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ESCAPING THE SHARKS.

Many stories of bravery of pilots of the Indian Air Force during the fighting in Burma are now coming to light.

In one case a flight lieutenant with whom were an officer of the R.A.F. and a sergeant were faced by a situation in which they were forced to swim half a mile through shark-infested sea.

"A sampan came near us", said the Indian pilot, "but the occupants were suspicious and sheered off - finally we had to dive into the sea. Sharks or not, we had to get to that sampan. We were very glad when we scrambled aboard. The occupants told us we were fortunate to have escaped the sharks which were very numerous in these waters.

During a raid by Japanese on one of our aerodromes, an Indian pilot saved a fully laden petrol bowser.

Bombs had set brush and dried grass alight and the bowser was almost given up as lost.

Regardless of personal danger the Indian jumped into the drivers seat and drove the pump to safety. On the same day and same aerodrome, a bomb dropped five yards in front of one of our aircraft, without exploding. It was decided to save the aircraft at all costs. Indian officers and men assisted the R.A.F. to haul the machine to safety over the top of the bomb. A decidedly dangerous proceeding.

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