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NEW SHUTTLE SERVICE TO RUSSIA.

During the first week in June, aircraft of the United States 15th Air Force opened a new Allied air front by creating a shuttle service from Italy to new bases in the reconquered Ukraine. Crossing Yugoslavia into the heart of the Balkans, the Forts bombed targets in Satellite countries. On the outward journey, the B. 17's hit vital railway yards in Hungary.

On the homeward run from Russia, they bombed the aerodromes of GALATZ and ROSSINI FOCSANI in Roumania. News now comes that this Italy-to-Russia-and-back service has a duplicate shuttle-bombing system, with the 8th Air Force working between Britain and Russia.

The aerial ring round the Germans is closing in - - - every square mile of his territory is vulnerable. At Russian bases, Soviet Air Force Officials await the incoming aircraft. The landing grounds had been built in record time. Much of the work was done by Russian women. They asked how quickly American engineers could lay down the steel mat runways, then they went out and set up a new record. Among those to set foot on re-won Soviet soil is the Commander-in-Chief of the Mediterranean Allied Air Forces, General Eaker.

Hot food is served out by Russian women offering hospitality on a lavish scale. While meals are eaten by the hungry crews Russian mechanics service the big bombers - - re-fuelling, re-arming and re-bombing the Fortresses.

Come now to where the American air crews are being entertained in an open-air theatre... open air, because its a roofless warehouse, and roofless because the Germans burnt it down before evacuating.

Within a matter of minutes of young Ivan meeting his first American he was chewing gum.

And that's how it is at this Allied bomber base in Russia. The closing thought as we leave it, is, how must the Germans be feeling, now that every factory of their's between the Russian front and the Second front is wide open to attack?