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SOVIET BATTLEFRONT --- STALINGRAD --- FIRST PICTURES FROM THE CITY  
THAT HAS HELD THE GREATEST SIEGE OF ALL TIME.

The German Air Force launched a major attack against the great city of Stalingrad on August 23rd 1942. Back in the summer, while Egypt stood in mortal peril before Rommel's conquering armies. Long before the whole face of the war was changed by the United Nations' offensive.

And since that day a full scale battle has been in progress without rest or pause. Never ~~has any city~~ has any city sustained such an assault. <sup>Men - & women.</sup> <sup>never likely to be fully counted</sup> The lives that have been given are ~~counted in~~ ~~hundreds of thousands.~~ Two giant armies have been locked in combat; one of them, we have guessed, must slowly be bleeding to death; and now the Red Army, ~~backed~~ backed by the superhuman endurance of the people of the Soviet Union, has gathered its apparently limitless reserves of strength and struck back. By these pictures we are privileged to live for four minutes, with men and women who have wrought a miracle for nearly four months.

The full story of the heroic defence of Stalingrad never can be told; no words --- not even pictures --- can describe or recall how it has been possible for human beings to endure what the fighters in this city have endured. How they have lived for weeks in the charred ruins of a once-prosperous industrial centre. How they have organized resistance among the broken buildings and shattered streets; how they have crouched beneath an endless century of bombardment from of aerial bombs and scores of thousands thousands/ of artillery shells. It hasn't been possible that even a rat should live in this city of death; but Stalingrad still holds --- and men have held it.

Somehow, in ~~the~~ this incredible story, reinforcements have reached the city's defenders. Despite the most gigantic efforts of what was once the world's most terrible army, supplies and fresh troops have entered Stalingrad to continue the awful battle. Von Boock, ~~the~~ most ruthless of all the Prussians, has been broken upon the wheel of failure; the reputation of all the German Generals and the High Command, has withered in this mountainous ~~trial~~; and still the city holds. ~~Every device of modern war has been tried; the will genius of the Nazi for destruction and annihilation has been given full play; and still the city holds. The suffering and hardship cannot be described; the tragic slaughter of millions of men can only be imagined; but the thought never to come across your mind is how men fought and died for their liberty in this hell that was once a city.~~

*For more than three months, the evil Nazi genius for destruction has been given full rein;*  
 More than three months have passed since the great German offensive began; now, in time with the Allied victories in Africa, the mighty Red Army is rising to exact its full revenge. From inside the flaming desolation of unconquerable Stalingrad, a mighty offensive has begun.

Out of this agony a new world is born; out of this dead city, life has begun again because men free to choose chose death before defeat; and from the wreckage built a road to victory.