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THE WAR IN IRAQ

Fort Rutbah on the oil pipe-line from Kirkuk, was occupied by Raschid Ali's forces at the beginning of May. Our cameraman in Iraq now sends us these pictures of the famous Arab Legion working in conjunction with our forces, during the final attack leading to the capture of the fortress.

R.A.F. Planes batter the rebel troops into submission, making them realize that Hitler is not monarch of "oil" he surveys.

The Taking of Mosul (which came later) put the Raschid Ali boys out of the picture once and for all. And here go the armoured cars in a dash across the desert, entering the now surrendered strongholds. Apart from being a fortification controlling the roads to Bagdad, Palestine, Transjordan, and Damascus, Rutbah is an inhabited oasis, which looks now as if a hurricane has hit it.

The Fort was evacuated at night by the rebels and in the morning when we entered a few remaining inhabitants emerged from their hiding places, to be escorted to the local passport office for interrogation by our Intelligence Officers.

The Water pumping plant was put out of commission by the Irakie reception committee before they "scarpered". Heaps of rubbish was left behind - all of it ~~xx~~ so much junk - Well, nearly all.