

GUINEA GOLD

Vol. 1. No. 49.

In the Field, Thursday, January 7, 1943.

NOT FOR SALE.

SIX MORE TOWNS FALL TO

Downed 40 Jap Planes



These four pilots of the United States Marine Corps shot down 40 Jap planes in the Solomon Islands. Left to right: Maj. John I. Smith, Lt. Kenneth D. Frazier, Maj. John F. Dobbin, and Maj. Robert E. Galor.

GUADALCANAL LULL ENDS

AFTER a lull of several weeks, land fighting has again flared up on Guadalcanal. Latest U.S. Navy Department communique announces that American troops attacked in the vicinity of Mount Austen, establishing themselves on high ground and capturing an enemy field piece.

The communique says: "Six enemy counter-attacks were repulsed, the Japanese losing 150 killed. Patrols in other sectors killed 120 additional Japanese and captured mortars, howitzers and light machine guns."

Colonel Knox, Secretary for the Navy, said at a Press conference on Tuesday that apparently no Japanese reinforcements had been landed on Guadalcanal Island in recent weeks. The 10 Japanese destroyers reported on Saturday to have been heading for the Island were unable to break through the American defences.

Dr. Benes' Relatives Threatened

"NEUE ZUERCHER ZEITUNG" reports that relatives of Dr. Benes, the Czech President, have been sent to a concentration camp with the intimation that further measures will be taken against them as a result of Dr. Benes' activities abroad.

France Under Gestapo

SWISS newspapers report that Herr Abetz, the German Ambassador to Paris, has been recalled to Berlin and the office of Ambassador abolished. Henceforth the Gestapo headquarters in Paris and the sub-headquarters at Vichy will control the whole German administration in France.

"The Times" correspondent on the French frontier says the Germans' evident intention is to give France a political status resembling that of Denmark.

PATROL ACTIVITY ONLY AT SANANANDA

GROUND operations at Sanananda yesterday were confined to patrol work. Our patrols were very active, and a number of the enemy was killed in small clashes.

THE communique issued from General MacArthur's headquarters last night stated that there was no change in the ground position at Sanananda.

"Our medium bombers and fighters attacked enemy positions," it added. Allied medium bombers and attack

RUSSIANS ON TWO FRONTS

THE fall of six more important towns and railway junctions to the Red Army was announced in a special Moscow communique on Tuesday. The towns include Nalchik, in the Caucasus, where Russian forces, between December 24 and January 4, destroyed 18 planes, 42 guns, 170 tanks, 322 machine-guns, and 390 lorries loaded with war materials.

THE five other towns referred to as having been captured are Tsymlyansk, and Morozodsk in the Don Bend area, and Prokhladna, Malsky, and Kotlyabsk in the Caucasus.

The Russians also captured 150 tanks, 199 guns, 168 mortars, 5000 rifles, 59,000 anti-tank and anti-personnel mines, more than half a million cartridges, 233 lorries and 50 ammunition and supply dumps.

Tsymlyansk is on the south arm of the Don Bend, 40 miles from Kotelnikovo. Its capture strengthens the hold the Red Army now has on the Don steppes, and will assist their drive down from Stalingrad along the Pikhoresk railway, a drive which is menacing German troops in the Caucasus by threatening to cut off their retreat to Rostov.

Stubborn Defence

Morozosk, the other Don bend town to fall, was the last position held by the enemy on the trans-Don railway line, and it was defended stubbornly.

For 24 hours the Germans counter-

attacked many times withdrawing fresh troops from the Ukraine, and many tanks.

After many gains they were thrown back with the loss of 1000 dead and many guns. The Red Army is exultant at this victory.

Its spirit was summed up by a Cossack trooper who said: "Victory is lending us wings. So hot is the battle that the enemy's blood has not even time to freeze on our sabres."

NO FURTHER BURMA NEWS

THERE is no further official news of the British advance into Burma. Reuter's correspondent on the Burma front says it is still uncertain whether the Japanese intend to defend Akyab or not.

He says that for days past ships have been arriving at and departing from the port, but it has been impossible to find out whether they have been bringing supplies or taking off troops.

He adds that the British supply problem is increasing as Akyab is approached.

WAR SUMMARY

NEW GUINEA:—Patrol activity only at Sanananda. Lae drome again successfully attacked.

RUSSIA:—Soviet troops capture six more towns and huge quantities of armaments.

NORTH AFRICA:—American forces reported within day's march of Gabes. British paratroops and commandos in successful action.

The airdrome at Gasmata was also bombed by an Allied heavy unit. In the North-western sector, there was reconnaissance activity only.

Australian Highlights and Brevities

VICTORIA

FIGURES issued by the gaming police branch in Victoria on Monday showed that in 1942, the branch secured 1559 convictions for which offenders, mainly illicit bettors, paid £22,546 in fines.

These increases are a record. This appears to be partly due to the fact that more stringent gaming laws became effective in 1941. Convictions and fines last year were more than double those in the previous year.

Boy Axemen Show Their Paces

PUBLIC School boys, who are spending the vacation wood-chopping, are working excellently. During the 12 days they have camped at Anglesea, each of 72 Wesley boys has averaged a ton daily.

The work includes felling trees, sawing them with large motor saws, and splitting the dry wood, after which it is stacked. The boys work six hours daily under the direction of experienced axemen.

When aliens were on the job they averaged about two tons weekly.

RAIDING a house in Brighton, on Sunday night, detectives recovered a large quantity of goods alleged to have been stolen in the Brighton district in the last three years. A motor truck and car had to be used to take the goods to the police station. Police believe that more than 25 thefts will be cleared up. A man aged 32 has been charged with house-breaking, larceny from a dwelling and stealing.

ALTHOUGH 31,132 motor vehicles have gone out of registration since 1940, there was a drop of only 8179 Victorian registrations during the year ended December 31. The decline in registrations was arrested by the reduction of 25 per cent. in fees for cars using less than 26 gallons of petrol monthly. The total number of registrations last year was 209,352. Approximate revenue from cars during the last 12 months was £1,500,000.

WITH the arrest of two men aged 27 and 31 at Richmond on Monday, detectives believe they have cleared up a series of systematic larcenies of goods and money worth £2000 from Easthaugh Ltd. and Mascot Mills, Richmond, between January 1 and November 30 last year. Following arrests yesterday, goods valued at £500 were recovered.

FOLLOWING representations on behalf of the Bellarine shire council for a reduction in the rental of Reedy Lake reserve to £50 a year, Mr. Maltby, M.L.A., has been advised that the department is of opinion that the reduction applied for would not be justified. Mr. Maltby has advised that the case will be presented again.

QUEENSLAND

FLYING-OFFICER Arthur Spurgeon, of Brisbane, well-known Victoria Park golfer, and Flying Officer Charlie Crombie, of Warwick, are members of a crack R.A.F. night-flying Beaufighter squadron which during the nine months since its formation has shot down, without loss to itself, 70 Axis planes over Malta and Egypt.

Flying-Officers Spurgeon and Crombie have returned to England after 13 months' flying over Malta, Egypt, Syria, Palestine, Irak, Eritrea, and South Africa.

TOTAL registrations of motor vehicles, including cycles, in Queensland at November 30 last, was 111,400, a decrease of 11,086, compared with November 30, 1941.

There was, however, a net increase of 517 registrations for November. Net revenue from motor vehicle collections in November was £55,979.

THE chief officer of the Brisbane Fire Brigade (Mr. J. C. Stephens), who was seriously injured when his car and a fire engine collided at the corner of Creek and Adelaide Streets on December 17 has been discharged from the General Hospital. First Class Fireman Samuel Hall, who for some time after the accident was on the dangerously ill list at the hospital, is improving and is out of danger.

MR. R. G. MENZIES, M.H.R., has accepted the invitation of the Constitutional Club to address a public meeting in the Brisbane City Hall on the evening of January 21. His subject will be: "The Individual in the New Order."

NET postal revenue in Queensland for December: £349,721—was £77,636 more than for December, 1941.

Revenue for the six months from July 1 to December 31, 1942, was £1,823,676, compared with £1,392,216 for the corresponding period in 1941—an increase of £431,460.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

PEOPLE desperate to get ice rushed a factory at Port Augusta, at the week-end. Over a hundred forced their way into the factory and took dozens of blocks before the proprietor was out of bed. At another factory the crowd queued up at 4 a.m. and got their ice by moonlight. In Adelaide also a serious shortage of ice has led to unusual scenes.

A FEATURE of Adelaide cricket on Saturday was an exciting one day match between teams captained by Grimmer and Starr. Grimmer's team declared at 7/192. After Starr's side had lost six for 59, a stand by Isaac and Kierse prevented a collapse and at stumps the team was only four runs behind.

Read "Guinea Gold"—Then Pass it on

NEW SOUTH WALES

MRS. ANNIE SMITH makes the trip from her home in Vaucluse to Central Station, Sydney, almost every day to play the piano for troops at the Women's Services Canteen. One of her grandsons is an A.I.F. Major, and the other, who is a Captain, is a prisoner of war in Germany.

MR. W. BANKES AMERY, head of the British Food Mission to Australia, has arrived in Sydney with Mr. R. C. Hinton, a colleague. After reporting to Sir Ronald Cross, British High Commissioner, they will establish headquarters in Australia.

ONE man was killed, and five injured, when a relief diesel van crashed into the rear of a goods train stationary, on the curve at Mt. Gipps, 10 miles from Broken Hill on Tuesday morning. The guard William Reddon, of Parkes, was killed instantaneously from head injuries. He was catapulted forward against the front of the van when the crash came. The driver Reginald Clyde Dean, of Ivanhoe, jumped clear but the porter Neville Ponton, who was with him in the cabin, was trapped in the wreckage for nearly five hours.

BECAUSE of a seasonal decline in work at the N.S.W. abattoirs, the experienced slaughtermen who were temporarily released from the Army some time ago to meet urgent conditions at the abattoirs are now being returned to the Services.

The Deputy Director-General of Manpower (Mr. Bellemore) said that it was expected that the men would be returned to their units in the near future. Conditions at the abattoirs were now normal, he said, and he appreciated the co-operation of Army authorities in permitting the release of the slaughtermen.

BECAUSE some people in New South Wales maintain domestic staffs in both city and country homes, the domestic servants restrictions order will apply to the whole of the State.

The announcement yesterday by the New South Wales Director of Manpower (Mr. Bellemore) extends the previous man-power decision, which limited operation of the order to the Sydney metropolitan area and to large country towns.

RECONDITIONING of golf balls should keep the game going for at least two years, said an official of A. G. Spalding in Sydney. The Federal Government has given Spalding permission to recondition balls.

LIFESAVERS from Police Boys' Clubs were sent to patrol at Bondi, Coogee, Manly, Maroubra and Avalon beaches at the week-end. They were drafted in response to appeals from surf clubs which are under strength due to enlistments. There was a scare at Manly when a 10ft. shark was seen swimming within 20 yards of the bathers.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

SIR WALTER JAMES died in Perth on Sunday aged 79 years. He was a former State Premier. A member of the judiciary committee which framed the Federal Constitution, he had the reputation of being the wittiest speaker ever heard in Western Australia. Two sons are in the R.A.A.F. and one is State Publicity censor.

W.A. WEATHER RECORDS

WEST AUSTRALIAN weather in 1942 produced a record of floods, winds, storms, snow and ice. Perth just missed the heat wave record in December.

THE latest report of the Council for the Development of Industries states that flax tow recovered from the flax crops being grown in the South-west is now being used by the manufacturers of fibre plaster board. It is proving quite satisfactory, but the cost is rather high. A comparatively large number of sheets have also been manufactured with fibre derived from cape tulip. It is considered by the trade that this fibre is better than that derived from flax tow, but its commercial production is still in the experimental stage.

THE State executive of the Australian Labour Party is in favour of hotel hours in the metropolitan area, which are from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. being "staggered." The matter was discussed at a recent meeting of the executive.

Reasons advanced in support of a change were the climatic conditions in W.A. and the claims to refreshment of workers whose day's work does not end until 6 p.m. or thereabouts. The executive decided to make immediate representations to the Prime Minister (Mr. Curtin).

TASMANIA

AN important step in the expansion of the newsprinting industry at Derwent Valley, Tasmania, was made yesterday when the first load of logs from Styx River Valley was hauled over the new railway constructed as a feeder to the main Derwent Valley Line.

GREATER powers to deal with the prevention of fire hazards resulting from the accumulation of rubbish in back-yards are to be sought by the New Norfolk Fire Brigade Board.

AT a meeting of Esperance Council it was decided that the Huon Council be asked for an explanation why the reservation of a timber area was considered by it and the Conservator of Forests (Mr. Steane) without the Huon Municipal Association having been notified.

Sport, American And General News

R.A.A.F. Honours Native Nurse Who Saved Airman's Life

HOW a native nurse's care and attention had saved the life of a member of the R.A.A.F. during the battle for Milne Bay was told at a ceremony last week when Flt.-Lieut. J. Debert, on behalf of the R.A.A.F., presented the nurse with numerous gifts in thanksgiving.

Almost all the occupants of a nearby village gathered at a mission house to honor the nurse, and see the presentation of a new lady's bicycle, a rain cape, sun glasses, seven yards of a bright dress material, a red sweater (specially requested by the nurse), a large carton of Aspros, soap and a large complete medical kit.

It was early one night during the Milne Bay battle that the nurse began her arduous task, said Flt.-Lieut. Debert.

A crash launch operating in the northern bay area was illuminated suddenly by the beams of a searchlight from an enemy vessel not 50 yards away. Within a few seconds light calibre shells began to fall around the launch. One shell hit the engine, which blew up, and the craft sank almost immediately. Members of its crew, several of them wounded, plunged into the water, but became separated in the darkness.

In Water For 18 Hours

Although wounded by shell splinters and pieces from the engine, one of the crew swam in the direction of land, but was gradually carried out into the bay. For 18 hours he managed to keep afloat, but during a large part of that time he was only semi-conscious. He had given up all hope when friendly natives on the southern side of the bay noticed his plight. They swam out and rescued him. When he regained consciousness the airman found the nurse attending to his wounds.

Despite almost constant enemy activity she gave him every care, using up most of her limited stock of medical supplies. On several occasions she hid him from Japanese patrols, carrying him off into the jungle until they had withdrawn. When the airman was fit to travel, natives conveyed a message to the nearest Australian forces and eventually he was rescued.

MISSING FRIENDS

(Unless otherwise stated, replies c/o Guinea Gold.)

A.C.I. Jack Meagher formerly of Woodend (Vic.) is asked to contact Pte. T. Moloney.

NX90176 F. C. Bowen would like to contact Lieut. A. W. Bell, late of Glenn Innes.

Dvr. Ingle-Olson wishes to contact Pte. N. G. O'Keefe.

LOST & FOUND

(Unless otherwise stated, replies c/o Guinea Gold.)

FOUND.—Small leather wallet, name Robert A. Forbes.

LOST.—U.S. field bag on January 2; contains articles of pers. value. £5 reward. Pte. F. H. Irvine.

LOST.—Black Swan fountain pen, marked H. Preston Starley.

LOST.—Belt, walst, W.E., pistol case, 2 clips 45 cal. auto. in case, prismatic compass in pouch, 2 amm. pouches. Lieut. J. Osborne Excell.

TEACHERS DO THEIR BIT

SORTING two thousand tons of damaged potatoes for the Potato Board, trucking sales at wool stores, labouring in munition factories, canning fruit for the troops—these are a few of the three weeks' holiday jobs started on Monday by Victorian school-teachers.

Several weeks ago 5000 of the State's 7000 teachers volunteered to do National work for the three weeks of their summer vacation. More than 2500 have been at work for several weeks on rural work, flax harvesting, fruit picking, wood cutting, and hay carting. Now the rest have started essential city industrial work. Award rates are being paid.

JOE E. BROWN MAY COME TO AUSTRALIA

NEWSPAPER columnist Jimmie Fidler says that the wide-mouthed film comedian, Joe E. Brown, is making plans to visit Australia to entertain troops. He recently lost his son in an Army plane crash.

By The Sea



A Hollywood beauty jury has chosen lovely Leslie Brooks, actress, as the official "Hurrell Girl" until the war ends. Miss Brooks, it was decided, is typical of the feminine allure portrayed in the famous photo-portraits of George Hurrell, who has joined the Army Air Force as a private.

KING ENGAGES NEW TRAINER

KING GEORGE has a new trainer. In future Captain Cecil Boyd-Rochefort will be in charge of His Majesty's horses.

Last season W. R. Jarvis trained for the King, and won four classic races with Big Game and Sun Chariot.

It looks as if a mistake was made in allowing Big Game to run in the Derby in preference to Sun Chariot, as the filly won the Oaks and Leger in grand style, and apparently is a better stayer than Big Game. Her Leger win clinched her claim to be considered the best three-year-old in England.

No reason has been given for the change over from Jarvis to Captain Boyd-Rochefort.

New Soldier's Hostel To Have Licence

WITH Sydney's new soldiers' hostel almost an accomplished fact, the R.S.L. is going ahead with its plans for a big soldiers' club. Col. A. W. Hyman, president of the R.S.L. said yesterday that the club would have a liquor licence, sleeping accommodation, and all the amenities of a first class residential club. Col. Hyman also said the R.S.L. had already established two clubs of this description, one at Broken Hill, where a hotel had been secured.

Undelivered Mail

UNDER this heading each day will be published the names of servicemen for whom unclaimed mail is waiting at the Base Post Office. Personnel concerned should notify their address to Base Post Office so that this mail may be forwarded:

N235669, Pte. Gillman; NX11732, Sgt. Garvey; N238929, Spr. Gardner; NX13218, Pte. Griffiths; NX105091, Pte. Gascoyne.

NX86537, Sig. Hamilton; N227734, Pte. Holmes; NX77818, Pte. Hayes; NX15093, Pte. Holbrook; N240757, Spr. Hewitt; N38564, Pte. Hughes; NX135222, Pte. Hollis; QX1300, Pte. Hockings; SX20528, Pte. Healy. N235688, L/Cpl. Irving.

"PYJAMA GIRL" CASE REOPENED

A FRESH inquest into the eight-year-old "Pyjama Girl" case is being conducted at the request of the Crown Solicitor.

Detectives are at work in Albury.

SPOTLIGHT ON SPORT

Australia

RECENTLY invalidated home from New Guinea, Lieut. Geoff Valentin, won the 110 yds. freestyle title at the Domain Baths. Jack Campbell was second, and Noel Ryan third. Valentin's time 62 1/5 secs was 1 4/5 secs. outside W. Kendall's Australian record.

GRAT BRITAIN, Amazed and Illyrian, placegetters in the Victoria Derby, are in work again preparing for the St. Leger and other big races of the Autumn. It is almost a certainty that Great Britain will first run in the Futurity Stakes for which his stablemate, Reception, will be a late entrant.

KEN SEVER, holder of the 880 yds. freestyle title beat Noel Ryan by three quarters of a lap in 10 mins. 51 4/5 secs.

KINDERGARTEN, crack N.Z. galloper, may be given a chance to race in Sydney in the Autumn. There is little left for him in the Dominion where he would be weighted out of good handicaps.

America

IN the Empress poll, 69 sports editors chose Frankie Sinkwich (Georgia University half back) as outstanding American athlete in 1942.

Ted Williams (Boston Redsox outfielder) was runner-up for the second successive year. Joe Dimaggio, who won the poll in 1941, did not receive a single vote.

HAL SCHUMACHER, Giants' pitcher, is a naval lieutenant. The major leagues are prepared to ship 36,000 baseballs, 9000 bats and 400 catching outfits to the armed services.

Final football scores in Bowl games on New Year's Day were: Rose Bowl, Georgia 9, UCLA 0; Sugar Bowl, Tennessee 14, Tulsa 7; Sun Bowl, 2nd Air Force 13, Harding Simmons, 7: All Stars, East 13, West 12.

SOUTH beat North 24-0 in Blue Gray football at Montgomery, Alabama.

AT ice hockey, New York Rangers defeated Boston Bruins 5-3. It was Bruin's first defeat in 11 games.

Best Film of 1942

THE National Board of Review of Motion Pictures has selected Noel Coward's "In Which We Serve" (the story of a destroyer) as the best film of 1942.

Freedom House recently awarded Coward the "Service to Freedom" award for "In Which We Serve," which he wrote, directed and acted in.

AMERICAN FORCES REPORTED NEAR GABES

TO PREVENT AXIS LINK-UP

BRITISH commandos and paratroops have been in action in Tunisia and have dislodged the enemy from positions near Mateur. Axis counter-attacks have been unsuccessful.

A correspondent with the British Eighth Army says news has reached the troops that an American force has advanced through south-east Tunisia to within a day's march of Gabes, strategic town on the coast road linking Tripolitania and Tunisia. The object of the American move is to prevent the junction of the Axis forces in Tripolitania with those in Tunisia.

AMERICAN forces in North Africa have been formed into the U.S. Fifth Army. General Eisenhower is Commander-in-Chief of both this Army and the British First Army.

Land operations in North Africa are held up to a large extent by bad weather. Patrol activity is reported from Libya.

The London Daily Express correspondent says that the British Eighth Army has hardly fired a shot since the New Year began. Heavy arms are rolling forward, and the British are regrouping.

Advance elements are probing the enemy rearguard in the vicinity of Wadi Zem Zem.

Vast Supply Problems

AS the systematic pursuit of Rommel's fleeing force continues deep in the heart of Tripolitania, the petrol supply branch at Middle East Headquarters is performing daily miracles in keeping the Eighth Army supplied with unprecedented quantities of fuel.

The staggering quantity of material needed to keep the Eighth Army supplied is hourly moving forward by land, sea, and air. Over half the total daily tonnage they require is petrol.

The exact figure is a secret but more than 1½ million gallons of petrol is being sent from the base to the desert every day.

Although new container factories, working 24 hours a day, are turning out tins and drums, and although 72 times more petrol is delivered in bulk compared with July, 1940, the problem is delivering the unprecedented quantities of petroleum products over the distance from the base to the fighting front.

HENRY KAISER MAKES HIS OWN IRON NOW

HENRY KAISER and Andrew Higgins, famous high-speed industrialists, could not get what they wanted to build ships and planes—engines and steel—so they are making these themselves.

HIGGINS has bought a plant in New Orleans (Louisiana), where he will make mass-production engines for himself and others.

The plant was formerly a tin-can factory.

Kaiser opened last Thursday at Fontana (California) a 1200-ton blast

A great proportion of the transport and about 25 per cent. of the petrol is used for the sole purpose of supply.

More Petrol Than Water

As proof of the vastness of the job, it is pointed out that the quantity of petrol needed to maintain an army, even in the desert, is greater than the quantity of water.

As the RAF attacks on the Tunisian dumps continue unabated, Rommel is losing more of his precious commodity bowsers on the road.

Petrol experts at the base put Rommel's petrol problems as transcending their own, even without the attention they receive from the RAF. Rommel's fate at el Alamein was at least partially decided by fuel problems, and our destiny in Tripolitania, it is considered, is wholly dependent on them.

Better Repat. Benefits Wanted

SUB-BRANCHES of the R.S.L. in N.S.W. will seek representation at Canberra when the report of the joint Parliamentary Committee on Repatriation comes before Federal Cabinet.

Points which the League claims should be incorporated, include free medical service for discharged men up to a period of not less than 12 months, full pension rates to be paid immediately on discharge from the Army as medically unfit, a wider interpretation of the Act, and recognition of stomach complaints, neurasthenia and asthma as being pensionable.

Soviet Guerillas Active

STRESSING the efficiency and importance of the Soviet partisan movement, Moscow Radio claims that in the past few months Ukrainian guerillas have killed 46,755 Germans, destroyed 54 German headquarters, derailed 148 trains, wrecking 2656 waggons, blown up 1426 lorries and 400 railway bridges, and destroyed 13 planes, eight ammunition dumps, and 200 tanks.

The German High Command is throwing punitive detachments, regiments, even whole divisions against the partisans, but the latter are continuing to fight the invader and disorganise his rear.

BLOOD BY THE TON FOR WOUNDED RUSSIANS

TONS of blood, given by thousands of civilians, are being used to save the lives of Russian soldiers on the various fronts. In Moscow, alone there were 175,000 donors in November, compared with 45,200 in the January-March period, and with only 3800 in the corresponding period of 1941.

P. DIVAKOV, vice-president of the Russian Red Cross Society, states that 67 per cent. of the wounded of the Russian Tsarist army perished on the battle field during the last war through loss of blood. Transfusion of blood was hardly practised then. At present, however, transfusion of preserved blood, in addition to other new methods of wound healing such as sulphidine, streptocide and bacteriophage, has radically changed the situation. The death rate in Soviet hospitals does not exceed one per cent., whereas 70 per cent. after treatment are completely cured and return to the front.

Since the beginning of the war the front has received hundreds of tons of blood. In that period Moscow alone has given 80 tons.

Many of the donors attach letters to containers, the blood of which will be injected into unknown Red Army men, expressing gratitude for their service with the forces and expressing hopes for their speedy recovery. In reply, the soldiers send letters of thanks to the donors. One wounded man wrote:—"You, in saving our lives with your blood, are also defending our homeland."

COMPENSATION FOR PRISONERS

THE Minister for the Army (Mr. Forde) has announced that a special allowance of 2/3, Australian currency, will be paid to members of the Australian Military Forces who have escaped from Japanese-occupied territory, for each day on which they were not given rations by the Commonwealth.

Aust. Destroyer Passes Tests

ONE of the finest and fastest destroyers in the world has successfully undergone her speed trials, gun tests and dummy torpedo and depth charge runs. She is H.M.A.S. Warramunga, of the Tribal class and she is all-Australian built.

In her trials the vessel travelled at such speed that spray fell on the deck like rain. The vessel bounded forward with scarcely any vibration. This trial lasted nearly six hours, and during that time tests were made on fuel consumption, manoeuvrability, and starting and stopping at speed.

Top speed compared favorably with Tribal destroyers of the Royal Navy.

Adelaide Murder Inquest

A FINDING of murder by a person or persons unknown was returned at the inquest held in Adelaide on Monday on the Hindley Street, triple tragedy. Thirty of the 300 people questioned by the police gave evidence.

The Coroner found that Horace Haysed of Porter Street, Parkside, and Alan Gordon Davies, died about midnight on December 11, from the combined effects of injuries to the head, suffocation, shock and burns. Both men had sustained their injuries at the same time as Edward Pape, 62, who died later. They were feloniously attacked and murdered by an unknown person or persons, and the premises had subsequently had been set on fire.

Two witnesses who were called refused to answer questions on the ground that they might be incriminated.

Bitter Days Ahead For Japanese

THE Minister for Air (Mr. Drakeford) on Monday said the R.A.A.F. had made history in 1941.

"The future is unpredictable," Mr. Drakeford said, "but it is certain that Australia's air arm, which was able in its fledgling days of 1941 to maul the enemy, will, in the year just beginning, strike with such increasing power that bitter days are ahead for the Japanese."