

HELICOPTERS FOR MALAYA

The Royal Naval Station, Gosport, will soon be saying goodbye to the Navy's first operational helicopter squadron 848. In a short while they will be on their way to Malaya to assist in jungle attacks against the bandits. Meanwhile the pilots are getting in plenty of hard training. Many of their flights (specially designed to accustom them to trips into the jungle) are to the New Forest.

The Sikorsky helicopters were sent from America, being provided under the Mutual Defence Assistance Programme. At the British Government's request, delivery (which should have been made next year) was advanced. Soon the aircraft will be shipped over to Malaya (along with 14 officers and 80 ratings) to carry our troops into battle and to evacuate wounded from the jungle.