

24034001
44-65

BRITISH FIGHT IN ALBANIA.

For the first time in this war, British troops fight on the soil of Albania, gateway to the Balkans. And at first light, commandos prepare to land on a part of the coast recently captured by strong German forces from the Albanian partisans.

The enemy was taken completely by surprise, and the landing forces went in unopposed. But there's a tough job ahead - to wipe out the German Garrison of a coastal village and so open up a vital sea lane by which supplies can be got to the guerilla fighters in the interior. Like their Yugoslav neighbours, these mountain warriors have given the Germans many headaches in the past, and our Commandos are there to make their headaches worse in the future.

The landing force soon comes up against some stiff opposition, particularly from enemy snipers hidden in farmhouses and cottages.

Our mortars at work pounding the Germans in their foxholes and slit trenches.

The ten-hour assault draws to its close, with all its objects achieved. An action of this kind cannot be fought without casualties; but we have the satisfaction of knowing that ours were much lighter than the Germans. The garrison has been completely destroyed and thirty prisoners are brought away. The first major operation by the newly-formed 'Land Forces, Adriatic' is a complete success.....and an important part of the Albanian coastline has been decontaminated from its would-be conquerors.

Contact has been established with the Partisans and a supply route created by which they can get the tools to continue their job. The Commandos wave goodbye, knowing that in yet another country the grip of the Hun has been loosened.

...000...