

# SEAC



The All-Services Newspaper.  
Of South East Asia Command

## SINGAPORE EDITION

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### Good Morning....

After the jungle the fish pots... There's been a good time coming for a long time now. Last night in Singapore, picturesquely titled "City of the Lion", it seemed as if it had come.

Well, if anybody's earned it they have—all the jungle greens and khakis and the Lush hats and the R.A.F. blue. It was Rough.



The fighting country was never so bad in Europe. It was bad because all war is bad, but there was never such a sense of isolation. Sometimes you could get 48 hours in Brussels. Sometimes you could get to Rome or Paris. Many even got home.

But not the boys in Burma. They didn't get home except for a few lucky in the Home Leave dip.

There were brief leaves in Calcutta. But Calcutta in three years never opened up its heart the way that Singapore has done in a week. They hadn't known the Nips and they didn't understand. It was once called "the Paris behind the India-Burma war." Well, "Paris" looked a little tarnished to the British soldier by the time he had emptied his pocket on the city's high priced fun and games in the first three or four days.

Last night, in Singapore in the salmon-pink half light of "The Great World" Cabaret, with the orchestra playing a persistent "sugar blues", the men of the 14th Army were making up for what they'd missed.



The "Great World" Amusement Park is in River Valley Road. It is like a slice of the Winter Gardens, Blackpool, "way down East". It is an Arabian Nights' fantasy dreamed up by a Chinese Barnum. Admission is twenty cents.

There are dancing partners there, Eurasian, Chinese and Malay, twenty five cents a dance—a dollar for a book of four tickets. Drink is cheap and in the cigar stores you see flat pre-war tins of Players. There are film shows in every language, soda fountains and Chinese restaurants. It's the biggest show on Singapore earth.

And we also have news that Army Welfare No. 2 Area are showing the technicolour musical "Thousands Cheer" at the Pavilion, Orchard Road, all this week, once nightly at 7.30.

It is open to all troops and free. So everything's going to be a bit larger than life from now on. They've fought through half the fox-holes in Burma to get here and now the boys are letting their hair down and it's good to watch them do it.

## WAR TRIALS OPEN TODAY

London, Sun:—First of the great war criminal trials open tomorrow when Josef Kramer, the "beast of Belsen" and some of his former associates step into the dock in a special courtroom at Lueneberg in the British occupied zone of Germany.

At the same time William Joyce, Germany's star English-speaking radio commentator during the war, will be facing the first day of his trial at the Old Bailey, London.

Twenty-five other men and twenty women who were guards at the Belsen death camp will be charged with Kramer.

The prosecution intends to call 50 witnesses—and affidavits will be produced from more than 300 others.

The cost of the trial is expected to work out at more than that of Petain's trial—which cost £1,000 a day—and it may last 14 days.

The courtroom will be a converted gymnasium and members of the court will be a major-general and four other officers.

German civilians will be admitted by ticket.—Reuter.

## E. INDIES FLEET TAKE SABANG

Sabang, at the northern tip of Sumatra, commanding the entrance to the Malacca Straits, has been entered by a strong unit of the British East Indies Fleet. It was found heavily fortified.

The harbour is surrounded by jungle-covered hills, hiding hundreds of guns of all calibres. Fuel, ammunition and petrol, sufficient for three months have been dumped.

## MILLIONS OF RUSSIANS ILL TREATED BY NAZIS

The Soviet Extraordinary Commission detailed to investigate German atrocities and material damage has reported that German occupying forces in the Soviet Union have killed, tortured to death or deported, "millions of Soviet citizens."

This statement corrects the previous Moscow Radio report that the total of victims was limited to 1,000,000.

## PATERSON WINS ANOTHER TITLE

Jackie Paterson, of Glasgow, added the British Empire Bantam-weight championship to his world Flyweight title at Glasgow when he outpointed Jim Brady, of Dundee, at Hampden Park.

## DEMPSEY TAKES OVER

Lt. Gen. Sir Miles Dempsey, commander of the 14th Army, has now assumed command of British forces in Malaya.

## HONG KONG SURRENDER

The formal surrender of Hong Kong was signed yesterday.

# 'FRATTING' WITH NIPS BANNED BY SUPREMO

KANDY—SUN:—A six-point directive for the "Gloves-off handling of the Japanese" was issued to-day by Admiral Lord Louis Mountbatten, Supreme Allied Commander, South East Asia. The purpose of the 1,800 word order is to prevent fraternization between Allied and Japanese forces in South East Asia.

The troops are told "Your behaviour will be strictly correct and coldly polite." Japanese who are "truculent" will be treated as prisoners-of-war and their repatriation to Japan will be delayed as long as they do not change their tune.

The order says, "The policy is that all Japanese will be returned to Japan at the earliest time convenient to us."

Allied sentries are warned to be "vigilant and stern" with the Japanese.

The six main behaviour rules laid down by the Supremo are:

1. With senior Japanese officers, use their correct titles but do not shake hands with them.

Allied officers and other ranks will not initiate salutes to Japanese officers, but their salutes will be returned punctiliously.

2. All Japanese naval and military officers of whatever rank will salute all Allied officers.

3. British and Japanese officers will not eat in the same room, nor will drinks be offered at any meal.

### At Arm's Length

4. Japanese officers arriving for orders or to report should be kept at arm's length from the other side of the table—they must not sit at the same table.

5. All Japanese officers will surrender their swords when troops under their command are disarmed.

The Japanese traditional flag will not be flown in the territory occupied by the Allied forces.

6. Any Japanese of whatever rank who deliberately disobeys these orders or shows truculence will at once be reverted to status of prisoner-of-war.

The directive distinguishes between prisoners-of-war confined under close guard and surrendered personnel who remained in organized units after disarmament.—Reuter.

## 6,000 POWs FOLLOW THE MARINE BAND

The Royal Marines' Band of the "Sussex" has been touring POW and internee camps. They played three quarters of an hour of dance music at Sime Road, and then played at Changi, where they marched round the walls of the prison followed by 6,000 men.

The Slow Troop ceremonial, during which they played "Waltzing Matilda," was received with loud cheers, afterwards they entertained 1,500 patients in the hospital area.

## 'LIVING DEAD' RAIL SLAVES

A story of war prisoner slave labour exceeding in callousness that of the building of the Bangkok-Moulmein railway is expected to come out of Sumatra, says Alan Humphreys, Reuter's correspondent in Singapore.

News of Japanese brutality towards British, Australian and Dutch war prisoners set to work on building the central Sumatra railway was radioed from Sumatra by South African Major Jacobs, a member of "Mastiff Organisation" which deals with air supplies of medical requirements, food and clothing for released prisoners.

## Internees Walk Off The Repat Ship

Civilian internees liberated only ten days ago from Sime Road Camp, Singapore, are so "disgusted and disillusioned" with the conditions under which they are expected to sail home to the U.K. that some of them have walked off the ship, where they were living in mess decks, and have returned to Sime Road.

The internees' complaints about conditions on the repatriation ship are set out in a letter to the editor of the Straits Times by Mr. L. D. Whitfield, of the Federated Malay States Education Department, who spent three

## RAF REGIMENT PATROL PENANG

Penang, Thur, (delayed):—Outside all public buildings in Penang the dark blue berets of the Marine sentries have been replaced by the grey blue of the RAF Regiment.

Marines handed over the policing to the youngest fighting force after a parade on Victoria Green—where the Japs had forbidden the playing of cricket because it was an English game.

Outgoing and incoming Garrison Commanders marched together to meet the Naval Officer in Charge, Capt. HILKEN, DSO, and formally announced the handing over.

The new garrison commander is 27-year-old W/Cdr Alan Yates, of Braidshaw, Disney, Cheshire, who joined the RAF, as an Orderly Room clerk in 1941.

RAF Regiment troops are patrolling Georgetown, main town of Penang, as well as dockyards and supply depots.

## SINGLE RAF MEN'S TOUR REDUCED

Calcutta SEAC has received many letters asking whether (a) the period of repatriation for single RAF men has been reduced from four years to three years six months, and (b) if so, what date the reduction comes into operation.

Base HQ, Calcutta, informed SEAC that this new Order has been promulgated and becomes effective on Dec. 1, 1945.

years in Sime Road Camp and is now on board the S.S. Almanzora. Mr. Whitfield writes:—

Our main complaints fall under two heads—Accommodation and Feeding:—

**Feeding:** For supper at 6.15 p.m. on 15 Sept. we were given a hunk of bread, a very small portion (about 1/2 oz.) of butter, less than 2 oz. cold beef and a small piece of pickled cauliflower about the size of a walnut and a mug of tea with milk and sugar.

The beef was instead of stew, which had given out.

### One Tap For 100

We were given nothing more till about 8 a.m. next day when we were given the same inadequate quantities of bread and butter, four dessert spoonfuls of porridge and 1 1/2 dessert spoonfuls of buttered egg plus a mug of tea with milk and sugar and a tea spoonful of jam.

To wash our dishes afterwards there was one tap available for approximately 100 to 150 men.

One dish cloth per 14 men was also provided to wipe the table with.

**Accommodation:** Every Service commissioned officer has cabin or dormitory accommodation. We were between decks, slinging hammocks where we can, or planting mattresses on our mess tables, under them or in any vacant space we can find.

### Portholes Closed

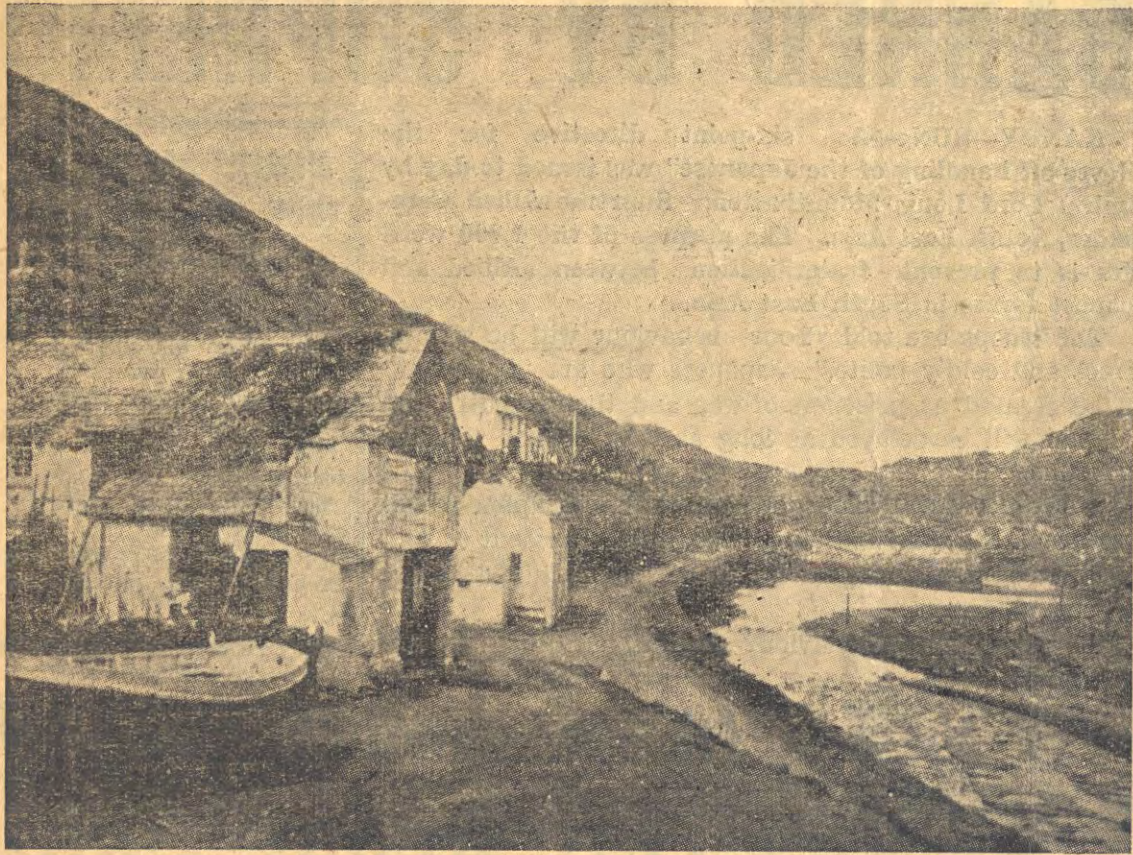
Latrine and washing arrangements are just disgraceful.

Some of us are on A2 deck with port holes, even here in port, permanently shut. What conditions will be like in the Red Sea or when people begin to be sea sick I do not like to think.

Of the Service officers in 1st A accommodation many are young men; of our people be—  
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# HOME....



LOW TIDE AT BOSCASTLE—CORNWALL

## 'SOFT' PEACE FOR NIPS DISMAYS AUSTRALIANS

London, Sun.—If the present "soft" peace policy for Japan is continued it will inevitably lead to another war. That is the opinion of a cross-section of the Australian public—civilians and Servicemen—according to the Melbourne correspondent of the London News of the World.

"Gen. MacArthur's eulogy of Emperor Hirohito dismayed not only Australia, but many Americans who were previously wholeheartedly behind him in his brilliant Pacific campaigns," he says.

## PEOPLE...

Sharing the limelight. Tall, fair Violet Attlee, now hostess at No. 10 Downing Street for husband Prime Minister Clement Attlee. Mrs. Attlee, eleventh child of a London business man (the tenth and eleventh were twins, but Mrs. Attlee was the last arrival) married her quiet, earnest husband in 1922, the year he first became MP for Limehouse. They have four children the eldest Janet, a section officer in the WAAF, Mrs. Attlee, nee Miller, is pleasant, homely, independent. It was some years after her marriage that she joined the Labour Party—she wanted to study it properly for herself and the fact that her husband was one of the party's up-and-coming young men did not influence her. Before Mr Attlee became Prime Minister she liked to do the family's mending and darning—there will be little time for that now. But she will be a gracious hostess at No. 10 for she has charm, is a good mixer and a ready conversationalist.

Home soon. Friendly, athletic, sturdy David George Brownlow Cecil, Lord Burghley, who has resigned his appointment as Governor and C-in-C. of Bermuda. Future plans are uncertain but Burghley will probably spend much of his time at his home near Stamford. In the late twenties Burghley was perhaps the leading figure in British athletics. A hurdler, he won eight British championships and the Olympic 400 metres hurdles in 1928. He had his own private pack of foxhounds before the war. Eton and Cambridge educated, Burghley is heir to the Marquis of Exeter. He married Lady Mary Theresa Scott, daughter of the Duke of Buccleuch, and has three daughters. Governor of Bermuda since 1943 Burghley is still only 40. He has kept in touch with athletics by promoting track events in Bermuda schools.

## DAILY HERALD HITS AT RUSSIA

London Sun.—The Daily Herald, organ of the British Labour Party, strongly criticised the Soviet political system, while at the same time insisting that Russian trade unions should be admitted to the world-wide partnership of trade unionists.

The newspaper writes: "There is a great deal in the Russian political system which disturbs the minds of British trade unionists.

"Our objections to that system can be stated with perfect frankness

"Russia has no parliament and no parties in the sense in which we people of Britain and the United States interpret the words Parliament and Parties.

"Russia has no free press or free platforms. A man cannot stand up in Moscow as he can at Marble Arch and criticise the Government, or hope to obtain publication of independent political views in Pravda or Izvestia."—Reuter.

## WANTED BY NAZIS

Only Indian living in London whose name appeared in Himmler's Black List for "special attention" after the "invasion" of England in 1940 was R. Palme Dutt, who unsuccessfully fought ex-India Secretary L. S. Amery in the Sparbrook division in the General Election.

## CHINA SAYS "NO"

Gen. Lu Han, Commanding Chinese forces in Yunnan Province, has refused to let the French Delegate General for Indo-China enter the country as "his return might cause disturbances."

## INTERNEES QUIT REPAT SHIP

(Continued from Front Page) us before we sail we can have no prospect of mitigation later.

A number have already left the ship and returned to Camp but now an order has been issued prohibiting us from going ashore.

I think the general feeling amongst us is one of extreme disgust and disillusionment. We were promised by South East Asia Command that there would be no distinction made between P.O.W. and civilian internees and, also, that we would be well looked after.

# THE SEAMY SIDE OF SINGAPORE

By RICHARD COLLIER

WHO LANDED WITH THE LIBERATING FORCES ON D-DAY.

I am writing this at the window seat of a room on the first floor of a house in Singapore, looking northwards over a city of cool grey buildings and sky-blue water. Across the square, in the rough tunnelled fields by the Empress Place, a squad of Japs are filling in their own fox-holes, guarded by a picket of Punjabi privates, as alert and wary as poacher's dogs. It is hot and the whole island of Singapore lies simmering gently in the broth of tropic noonday.

Some children are watching the black wispy flakes from a paper bonfire drift up from the sidewalk by the shuttered Bank of China; they have been burning cheques all morning and little shreds of "Pay bearer" seep slowly along the gutter as you watch. Because life here now is just at that stage of gentle craziness when money doesn't seem to matter any more.

Nobody worries very much about anything at the moment, for this is holiday time. There have been a lot of surrenders, a lot of saluting, a lot of parades. But we are seeing the war end in a bright and ceaseless furl of hunting that travels for miles through the solid heart of the city. This is a people's release from their perjury and the silver star of China is the most prominent thing you see.

"The flags are very gay down Chinatown," said someone near by. Well, what is Chinatown? The population is estimated at a million and a quarter and the Chinese make up two thirds of that. When the troops came in on the crest of a wave it wasn't like returning to a British city at all. It was more like marching in to Hong Kong or Shanghai and hearing the street arabs cheer as they would have cheered then.

## Clean And Proud

You feel this more acutely still when you go out to see the city. You take it to your heart at once because it is a clean city and a proud city, unlike most in the East. But it is a hard city too, a waterfront city with a cynical disregard for convention. In theory we've always known all about it because we read up on it year ago in Robert Hichens and William Le Queux.

Straw-hatted coolies, with blank staring eyes like pit ponies, go pedalling through the afternoon sun on the perilous sanrikishas, or bicycle rickshas, swerving between the lines of washing and the bannered flags. The pavements you walk on are narrow and flagged, verged by the heavy stone colonnades that support the houses; they call them 'five foot-ways', which is about all the space they offer between somebody's front door and a deep stinking culvert that serves to carry the city's sewage. Sometimes you feel the effect is almost Venetian, although you have seen the lay-out in all the screenplays of Pearl Buck, so you know it's authentic Chinese. And you know the roofs, too, old and mossy and curved like a scimitar's blade; these, too, are the roofs of Kunning.

(To be continued)

## ENGLAND WIN

Fifty thousand spectators set up a new ground record at Windsor Park when England beat Ireland 1-0 on Saturday.

## Almost In Confidence

By The Marquis of Donegall  
Sunday Dispatch Columnist

I had the great pleasure of seeing the two Jap generals I captured (SEAC yesterday) sitting like school-boys in front of the Supremo at the Surrender ceremony.

But this is another story and in spite of the fact that my fifty or more high-powered colleagues have done their best to "kill" it for me, I think I can pick up some crumbs from my master's table.

The highlights to my mind were these and this concerns the surrender to Mountbatten in Singapore on the 12th September, 1945.

Firstly you can picture Singapore's magnificent Municipal Building, surrounded by guards of honour and the Royal Marines band. The Japs are made to march a hundred yards from their cars and put under escort in a room where I hope, when I peeped at them, my conduct would not be officially described as "leering."

Listen please, my friends, to your old commentator, who, if I say so myself, hasn't misled you much in the last seventeen years. What I want to put over is this.

## Abolish The Emperor

A very high-ranking officer said to me: "Don't quote me, Donegall, but if you can make your public (that makes me wince) realise that if our sons are not going to be murdered in twenty years time the Emperor of Japan will have to be abolished because the military clique will merely shelter under this semi-half wit's divinity."

"The Emperor is very useful at the moment. But has got to go when we've finished with his usefulness."

I doubt very much whether that is the opinion of the Government. You see, we are so easy-going: I was driving with a man only this morning who is one survivor of a hundred and forty who went to Thailand, and they were told they were going to a rest camp!

Can we forgive these things? Can we forgive the swine I saw in the goal this morning, who personally ordered the torture of Mrs. Kirwin, wife of a prominent Singapore race-horse owner. They asked her to deny she was pro-British. Every time she refused they did another bestiality. I can't guarantee it, but to the best of my investigations the only thing they didn't do was rape her.

They kicked her in the face and on the breasts, continuing to the apex of an isosceles triangle with the breasts as its base. Nice people!

## MANNERHEIM ILL

Seventy eight year old Field Marshal Mannerheim, President of Finland, was removed to a Helsinki hospital yesterday suffering from serious heart trouble.

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