

Dictators may be men of organising ability, but their ignorance of the psychology of the British people is colossal.

The Press has been invited to refute a *canard* to the effect that Prince Edward and Princess Alexandra, children of the Duke and Duchess of Kent, are the guests of a rich American in U.S.A. We have said before, and now repeat it, that Great Britain is the home of British Royalty during war. In our opinion it is the duty of Royalty to fight, and die, if needs be, for their country. No imprisonment, no exile, "Death with Honour."

But this apparently is not the policy of the majority of Kings. We have in exile in this country, Queen Wilhelmina of the Netherlands and her son-in-law Prince Bernhard, King Haakon of Norway and his son, Crown Prince Olaf, King Zog and Queen Geraldine of Albania, and a number of minor royalties from many lands. Princess Juliana of the Netherlands and her children are

In one badly shattered ward bed-ridden patients watched the 'planes in the sky, which was lurid from fires.

"Staff and patients were magnificent. There was never a sign of panic, and several of the male patients were continuously in the grounds putting out incendiaries."

Lord Leigh, the Chairman, is appealing for financial help to continue the hospital's essential services. The money should pour in.

#### "THE NAVY IS HERE."

Vian of "Cossack" gets Bar to D.S.O.

Captain Philip Louis Vian, who won the D.S.O. for his part when the destroyer *Cossack* sailed into Joessing Fiord, Norway, and rescued 300 British seamen from the Nazi hell-ship *Altmark*, has been awarded a bar to his D.S.O.

The official statement giving this news added that the honour was for "gallantry and resource in successful action against the enemy."

#### A BLOW AT THE BLIND.

The National Institute for the Blind and St. Dunstan's co-operative effort for the production of talking books for the blind had a severe setback during a recent air raid on London. The library, which is housed at Great Portland Street, has happily escaped, but the studio and production unit at St. Dunstan's, Regent's Park, was wrecked by a direct hit with a large bomb. All the delicate recording plant was destroyed.

Production of talking books will be temporarily suspended, but the 1,300 blind reader-listeners will not suffer, because the library service at the National Institute for the Blind is not affected and new titles may be obtained

through the mutual exchange of recordings between the British Talking Books and the American Federation for the Blind. The plant destroyed was the only one of its kind in this country.



Photo.]

[Graphic Photo Union.

AT COVENTRY AND WARWICKSHIRE HOSPITAL AFTER THE RAID.

in Canada, and the Crown Princess of Norway and her children in the United States. The children of the King of the Belgians are also in a foreign land.

#### STAFF AND PATIENTS WERE MAGNIFICENT.

The House Governor of the Coventry and Warwickshire Hospital presented a graphic and moving report of the terrible raid on that ancient city.

Bombing was incessant throughout the night.

The emergency and the main dressing stores were soon ablaze from fire-bombs. Patients were continually being moved just in time from one building to another and casualties remarkably avoided.

Soon after midnight the electric current failed. Operations were continued with the emergency lighting, but the windows of two of the three operating theatres, as also of all the wards, were blown in. Work had to be confined to one theatre, but this could not cope with all the cases coming in.

#### THE POLISH RELIEF FUND.

Cigarettes are up in price, and as nothing can be a more appropriate little gift at Christmas to our defenders, we make known that Abdulla and Co., Ltd., 173, New Bond Street, London, W.1, are helping the Polish Relief Fund by giving all profits on the sale of choice new brands of Virginia and Turkish cigarettes to its funds. Price, Krolowa (Turkish), Krol (Virginia) 8s. 6d. a box of 100. Cheques accompanying orders should cover the postage, 5d. extra.

The Editor, who is greatly interested in the liberty of Poland, was much amused by receiving an invitation to try these special brands, with the assurance "they will be your favourite smoke." As she has never smoked a cigarette in her life, all the more left for members of the fighting forces.

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