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44-46

THIS WAR OF FIRE.

Where there's smoke there's fire - - and in this war there's plenty of both. On the Italian front are guns that shoot smoke - huge generators pouring out smoke screens on the battle front below Rome - concealment for allied military activities.

Wrapped in smoke of a different type is an allied tanker bombed in the Mediterranean. With the flames spreading along its full length the crew huddle in the stern as help comes to them in the form of a fire float.

Burning oil at sea - - with no hope of saving the tanker, the crew escapes by lifeboat. An incident which brings home to us the work of the Merchant Navy and the hazards they face in the normal course of duty.

Chemical warfare units of the American Army working on mortars which hurl phosphorous bombs.

Salvos of these special bombs are fired in a demonstration by this branch of the army which handles these uncomfortably spectacular fireworks.

The terrifying assault of the flame throwers. Portable cremating machines which can turn everything in their path to ashes.

They call it a technological method of war - - Fifty four 100 lb bombs go down in one stick. A rippling burst and the target's gone.

Demonstration of the power of a pair of 2000 lb block busters.

Bombs that explode in the air with a downward blast against ground troops - - - Heat but not gaudy.

Fighter planes drop their auxiliary petrol tanks as missiles. 75 gallons in each acting as incendiaries.

There, in a bombshell, are graphic illustrations of the phrase "In the heat of battle".