

20/3/44 - No. 39

ALLIED CIVIL DEFENCE INSTRUCTORS

Arrangements have already been made for the rapid creation of local civil defence forces in reconquered areas of Europe as the Allied armies advance.

For a number of months, Allied civilians and selected soldiers from the Armies of Fighting France, Norway, Holland, Belgium, Poland and Czecho-Slovakia have been receiving intensive training as instructors in British Civil Defence training schools.

The soldier-instructors will accompany the invading armies and the civilians will follow shortly afterwards. Their task will be to train their fellow countrymen and women in civil defence technique and establish a civilian defensive organisation against enemy air raids, which may be heavy. This will relieve the armies of many duties, and will give the population greater protection.

These Allied Civil Defence Instructors have been trained in all phases of the work, from incident control to heavy and light rescue. The methods they have learned are based on Britain's four years' experience of enemy air attack. A number have already been stationed for varying periods with British Civil Defence units to put their training into practice, some having gained first-hand experience in the recent raids on London.

+++++++

MINISTRY OF HOME SECURITY