

The King has been over to the Western Front, making his journey by plane, car and destroyer. ~~These pictures seem to indicate that of all the wonderful modern inventions, what the Navy needs is a dehydrated destroyer.~~

Flying to one <sup>part</sup> ~~part~~ of the front, the King was welcomed by Field Marshal Montgomery, and commanding officers of the Royal Air Force.

At different places in liberated Europe, His Majesty held investitures, decorating officers and men for bravery and other distinguished and valuable services. It was in this fashion, within sound of the big guns, that the accolade of knighthood was accorded to the Commander of the British Second Army. He is now General Sir Miles Dempsey.

The King also visited a headquarters of one of the American Armies; he was welcomed by General Eisenhower, with General Hodges and General Bradley.

At that time the American First Army was in the thick of its great battle for Aachen. This was the German industrial and cathedral City in which the first all-out resistance was encountered in Germany. The name of Aachen will occupy an important place when the history of this war is written. The German defence of it has been tremendous; but not for that alone will it be famous. We shall see whether it is to set the pattern for all the Battle of Germany. Watch how the American gunners, airmen, tankmen and infantry, set about reducing it.

1127

Fearful havoc is being wrought in this place. And this is what Hitler and Himmler would do to the whole of Germany. The Nazi gang have nothing to lose. They know their days of gangsterdom are numbered; they guess that justice is on the way. They do not care for the lives of German people any more than they care for others. They have ordered that millions of German citizens must die to keep their own skins whole for a little while longer.

This is Aachen; a shambles. But the Americans want to spare unnecessary suffering to old people and women and children. Out of their rat-infested, echoing caverns come the weak members of the Greater German Reich. Bewildered and homeless. The Nazi lust for world power has done this thing to millions of innocent people in Europe; now ~~ixx~~ it's happening to Germans. But Germans are not quite so innocent. And they seem well-clothed, well-shod, ~~well-fed~~ well-fed. They've done pretty well on the plunder of half a continent.

Tanks and infantry are moving in. World War, forced upon the world by Germany twice in a quarter of a century, has moved in at last through Germany's own front door. The Nazis call at this late hour for every German citizen to take up arms. But inside Germany there are ten million foreign workers; ~~and~~ they may feel even more like a fight than the <sup>dregs</sup> ~~ing~~ of the master race. The war is closing in step by step from all sides, on the men who made it. When the cameras recorded this film, the Battle for Aachen was at its height. It is the first full-scale action in the Battle for Germany. It is the last lap to complete victory in Europe.