HONGKONG IS READY

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To this British possession guarding the Pacific approaches to the China Sea, Paramouni turns its survey of the Far East. Hongkong today fixes its gaze on Japan - truculent, oriental partner of the Axis. Side-by-side with the Eternal East, as mirrored by peaceful Chinese trading on the Canton River, are Chinese in uniform, into which they have been forced by ten years of savage Japanese invasion. Hongkong has been a British Naval station for a hundred years, always with China's good will. Our gunboats and minesweepers now number Chinese in their crews. They paint a fish's head on the sweep that cerries the mine-catching cable. China recognises in Great Britain a friend in need, and a friend well armed.

Shipyards in full commission, giving overtime employment to six thousand labourers, were the commercial aspect of the colony revealed in the Paramount survey. Merchantmen are on the stocks, ten ships a year on the schedule, helping from the other side of the earth to reinforce Britain in the Battle of the Atlantic.

Chinese man the sparetime volunteer reserve commanded by General Grasset. They are devoting week ends to training in camp.

Ernest Hemmingway, world-famous novelist and crusader of freedom, is on his way into China.

From India come many units of the colonial garrison - good soldiers, well trained in using the latest weapons of our mechanised WITH the army. Indians are British artillerymen, hauling guns to cliff top positions.

Girl coolies carry cordite firing-charges to the coast batteries - long range monsters which can hurl 9.2 shells far out to sea. Everyone in the colony from Governor to humble coolie, is vigilant. Should the Axis strike in the Far East it will find Hongkong prepared.