

40/8

MERCHANTMEN ARM AGAINST PIRATE VESSELS.

IN HIS LATEST SPEECH, MR. CHURCHILL SAID THAT GERMANY'S MURDER WARFARE AT SEA IS FADING . ONE OF THE MAIN FACTORS IN OUR SUCCESS IS THE MOUNTING OF ANTI AIRCRAFT AND ANTI SUBMARINE GUNS ON OUR MERCHANT SHIPS. AND TODAY WE TAKE YOU ALONG TO SEE THIS IMPORTANT WORK IN PROGRESS. IT TAKES MANY MONTHS... TO ARM EVERY ONE OF THE THOUSANDS OF SHIPS THAT MAKE UP THE MERCHANT FLEET OF BRITAIN. BUT ONE BY ONE THEY COME INTO THE BASIN. EXPERTS CHOOSE THE EXACT SPOT FOR MOUNTING THE GUN ON DECK. ENGINEERS BUILD A PLATFORM...RAISED WELL ABOVE THE DECK.... SO THAT THE GUN CAN BE AIMED LOW AT SUBMARINES. AND THE WORK MUST BE UP TO THE STANDARD, THAT HAS MADE BRITISH SHIPBUILDERS FAMOUS FOR CENTURIES.

A GUN IS SWUNG OUT FROM THE DECK AND LOWERED INTO POSITION.

AND THE MERCHANTMAN PUTS TO SEA TO GIVE HER CREW SOME REALISTIC TRAINING. AT THIS STAGE THE GUN CREW IS COMMANDED BY AN EXPERT. HE TELLS THEM HOW TO SIGHT THEIR OBJECTIVE. AND THEN THE ORDER TO FIRE.

AND THERE'S ANOTHER PACKET WAITING FOR ANOTHER SUBMARINE.