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KEEPING OUR POWDER DRY.

It's no time for panic but it is a good time to prepare and here's a heavy Ash-Ash battery testing new waterproofing methods that enable units to wade ashore when landing-craft can't get in close. It's not a normal full troop because some of the existing equipment can't be waterproofed.

A lot of problems had to be solved. Quick removal of waterproofing means speed into action. To-day successful landings depend on Ash-Ash cover.

In ground attack, too, we're keeping up-to-date. At Warminster experts watch as flail tanks sweep a path through a minefield in an all-arms co-operation to break through strong defences.

Infantry of the breaching force move forward under tank cover.

Bridge tanks go ahead to cope with anti-tank ditches and let the main armour through. The bridge is lowered in position and left there. Tanks have revolutionised modern warfare - but you've got to know how to use them to the best purposes, and conditions are always changing.

At Falfield it's a bad night again as instructors go through a course at the Civil Defence School. It's the old technique worked out and proved under fire during war, but new instructors are needed to build up local units.

It's a big job, so as the units arrive on the scene wardens confer with the Regional Superintendent and operations are planned. If there's even an attack, there'll be fires to fight. Experts say good protection against even the atom bomb is not difficult. But success depends largely on the Civil Defence. It's our skins they are learning to save - but they will need a lot of trained helpers, too.

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