

Issue No. 1060...28..4.1941.

Title: If I Were King.

Tracks: Safari..Rangers Of Fortune..Safari..Rulers Of The Sea.

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Lines: Stagg.

Voice: Do.

Gateway to the Far East Singapore springs to the forefront of the European war-mind, with the news that Russia and Japan sign a neutrality pact. Britain's prompt precautionary measure is to send considerable reinforcements, making the Malay Peninsula, according to experts on the spot, invulnerable. Far-sightedly despatched to the East, Paramount cameramen now report the war situation, as it impinges on this key-point of the Orient, where under benevolent British rule, East and West harmoniously mingle, where Chinese washing dries out in the streets of this city - strategically and commercially of the first importance to the Western world.

(KID) Paramount reports that Malay is fully defence-conscious; as every far-eastern country has need to be. With Japan in step with Hitler, friendly with Stalin and openly anti-British, Malays know that the weak must go to the wall.

Appeals for blood donors reveal Singapore awake to air raid danger. Volunteers plentifully come forward. Several nationalities rub shoulders in Malaya; all unite under the common threat.

First Aid instruction to students of different tongues makes use of plaster casts of actual wounds - an ingenious way round the language barrier, and in any case a first rate method of teaching. In Europe First Aid has saved many a life, where the wounds were not artificial.

Paramount reports that A.R.P. demonstrations rivet popular attention.

Switching investigations to Penang, 400 miles north of Singapore, we show the harbour buzzing under the commercial stimulus of war. Ingots of tin come to the quayside to be shipped - metal worth close on £300 a ton. Tin and rubber, principal Malayan exports, are in greater demand than ever. To New York alone go 30-thousand tons of rubber every month.

To Penang, as nearest port in the Straits Settlements, came reinforcements from India, 1300 miles away. Sons of the Empire come from the Brightest Jewel of the Crown to defend other territory under the Imperial flag. These men are Sikhs, soldiers second to none. They are a sect

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of dissenters from Hinduism. The Holy Book of the Sikhs goes with them everywhere.

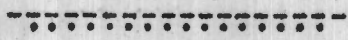
Imperial forces in Malaya undergo intensive training to surmount the handicaps of climate and jungle, in which the older methods of warfare still hold good. Where the land is not jungle, mechanisation comes into play. The armoured troops are now there.

Edward Genock chief Paramount cameraman in the Far East, reports that work on the big rubber plantations goes on side-by-side with military training.

Dragging through crocodile-infested swamps in intense, humid heat taxes the toughest soldiers, and would sap the vitality of all but the highest-trained. Our forces perform endurance exercises, making them fit as professional boxers.

(BIKE) Across the streams, and on comparatively firm ground, anti-tank batteries open fire.

(LOADING) Guns guarding Singapore - which say official spokesmen, is invulnerable, its peace not yet disturbed.



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