromwich crowd and wins a scrambling game via a goal shot by little Aubrey Powell, their RAF schoolmaster forward.

What's more, Powell did the trick while in the role of an emergency right half-back. Switched from the wing when Winter, a full-back, was injured, and Don Dearson had gone into the defence, Powell took the one real chance which came the way of the Welshmen. A long ball down the middle, a neat back heel by Lowrie, and there he was set to bang home a 20-yard drive to end England's successful sequence.

Was it a surprise? Frankly, I don't think so. The writing was on the wall for England in very large letters after last season's 2-2 draw with France at Wembley, and the current campaign's far from impressive victory over Ireland in Belfast.

## Mistake with Whiskers

The selectors had made the oldest mistake in international football. Mesmerised by the fact that the team was winning much as it liked, they failed to bring new players into the argument. The old retainers were chosen, match after match. Horatio Carter, the cracker-jack Sunderland inside-right of the before-the-war days, was the ideal partner for Stanley Matthews, so he was hurriedly brought back after experiments had been made with Albert Brown, the Charlton attacker.

Not, really, that the decision to play Brown, grand performer though he is, was so very bold. After all, he has seen plenty of football service and isn't exactly an up-and-coming youngster.

Anyway, the Football Association international committee set its face resolutely against the introduction of young players. Frank Swift was an automatic goalkeeping choice—and a wise one, I say, since goalkeepers (good ones) can go on for ever. So I don't fault the selectors there.

Where I do pick them up is for their persistence in relying on Tommy Lawton, Stanley Matthews, Joe Mercer and, earlier in the war years, Stanley Cullis and Jimmy Hagan. Why? Because here were key players who, some time or another, were certain to lose their edge.

## Youngsters Ignored

It should have been the policy to draft promising newcomers into the side from time to time.

Had this happened, we should have seen Stanley Cullis, fit and in form, left out of the England eleven in order that a good young un like Flewin (Portsmouth), or Franklin (Stoke City) could be given a run at centre-half. Neither would have been so good as Cullis—in a class of his own, anyway—but, playing with a confident, winning eleven, he might have settled down quickly to international football.

You probably know what happened.

Cullis was suddenly sent to Italy, where he's now doing a grand job of work as "headmaster" of an Army football coaching course, and the Englishmen were left without a centre-half of proved ability. They thrust young Flewin into the team, switching the wing half-backs just to make it more difficult for the boy, and sat back to judge him on the Cullis standards.

It wasn't fair. Although England scrambled home with a 2-2 draw—the match was against Wales at Liverpool—they didn't look so hot. Flewin was blamed for failing to hold up the Welsh forwards, no account apparently being taken of the fact that Joe Mercer was far from happy in his role of right-half and Don Welsh is a better inside forward than a half-back. Add an entirely new left wing—the introduction of Stan Mortensen and Jimmy Mullen—and it sticks out like a sore thumb that Flewin shouldn't have been made the scapegoat.

That game was in September, 1944. Naming a team for the October international against Scotland, the selectors showed they had returned to a safety-first policy. All the old, familiar names were there: Leslie Smith on the left wing, Len Goulden as an inside forward, Frank Soo restored to right half-back, and Mercer returned to his usual position on the other flank.

## Misleading Result

Well, it reaped a dividend, the Scots losing 6-2. The selectors were probably happy. They went to Arsenal for a centre-half, giving Bernard Joy a game, but this experiment didn't click. It was not the fault of the amateur "stopper". In my opinion he had been chosen to play against Scotland at least three or four seasons too late. Far better would have been a decision to try one of the many good young players then operating in League matches.

Now come to more recent events. The England team which I saw operating against France at Wembley didn't live up to its newspaper cuttings as a "wonder" eleven. The first-time tackling and shrewd inter-passing movements of the Frenchmen had our boys off balance.

There was a reason for this. You see, Soccer through the years has been slower, a lot slower, than it was in the old days.

Teams were not geared to the peace-time pace. It was inevitable, since Soccer had become very much a part-time sport, played by men who had much more serious business, on hand than kicking a ball about. Again, the absence of the bonus system, with cash

## Paul Irwin (Sgt.) Conducts an Inquest

returns for points won, meant that the "nip" had disappeared.

All this was forgotten by the England chiefs. It was brought back sharply to their recollection when the nippy little Frenchmen very nearly snatched a victory at Wembley last May. The final seal was set in Belfast, where a bustling, hustling Irish eleven took all the honours, if not the match.

Suddenly, they realised the moment had arrived in last month's Welsh duel to introduce a few newcomers into the team. They began with Albert Stubbs, the auburn-headed Newcastle United centre. He took over from Tommy Lawton, who hadn't hit quite his best form at the season's start. Another to get his chance was Watson, the Huddersfield winger.

Wise moves, but I contend they were made a couple of seasons too late.

## Crash Had To Come

Unfortunately for the selectors, they were forced to make further changes through the absence of Raich Carter and Hagan. And they just hadn't the experienced youngsters available. In a panic, they thrust 20-year-old Malcolm Barrass into the side as Watson's partner, thus having a red raw left wing, and, wanting to add a touch of experience, called on Mickie Fenton to operate at inside-right—this, when he is an out-and-out centre.

The result was almost inevitable. Stanley Matthews was the only forward with any sort of idea of internationals. Watson and Barrass never looked like saving the game; Stubbs began well, but faded through lack of support; Fenton was obviously out of position; and even Matthews shared in the general depression.

Not one master mind among the lot of them. Why, the depression even spread to the half-backs, Frank Soo alone showing any sort of appreciation that the ball had to be held in order to draw the close-set Welsh defence out of their down-the-middle entrenchments.

So ended England's run—a run which might well have continued but for the selectors' short-term policy. They have to build a new team all over again. It must be done on the principle of trial and error, and in a big way.



Frank Swift (Manchester City) was England's star goalkeeper in most of the wartime games.



Stan Cullis: England's deterioration dates from the time he went overseas.

## How Much Do You Know?

(1) Remember the Sphinx? Well, the Sphinx has the head of: (a) a man; (b) a woman; (c) a lion. Which?

(2) The first aerial ascent to a height of 30,000 ft was made in which of the following years? 1862; 1902; 1922; 1942.

(3) Here is a charming example of... now, what is it...? Décolletage; persiflage; camouflage; entourage.

(4) Which would you prefer—half a dray-load of sovereigns or a dray-load of half-sovereigns?

(5) If you signed your name to one of Shakespeare's sonnets and sent it to an editor, you would be guilty of: (a) malfeasance; (b) plagiarism; (c) champerty; (d) Baconism. Which?

(6) You have often mentioned the SS. What do the letters stand for?

(7) The following verse (by Hubert Phillips) merely states a well-known proverb in big words. Can you recognise the proverb?

*"A lithoid form, whose onward course Is shaped by gravitational force, Can scarce enjoy the consolation Of bryophytic aggregation."*

(8) John and Charlie, sons of Mr. & Mrs. Tipbottle, were born on the same date, yet they are not twins. Is this possible?

(9) Which common English word is a tyrant, a food and a scrimmage? (10) Something you throw is described as a missel, missal, missile, misile or missle. Which is it? And how many of those are real words?

(11) If something is said to be suberose then you know at once that it is like (a) a flower; (b) cork; (c) very small. Which?

(12) Is it true that the word "kaput" — meaning smashed or done for — is a new addition to the English language during the present war?

(13) Take a look at this triangle. Without using any measure, can you gauge with your eye whether its height and width are equal?

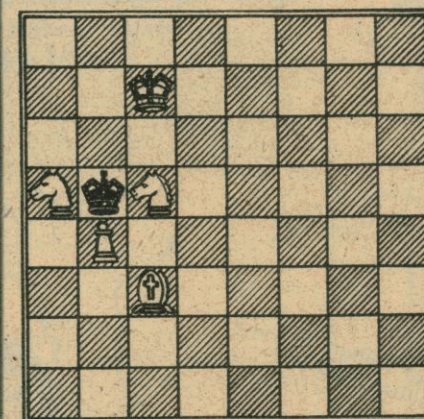
(14) Old punctuation problem—Can you make head or tail of: "The son of Pharaoh's daughter was the daughter of Pharaoh's son"?

(15) Is it true that the Metrical System is based on the assumed distance from the Equator to the North Pole?

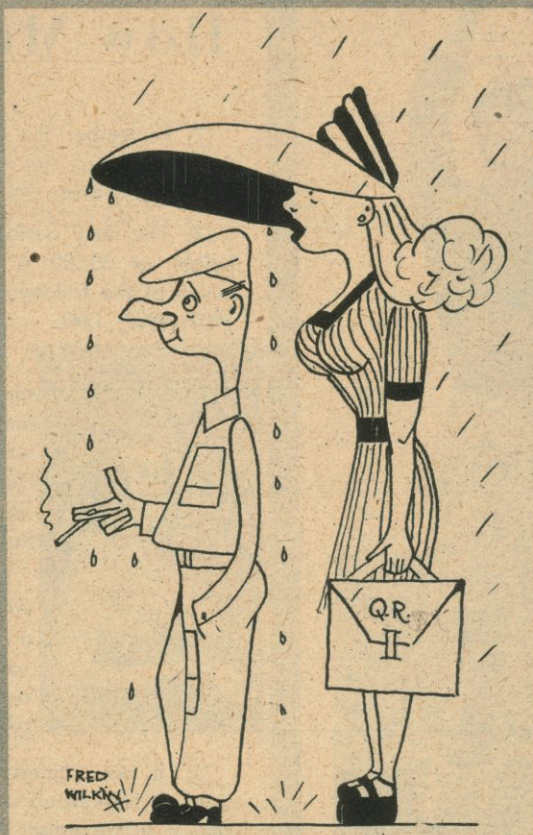
(16) Why is a pen-knife so called?

Answers on Page 23

## CHESS AND CROSSWORD

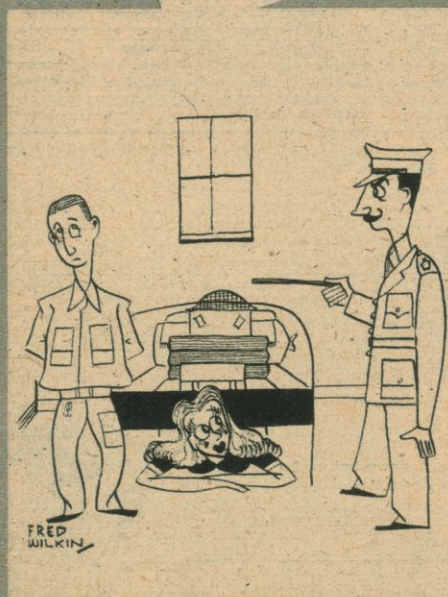
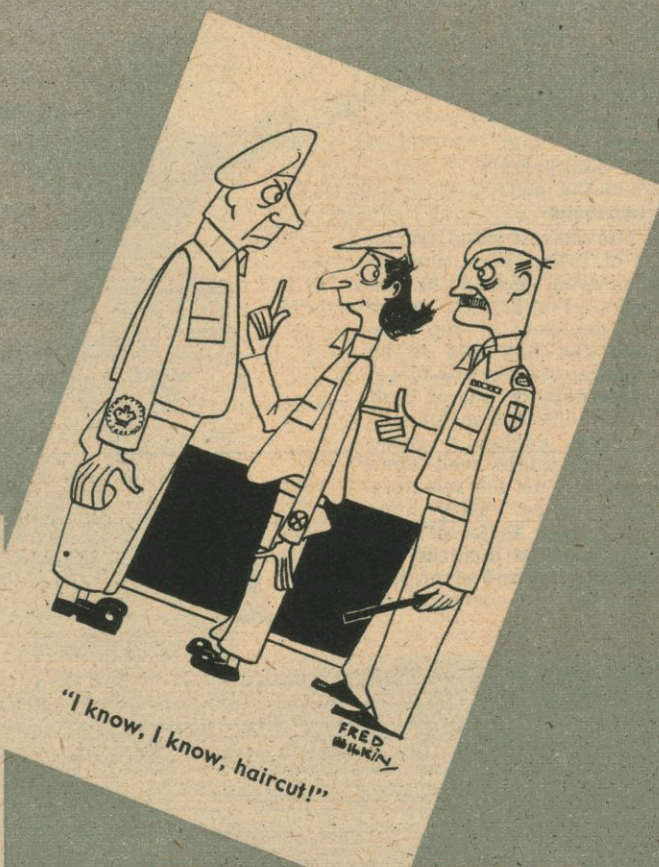




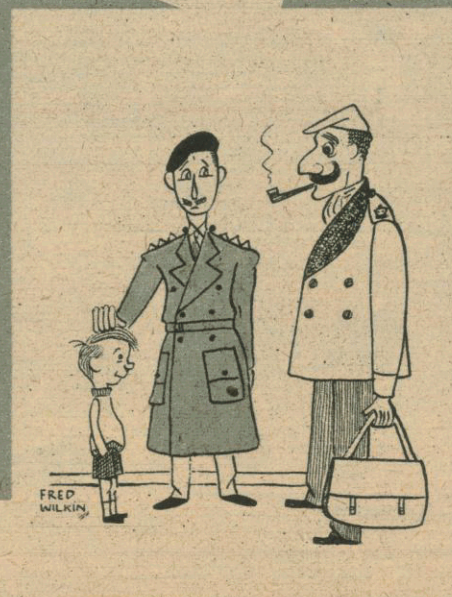


# Wilkin Rings the Bell

SOLDIER readers are familiar with the work of Gunner P. Wilkin, No 1 Interpreters' Pool, many of whose cartoons have appeared in these pages in the last three months. Gunner Wilkin is a prolific worker, and the cartoons you see on this page were selected from a large batch which he sent to SOLDIER recently.



"How many times have I told you about keeping things under your bed?"



"Says he's the Town Minor."



**MORE**

# LETTERS

## NO SHARE-OUT

What claim have the shareholders (all Servicemen and women) to any NAAFI surplus? In the last balance sheet I saw — that for 1943 — assets were considerable. I suggest that some distribution on an individual basis is now due.

Again, NAAFI will presumably have surplus stocks of furniture and kitchen equipment. What preference is to be given to the shareholders to purchase such stocks? — **Sjt. K. Higgott, RASC, 318 Mil. Gov Det.**

★ NAAFI say: "This claim is covered as far as practicable by the allowance of 10 per cent SPOT discount for all bulk unit purchases. These purchases are on behalf of the men, and individual distribution of the 10 per cent discount could not for obvious reasons be effected by NAAFI. NAAFI's assets are not considerable; see the 1944 balance sheet.

"There are no surplus stocks of furnishings and kitchen equipment. With the end of hostilities, NAAFI's commitments have increased and will continue to increase for some time. A retarding influence on the opening of new canteens is the shortage of furnishings and general equipment." — **Ed., SOLDIER.**

## PRICE LISTS

Recently I was in a NAAFI in Germany with a friend. He bought a tin of tooth powder marked 7½d., for which he paid 1 mark 20 pf. The counter hand was relieved by another. I asked him for a tin and was told the price was 2 marks.

When I questioned the price, he showed me what might have been an invoice, on which 2 marks was marked against this item. Why the difference in prices? Can NAAFI's over here display a price list as in the UK? — **Gnr. T. Smith, RA, 34 RHU.**

★ NAAFI say: "Printed price lists have always been available and most definitely should be on view. The particular case referred to is being investigated." — **Ed., SOLDIER.**

## LEAVE CHARGES

I recently returned from leave via Calais Transit Camp and would be grateful if you could clear up the following points:—

1. Why are the articles in the Gift Shop such a fantastic price? One can buy similar if not identical articles in Brussels or other towns much cheaper.

2. Why must one go through the mysterious process, after having changed one's currency into English money, of having to convert some back into French currency to buy tea and cakes? Surely it is just as convenient to pay in English money.

3. On the buffet train from Dover to London, cigarettes can be bought from NAAFI — but at a civilian price. While we appreciate being able to buy cigarettes, why are they sold by NAAFI at full price instead of at the usual reduced charge? — **Sjt. S. Ginsberg, 720 POW Labour Coy.**

★ Here are NAAFI'S answers:

"1. NAAFI do not accept this view. No specific instance has been quoted, but NAAFI are willing to investigate any given complaint

of this nature, provided supporting details are forwarded.

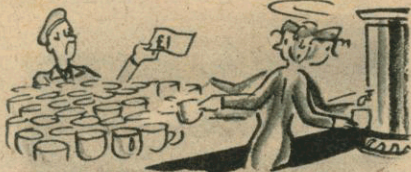
"2. It is a Treasury ruling that sterling shall not be used for trading on the Continent.

"3. Cigarettes at privileged prices are allocated on the total strength of the Services. Leave personnel may purchase through their unit in BAOR two weeks' rations of cigarettes before going on leave. They are issued in transit with 50 free cigarettes when leaving BAOR, and receive a further 50 free on their return. Each man therefore receives his full allocation for the period of leave — both the free issue and those at BAOR prices. Personnel stationed in the UK would similarly have to pay the full price for cigarettes in excess of the allocation." — **Ed., SOLDIER.**

## CUP OF TEA

In England you can get a cup of tea for 1d, in France and Belgium for 1 franc. So in England for £1 you can get 240 cups, in Belgium 176, and in France 200.

The soldier in England, therefore, gets tea cheaper than BAOR troops —



"In England you get 240 cups of tea for £1"

at any rate those in France and Belgium. — **"Four Tea Drinkers," (names and addresses supplied).**

★ NAAFI say: "Small change is the difficulty here. Centimes do not exist in sufficient quantity to make their use practicable. Odd centimes are therefore taken to the nearest round figure, in these instances the franc. The ingredients used in NAAFI's BAOR tea recipe are proportionately increased. The above principle applies equally to other countries." — **Ed., SOLDIER.**

## NON-SMOKERS

Why not offer non-smokers an extra sweet or chocolate ration in place of cigarettes? — **L/Cpl. A. J. E. Cheshire, R. Sigs, 41 RHU.**

★ NAAFI say: "Bulk allocations of sweets and chocolate are made per head on the total strength of the Command. The Ministry of Food cannot be expected to cope with, or obtain statistics in respect of individual tastes: this principle applies to almost every food commodity.

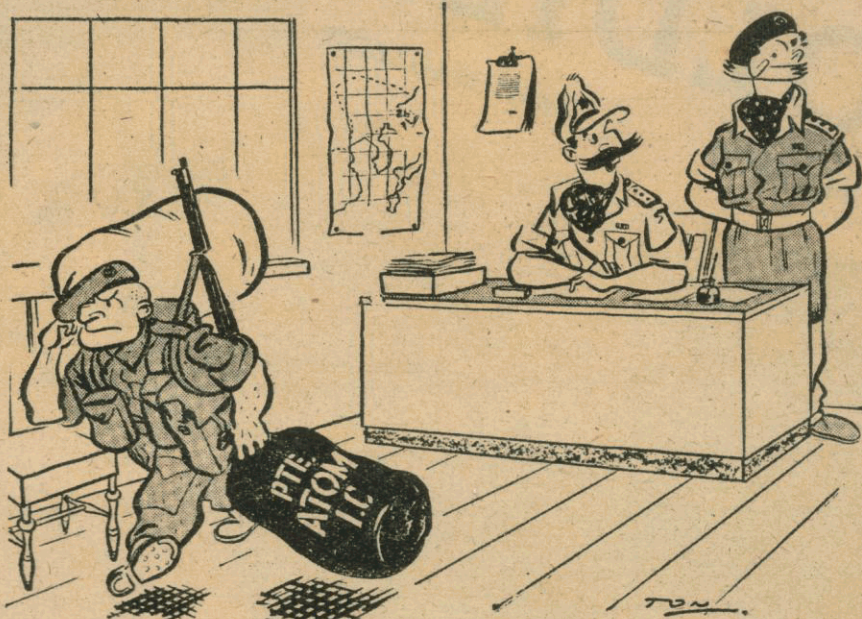
"Individual distribution of sweets and chocolate cannot be made by NAAFI, and the full entitlement of both these supplies is drawn in bulk by units. There is nothing to stop a unit arranging for cigarettes (from non-smokers) and chocolate (from non-sweet eaters) to be interchanged." — **Ed., SOLDIER.**

## TARNISHED ARMOUR

During the past six months I have observed with increasing dismay the rapid disintegration of moral standards among the BAOR troops.

What do the Germans think of an army which destroyed the big gangsters only to replace them with a widespread petty racketeering? What are the feelings of the liberated peoples who see the once "shining armour" replaced

## THE TWO TYPES—by JON



"I thought it wiser to dismiss the charge."

by the auctioneer's apron, and what would the people of our own country think if they realised the extent of the harm?

All the regulations and warnings issued or to be issued will not suffice to improve matters, but each of us can assist by setting an example.

Let us start a moral regeneration in ourselves. — **S/Sjt. Brinkley, 10 Mobile Printing Section, RE.**

## PIN-UPS

Can you supply original copies of the picture of Cherry Richards in SOLDIER



Originals cannot be supplied.

No 13? — **Fus. W. Bradley, PI/3, Sub-Sec 'D', GHQ, 2 Ech.**

★ No. SOLDIER can only supply original copies of photographs in very exceptional circumstances. — **Ed., SOLDIER.**

## YOUTH "BY-PASSED"

We are both TA soldiers. We have been in the Army since before the war and have over six years of service. Yet because of our comparative youth we are being by-passed. Our Release Group is 28. This means that about three million men who joined after we did will be out before us. We have more service than anyone else in our unit; but before we go more than 60% of the members will be released merely because they are a few years older. We agree that men over 40 years of age should be given early release, but why not have a different scheme for them? Mr. Bevin, before announcing the

## Answers

(from Page 21)

### HOW MUCH DO YOU KNOW?

1. A woman. 2. 1862 (Glaisher & Cox). 3. Décolletage (low-cut dress). 4. A dray-load of gold is always worth more than half a dray-load of gold. 5. Plagiarism. 6. Schutz-Staffel. 7. A rolling stone gathers no moss. 8. Yes, they were two-thirds of triplets. 9. Bully. 10. Missile, but missel and missal are also words. 11. Cork. 12. No... it was in the 1934 Oxford Concise Dictionary. 13. No, it's wider. 14. The son of Pharaoh's daughter was the daughter-of-Pharaoh's son. 15. Yes. 16. It was originally a knife for the making of pens from quills.

### CROSSWORD

ACROSS: 1. Chargers. 6. Elbe. 7. Asia. 9. Parade. 11. Foss. 13. Rio. 14. Ruhr. 15. Riga. 16. Sue. 17. Last. 19. No hope. 22. Rota. 23. DCLI. 24. Prisoner.

DOWN: 1. Corporal. 2. Alar. 3. Goad. 4. Sea-forth. 5. Ibis. 8. Serpent. 10. Airstrip. 12. Sea-fever. 18. Arcs. 20. Oats. 21. Omen (rev.).

### CHESS

Key-move: B-Kt 2. Then 1-KxP. 2. K-B 6. KxKt. 3. B-B 3 mate.

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## TWO-MINUTE SERMON

One is almost tempted these days to stop reading the newspapers. Each day has its mounting tale of woes: strikes, quarrels, unrest, the threat of famine, secret weapons and much more — much more, which is not mentioned in the papers; homes broken by unfaithfulness, dishonesty on an alarming scale, pettiness, and low moral standards and jockeying for position on the part of many of us. Many seem utterly incapable of viewing anything or anyone except from the standpoint: "What do I get out of it — or him — or her?" Very few of us escape condemnation entirely — perhaps none of us.

One thing is clear. Followed to its logical conclusion this sort of road leads to misery, disaster, ruin. The Bible uses blunter language and says it leads to Hell. Perhaps in our generation we are going

to prove that Hell is not quite such an old-fashioned affair as some imagine.

Or perhaps not. It depends, not on that mysterious body usually referred to as "They", but on those much better-known people, you and me. Jesus Christ has shown us the "more excellent way" of self-denial, and love which will not shrink from any sacrifice. Many of our friends showed us that same path in quite recent months. Did they die in order that their children might have the sort of world we are making? A world full of people all snapping and snarling at one another and casting moral standards to the winds?

Well, Christ has shown us. It is not that we don't know what is at stake. We do. And we can choose which side to take — or rather we are choosing every day, every hour. Whom are you choosing?



# SOLDIER

THE BRITISH ARMY MAGAZINE



Virginia Mayo says, "Excuse me, boys."

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AND  
SEND IT HOME



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