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Title: Rangers of Fortuen.

Track: Partners Of The Planes.

Lines: Stagg.

Voice: do

From the vivid camera of Maurice Ford, unrivalled newsreel war-correspondent, comes ~~transmits~~ this report on war-effort in South Africa. We give his impressions as he sent ~~them~~ to us.

Soon after I landed ^{says Ford,} I made a rapid trip ~~to Pretoria,~~ 500 miles ~~to Pretoria,~~ inland, seat of the South African Government. I had an appointment at ~~the best-kept figure in the Union, the soldier-king~~ the Government House, where I'd been promised pictures of that Grand Old Man ~~of the Union,~~ Jan Smuts.

By way of contrast - a sort of from-top-to-bottom - I looked in on the Youth Training Brigade. Youngsters were coming along the Smuts Road to the recruiting camp. I saw them turn in a day or two into soldiers, not quite guardsmen, but there's more than the parade-ground in soldiering nowadays. ~~The Youth Brigade is~~ South Africa's army of to-morrow.

(CU TOWARDS) After this I thought I'd have a look at the real army. S.A.E.C. stands for South African Engineering Corps. They were having instruction in concealment and camouflage when I arrived - a lesson that's very important in Africa; out on the veldt where there's little or no natural cover, a soldier must know how to make himself as inconspicuous as possible.

(SV TAKE NOTES) Round this camp you never know who'll pop up next.

(REMOVE STONE) ... If you're well camouflaged you can't be seen in the distance; and close ^{up} you look as if you'd been kissed by a hippopotamus using lip-stick.

The Springboks have wings nowadays. Hurrying to Kimberley I happened on the cadets' great day. Air-Commodore Frew was there, and in the march-past the WAAFS made a fine showing. They tell me that South African girls are good-lookers, but you know, I've been that busy I haven't had a minute to look. Parents were there in force to see the Air Commodore present wings to the young fellows who'd passed into war service with the RAF. They make first class airmen these Springboks. ~~African airmen make mince-meat of the enemy in Libya, Eritrea and Abyssinia.~~ The Union won't have to call on the Mother Country to defend the sky-frontier of South Africa. There's going to be a non-stop supply from this part of the world

continued.....

from now till peace time.

South Africa has its own heavy industries nowadays. I found a huge new factory working capacity production, with the help of woman labour, making 3.7 Howitzers. It's only in the last few years that the Union has turned its attention to the arms industry, and only since the war that it's manufactured guns in mass-production. A lot of machinery for the big job was imported, some from America. As soon as I can I'm going to Vereeniging to see them building the big new plant that will turn out a million tons of steel per annum.

~~(TRACK AWAY AFTER CU LATHS)~~ South Africa's patting herself on the back that she got the iron and steel industry going in time. There are fewer ships available nowadays; it might have been awkward if they'd needed guns from abroad.

(CU FIX SIGHT) As fast as the guns are made they go to artillery units; so having seen the whole process from raw steel to finished weapon I was interested to see the howitzers being towed behind four-wheel-drive lorries. The gunners get into action pretty nearly as quickly as cavalry.

I ran across some armoured-cars on my way back from the artillery school - fine 80-mile-an-hour, go-anywhere fighting vehicles which spell victory in any formation. The Afrikander takes to armoured-car fighting by instinct. Like his forebears on horseback he knows the veldt like the back of his hand.

(GV AFTER BURST IN SAND) South Africa makes these armoured-cars herself, one more striking example of how she's becoming a self-supporting war country.

~~What do you think of my next course, the band of the Cape Coloured Corps. Well, they are a fine lot of fellows, before I see them I see them~~

~~a combination of music maestros to beat the band.~~

(AFTER BAND) ~~Here are some of the Cape Coloured Corps~~ ^{They were} leaving South Africa for the front somewhere in the Middle East. Some may join the garrison in Ethiopia, so there's a good time coming for those belles in Abyssinia.

(GREAT WAR VET) I asked this Great War veteran where he was going. He said he didn't know and so long as there was some fighting when he got there he didn't care. So northwards to victory was the slogan as they cheered their good-bye.

~~We could not fail to be~~

(BACK VIEW) I've been impressed and stimulated by the fighting spirit and will-to-victory shown by the indomitable people of South Africa.
