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Issue 1,000...27..9..'40. Title: March Of The Nations. Track: Rally Song. Discs: 555.367..449. Lines: Stagg. Voice: do.

Perfect ground-organisation and staff-work back up the pilots and reconnaissance planes of the Coastal command. The Lockheed Hudson aircraft that keep incessant watch on the Germanoccupied coastline carry bombs to unload on any promising target. Bombing is not their principal business but they let fly when opportunity occurs.

Every pilot's parachute comes in for examination once a fortnight. Each square foot is gone over. If all's well they're hung up for 48 hours to take out the creases.

Re-folding is done with the greatest care. Modern parachutes are as reliable as anything in this world can be. That's why British pilots so often land safely when their planes are shot down.

Passed fit for duty the chutes are wrapped up and stored till they're required.

An Intelligence officer gives orders of the day to each crew, basing instructions on the latest information to hand.

Meteorological experts size up weather probabilities before each flight. Little balloons are inflated. Their behaviour, observed through a theodolite, enables the meteorologist to calculate the direction and velocity of the wind.

The young pilots to whom the nation owes more than it can ever repay begin one more flight, knowing that everything that perfect preparation can do for them has been done.

The carrier-pidgeons bring messages from places where to use radio would betray the aircraft's presence. Daily reconnaissance keeps Intelligence well informed as to enemy plans.

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They've Got Eggs (continued)

Flights by these squadrons revealed Hitler's invasion plans. No enemy activity along his whole coastline goes undetected by the vigilant watchers of the Coastal Reconnaissance Command.

Fighter pilots among whom are Poles and Canadians were honoured by the visit of His Majesty - men who are covering themselves with glory day after day, men who time and again have flung the disordered remnants of Nazi formations back over the sea.

King George signed the visitors' book - a record of an appreciative royal visit to squadrons, every man of whom is a proved hero.

Air Marshal Billy Bishop, V.C. inspected a squadron of fellow-Canadians. In the last war he was the ace Empire pilot, and shot down more than 70 Germans. This time he's directing the school for training thousands of Empire pilots in Canada. Swelling the R.A.F. ranks they will prove worthy of the inspiring leadership of Air Marshal Bishop.
