

BATTLE OVER NORWAY.

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~~This is the country that has been overrun in the latest crime of the Nazis~~ --- this is Norway whose fjords have seen such desperate encounters between the Allied Fleets and the German. These pictures taken in peace time give an excellent indication of the nature of the country --- the unscalable cliffs and the narrow winding roads from which the little Norwegian Army conducted its defence. So peaceful and unoffending were the Scandinavian peoples that it is inconceivable that their ~~attractive~~ land should become a modern battlefield.

This is Bergen, where the Royal Air Force sank at least one German cruiser. Later you will see actual photographs taken by them in action. Rumour followed rumour in the early reports of this historic engagement, but it appeared that almost the entire German Navy came out into the open in a ~~dash~~ desperate gamble to land reinforcements and supplies. Cruisers, and possibly also the battleship Gneisenau, crashed their way into Oslo Fjord --- and some were sunk attempting to silence the shore batteries. But Nazi troops succeeded in establishing themselves in such ports as Narvik, Trondheim and Bergen --- and even Oslo ~~it~~ itself was captured. But immediately the Royal Navy and the Royal Air Force went into action. A tremendous series of actions developed over a thousand-mile front. One of the earliest and most heroic of the individual battles was that in which five British destroyers entered Narvik to challenge six German destroyers of larger tonnage. Pounded also by the shore batteries of the Nazis, ~~H.M.S. Hardy was~~ <sup>they suffered</sup> ~~damaged~~ ~~was sunk~~ and H.M.S. Hardy ran aground. The others were

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damaged

heavy damage But

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~~damaged and with the fifth ~~destroyer~~~~ but they left one German  
destroyer sunk and three more on fire. Ammunition and supply  
ships totalling seven were sunk or blown up.

Hour after hour the R A F Bombers carried on their action.  
Wave after wave took off to fly great distances to their objectives.  
To sink warships and troopships. We are privileged to reproduce  
some of the pictures taken by the Royal Air Force in action over  
Norway. This one is Bergen, showing four German seaplanes at  
their moorings. The white shape in the top left-hand corner is a  
bomb --- on the way down. This is Kridtiansand --- a merchant  
vessel with open hatches --- and on the right a cruiser of the  
K class with swastika astern. And these are some of the crews of  
R.A.F machines who played such a magnificent part at Bergen.

So the glaring <sup>blaze</sup> ~~sparklight~~ of spreading war has engulfed yet ~~another~~  
another peace-loving nation. But Norway is fighting back ---  
and the Nazi communications must run the gauntlet of Allied warship  
and bomber. The German cruiser Emden which before the war had  
visited Canada - - is another Nazi cruiser reported sunk... indeed  
the First Lord of the Admiralty promised grimly that every German  
ship in the Skaggerak and the Kattegat would be sunk. So the  
spirit of Nelson endure to-day. At some time in the future glowing  
details of this great engagement will be told ; but for the  
present we can safely say --- Leave it to the Navy.

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