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DESERT PATROL IN ACTION.

Desert Patrol - another front line story from the camera of Terry Ashwood, our intrepid newsreel representative in the Middle East. Once again he moves up to our forward positions to secure pictures of a scouting party going over the top, to probe the enemy positions, and, by swift capture, bring back valuable information. A halt is called, and the men fix bayonets before penetrating our own wire entanglements on the fringe of no-man's land. This is the kind of action which communiques describe as "Local activity by our patrols"; a sort of "all quiet on the Western front". A somewhat prosaic description of a dangerous expedition into the unknown, where at any moment the desert will erupt like a volcano under the impact of enemy gun and mortar fire. No newspaper headlines for this, just a brief reference to the commonplace.

While the smoke and dust hang in the air, the men use its cover to rush forward another few yards. There are no decorations for this kind of bravery, Tommy Atkins is only on patrol.

Another quick run forward, some to seek the cover afforded by a still-smoking shell crater. From rock to rock, tuft of scrub to shell-hole, they make their perilous way towards an unseen enemy.

It's to the unsung heroes who perform their duty over there that we offer this tribute. Our praise goes out to the men who daily carry on and earn recognition with the phrase -- "Our Patrols have been active again".