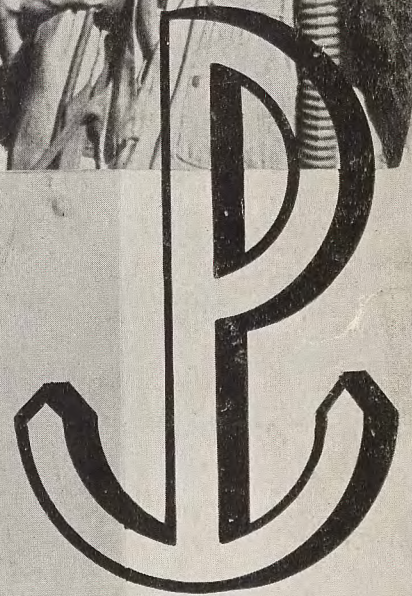


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OUR SHARE

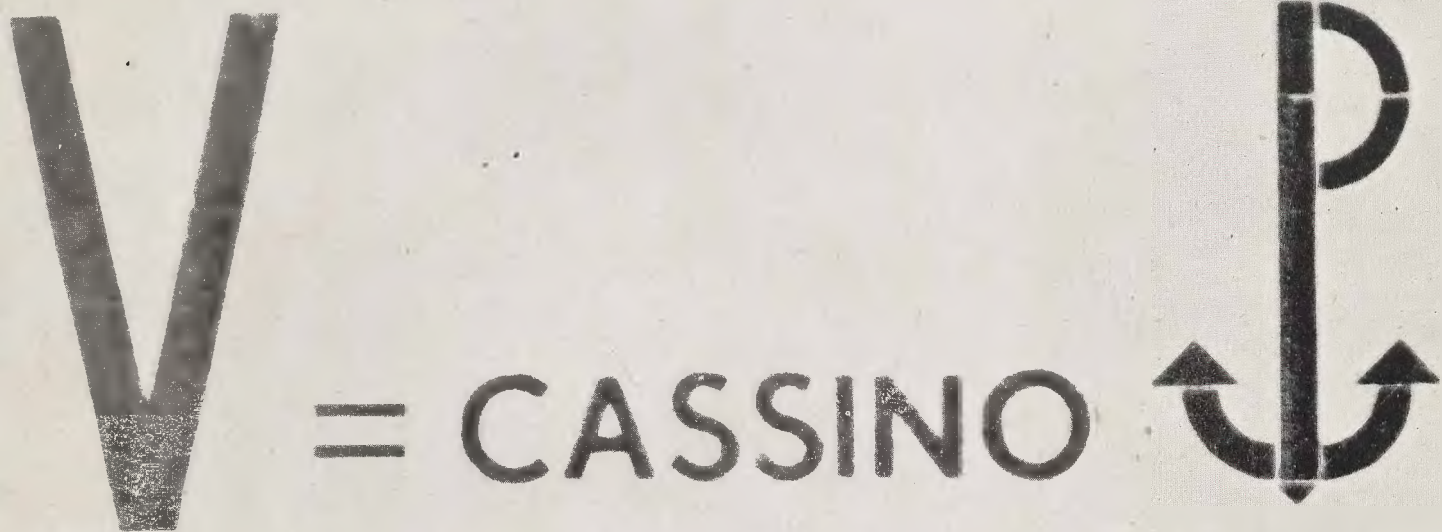


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I SHALL BE GRATEFUL IF YOU WILL CONVEY A SPECIAL
WORD OF PRAISE TO GENERAL ANDERS ON THE MAGNIFICENT
FIGHTING QUALITIES AND TENACITY THE POLISH TROOPS DISPLAYED
IN CAPTURING THE FORTRESS WHICH THE ENEMY CONSIDERED TO BE
IMPREGNABLE, THIS IS A PROUD DAY FOR POLAND AND I SALUTE THE
POLISH FLAG WHICH NOW FLIES PROUDLY FROM THE MONASTERY FORTRESS

Telegram sent by General Alexander, C.-in-C. 15th Army Group, to General Leese, Commander of the 8th Army



Writing on the walls of Warsaw. The last symbol stands for POLSKA WALCZACA (Fighting Poland).

POLAND—September 1939 to June 1941. Note. Since June 1941, the entire Polish territory is under German occupation. The provinces of Lwow, Tarnopol, and Stanislawow have been incorporated into the General Government.

The second World War broke out on the 1st of September, 1939, when Poland was attacked by Germany from the North, West and South simultaneously. The 3rd of September was claimed by German propaganda as the date of the beginning of the war. The Germans' intention was to shift the responsibility on to Great Britain and France, who declared war on Germany on this date, after every attempt to find a peaceful solution had been exhausted by these two Allies.

In fact the War broke out on the 1st of September. It was started by the Germans, Germany being the aggressor. . . .



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. . . The Germans outnumbered the Poles by ten to one in tanks and in planes and three to one in infantry. Yet Poland resisted until October 5th. Polish Forces fulfilled their duty on the field of battle to the best of their ability, holding out for six weeks, during which time France and England mobilized.



Polish infantry marching to the front line.

Defence of besieged Warsaw.



Anti-tank artillery in action.

Soldiers' graves in the centre of Warsaw.

German prisoners of war.



. . . German losses in the Polish campaign were about 100,000 in killed alone. The Polish Forces were beaten and the country subjugated by the enemy. . . .



Ruins of Warsaw.



A Polish highway in September, 1939.

. . . After Germany's triumph about 100,000 Polish soldiers succeeded in crossing the frontiers of Roumania, Hungary and Lithuania. They resolved to fight on. Poles in France and other countries provided several thousand soldiers to build up the new Polish forces on French soil. These forces were organized by General Wladyslaw Sikorski. . . .



Poles obey the call to arms once more.

They take the oath to fight to the end.

General Sikorski in France.

. . . At the same time the Polish Underground Army was created in Poland. Considerable stocks of arms were hidden from the Germans. Training in modern warfare started in private houses, in cellars and in forests. . . .



O.C.T.U. in a private house.

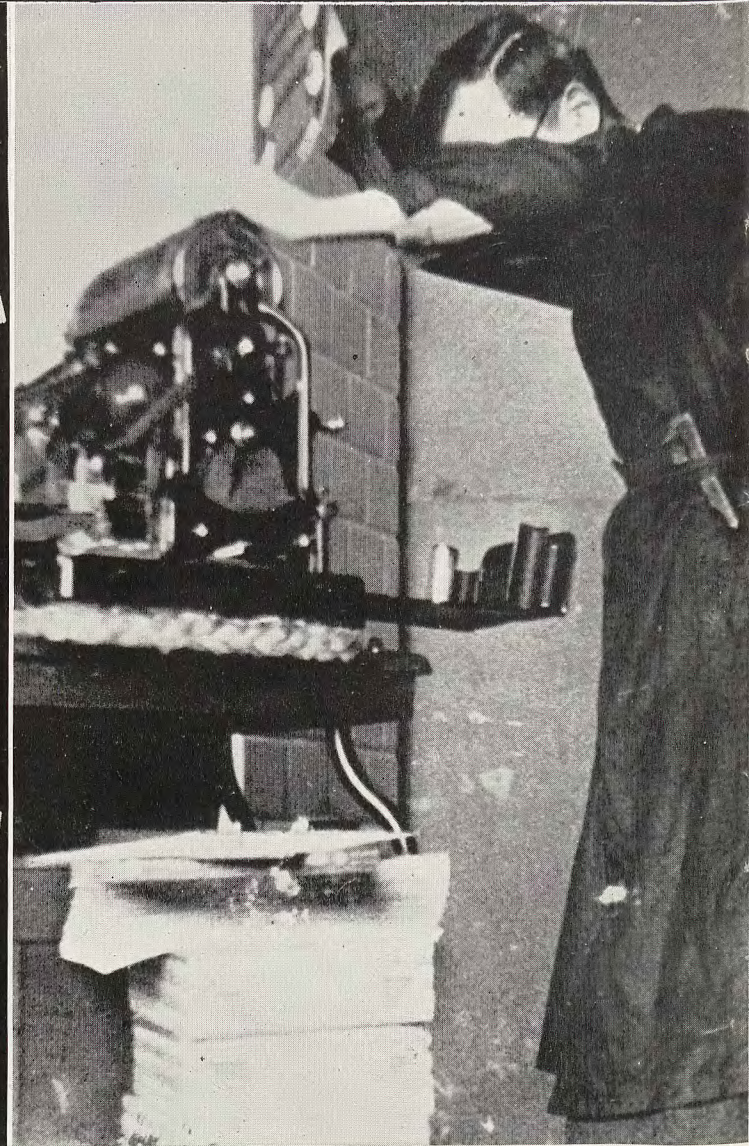


Anti-aircraft machine-gun training.



Young Poles training in the forests.

... The Polish Home Army was forced to live and work Underground. . . .



Some Polish Underground Papers.

Printing Underground Papers.



A Polish soldier emerging from his hide-out.

. . . In the year 1940. Two Polish Infantry Divisions and one tank Brigade fought in France. Poles fought on in France until the 22nd of June, i.e., five days after Petain's order to cease fire. . . .

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Motorized Polish Troops in France.



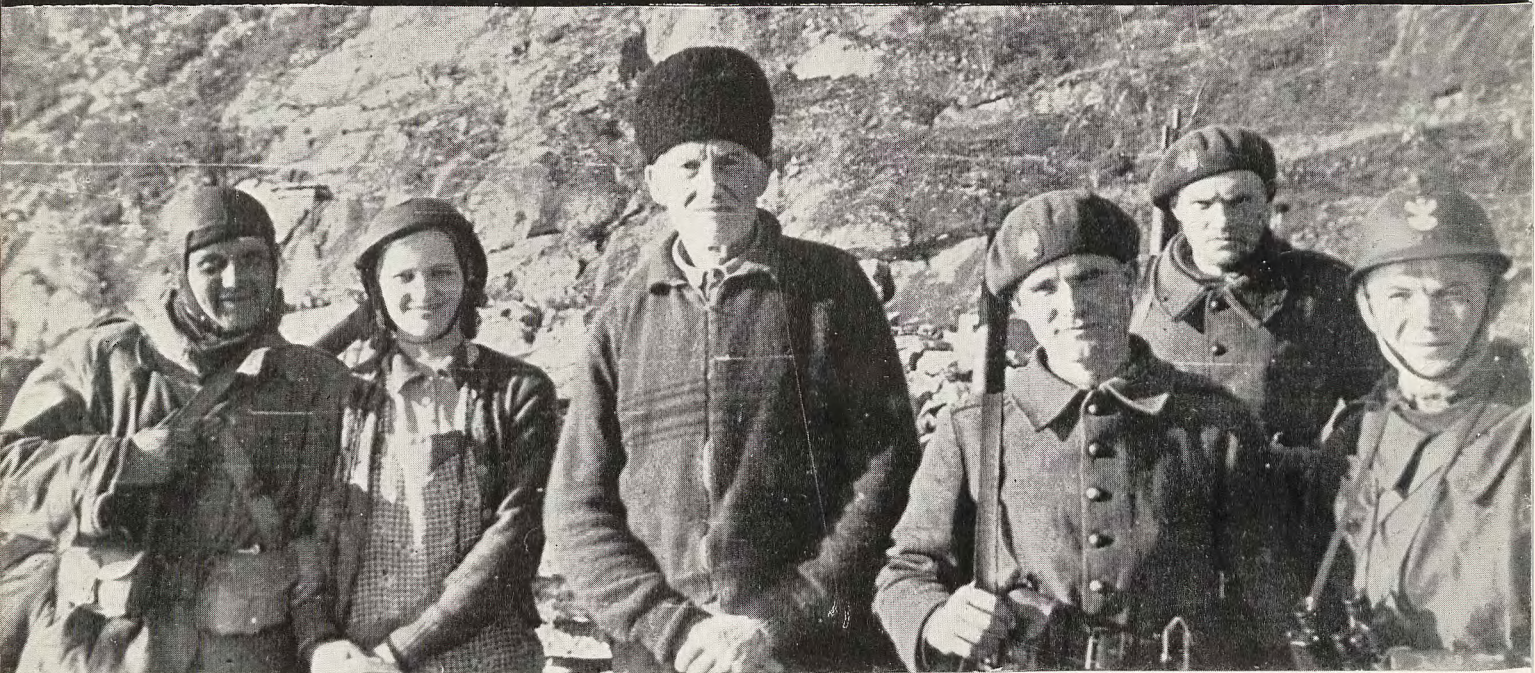
An inspection before the Battle of France.



President Raczkiewicz and General Sikorski inspecting Polish troops.



. . . In Norway, in the Spring of 1940, the Polish Highland Brigade took Ankenes and fought at Narvik by the side of British and French troops. . . .

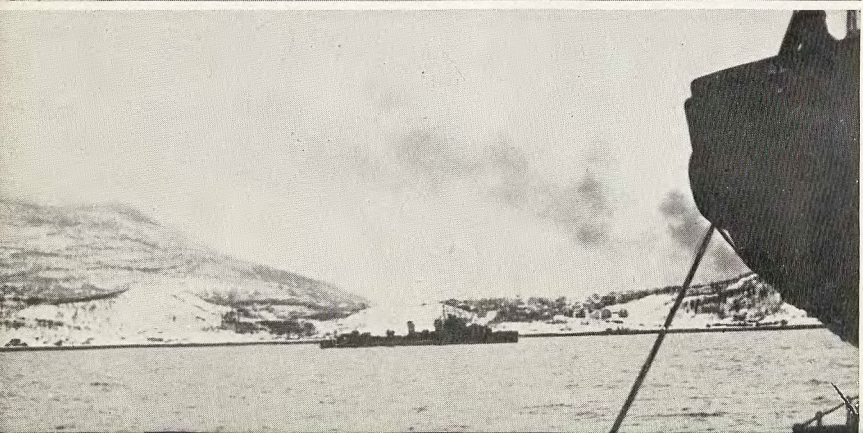


Polish soldiers and their Norwegian friends.



Patrolling Norwegian roadways.

The Norwegian coast photographed from the deck of the Polish destroyer BLYSKAWICA.



The Polish Highlanders' Flag.



... Petain surrendered on the 17th of June, 1940. The Polish Carpathian Brigade left Syria for Palestine and later took part in the defence of Tobruk and the famous three days' battle of Gazala.

During the Libyan campaign the Carpathian Brigade, numbering 4,000 men, gained 634 Polish and 22 British military decorations. The losses were 139 killed, 600 wounded and only nine taken prisoner...

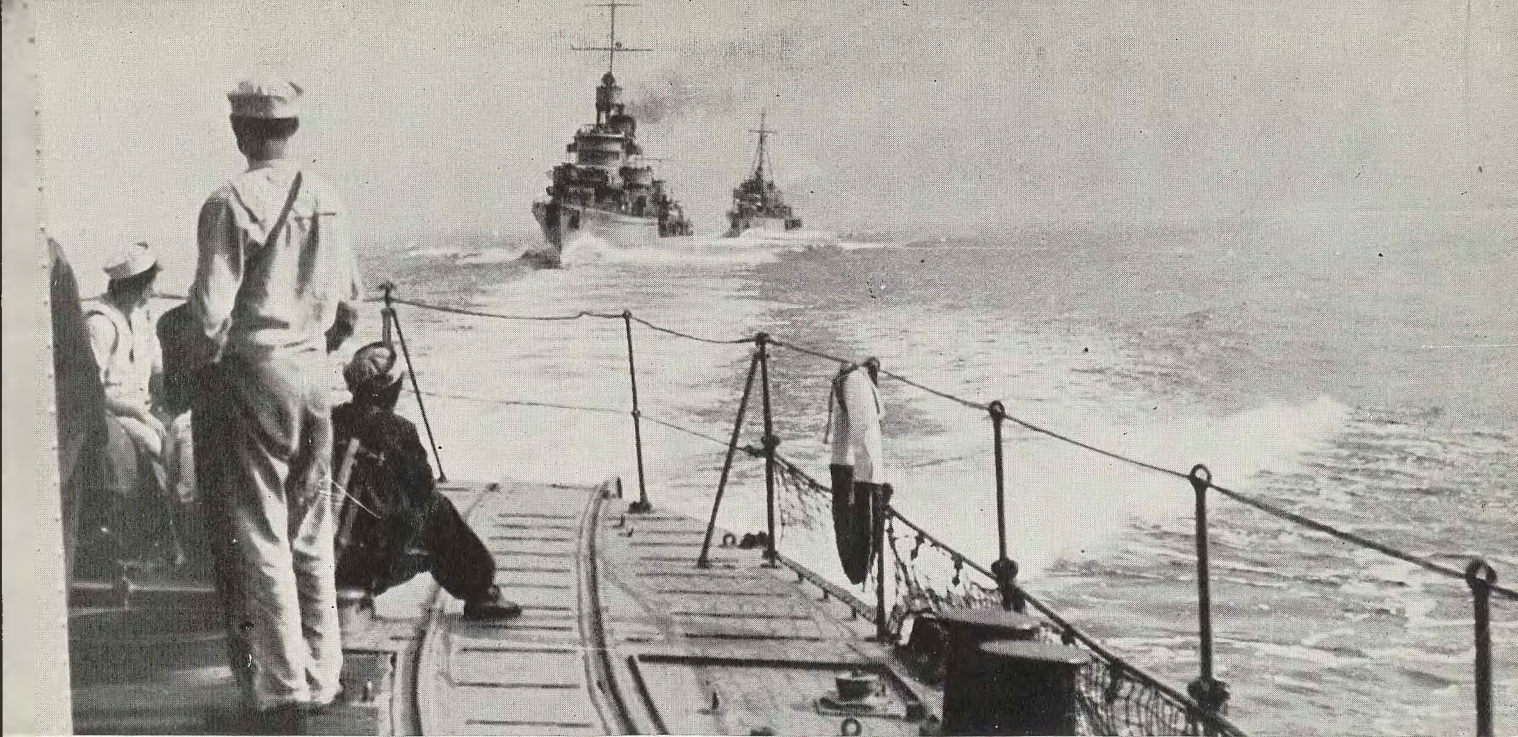


General Stanislaw Kopanski, Commander of the Carpathian Brigade. (General Kopanski is now chief of staff of all Polish Forces.)



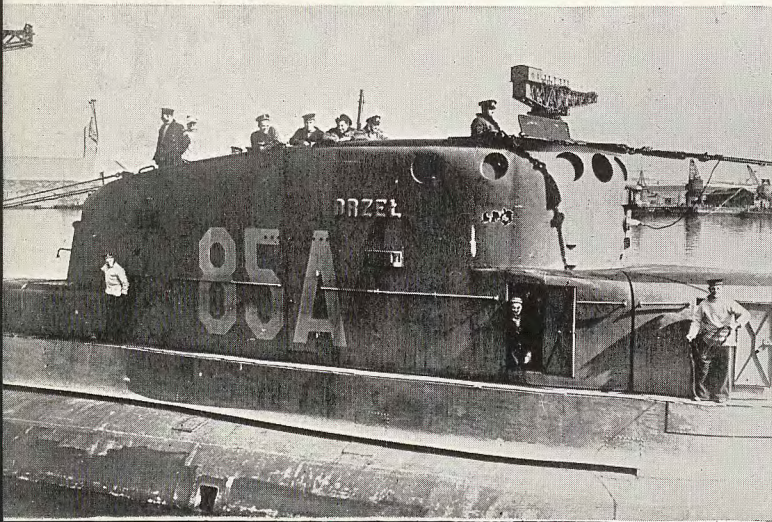
Poles reviewed in the desert.

Poles in the African campaign.



The Polish destroyers GROM, BLYSKAWICA and BURZA on their way to Great Britain on the 1st of September, 1939.

The Polish submarine ŌRZEL after many adventures reaches a British port.



The Polish submarine WILK managed to do the same.



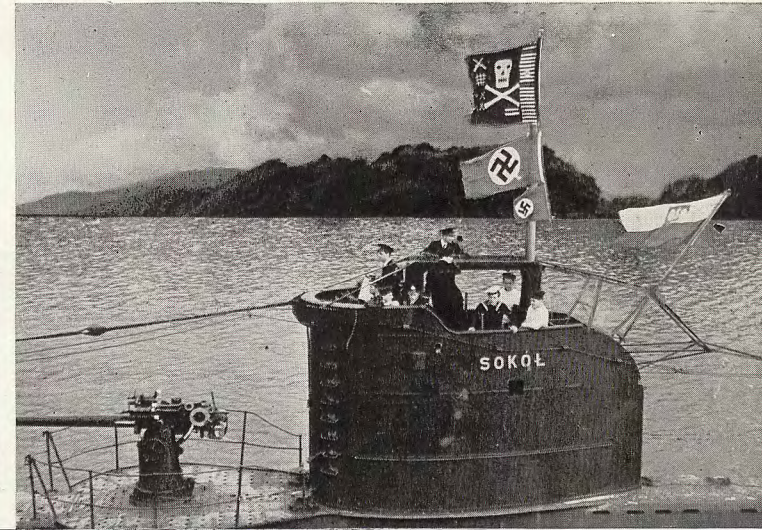
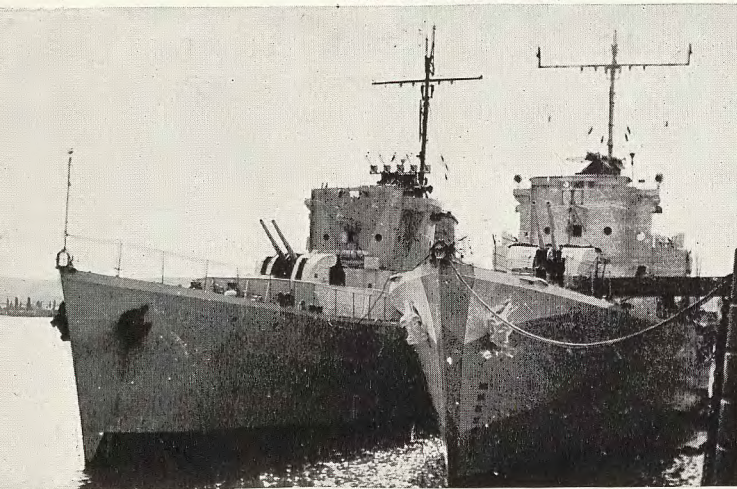
. . . The Polish Navy was given no respite in the fight against the Germans. Three Polish destroyers and two submarines made their way from the Baltic to British ports to join the Royal Navy. . . .



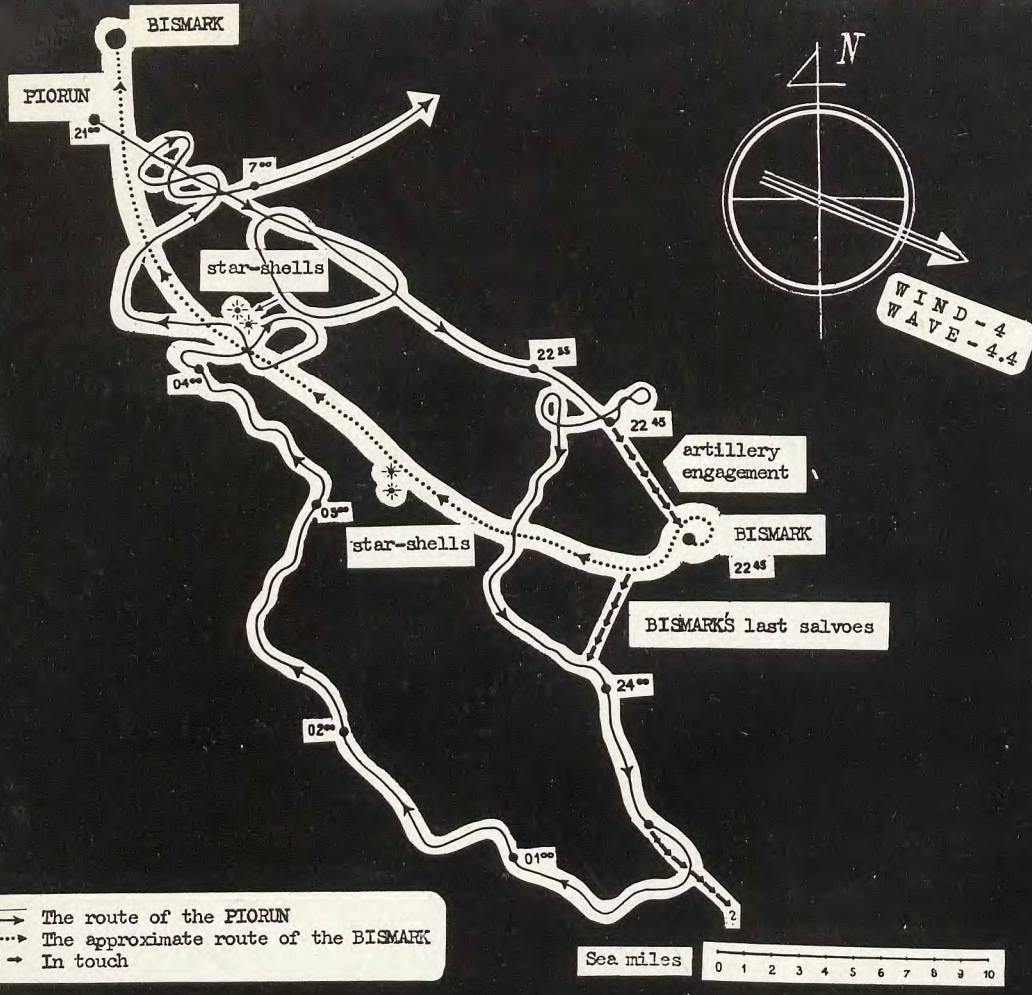
The launching of the new Polish submarine DZIK which won high praise for her operations in the Mediterranean. The Polish destroyers—SLAZAK and KRAKOWIAK.



The Polish submarine SOKOL returning to the British Isles after highly successful Naval operations in the Mediterranean.



. . . The Polish Navy has grown. Its numbers have now been increased by the addition of the cruiser Dragon, six destroyers, and some smaller vessels, which have taken part in every major naval operation, such as the British and Polish evacuation from France, the landing at Dieppe, the escorting of convoys to Malta and Russia, operations off Africa, the Dodecanese, Sicily, Salerno, Anzio and France. In the course of these five years of fighting the Polish Navy has destroyed 31 enemy warships, about 50 other vessels, and destroyed or damaged nearly 100 Axis planes. The Polish destroyer Garland covered more than 200,000 miles in patrol and escort duties. . . .



The PIORUN's course when engaging the BISMARCK.

The British built Polish destroyer PIORUN.



... On May 26th, 1941, the Polish destroyer PIORUN was the first to spot the BISMARCK. The destroyer came under the fire of the enemy battleship for 55 minutes. The PIORUN engaged the BISMARCK after a chase, thus enabling British destroyers to fire their torpedoes. . . .



Polish merchantmen.

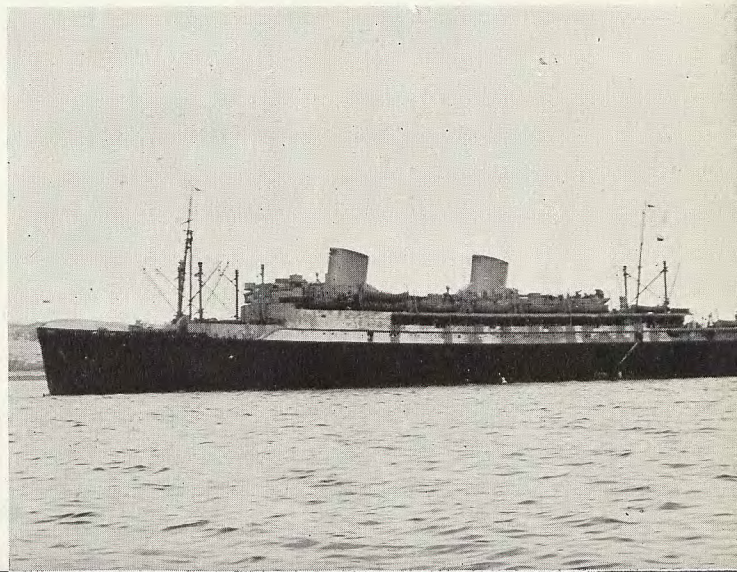


A well-earned award.



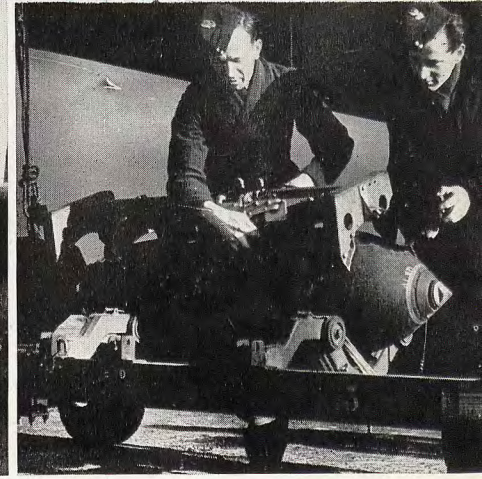
Another award.

The Polish M.S. BATORY.



. . . Nearly all the Polish Merchant Navy succeeded in escaping from the enemy and for five years it has co-operated to the full with the Allies in transporting vital war materials. The Polish flag was frequently seen in Murmansk and Bombay, in Freetown and Reykyavik, at the harbour of besieged Tobruk and Malta, and on all the convoy routes of the seven seas. Losses were soon replaced by new ships. The Polish Merchant Navy took part in all landing operations which were undertaken by the British Forces, and a large proportion of the Polish Merchant Fleet is on duty in the Pacific and Indian Oceans. Polish Merchant Seamen have received many British decorations which include 2 D.S.Os. and 13 O.B.Es.

. . . The Polish Air Force fought in Poland, France, Great Britain, North Africa, Malta, Sicily, Italy, China, Occupied Europe and protected the sea routes. During the Battle of Britain, one of the Polish Squadrons (the Kosciuszko Squadron) distinguished itself, being credited with the greatest number of enemy planes to be destroyed by any R.A.F. Squadron : 198 enemy planes were shot down by Poles for certain and 264 probably destroyed. During five years of war Polish fighters have shot down well over 1,000 enemy planes and 223 flying bombs. . . .



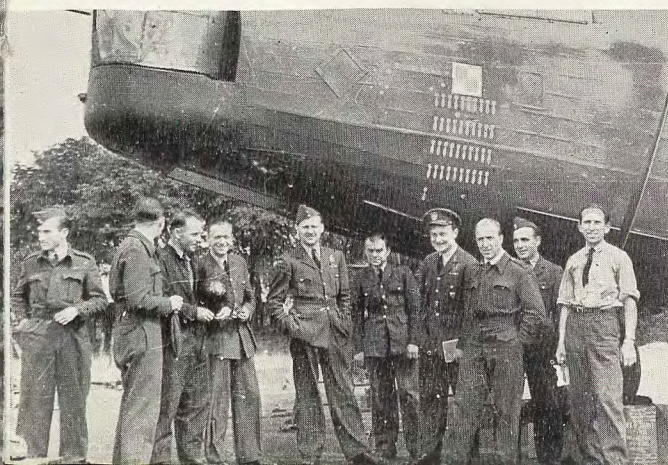
Polish fighters on a British Aero-drome.

Polish Bombers in Great Britain.

"It was like that . . ."

... Polish bomber squadrons made over 1,000 sorties, in which several thousands of planes participated. They raided Berlin, Hamburg, Bremen, the Ruhr, and other major objectives. More than seven German submarines were destroyed by the Poles. One of the Polish Wings joined the Tactical Air Force, helping Eisenhower's Allied Armies in France. . . .

... Numerically, the Polish Air Force was second to the R.A.F., before the United States entered the war. . . .



After the sinking of a German U-boat.

A Polish airman receiving his commission from General Sikorski.

One of the veterans.



In the British Isles.



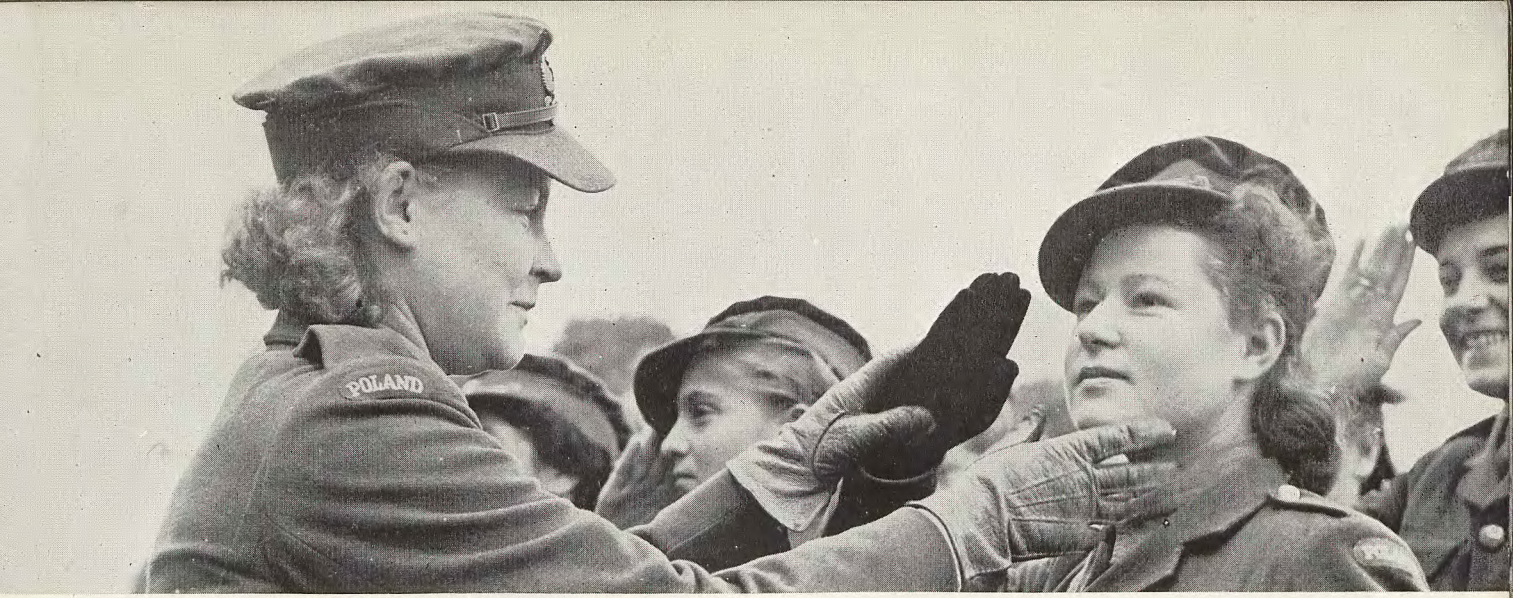
In the Middle East.



Overseas.

At home in Poland.

... Polish women work in every European theatre of war. ...

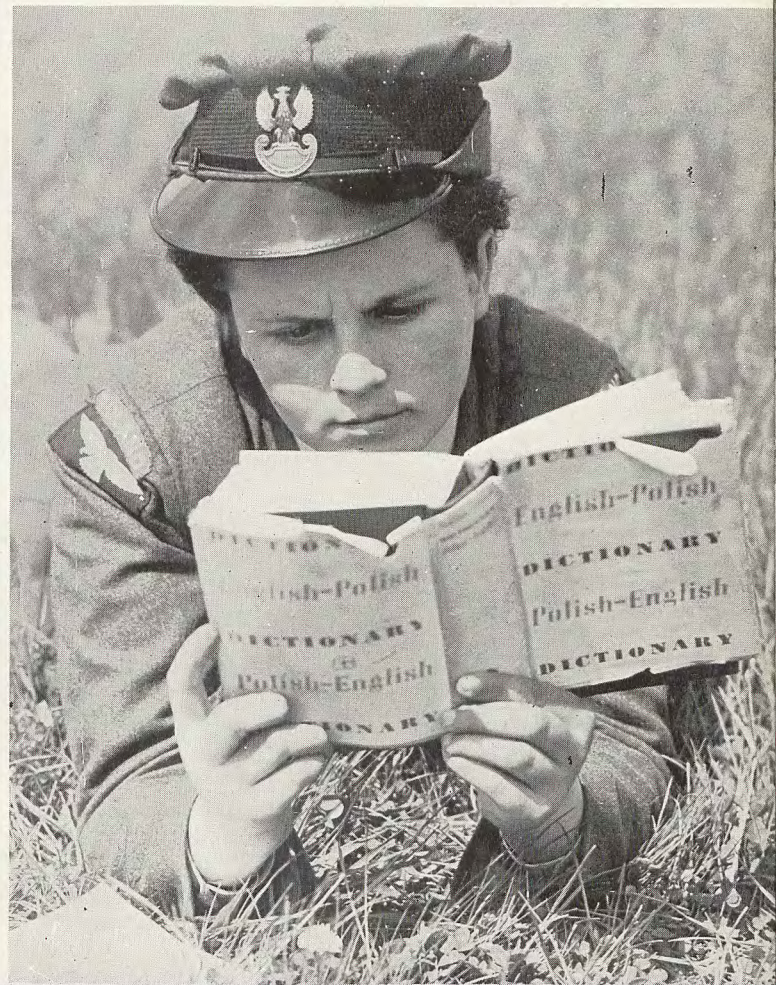


Polish A.T.S.



Polish W R.N.S. Officer.

Polish W.A.A.F.



... Polish women entered all three services.



The first lesson.

"I have to report . . . " . . . At the Cadet School.



. . . Polish youths training to become ground-crews, signallers, and drivers. . . .

. . . Since 1940 the Poles have been entrusted with the defence of an important sector of the Scottish coast. . . .



A Polish sentry in Scotland.



Mortar-firing.

1941. Somewhere in Scotland.



... The 1st Polish Army Corps was formed in Scotland. ...



A Polish Tank Division. This Division under the command of General MACZEK closed the FALAISE gap and took Abbeville and Ypres in August and September 1944. They took 5,000 prisoners including 1 General and 140 officers in Normandy alone.

Polish Paratroops. In September 1944, they landed in Holland with the Allied Airborne Army.

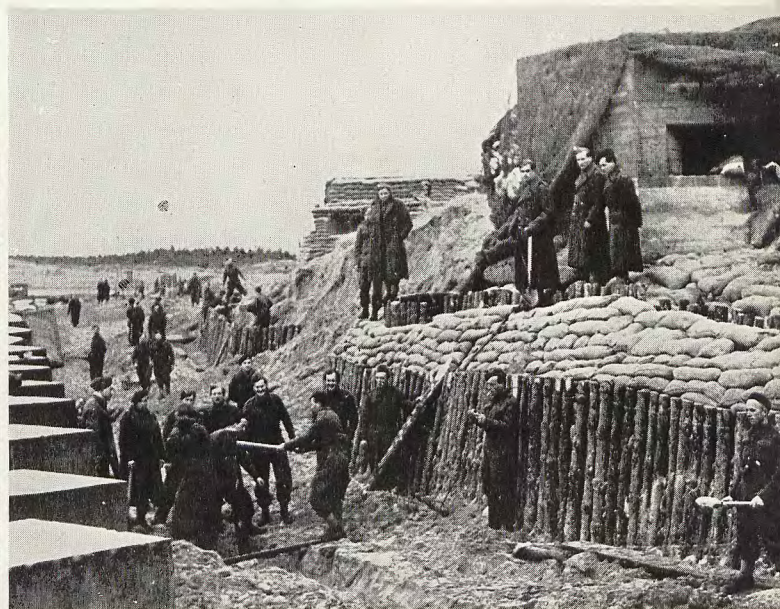


. . . During Great Britain's critical years of 1940-41, Poles worked hard on the construction of coastal defences and took over the operation of a number of armoured trains. . . .



Engineering troops.

Poles manning an armoured train.



Building up Scottish coastal defences.

. . . The Anglo-Polish alliance was made manifest in various fields of activity. . . .



A mine detector invented by a Pole was used universally in the British Army.

Rail communication service in the Middle East operated by Poles.

Polish soldiers lending a hand to farmers in Scotland.





Hundreds of Polish villages were burned down.



Fire in the so-called "small Ghetto" in Warsaw.



Mass slaughter.

. . . Polish fighting efficiency provoked the Germans to fury and they decided to break the spirit of the Polish Nation by bloody persecutions. . . .

. . . Neither the women nor children were spared. . . .



Incredible, but true.

Man hunt in the Lublin district.

. . . The Polish Underground Army avenges German atrocities and protects the population. . . .



Fighting the Germans near Novo-
grodek, winter 1944.

The road is mined.

An attack on Germans in the
village of Jaszuny.



... The Polish Underground Army emerges. ...



Photographs taken in Poland before and during operations in various parts of the country.



. . . The Polish Underground Army's Headquarters, radio stations, field hospitals and dumps built and organized in the forests. . . .



Signallers at work.



First Aid Post.



Preparing to blow up the bridge over the Visloka river. April 5th, 1944.

Parade of a unit of the Polish Home Army.

One of the Polish Headquarters jokingly called "Hotel Europe."



. . . To counteract Polish Underground activity, German Government Buildings in Warsaw and other big cities were barricaded, and forests were proclaimed "prohibited zones" for all Germans. . . .



One of the German office buildings in Warsaw.

German warning "Beware of Bandits."



Somewhere in North Eastern Poland.

A Regiment being presented with its Regimental Colours.

In action.

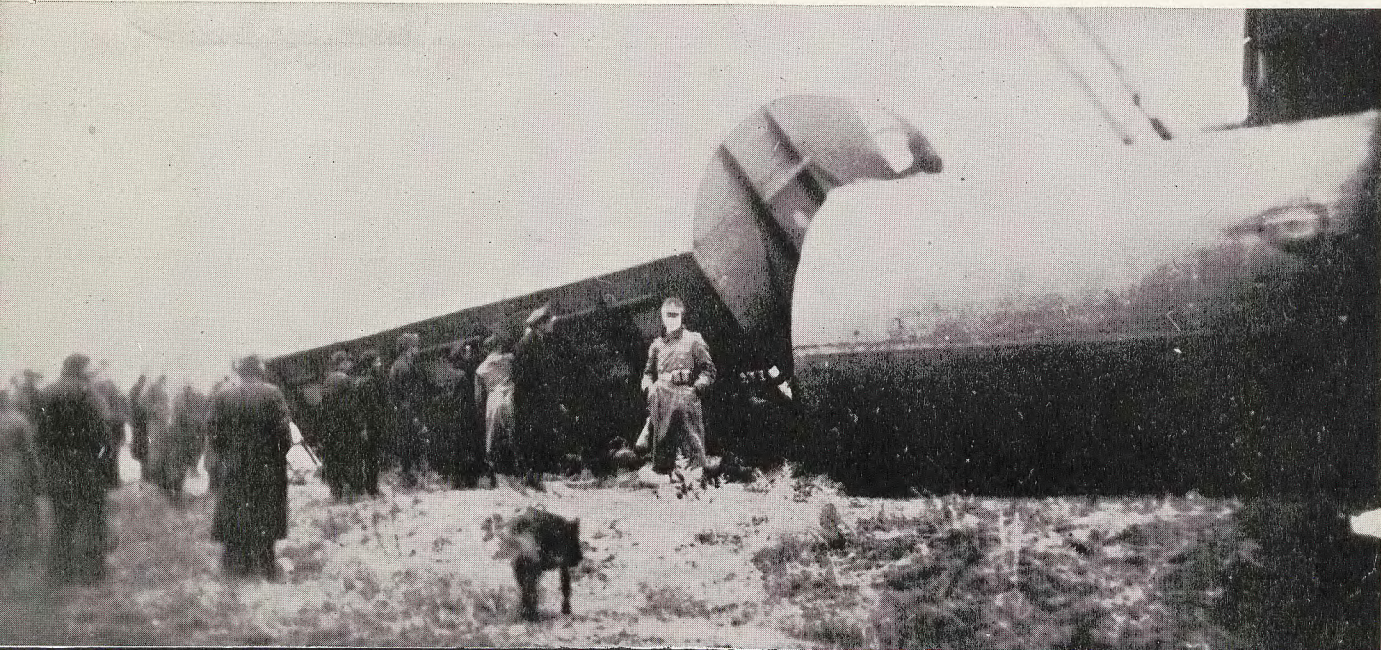


... The Polish Home Army assumed all the aspect of a regular Army. ...



The railway bridge over the Visloka River, blown up on April 5th, 1944.

A German train blown up on April 12th, 1944.



... Hundreds of bridges and trains were blown up by the Polish Home Army acting under orders from the Polish Government in London. Two Divisions of the Home Army, assisted by a Russian Brigade, attacked and captured Wilno from the Germans, this Army also joined in the Russian assault on Lwow. From August 1st the Polish Home Army was fighting desperately and alone in Warsaw itself and at the same time attacking the German Front line from the rear./...

... Meanwhile the 2nd Polish Corps have been fighting in Italy since February 1944. Poles captured the Monastery of Monte Cassino, Monte Cairo, Piedemonte and the important city and harbour of Ancona. H.M. The King conferred the Order of the Bath on General Anders commanding the Corps. ...



Storming Monastery Hill.



After the capture of the Monastery of Monte Cassino the Poles hoisted the Polish and British flags.

... More successes in Italy. ...



One of the captured German guns.



German prisoners taken by Poles at Piedimonte.



The Polish C. in C. General K. Sosnkowski decorates General Alexander with the VIRTUTI MILITARY, which corresponds to the Victoria Cross.



The Airman.



The Seaman.



An Infantry Officer.



The Sailor.



A Sergeant of
the Home Army.



Tank Driver.

... They fought for five years on all fronts without respite : seamen, airmen and soldiers. ...

