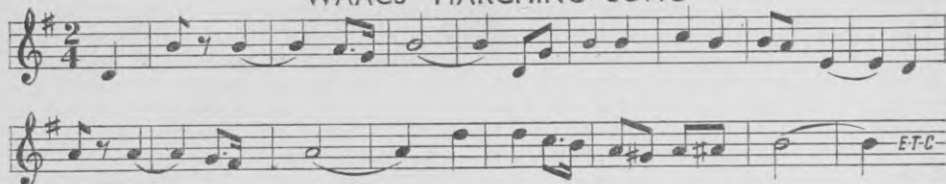


In my next article I shall introduce new international songs which have developed during this war and discuss further unit songs of the three Services, including the 3rd Division's famous song "Isa Lei" as well as music written by New-Zealanders at home. This in itself covers a wide field and should disclose a new national trend in folk music—the songs that are helping to win the war.



WAACS' MARCHING SONG



ROCKETS—FIRED BY A THREEPENNY BATTERY

"It's an old weapon, the rocket," said a B.B.C. reporter who watched a practice shoot of anti-aircraft rockets. "General Sir Frederick Pile was reminding correspondents recently that the Chinese used it against the Tartars a little over seven hundred years ago, and the British Army has used it occasionally, once against elephants. The Rocket Troop of the Royal Horse Artillery used it against French cavalry in the Napoleonic Wars, and the French of that day said it was unfair. And now the rocket may be said to be one of the familiar objects of our defended areas. Most people will know what the projectors look like. They're rather like clothes racks pointing up into the sky, and they always seem to congregate in large numbers. The point is that one of the best ways to destroy enemy raiders is to project an enormous salvo into the sky on or about the point where the raider is. And if you space your projectors accurately and fire them in parallel, you obviously fill the same acreage with the explosions of the rockets. And as the rocket contains a great deal of explosive in comparison with its bulk, the blast all over the acreage is enormous.

"The projectors look pretty simple, and, indeed, they are simple. And they're quite cheap to manufacture in numbers. Indeed, they're so cheap that the ordinary citizen who can afford a car could probably afford half a dozen rocket projectors, if he has a mind to. All that's needed is a rack that can be inclined to the correct angle, and can also, of course, revolve accurately to the right point of the compass. And you need a small gadget to fuse the projectile accurately. The whole thing, in fact, is so simple that the firing mechanism is worked by an ordinary dry battery—a threepenny battery."