

INDIA IN ACTION

A COLLECTION
OF PICTURES

by

CAPTAIN ANTHONY GROSS

BRITISH OFFICIAL
WAR ARTIST



ONE SHILLING

1944

*T*HIS collection of official war pictures has been made available by the British Ministry of Information through the High Commissioner in Australia for the United Kingdom. It is being exhibited under the direction of the Board of Management, Australian War Memorial, in co-operation with the Trustees of the National Art Galleries.



LD3178 Subedar-Major Dall Singh; Subedar-Major Nar Bahadan Gurung, O.B.I. of the 4th Indian Division; Regimental Sergeant-Major H. F. Phillips of the Royal Sussex.



LD3155. *Captain Braund and his levies (Kamhaus tribe).*

FOREWORD

*By the Right Hon. L. S. Amery,
Secretary of State for India*



I am glad to contribute a foreword to this catalogue of pictures by Captain Anthony Gross, illustrating "India in Action."

Captain Gross, from the end of 1941 until June, 1943, had exceptional opportunities of seeing India's Forces in action. He spent the best part of 1942 in the Middle East: and saw units of the Indian Army during the time when they played their famous part in the Battle of El Alamein. In January, 1943, he arrived in India and spent six months in Eastern India. He spent many weeks with Indian and British Regiments there and saw the greater part of the Arakan campaign. This summer, he again visited formations of the Indian Army in the Western Desert. His wide range of pictures cover, therefore, the activities not only of Indian troops but of British formations fighting alongside the Indians, in two important theatres of war.

India's part in this war has not only been in the line of battle. In factories, workshops, and on the fields of that great sub-continent, India's contribution has been notable, and as the war against the Japanese develops India will play a yet more vital part in the final overthrow of the Axis.

Captain Gross' interesting and original pictures emphasise, it seems to me, two important things: the first is the comradeship in arms of Indians and Britons fighting together, born not merely of common experiences and hardships in this war, but of the long and high traditions of the Indian Army. The second is the stern nature of the conditions, both in desert and jungle, in which these British and Indian comrades have to fight. In the common cause of Freedom noteworthy pages of history are being written.

L.S.A.

INDIA IN ACTION

Extracts from Captain Gross' Diary



THESE pictures, painted mostly in India and Burma, will have to stand on their own merits. However, I think it would be interesting to describe some of the adventures I had in doing them. The journey down to the Arakan by paddle-steamer, hitch-hiking by track and sampan (a country boat rowed by a Chittagonian standing upright in the stern like a Venetian gondolier), skirting close under the banks, as shelter against Jap aircraft, while the boatman continually tended midstream to take advantage of the current. [LD3340]. Night time on the Mayu River, slowly falling asleep to the cadence of the oars. Waking at night to find the boat stopped, the shouts of the oarsmen, their faces lit in queer silhouettes by their fires as they waited for the tide to change. Then the curses and bumping till the rhythmic movement started again. [LD3160]. A halt at a village, where we were given final instructions and warnings as to our destination. No question now of keeping well under the banks, where in the deep mud queer birds standing on one leg watched us go by. We scanned the wide sweeps of the river anxiously till we found a landing stage hidden in a mango swamp. We ran the sampan well under the bank, out of sight. A mule was waiting for my kit. A battery opened up somewhere on my left. The track skirted paddy (rice) fields and finally entered a jungle of bamboo, mangoes and jackfruit trees. [LD3164].

A sentry challenged me. I had arrived at Brigade H.Q. A guide took me by devious paths to visit the battalions.

First I found the Lancashire Fusiliers sitting up on Pentlebury Hill overlooking the Temple of Rathedaung. [LD3333].

Abandoned cattle were grazing peacefully on paddy fields in no-man's land, while beyond, at what seemed a stone's-throw, were the wooded hills of the Japs. In this thick scrub they were invisible, not a movement indicated the enemy. Occasionally a salvo of shells shook the air, then out of the vegetation on the other side little puffs of white smoke slowly rose. Later I visited the Rajputana Rifles [LD3335], where I made a detailed drawing of the Jap position. [LD3161].

horseback over the Arakan Hills. Magnificent scenery as we slowly made our way up the pass, sometimes dismounting and walking up the beds of streams, the horses splashing in the shallow water while we leapt from stone to stone. Behind us the sea, till, coming over the crest, we looked down into the Mayu Valley, where the river winds with its many backwaters (Chaungs) down to the sea at Akyab. That night, very saddle-sore, we encamped in a temple beside an enormous overturned Buddha looking up into the sky. [LD3165].

Some Indian officers of the Rajput Regiment invited us to come and visit them in their forward positions. On the way my Indian doctor told me how all the wounded were being evacuated 24 miles over the pass I had crossed the previous day, how they were carried on stretchers, borne sometimes by mules, but mostly by Indian stretcher-bearers. We reached the rendezvous, but were told that the unit had gone forward during the night, taking a hill jutting out into the Japanese positions; that the invitation still held good; that we should follow the guide. So off we went. A sharp climb, till we could see all the Jap valley below us, then, remembering my "Twin Nobs" experiences, whenever I felt I was on the skyline, I bent low and ran across the gap. On our other side was a high mountain covered in jungle. At last we reached our Indian friends who took us for a tour of the new positions. Sharpshooters with telescopic rifles were perched up on the tallest trees, small sections were cunningly placed in vantage points. When we told them the care we had taken in coming up the hill they broke into laughter, for the danger wasn't from the valley at all, but from the high hill on our right. They did us grandly with an excellent curry, all the ingredients of which, goat and vegetables, were produced from the gardens of the Japanese-held village of Laungchaung—"When my patrols go out for information they know the most important things to bring back"—said the Sikh officer. Later, when I was painting them a patrol came in with a Japanese parasol—"The Japanese like having their geisha girls with them when they can"—sighed an officer from Lahore. [LD3334].

I spent some charming hours with an Irish painter, now in charge of transport for his unit. Sitting in state among his mules, his beautiful Irish mare rubbing its nose in his hand, while we talked on art. His wit was playing fancifully with army life or with painters, and this in the strange surroundings of a Burmese jungle. [LD3347].

Then the third battle of Dombaik was due to start; the Indian Navy, who were taking part in it, offered to take me along with them. We went in M.L.'s. It was night as we approached the enemy coast. Suddenly the battle started on land with an artillery barrage. We could just see the silhouette of the coast against the approaching dawn, when the M.L.'s, one behind the other, sailed

up the coast, bombarding with all the guns they had. It was now broad daylight. The Japs were starting to return our fire, so under cover of a smoke screen we retired.

Now I left the Arakan and proceeded by train from Chittagong up into Assam. It was here, on the trip by train, that I saw my only stretch of "Dorothy Lamour" jungle; huge moss-covered trees with immense creepers hanging down to the impenetrable tangle of fallen trunks and sodden vegetation. We left the train and travelled up into the Naga Hills by road. At one time we were mending a puncture, high up in a classical mountain landscape. Small groups of Naga tribesmen stood around in their picturesque costume. [LD3339]. Then some of them, putting aside their spears, bent down to help us. Later we gave them a lift and looking back into the interior of the truck, the Nagas, with their strange beads and ear-rings, their cloaks of matted grass and brilliant red, their intricate leggings of woven bamboo thread, their spears, looked like a cart-full of chorus for an Italian opera. We passed many teams of these fierce head-hunting tribesmen engaged on building roads or perched high up above us hewing out the face of the cliff.

Then, beyond the end of any roads, we came upon the little Khasi porters carrying crates of ammunition over hundreds of miles of mountain track. How tired we were at the end of our first day's march when all these little brown men, dressed in black, carrying colossal loads, kept jogging past us with the greeting: "Kubleh, Kubleh." A missionary in charge of them told us what great work they had done during the evacuation of Burma. The monsoons had already started. The refugees were stranded and dying in the jungle. When the Khasis were asked to volunteer to carry help to them, they all volunteered, and a thousand were chosen to carry food and medicine into the heart of the jungle.

Up into the mountains we went till we were among pine forests, pine trees covered in orchids. Here at last we met the Chin Levies, men who have been fighting the Jap, holding up his advance for well over a year. [LD3338].

Dressed in uniforms of their own fancy—odds and ends of army equipment spread out through an entire village platoon, for the rest turbans and blankets of their own design, the whole capped with a feather, the sign of the levies. They are armed with flint-locks—I saw the date of 1796 on one—powder horns and tinder-boxes, and dahs (a Burmese knife).

When asked if they would not prefer a modern rifle they answered no, as they would be always running out of ammunition, as it is they make their own. They keep a goat for a year under their hut, and filter the accumulated droppings for saltpetre, soak a special type of bean before eating it, for sulphur.

To this, they add charcoal. Filling the barrel half-full with gunpowder, the other half with old nails and small stones, they can blow a man's head off at a couple of hundred feet. They regaled us with Zu, a delicious wine they make with rice or millet (millet is better). Huge earthenware pots are brought in and the Zu is sucked out through hollow bamboos, like straws.

A British officer told us that all the villages in the Chin Hills produce a certain number of levies according to their size. [LD3155]. He himself was a mining engineer in Burma in peacetime and had found himself here during the evacuation; other officers were ex-planters, some were regulars, with plenty of experience in this type of warfare. The job of the levy is to watch over the plains held by the Japs, to go on patrols for information and to beat up any small parties of Japs they meet. In the event of a large body of Japanese entering the hills, they keep contact with it and summon up the help of the regular battalions.

After several days our path took us within sight of the Kalle Valley; there we visited Fort White and Stockade 2 [LD3199] and Stockade 3 [LD3157].

From here on Bacha Hill with some Gurkhas, we could look down on the Japanese Headquarters at Kalemio. With a telescope we could see people moving around in the streets. It was here, on this hill, that a Ghurka, Gaje Ghale, won his V.C.

At last we reached the headquarters of the Chin Hills Battalion. We found them on the top of a mountain and were received with great hospitality [LD3167]. Here, twenty days' march from civilisation, they receive most of their supplies dropped by parachute from the air [LD3169]. In the monsoons, except for wireless, they are completely shut off from the rest of the world. We met all the Chin tribes, the Siyins [LD3156], Zahaus [LD3167], Whelngos [LD3167], and above all the Hakas [LD3338]. Their head-dresses, their long hair done up in buns at the back of the head, on the top, or in front, denote their tribe. In fact, the Haka head-dress would well become the rage in women's fashions if ever a Haka appeared in London. When asked what their religion is, they answer proudly, "Animist" (worshipping trees and stones and a supreme being). Though some are Christians, mostly American Baptists who forbid drinking, the others Catholics. One old headman [LD3168] said, "If the Baptists let us drink as much Zu as we want, the Catholics marry as many wives as we could, we would all become Christians"; another, a Baptist, when asked whether a cemetery below us was British, said, "No, Christian."



LD3334. "Captured Parasol" on the Mayu River.



LD3159. *Our party and escort.*



LD3344. *First Aid Post in the Jungle.*



LD3163. *Command Post.*

Then news came through that the Japs had broken their way into the hills and had cut the road out of the Chin Hills. We looked up all the maps for another way out, but still we were in good company. Here the Colonel, 27 years old, his second in command 24, several other young officers had, with their battalion, defended 650 miles of frontier. They had held the hills since we evacuated Burma. The ordinary administration of the Chin Hills had continued as in peacetime. A mint was still functioning, the post offices, and 250 miles of telephone. I settled down to draw the various tribesmen and members of the battalion. [LD3158].

We engaged two little levies as cooks. They said they were 15 years old, but I doubt if they were as much as that, and as they could only make curry, we had it for tea and breakfast as well. The boys prepared us "Zu," and we settled down to wait for the Japs to go back to their plains. At last a track was proclaimed clear of the enemy; a platoon of Chins was going up to relieve the troops, who had been fighting the enemy; the two cooks decided to follow us on the condition we treated them as our sons; our muleteers were **anxious to get back**. A picturesque caravan we made on our way home. [LD3159].

One or other of the Chin boys stalked along in front with his bow and baked clay pellets. He was a crack shot, once killing a pigeon at 50 yards first shot. I used to watch him as he crept through the woods, his every movement as lithe as a leopard. We followed behind with the Chin Jamadar (officer). Then came the platoon of Hakas and dragging out behind came our mules. Every now and again we were cheered by the laughter of the other little Chin as he teased the muleteers at the back. Once, on a night march we came upon a black panther which, eyeing us for a moment, sprang silently into the thicket below. Some snakes we beat to death. For days we marched along, high up above the valleys 6,000 feet below us, treading softly on a carpet of pine needles, stopping at times to gather wild raspberries, to drink at a mountain stream. Occasionally we had mountain goat, barking deer, or a jungle fowl to add to our rations. Till on a great day, after marching a total of 450 miles, we reached a village in fete. The new road they were building had reached it and as tiny jeeps came cautiously round the corner, the villagers gathered in crowds along the street showering them with flowers. Sho Non and Van Ling were wild with excitement when they knew we would finish our journey by jeep. I think the two boys rode in every truck in the convoy on the first day back. They had never seen a car before.

So we arrived back in civilisation.

The rest of the pictures were painted in the Middle East some during the Battle of Alamein last year, or others on my way back from India. Those representing scenes of wounded [LD2128 and LD2722], and Indians guarding Italian prisoners, during the battle itself. Some more were done elsewhere in that Command.

Those of the Fourth Indian Division have only just been completed. Here, Major-General Toker [LD3195], an artist himself, showed the greatest understanding in the problems of my work. His remark, "I have often asked for a war artist to come and paint us, I can't very well run a division, fight with it, and paint it, all at the same time." He took a lively interest in choosing the finest types of Indians and arranging for facilities to paint them in his quarters in the desert.

There is Lalbahadur Thapa, the Gurkha V.C. [LD3176], and then drawings of Punjabis, Rajputs, Sikhs, Dogras, Madrasis, Jats [LD3178 and LD3179], and British troops, who have all distinguished themselves in recent campaigns. I take this opportunity of thanking him and many others in the Indian Army, great and small, for all the help they gave me in India, Burma and the Middle East.



CATALOGUE OF PICTURES



LD2359. *Indian Signal Corps. Some Madrasis and Gujaratis.*

LD3161. "BATTLE OF ARAKAN." *Japanese positions at Rathedaung.* Showing: "Shaving Brush" tree on Hill N75, "Funny" tree and the Temple on "South Twin."

LD3339. "CHINS AT WAR." *Angami Nagas (nr. Kohima). Village headman and his family in ceremonial dress.*

North of the Chins (and Kukis) come the Nagas, translation—Naked Men—(a term they do not use to describe themselves. They call themselves by the name of their actual tribe). Under his cloak the Naga is naked. Note—it is the eldest son who is wearing ceremonial dress. The old man said, "I am too old to wear finery" and I gather that this is the general custom except for extra special occasions. Head-dress is made out of cane woven together, split bamboo sticks and feathers, gaiters out of woven cane. Sporrans of short sticks with thread wound around and tassels at end. Knee bands out of telephone wire. Wrist band, etc., out of embroidered silk. Ear-rings out of balls of cotton wool, brass, rings, and birds' feathers mounted with gold. Man's bracelets are lengths of sawn-off elephant tusks. All the blankets and cloaks, dresses, etc., are homespun and woven. Big wooden "Horn" is a drinking horn in which they drink their "Zu" (rice beer). Mugs are made out of lengths of bamboo cut at the joints, and horns of animals. This extra large imitation horn is produced at "Zu" parties when an extra laugh is needed. Main tribes are the Angamis, Kognacs, Changs, Aos. They were head-hunters, and still are. Note—the daughter's hair is only beginning to grow long (as all the children's hair is shaven off). Later she will do it like her mother's.

LD3199. "CHINS AT WAR." *Chin levies (ex Burma Rifles) at Stockade No. 2.*

After evacuating Burma many members of the Burma Rifles returned to their villages. These formed themselves into levies as soon as a start at organised resistance was made, and have been in the most advanced positions, fighting the Japs, ever since. Stockade No. 2 (bungalow in distance) is in "no-man's-land." This position at base of the hill is in constant contact with the enemy.

LD3334. "BATTLE OF ARAKAN." "Captured Parasol," on the Mayu River.

7th Rajput Regiment resting on South Hill which they have just captured. Overlooking the village of Laungchaung, where they have found a Japanese parasol (a geisha girl's?). The Japs are known to bring their dancing girls

with them well forward. We had an excellent curry on the hilltop. All the ingredients—goat, vegetables, and chillies and spices were taken from under the noses of the Japs in their own village. Orders to patrol before leaving: "If you can't bring back information, at least bring back ingredients for a curry." View taken looking S.S.E. on to Mayu River and the plain of Rathedaung, due south would be Akyab island.

LD3171. "BATTLE OF ARAKAN." *Gunners pinpointing Japanese positions on Dombaik Battlefield.*

Scene drawn from "Twin Nobs." "Twin Nobs" was our most advanced position, a hill jutting out into Jap territory. So called as it was a hill with two little peaks on it. This drawing was done from one of the "Nobs." The Chaung (a creek in centre distance) was the key Jap position that prevented us taking the Mayu Peninsula. Small specks to the right of the creek are our dead, Inniskilling Fusiliers and Punjabis, left on the battlefield (18th Feb.). The wood by the edge of the sea to left of creek is feature called "the village" occupied by Japs. Dombaik itself would be a mile south of this wood. Shells are bursting on Jap positions. Picture is drawn looking west.

LD3169. "CHINS AT WAR." *Chin coolie women gathering in supplies dropped by parachute.*

LD3168. "CHINS AT WAR." *Village headman and levies in ceremonial dress.*

LD3332. "BATTLE OF ARAKAN." *Dogras (position behind "Twin Nobs").*

This position may be only a few yards from the Japs. All talking is done in whispers. This is dense bamboo jungle.

LD3336. "BATTLE OF ARAKAN." *Mule lines and Signals of the Inniskilling Fusiliers.*

LD3194. *4th Indian Division. The canteen group comprising Gurkhas, Rajputanas, Jats, Sikhs and Essex Regiment.*

LD3179. *Group—4th Indian Division, and the mascot, comprising Gurkhas, Punjabi-Mussulmans, Dogras, Madrasis, Sikhs, Pathans and Royal Sussex.*

LD3195. *Brigadier Lovett, D.S.O. Major-General F. I. S. Toker, C.B., D.S.O., O.B.E. Brigadier R. Bateman, D.S.O., O.B.E. Brigadier K. H. Dimoline, D.S.O., M.B.E.*

LD3178. *Subedar-Major Dall Singh. Subedar-Major Nar Bahadan Gurung, O.B.I. Regimental Sgt.-Major H. F. Phillips of the Royal Sussex.*

LD3176. *Subedar Lalbahadur Thapa, V.C., 4th Indian Division.*

LD3196. *Subedar-Major Narain Singh, O.B.I. Subedar-Major Argandhar. Regimental Sgt.-Major Rose of the Essex Regiment (4th Indian Division).*

LD3335. "BATTLE OF ARAKAN." *The Commanding Officer and his Battalion Headquarters overlooking the plain of Rathedaung (from feature "Italy") 6th Rajputana Rifles.*

LD3163. "BATTLE OF ARAKAN." *Command Post.*

LD2360. *Sikhs attending a class (11th Sikh Regiment).*

LD3331. "CHINS AT WAR." *Levies from Tongchang Village (Kamhaus tribe).*

The Chin levies are divided into two groups. The "A" levies are raw village levies such as these. The others are ex-Burma Rifles. Each village produces a certain number of fighters according to its size and elects its own village section or platoon leader out of their own numbers. They are all hunters by nature, know all the paths through the hills, and no Jap patrol can hope to remain unseen once they enter the hills: their job is to scout, keep contact with the enemy till the main forces join them, or do battle if the enemy is in small numbers. They have achieved some notable successes. When I asked them why they were fighting the Japs they said, "We don't want the Japanese in our villages." Each company comes under a British officer. The levies were conceived and organised by some remarkably adventurous Englishmen. Some were refugees from Burma—others regular soldiers. The "A" levies are armed with most antiquated weapons, flint-locks and powder horns.

LD2358. *6th Gurkha Regiment.*

LD3173. "BATTLE OF ARAKAN." *Wounded Jap and Arakanese prisoners in Main Dressing Station.*

Main Dressing Station behind Dombaik front. Note the ward. One side of the ward is dug down for protection against bombs, the other is left level with ground, for when it rains the other side will fill with water. The roof and sides are of bamboo and thatch. The guard was watching his Jap like a cat watching a mouse.

LD3162. "BATTLE OF ARAKAN." *Jammu State Mountain Battery in position on approaches to Laungchaung.*

LD3155. "CHINS AT WAR." *Capt. Braund and his levies (Kamhaus tribe).*

LD3337. "CHINS AT WAR." *Khasi porters carrying supplies to forward positions.*

Two thousand of these Khasi coolies (organised for coolie work in France during the last war) were brought down to the Chin Hills by a Welsh missionary, M. B. Phillips. They have done extremely well bringing up supplies over little known and difficult country.

LD2555. "BATTLE OF EGYPT" SERIES. "*Browned off.*" *Some light casualties during action.*

LD3341. "CHINS AT WAR." *Tiddim Garrison Police and three Haka village headman prisoners.*

Civil administration in the Chin Hills has never stopped in spite of Japs being so near. There are about 200 miles of Burma civil telephones still functioning in our hands.

LD3170. "BATTLE OF ARAKAN." *Steaming down the N.A.A.F. to Maungdaw (some reinforcements coming up).*

LD2361. *V.C.O.'s of 11th Sikh Regiment, Punjabis, and Sikhs, including L/K Hakam Khan. Jamadar Gurdial Singh, Subedar-Major Fateh-Mohamed, I.O.M., and Company Quartermaster-Havildar Bunta Singh.*

LD3158. "CHINS AT WAR." *Chin coolies resting by the wayside.*

These coolies supply our forward positions and patrols. The large sea shells worn by women indicate those that are not married. The two girls here were very excited when I asked them to pose. They thought I was going to choose a wife.

LD2730. "BATTLE OF EGYPT." *Italian prisoners of war in Corps Prisoner-of-War Cage.*

Here they are checked over, given food and then sent to back areas. These are a group picked at random, of various regiments.

LD2728. "BATTLE OF EGYPT" CASUALTIES. *The overflow.*

The wounded have arrived at a great rate. The tents are full, so blankets and groundsheets are attached to a truck to shade the wounded. Actually they are better off out here because they get some breeze.

LD3344. "BATTLE OF ARAKAN." *First Aid Post in the jungle.*

LD3160. "BATTLE OF ARAKAN." *Supply depot and Sampan head.*
From here supplies are taken forward by mules to Rathedaung battle area.

LD2561. "BATTLE OF EGYPT" SERIES. *V.C.O.'s of Gurkha Regiment.*

LD3177. *Artillery Observation Post (with the 4th Indian Division).*

LD3174. "BATTLE OF ARAKAN." "*Lincolns take up positions in jungle.*"

LD3164. "BATTLE OF ARAKAN." *Advance Brigade Headquarters Rathedaung front.*

LD3156. "CHINS AT WAR." *Naib Commandant and Sepoys of Chin Hills Battalion.*

Red tab on shoulder is given for bravery in the field. Naib Commandant is the highest rank (uncommissioned) an Indian or Burmese Sepoy can attain. Note bun worn at back of the head indicates Siyin tribe.

LD3166. "CHINS AT WAR." *Platoon of Chin village levies of Sokte tribe.*

This is a complete village platoon of levies. The old man is village headman in charge. Question to two small boys in centre of picture: "Who are you?" —"We are the levy cooks."

LD3165. "BATTLE OF ARAKAN." *Buddhist temple destroyed by shell-fire.*

LD3157. "CHINS AT WAR." *Gurkha Commandos overlooking Jap territory from Bacha Hill.*

Beneath point "A" is town Kalemio held by the Japs. At strategic points there are Gurkha troops helping the Chins. It is on this hill that Sepoy Gaje Ghale won his V.C. a few days after our visit.

LD3167. "CHINS AT WAR." *Mountain patrol (Chin Hills Battalion).*

A section comprising Whelngo, Sahau and Khongsai tribesmen. Note position of hair bun in different tribes. Chin Hills Battalion was originally part of the Burma Frontier Force and in peace time did garrison and police work. At outbreak of war the battalion was enlarged, recruiting was carried out among the different Chin tribes and a compact force was created. They form the basis of resistance to and fighting the Japanese in these hills. They have all the combined advantages of guerillas and of disciplined troops. They are well armed with modern automatic weapons. They were *never* evacuated but kept up the war continually in their hills in Burma.

LD3333. "BATTLE OF ARAKAN." *Artillery Observation Post on "Pentlebury" Hill. Rathedaung Front.*

LD3338. "CHINS AT WAR." *Chin Hills Battalion.*

Group of Haka tribesmen. Haka Chins (of Chin Hills Battalion). *Note.*—Haka head-dress (quite an idea for fashions at home). The main way of

recognising the different Chin tribes is by their head-dress. The Haka Chins wear their hair in a bun fixed on the front of the head. The Zahaus, etc., wear their buns on the top of the head. The Chins do not call themselves Chins but by the names of their different tribes: the Whelngos are very nearly the same as a large group called the Luchais (Luchai Hills, East Assam). The Khongsai and Kamhaus tribes resemble the Kukis who live to the north of the Chin Hills (south-east of Manipur State), Hakas are the fiercest and wildest Chins of the lot. Dr. Pao (Chinese Consul at Calcutta) says this is a head-dress once common in many parts of China.

LD3172. "BATTLE OF ARAKAN." *With Lancashire Fusiliers on Temple Hill, Rathedaung Front. Major Pentlebury in distance with pipe.*

LD3340. "BATTLE OF ARAKAN." *Sampan convoy on the Mayu River. All reinforcements, supplies, evacuation of wounded to and from Rathedaung were done by sampan. (18 hours trip from Buthidaung to Htiswe).*

LD3159. "CHINS AT WAR." *Our party and escort.*

Party consists of official cinematograph cameraman, Capt. Bryan Langley, army observer, Capt. J. Potter, myself, an escort of Haka Chins, our muleteers and mules, and two Chin boys—our cooks. Reason for escort was that we had been cut off by the Japs. We left the crest of distant ridge approximately 7,000 feet in the early morning, descended to 1,000 feet at bottom of gorge and climbed to 6,500 feet, where we are resting (only a distance of 11 miles but a typical day's march in the Chin Hills).

LD3343. "BATTLE OF ARAKAN." *View of the coastal plain looking towards Dombaik from the north.*

LD2722. "BATTLE OF EGYPT." *New Zealand and Indian infantry casualties.*

(Note weighted head of pick axe to stop casualty from moving arm during blood transfusion).

LD3346. "ARAKAN CAMPAIGN." *Battle of Dombaik, with the Indian Navy.*

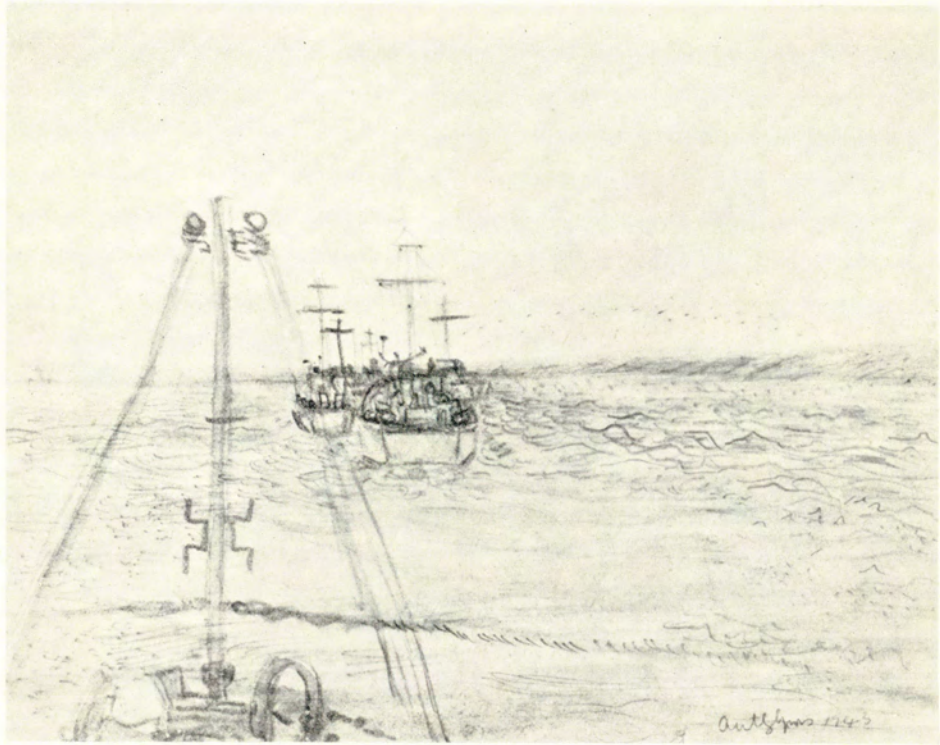
(1) "Going into action" 03.00 hours, 18th March, 1943. (On the bridge with Lt.-Com. Heather, R.N.), Flotilla commander; (2) M.L.'s retire under cover of smoke screen; (3) on the bridge "Line ahead" (with Lt. Parker, R.I.N.); (4) M.L.'s return safely to their base.

LD3347. "ARAKAN CAMPAIGN." *Battle of Dombaik.*

(1) Indian navy in action, M.L.'s race down the coast letting fly with all they have; (2) M.L.'s take part in battle. Pall of smoke in distance is from the land barrage; (3) Action is over. It is broad daylight and M.L.'s disengage under cover of a smoke-screen.



LD2360. *Sikhs attending a class.*



LD3347. Motor launches letting fly with all they have.