

SERIAL WAVES

BEING SMOKE AND SEA SPRAY
FROM
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GOODBYE N Z

All ranks will be interested in the extracts which appear below and which are taken from a farewell message to N Z recorded for broadcasting by our Ship's C O .

As O C Troops I am proud and pleased to have this opportunity of sending a message on behalf of the Officer's, N C Os and men of the 3rd Echelon on board this transport . Although it is not very long since we left N Z it will be some little time longer before you hear this .

I cannot describe to you how pleased we of the 3rd Echelon are to be under weigh . We thank you for your farewell - those who cheered us off after waiting patiently at the wharf gates all the morning - those Cabinet Ministers and other members of the Government who came on board, and particularly we wish to express our appreciation of the action of his Excellency the Governor General, who on a windy Wellington day came round the transports anchored in the stream waving, and shouting encouraging messages of farewell .

Our health is good; our morale is high . I trust they will remain so and enable us in some small way to assist in gaining that success which is the inevitable conclusion of this, the most difficult task the Empire has ever faced. I am fully confident that the more difficult the struggle the stronger will be the new Empire ties forged therein . The British Commonwealth of Nations will emerge victorious, stronger, and even more united than ever .

Until this time arrives we send our condolences to those of you in N Z who are unable, or, should I say, who have as yet been unable, to get away . Yours is the more difficult task, but we have no qualms in leaving it, together with all our interests, in your very capable hands, and we are confident that N Z will still be the most wonderful country in the world to come back to when our period of overseas service comes to an end .

Others will give you some more intimate pictures of life on board . I will conclude by wishing, on behalf of us all, to mothers, wives , sweethearts, relations and friends in N Z - " Au revoir " .

SONG OF THE 16th & 17th RAILWAY OPERATING COYS Tune " Blaze Away "

We are the boys who build the Railways
And we aim to do our share
In this mighty fight for freedom .
Well, the Railway Boys are needed over there,
And when old Hitler's learn't his lesson,
And the fight for victory's won -
Don't forget it was the Railways
Who showed them how things should be done .

Why was a particularly pure young Serjeant seen repeatedly in the less savoury portions of a certain port last night ? Is the excuse that he was on duty to be credited?

Did you know that a certain Serjeant, after conscientiously using "pidgin" for some days to a steward, was asked by this same steward, in flawless English, " May I have your order, Sir?" Was the Serjeant's face red ?

WATER RITUAL SPEAKS

It is said that the mascot of the 24th is a regimental mouse - Cheese it .

Overheard in the Adelphi - " Is it free - Mantell?"

Watch your water boys - the ship's not a camel .

One of the boys asked a local girl how she liked the Australian Bight - she said she liked the N Z bite better .

QUESTIONS ONE DOES NOT ASK

Of the Captain:

Do you really enjoy the bagpipes?

Of the Chief Engineer:

How much fresh water (and linseed) do your engines use?

Of the Purser:

Why do you hoard mattresses?

Of a C P R Sister:

Have you ever been vaccinated?

JUST WILLIAM

But yesterday morning
He left in his pride,
A blooming young man
With a fine martial stride,
But 'ere the red sun in its course rose again
He'd succumbed (oh the pity) in vice's low den .

All the birds of the air
Are a'sighing and a'sorrowing
As they think of the depths
In which William was wallowing .

But yesterday morning
Young William was hale .
By the evening, alas
He had tasted Perth ale
It was weak Waitemata he'd been weaned upon -
How great was the fall when he tasted some "Swan".

All the birds of the air
Are a'wailing and weeping,
As they think of the company
William was keeping .

Our Warren was young
Our Warren was weak,
He had so much drink
It made his breath reek.
He'd a fit of the staggers
And a look just like daggers,
A headache or two, and a hue on his beak .

They say if you play "Crown and Anchor" long enough you will see the Banker counting your own money .

Has the Publisher attempted to exchange the Wellington Milk Council coupon which was rung on him yesterday for a quart of Ship's Red Top Milk .

"I'm Forever Blowing Bubbles": The Serjeant of the 19th A T Coy with the A Flat snore who chews soap in his sleep - And!!! he is always sober .

The sea gulls have now left us - But we notice that the swallows are returning - To the deep .

Edited by John Dory, printed and published by Pte Davy Jones at the Neptune Press, for Units of the 3rd Echelon 2nd NZEF .

LATEST WAR NEWS

The Admiralty announces : The destroyers "Ivanhoe" "Esk" have been sunk by enemy torpedoes or mines .

The House of Commons, which this afternoon heard comments from the Prime Minister, for the first time in its history was in session while air raid alarms were sounding in London . The speaker announced that if a raid became imminent members would go down stairs, and a little later, for a few minutes, the sitting was suspended. The all clear was sounded towards the conclusion of Mr. Churchill's speech. After welcoming the conclusion of the agreement between H M Government and the Government of the United States relating to the release of fifty destroyers, Mr Churchill turned to the air activity of the last two months . Though August, he said, has been a real fighting month, neither side has put out its real strength. The Germans have made a very substantial and important effort to gain mastery and they have certainly put forth a larger proportion of their total air strength than we have found it necessary up to the present to employ against them . Their attempts to dominate the R A F and our A A defences by daily attacks have proved very costly to them . Broad figures of three to one in machines and of six to one in pilots and crews, of which we are assured, do not by any means represent the total injury inflicted upon the enemy . We must be prepared for heavier fighting in this month of September as the need of the enemy to obtain a decision is very great, and if he has the numbers we have hitherto credited him he should be able to magnify and multiply his attacks during Sept. Firm confidence was expressed by the R A F in their ability to withstand a largely increased scale of attack . "So far as an air attack is concerned," said Mr Churchill, we have found it to be up to the present, far less severe than what we had prepared ourselves to endure, and what we are still ready to endure. And he instanced the fact that over 15,000 beds had stood empty in War Hospitals for over a year. Concluding, the Prime Minister said, no one must suppose the danger of military invasion is past, but he added, I shall not be giving away any military secret if I say we are very much better off than we were a few months ago, and if the problem of invading Britain was a difficult one in August it has become a far more difficult and larger problem in September . While all these preparations for Home Defence have been going forward on a gigantic scale we have not hesitated to send a continuous stream of convoys with reinforcements to the middle east in particular, a few days ago we found it possible to almost double the effective strength of our fleet in the Eastern Mediterranean by sending out some of our most powerful vessels to reinforce the flag of Sir Andrew Cunningham, Admiral in the Eastern Mediterranean. This movement plainly was visible to the Italians and yet was not molested by them. We have every intention of maintaining our positions there with our utmost strength and of increasing our sea power, and control which follows from sea power, throughout the Mediterranean, not only in the Eastern Basin but in the Western Basin . In this way both at home and abroad, we shall persevere along our course, however the winds may blow .

A British war communique issued at G H Q Cairo today: At Capuzzo during the night one of our patrols killed three enemy without sustaining any casualties to themselves. Further contingents of Poles and Czechs have arrived in Palestine . Nothing to report from Kenya or the Sudan .

The total civilian casualties due to air raids on the United Kingdom during August were : - Killed - 627 men, 335 women, 113 children. Seriously injured - 711 men, 448 women, 102 children .

WELLINGTON : The Rt Hon P Fraser warned a conference of Employers, Farmers and Bankers that a decrease in living standards might be necessary in N Z .

STOCKHOLM : The Newspaper "Afterblat" reports that about 4000 German troops on a transport to Norway had been drowned in a torpedo attack in the Kattegat by a British submarine that sent the vessel to the bottom .

LONDON : London had three air raid alarms on Wednesday and another before Midnight. Heavy A/A fire was heard. 45 German planes were shot down and the R A F lost 11 .

BOSTON : The first three of the U S A Destroyers left Boston for Canada .

LISBON : Informed sources say the British ship Brocka was attacked by a sub . but shattered the periscope by a volley from her gun and so escaped .

NEW YORK : Rome radio stations fell suddenly silent Wednesday . This usually means that raiding planes are over their target .