

Unknown Unknown Unknown Unknown



Adam Brodsky and Oliver Unknown



A WORK PRIMER

?/100

Thanks to

A. G. W. M. E.

2015

www.lewisbush.com

Unknown, Unknown, Unknown, Unknown



A WORK PRIMER

PARC R

First published as *Kriegsfibel* by Eulenspiegel Verlag, Berlin, 1955;
second edition, 1994

To displease the possessors means to become one of the dispossessed. To renounce payment for work may be the equivalent of giving up the work, and to decline fame when it is offered by the mighty may mean to decline it forever. This takes courage. - BB

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This edition published by Libris, 1998

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Libris

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The publishers are grateful to Eulenspiegel Verlag for supplying

scans of Brecht's original *montages* from his portfolios now in

the Brecht-Archiv in Berlin.

Original captions, where indistinct or not in English, are transcribed

or transcribed from page design into German *Montage*

Collaborators: Giulia Astesani,

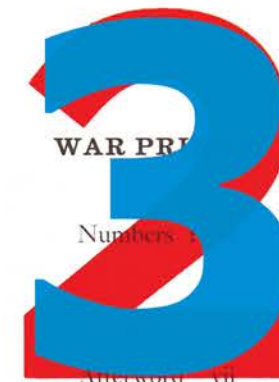
Natalia Grabowska, Piero Martinello,

Chloe Rafferty and Sam Skinner.

Thank you Dr. Wlizia.

Designed and produced by Kitzinger, London

Printed by BAS Printers Ltd, Over Wallop



Brecht's War: a Chronology xix

Concordance xx

**Don't start from the good old things,
but the bad new ones - BB**

To displease the possessors means to become one of the dispossessed. To renounce payment for work may be the equivalent of giving up the work, and to decline fame when it is offered by the mighty may mean to decline it forever. This takes courage. - BB

1



A WORKER

IF YOU FOLLOW, I WILL BRING YOU MY GROUP.



A German Landser—

Associated Press

—And his Russian counterpart

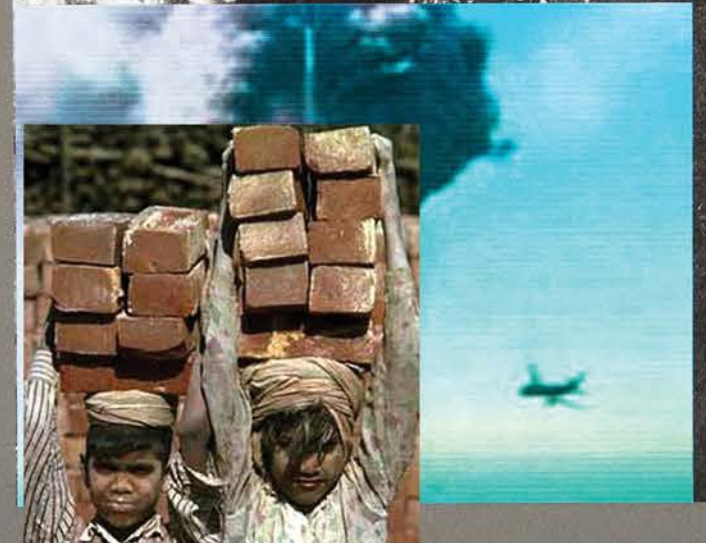
The New York Times

READS HISTORY

AND REVEALS THE DARK SIDE OF AMERICAN HISTORY



Who built the seven gates



of Thebes?

5
24

Searchlight display We reproduce a picture from Associated Press, Berlin, showing a German fighter-plane caught in English searchlights.

Strålkastarspel



War Primer 2 (Hardcover)

by Oliver Chanarin & Adam Broomberg (Author)

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Vi återge här en bild från Associated Press, Berlin, framställande ett tyskt stridsplan, utsatt för engelska „strålkastarbatteriers“ eld.

The books are filled

6
4



with names of kings.

But in his recent flight across Libya, Rommel left behind many of his battered forces. From Allied attack this German vainly dived for c

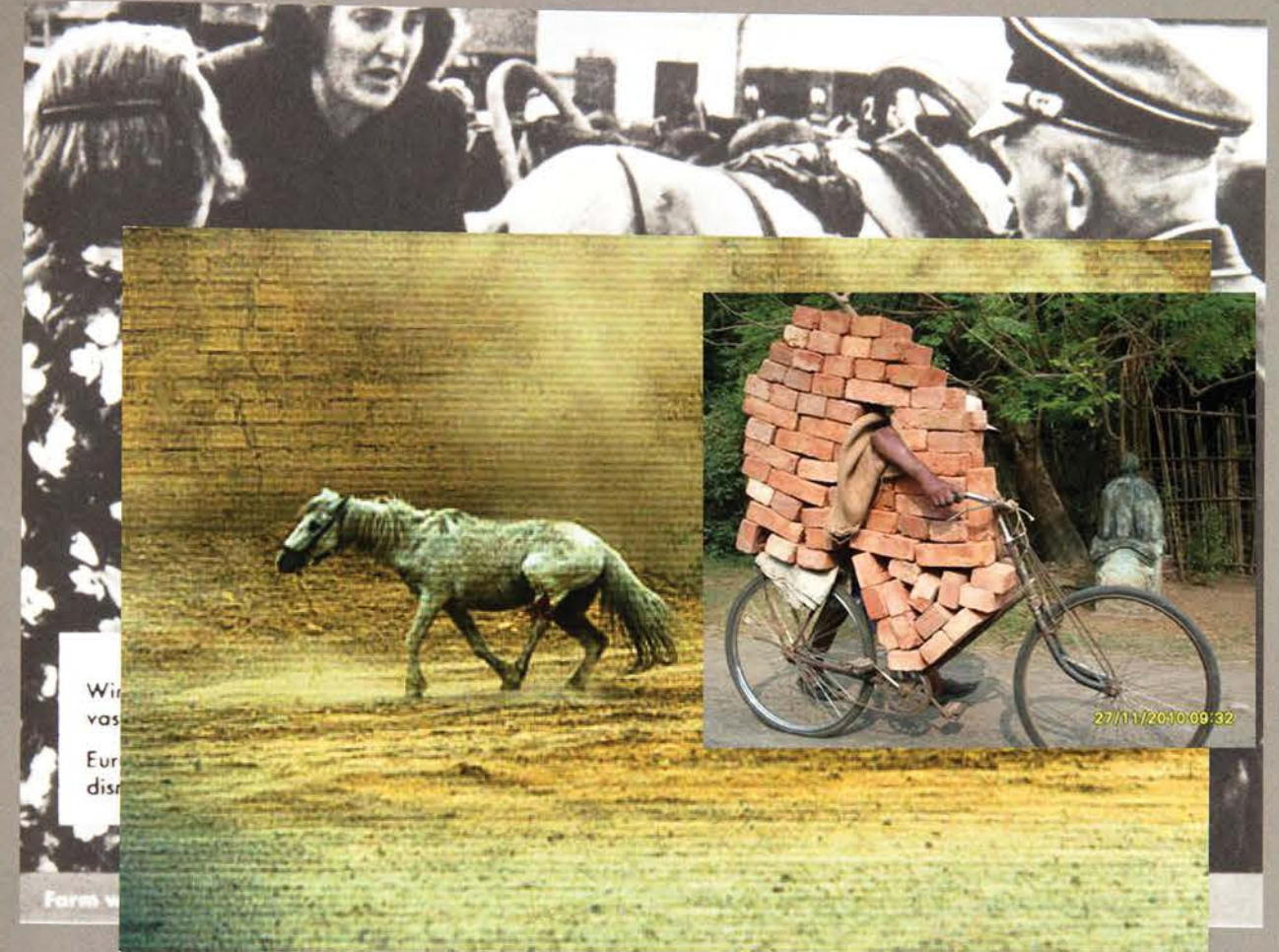


Was it kings who hauled

TO THE JOURNALS SOME OTHER, THERE WAS MORE.



the craggy blocks



of stone?

od

10
11

Spring has come to Paris. Here we see one of its most typical signs - fishing along the quays of the Seine has begun in earnest. This year there are more fishermen than ever - a direct sign of the food shortage.



And Babylon, fish-

VICTIMS OF THE GREAT CRISIS OF THE 1930s.

11
9



so many times destroyed,

12₂

Back from the battlefield near Buna in New Guinea comes a blinded Australian infantryman helped by a kindly Papuan native. Both men are barefoot.



BACK FROM THE BATTLEFRONT NEAR BUNA IN NEW GUINEA COMES A BLINDED AUSTRALIAN INFANTRYMAN HELPED BY A KINDLY PAPUAN NATIVE. BOTH MEN ARE BAREFOOT.

Who built the city^e

13₆₂



They, times over
A
T
Y
Y
up each time? lead

14
17

The City Today During the blitz the City of London was reduced to a ruin. This view was taken from St Paul's.

City av i dag



In response to suicides, Foxconn installed prevention nets at some of its dormitories. Getty Images



20,000,000
In which of Lima's houses,

15
6

1 maj

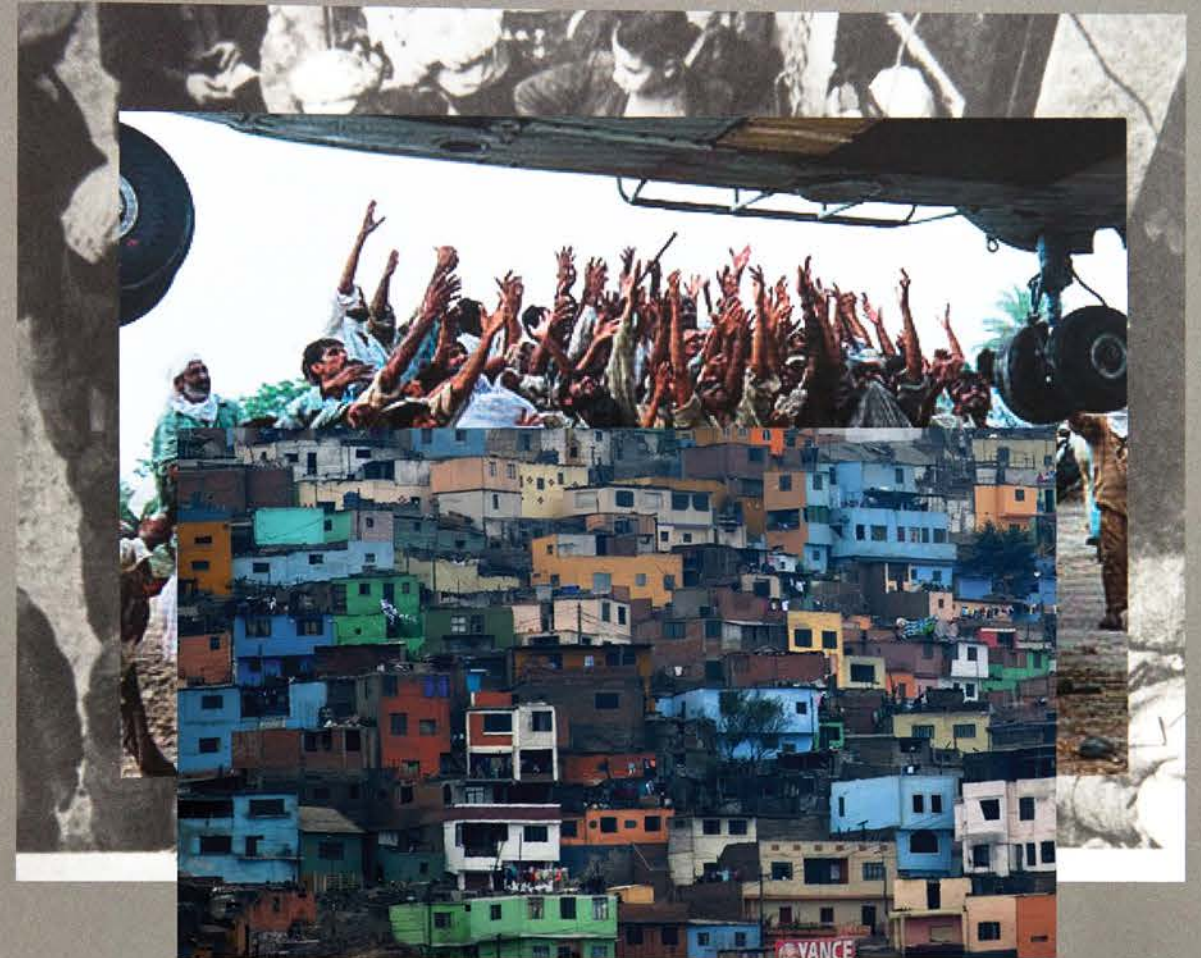


That city glittering

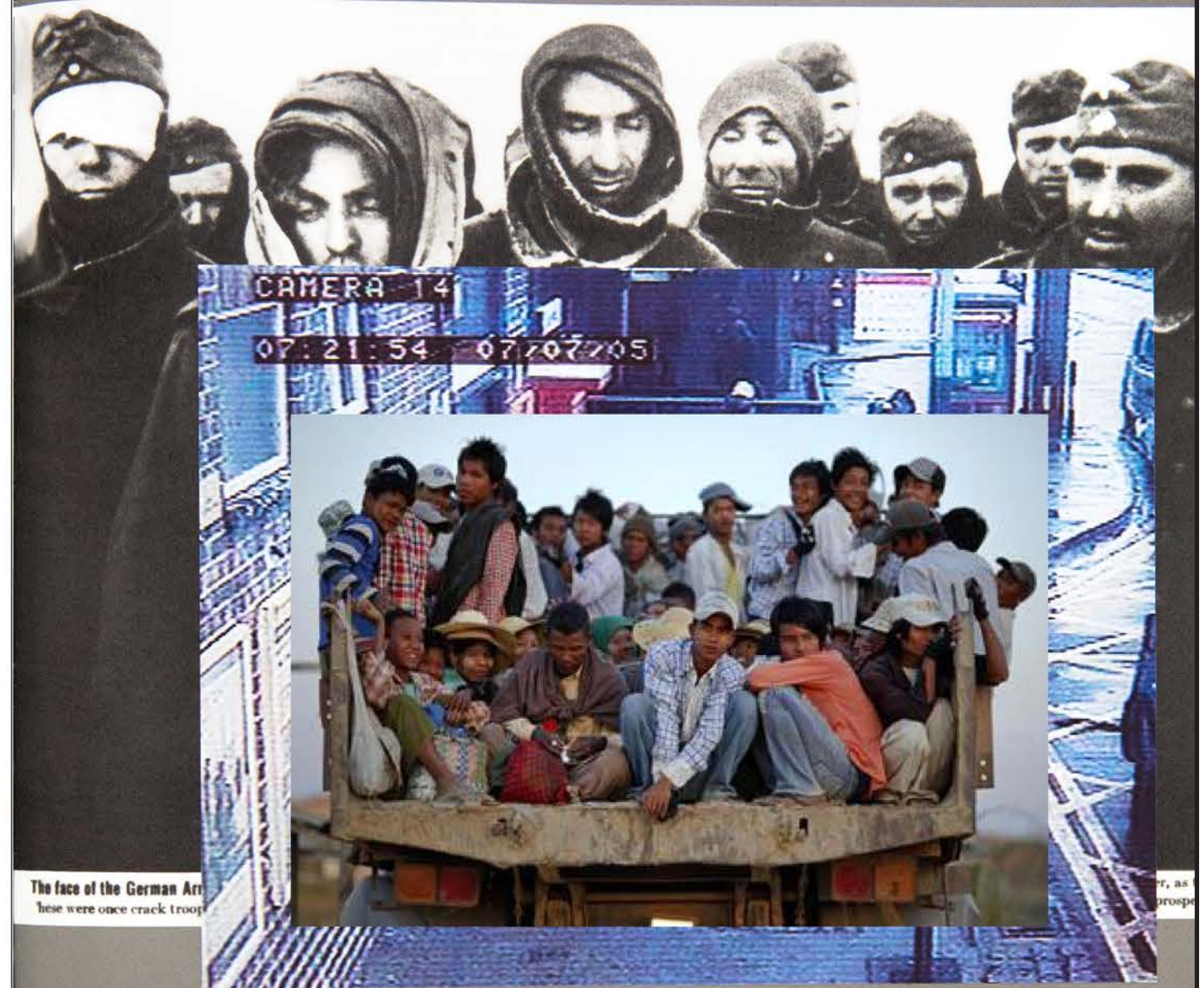
A black top hat with a dark band, shown from a slightly elevated side angle.



Gang stand.
With tations.
I've h g with gold, l y hand.
I am



lived those who built it?



The face of the German Army
these were once crack troops

er, as
prospe

T
C
E
T
In the evening when

19
88



'W...mand.'
'Do...'
'Wh the Chinese wall v...ends.'
'Ar...'

20
25

British Bombers over Berlin In late summer 1940 the RAF mounted several raids on Hamburg, Bremen and other major German towns of industrial and military importance. The British bombed Berlin for the first time on 10/11 September. The picture shows a house in Berlin after a British raid.



industriell eller militär betydelse. Över Berlin fallde britterna för första gången bomber under en nattlig raid den 10–11 september. Bilden visar ett hus i Berlin, som har utsatts för brittisk bombfällning.

was finished



Where did the masons go?



? Imperial Rome

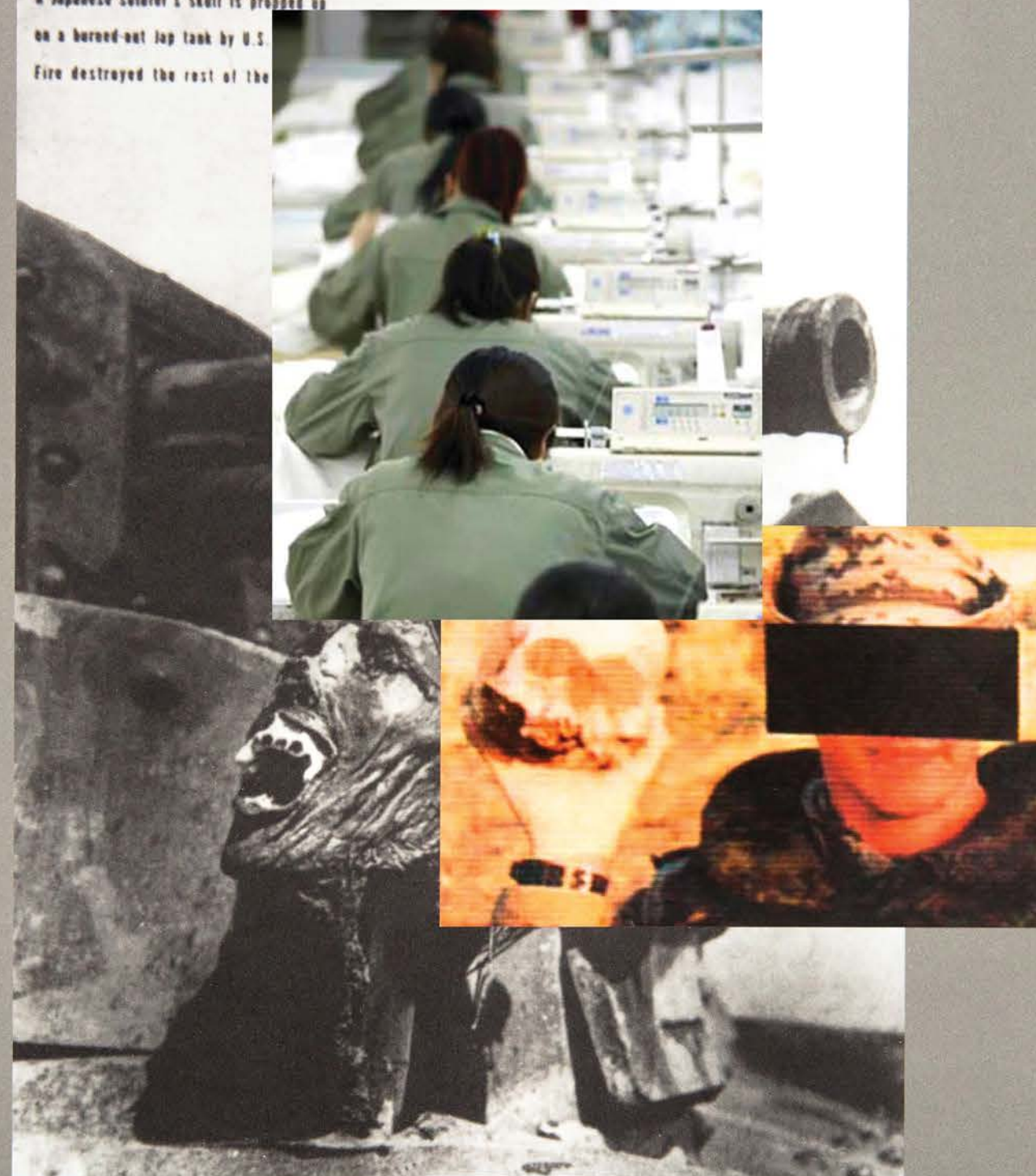


Where are the missions going?
Is full of arcs of triumph.



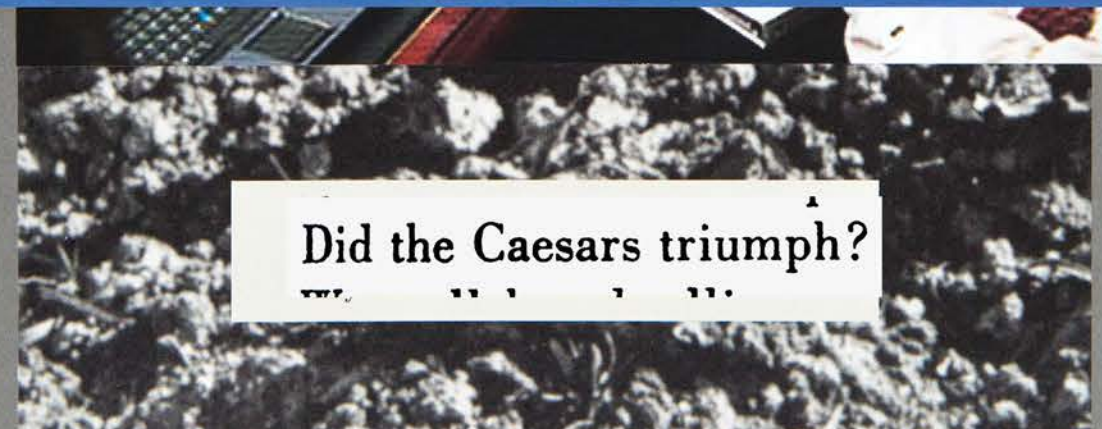
The people hate them more than a foreign foe
1. Who reared them up? O

A Japanese soldier's skull is propped up
on a burned-out Jap tank by U.S.
Fire destroyed the rest of the



Over whom

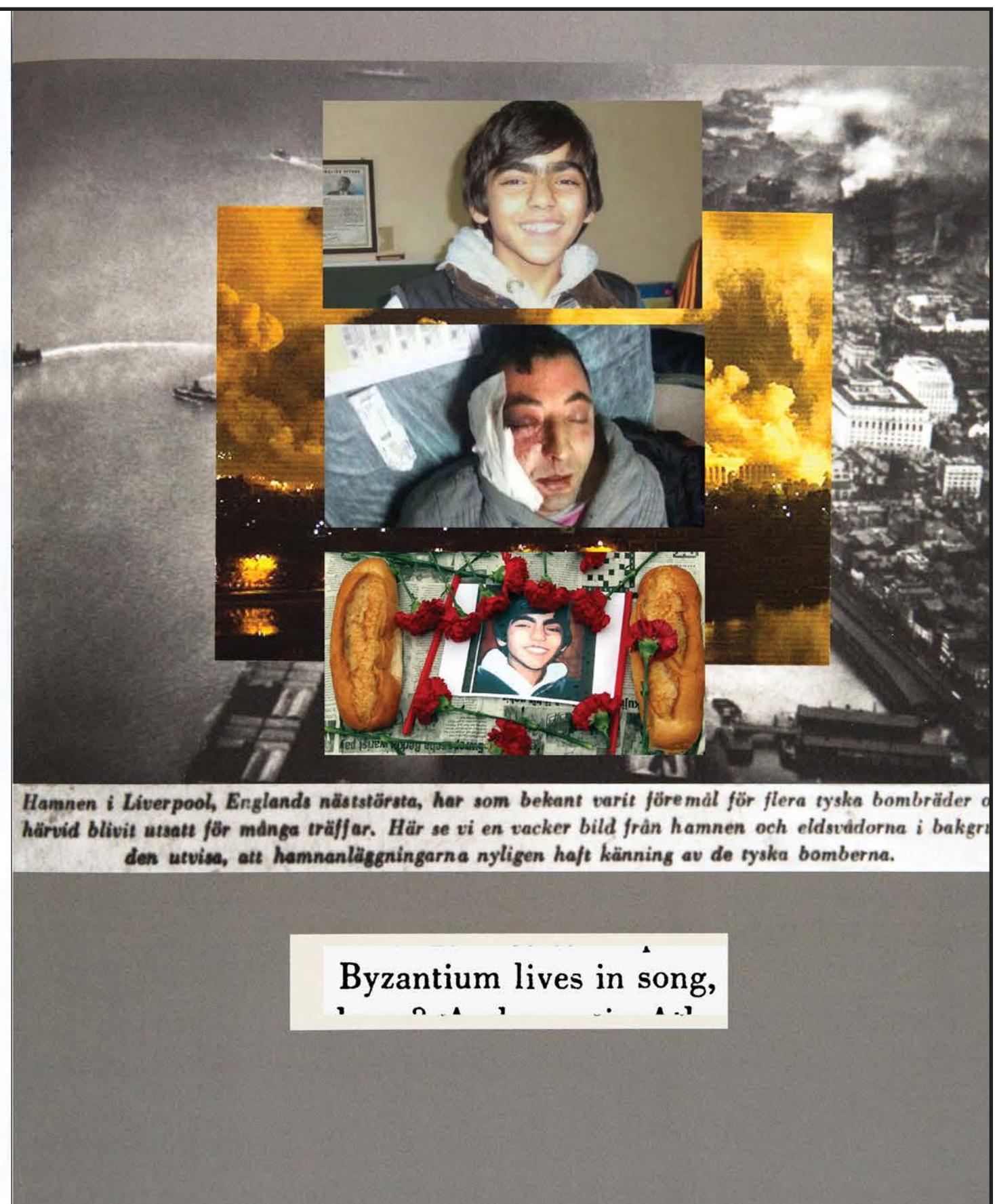
26
10



Did the Caesars triumph?

27
18

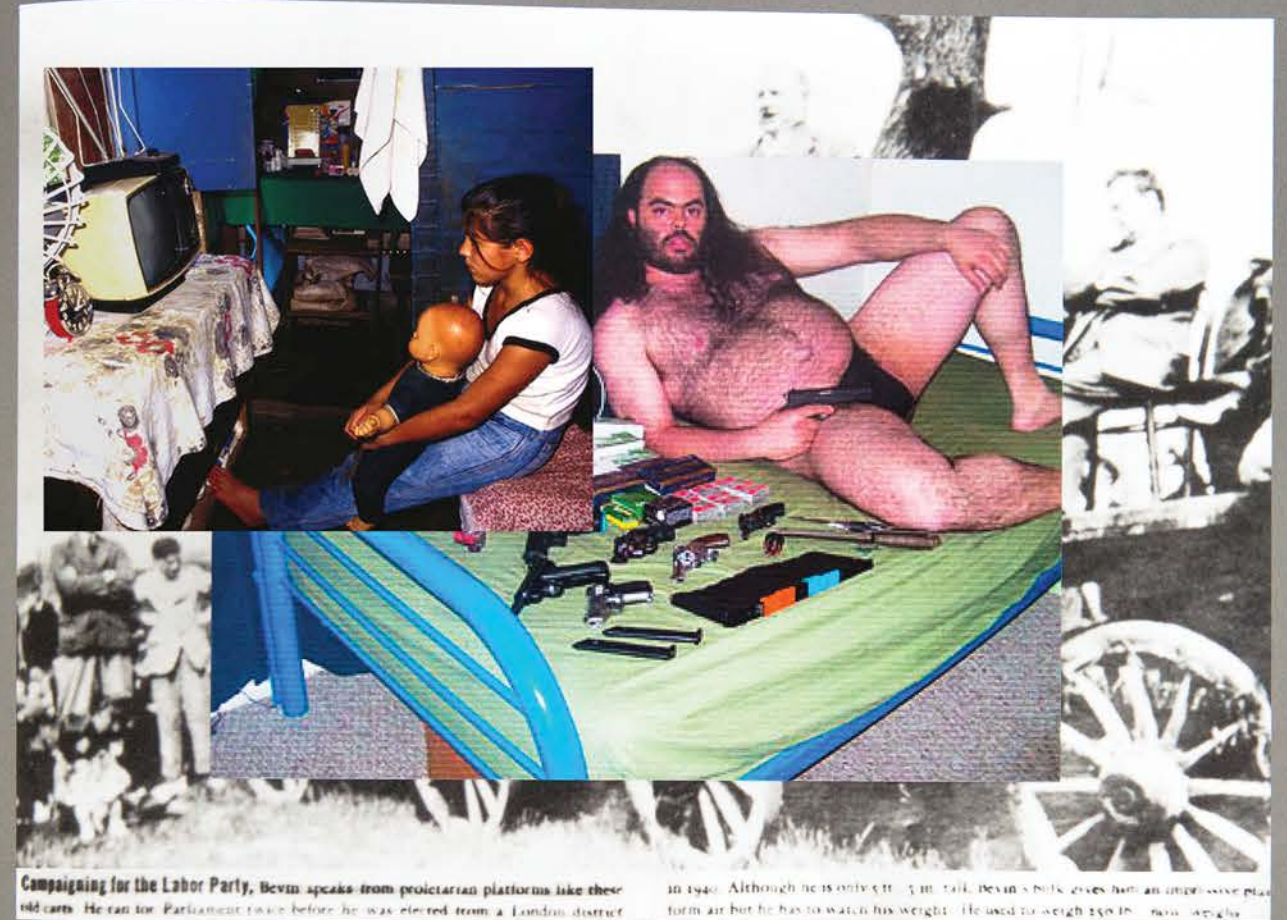
Liverpool harbour, England's second biggest, is well known to be the target of many German aerial bombardments and took many direct hits. This photograph gives a clear picture of the harbour - the smoke at the top shows that it has just been visited by German bombers.



Hamnen i Liverpool, Englands näst största, har som bekant varit föremål för flera tyska bombräder och härvid blivit utsatt för många träffar. Här se vi en vacker bild från hamnen och eldsvådorna i bakgrunden utvisa, att hamnanläggningarna nyligen haft kännning av de tyska bomberna.

Byzantium lives in song,

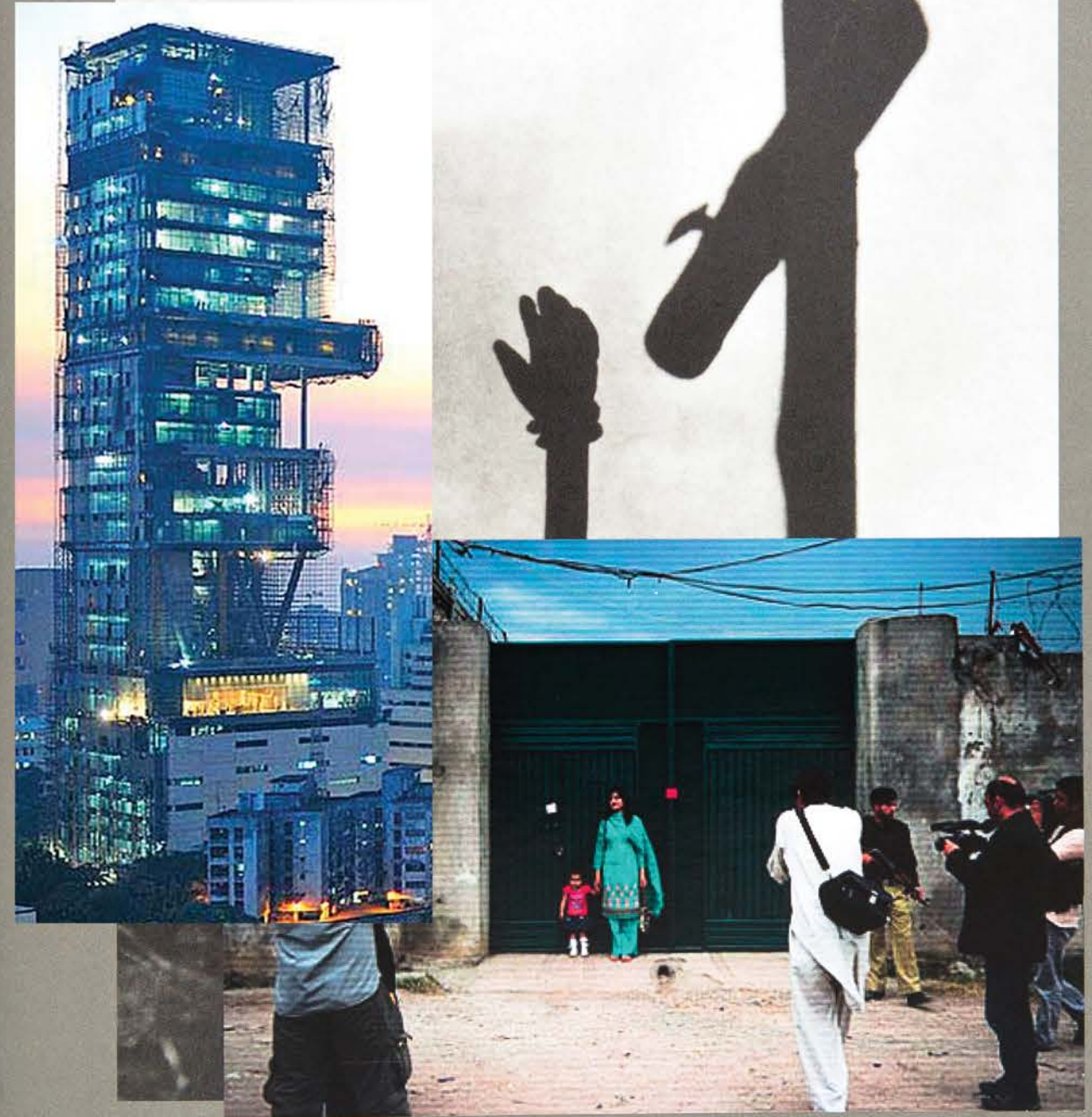
Campaigning for the Labor Party, Bevin speaks from the proletarian platforms like these old carts. He ran for Parliament twice before he was elected from a London district in 1940. Although he is only 5 ft., 5 in. tall, Bevin gives an impressive platform air but he has to watch his weight. He used to weigh 250 lb., now weighs 200.



Campaigning for the Labor Party, Bevin speaks from proletarian platforms like these old carts. He ran for Parliament twice before he was elected from a London district in 1940. Although he is only 5 ft., 5 in. tall, Bevin gives an impressive platform air but he has to watch his weight. He used to weigh 250 lb., now weighs 200.

Were all her dwellings

A LINE OF CRUDE CROSSES MARKS AMERICAN
GRAVES NEAR BUNA. A GRAVE REGISTRAR'S
GLOVE ACCIDENTALLY POINTS TOWARD THE SKY



In the ruins of the city, a man who
was once a soldier on earth.
Ways palaces? Death. Now you
Mi... sent us forth.

German Churches on Wheels. The Catholic Church has 38 Berlin, Wednesday. According to reports from Catholic circles, the Catholic Church now has 38 churches on wheels. These consist of little altars mounted on motor vehicles so that mass can be offered to isolated and inaccessible villages. A further dozen of these mobile churches are on order, to reach - among others - remote army barracks. In general, the padre himself drives his own mobile church.



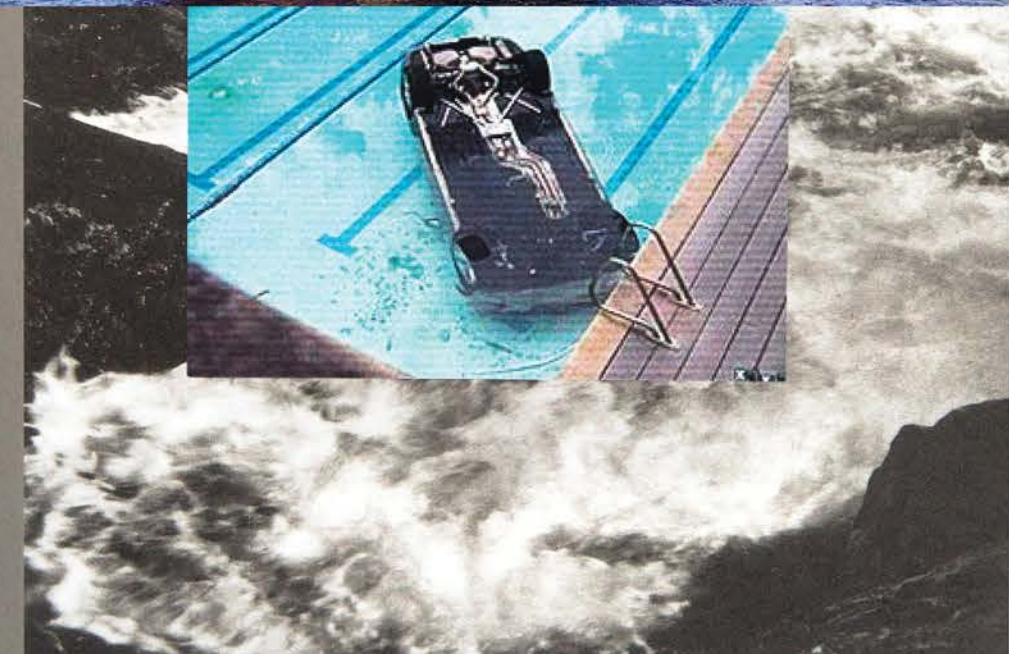
... these are the only ones in the world,
? And even in Atlantis (

31
31



of the legend

32
7



The night the sea rushed in,
Remember us, and let just one swim free.

33
21



The night the boat
The drowning men s
d so
& cover
t.

Field Marshal Fedor von Beck, 61 and a Prussian, helped conquer Poland, Paris and the North Caucasus.

Field Marshal Hugo Sperrle, 57, Bavarian brewer's son, commanded air corps in Spain, Poland, Lowlands, France, Battle of Britain.

Field Marshal Karl von Rundstedt, 66, planned and carried through famous break at Sedan, now has headquarters there.

Field Marshal Erwin Rommel, 50, is slashing, hard-hitting commander of the German Afrika Corps in Battle of Egypt.

General Heinz Guderian, 56, a Prussian, had brilliant tank successes in Poland and France, commanded Panzer division from a plane.

Field Marshal Siegmund List, 62, steely Bavarian master of mobility, knifed through Poland and France.

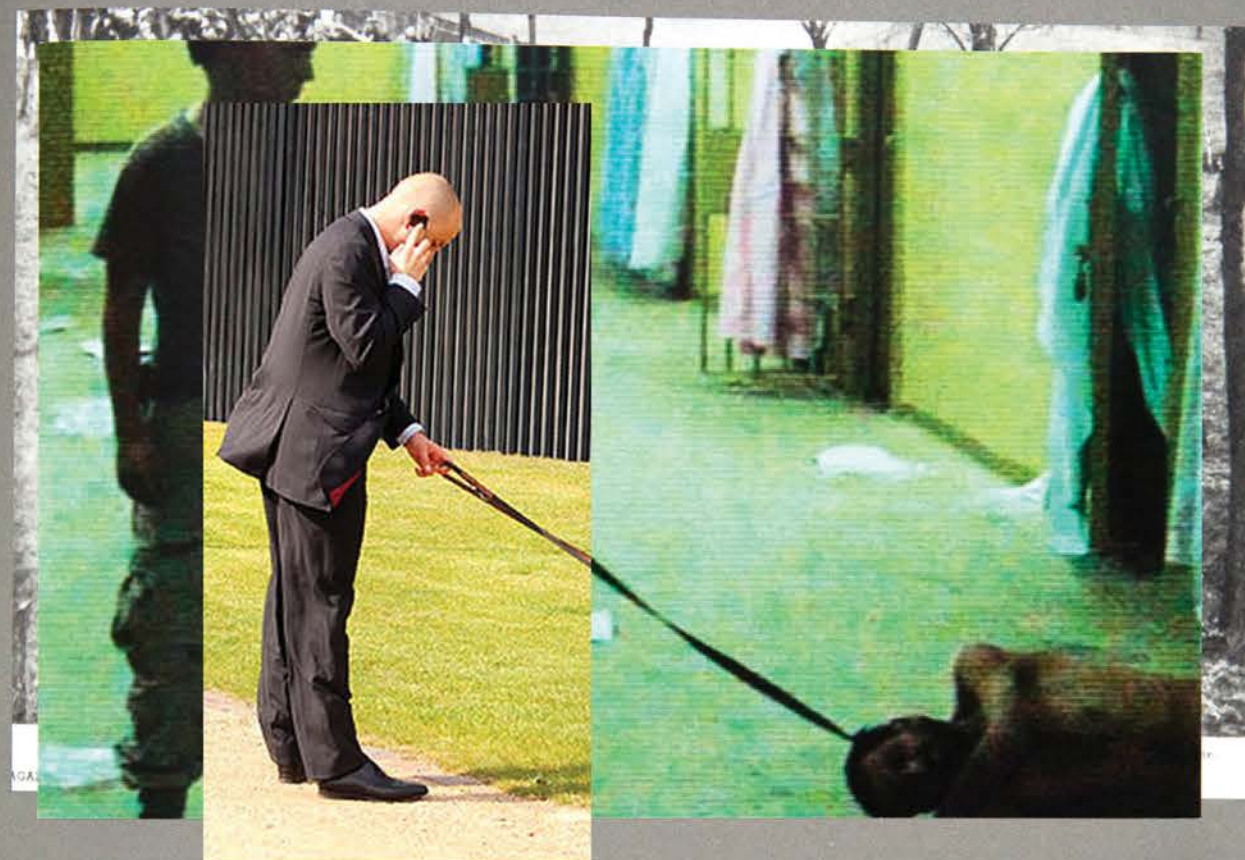


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still bellowed f

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the truth'.
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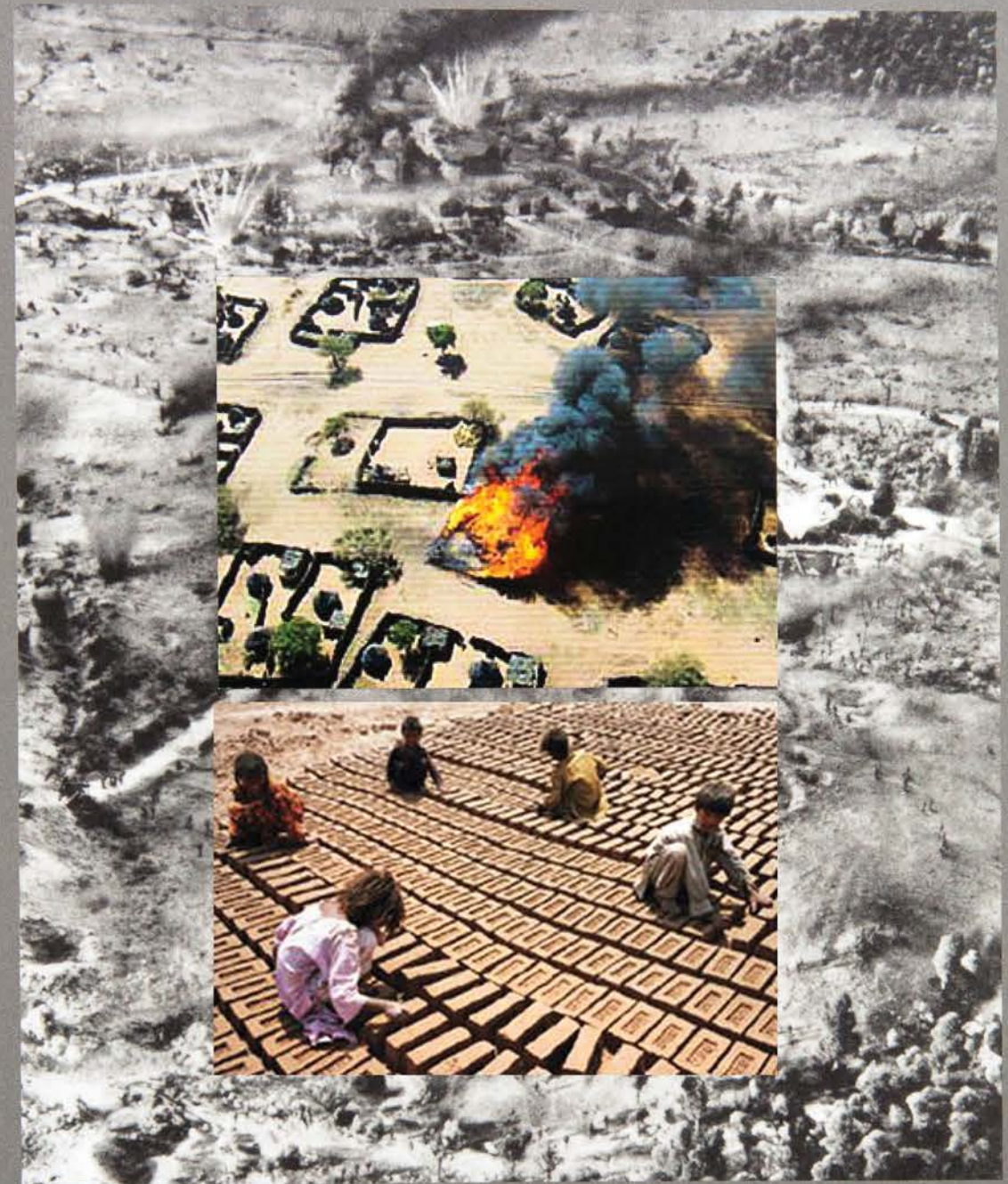
Returning to a changed world — French soldiers, released after five years of captivity, march down a road in Germany on the first leg of their journey home.



For their slaves. yoke
e.



Young Alexander c

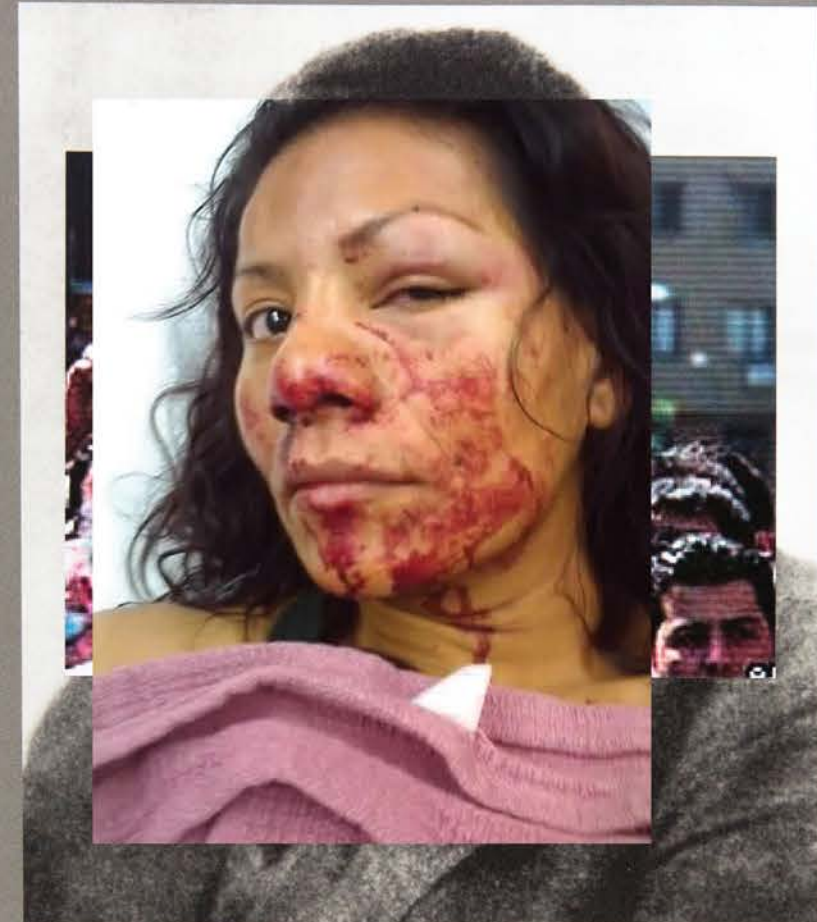


r conquered India.



When the "Fox of the Desert," German Field Marshal Erwin Rommel (left) drank this premature toast, his Afrika Korps was still "unbeatable"

H.
T.
T.
T.
He alone?
nds!



He alone.
Caesar beat the Gauls.

40



Was there not even a cook

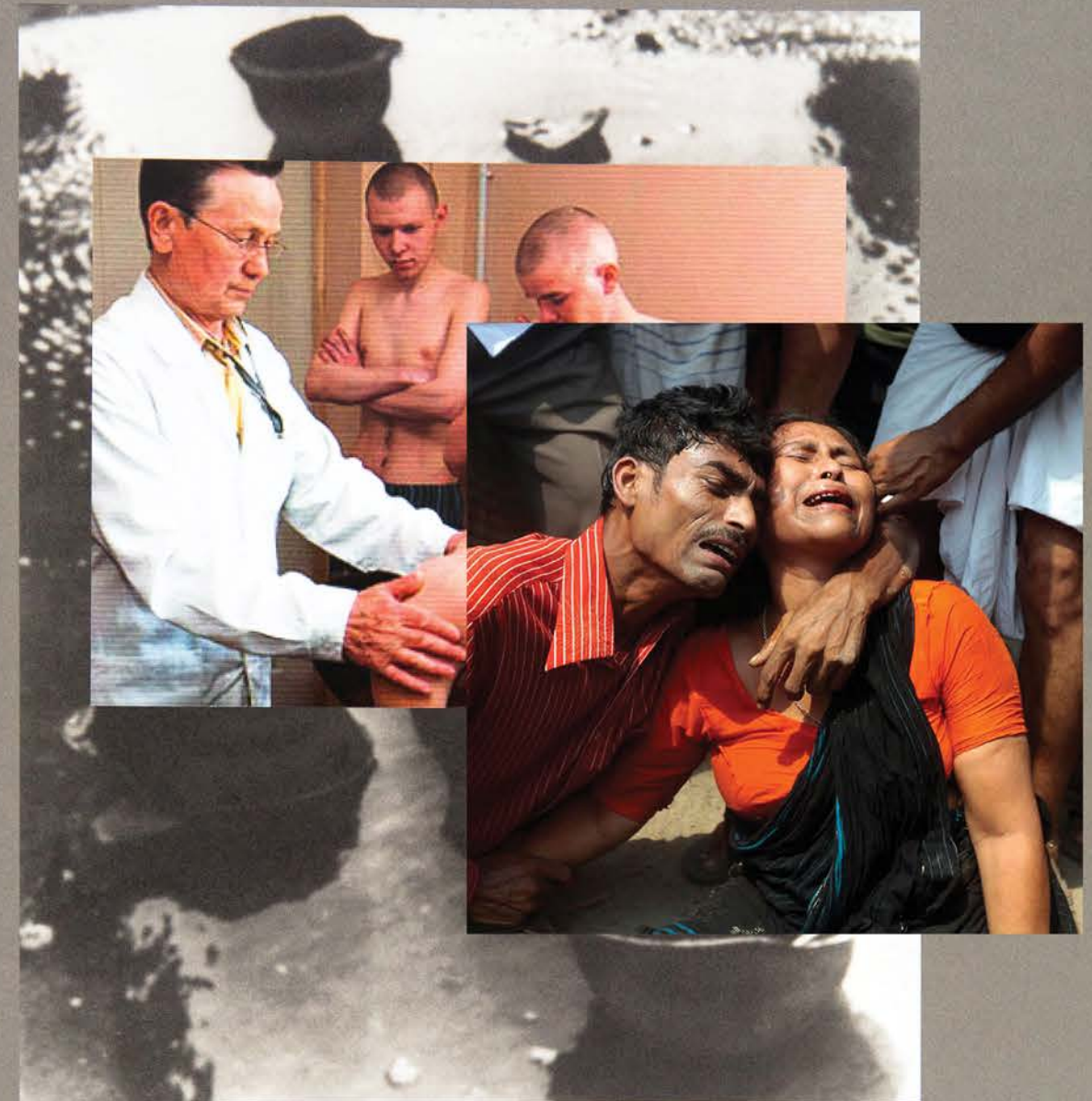
41
39



c in his army?

scow

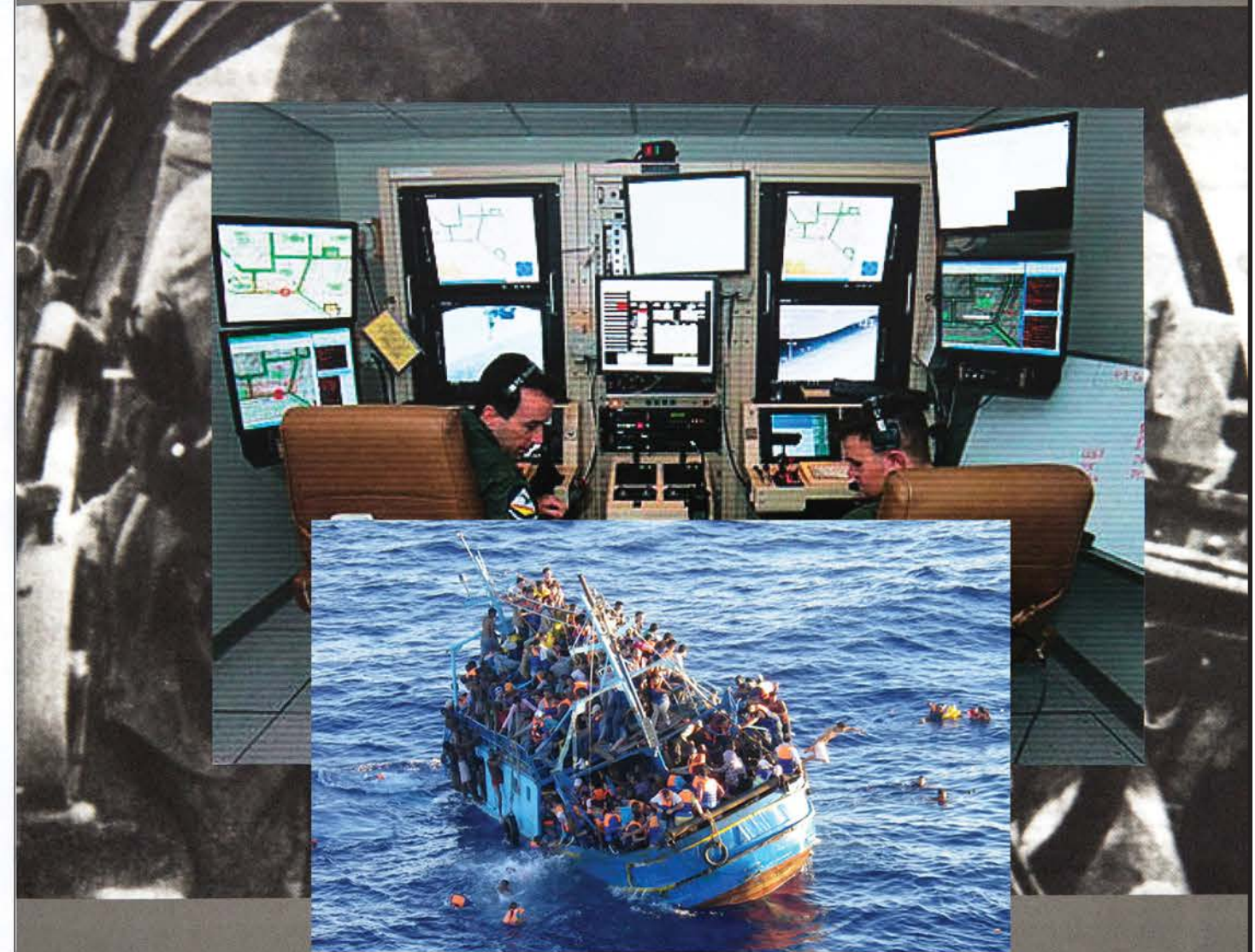
r people



Philip of Spain wept

—Dut which we must agree to put them on.

43
16



as his fleet

if you ask why, the answer is: from fear.



Ship of Spain went as
Was sunk and destroyed.
The only traces left of sunken ships.



his heart
Were there no other tears?
as long as he has graves left upon his earth



Frederick the Great triumphed



l in the Seven Years War.

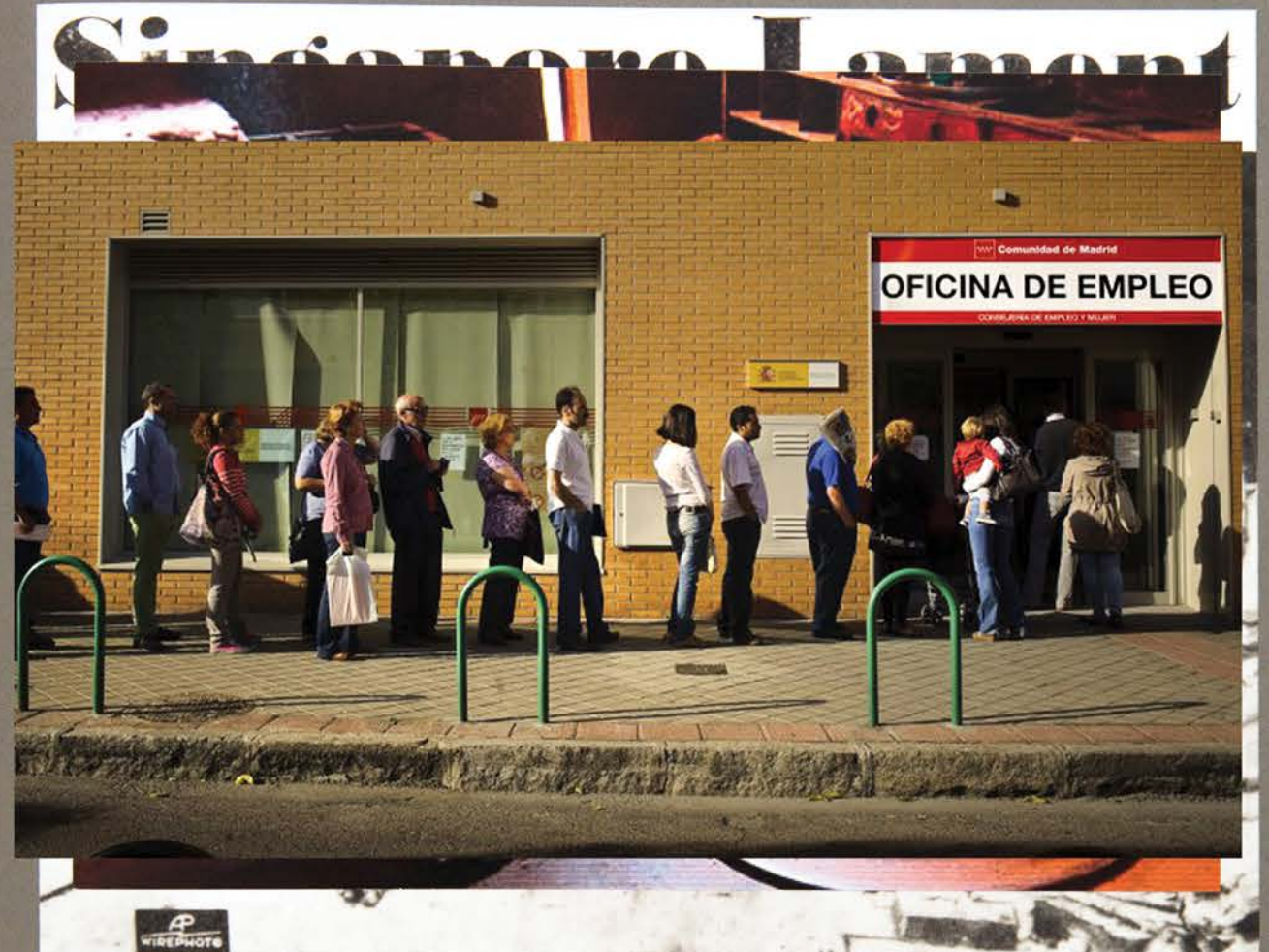
New Source of Income Thanks to the bombing, London's poor have found a new source of income. Children gather round the exits of underground stations which serve as air-raid shelters. They have reserved places in the shelters and hire them out, with bedding, when there is an alert. Our picture shows a group of youngsters with mattresses and blankets carried in prams.



. Who

unger
o survive
visions
S.

49
48



Triumphed with him?

50
33

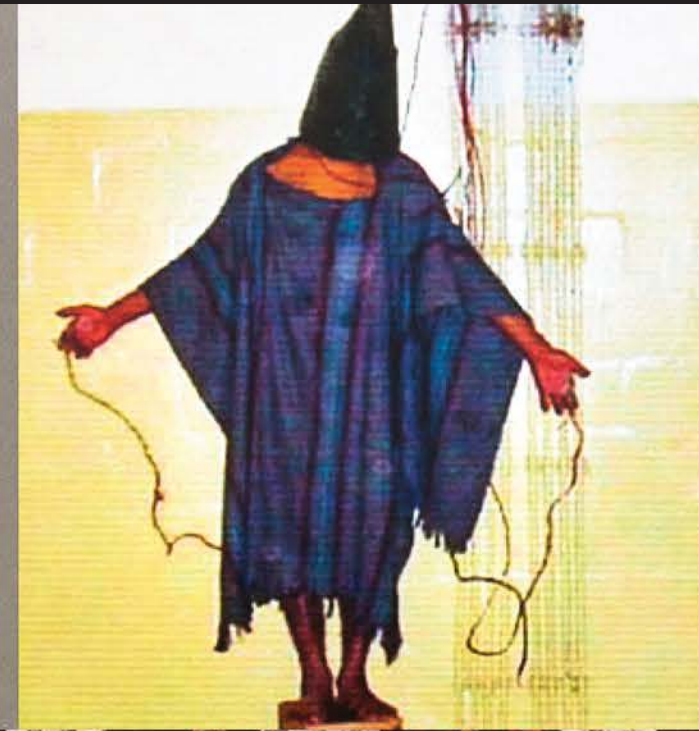


Each page a victory,



At whose expense t

52
50



the victory ball?
for
action!

Greek boy swollen with hunger is a grim reminder that one third of Athens' children died of starvation, nine out of ten newborn were dying. Conditions were so terrible that the United Nations allow Greek relief to pass through the blockade.

Russian children are among those who have suffered most at the hands of the Nazis. Besides witnessing the rape of their home towns, many have been wounded in battles which rage like prairie fires across the devastated Russian plains.

A Sicilian lad who saw his parents killed by Germans finds, like other bewildered young Italians, that war has blotted out his sun. He will learn that Allied Control ends such injustices as children toiling like moles in the sulphur mines.

French children - listless little ones standing silently in school yards at recess time, roving the street in search of bread - are too tired and hungry to play normally or remember their lessons. Tuberculosis is steadily on the increase.



Greek
boy
horror



of the
children
in the
blockade
in bottles which rage like prairie fires across the devastated Russian plains



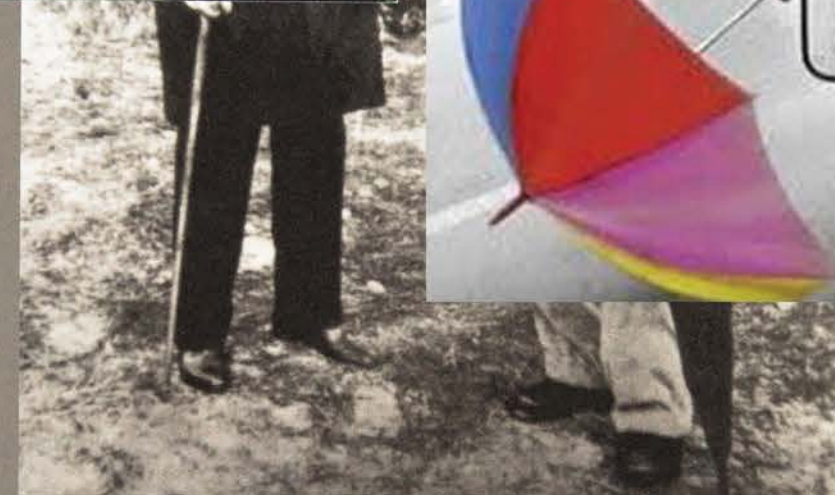
A Si-
cilian
boy



of the
children
in the
blockade

Every ten years &

54
64



s a great man,

55
47

Jane Wyman shows her medals, adorning an 'R.A.F. blue' dress designed by a Hollywood patriot who says girls 'should go military in a feminine way.' These are reproductions of old war medals and were not pinned on Jane for anything she did.



Who paid the piper?

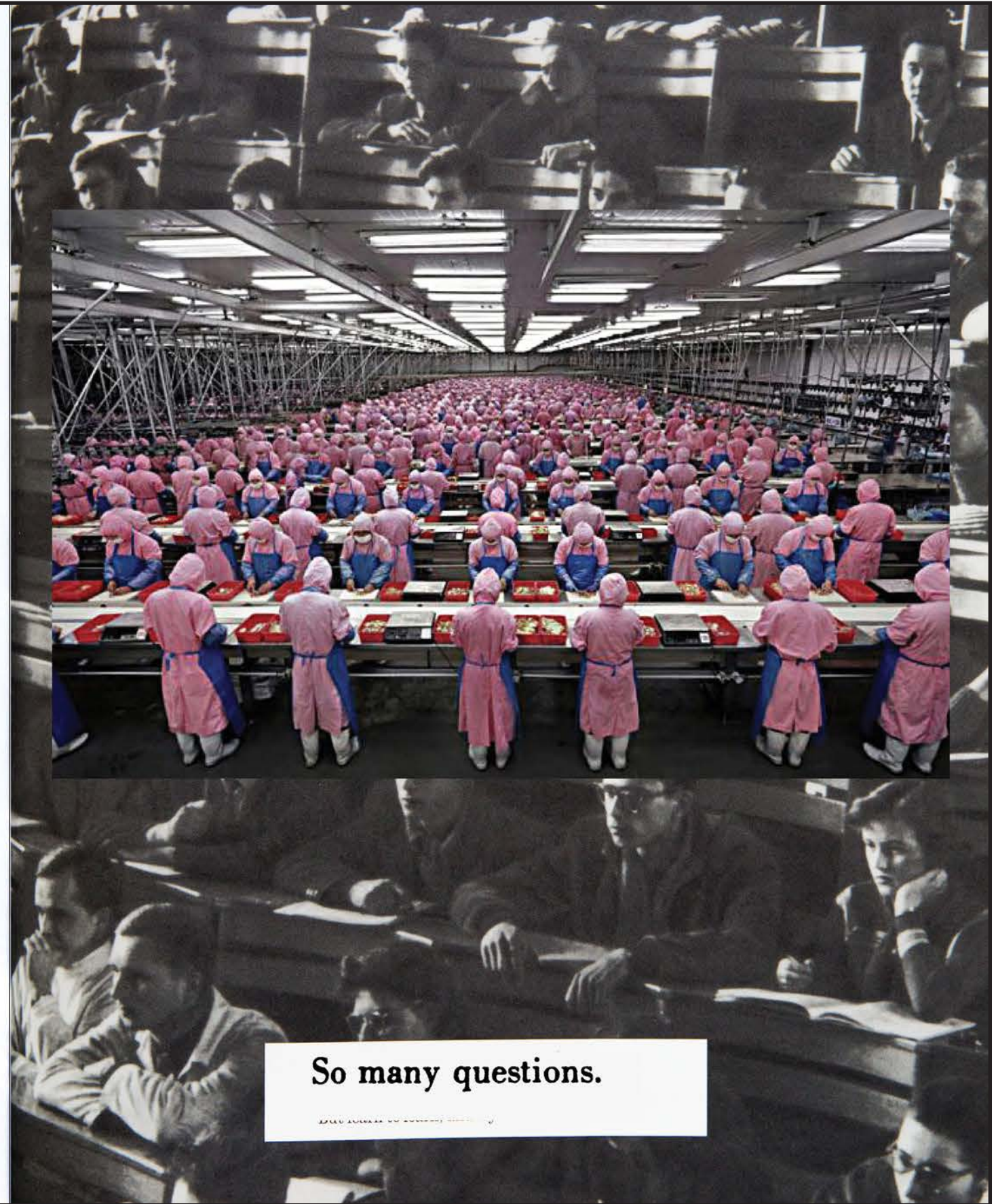
56
88



unique method of selling
Defense Stamps to passen-
gers on train out of New York.

I
S
F
T
So many particulars.

57



So many questions.

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Notes

1. **Dworkin in the steel town of Magnitogorsk, a community dependent on a single industry.**
<http://www.unilevelist.org/cont/pics.cfm>
2. **Max Sher** <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/sponsored/rbth/business/7326357/Russian-car-business-AvtoVAZ-employees-and-families-offered-a-fresh-start.html>
2. **Big payday awaits Carlos Slim in Sanborns IPO** <http://blogs.ft.com/beyond-Definition.htm>
3. **A sunbathing tourist comes to the aid of one of 46 would-be immigrants on La Tejita Beach** <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/health-10311031>
3. **Labourers work at the construction site of a commercial complex in the eastern Indian city of Bhubaneswar** <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/india-10311031>
4. **Child labourers carrying bricks** <http://www.asianews.it/index.php?l=en&art=15068>
5. **This is one of over 200 photos released by the Pentagon under a Freedom of Information Act request filed by University of Delaware professor, Ralph Begleiter** <http://afeatheradrift.wordpress.com/category/warmilitary/afghanistan/>
6. **Signed copy of Adam Broomberg and Oliver Chanarin's War Primer 2 for sale on Amazon.com for £2500. At the time the Libris edition of War Primer on which it is based cost around £30** <http://www.amazon.co.uk/>

7. **Primer Oliver Chanarin Adam Broomberg/**
dp/B006W8WNk8/pics/3477-oops_or_shit_
7. Adam Broomberg and Oliver Chanarin
win Deutsche Border Photography Prize
2013 <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KsLFmashnF8>
8. The Sleeping beauties of China blog <http://myjungleblog.com/chinese-business-etiquette-101-sleeping>
9. Child Slave labourers Working in Indian
Stone Quarries <http://www.lavafilm.com/en/child-slave-labourers-in-indian-stone-quarries>
9. An Israeli Merkava tank patrolling the West
Bank town of Jenin, April 9, 2002 during its
Defensive Shield operation <http://www.fresh.co.il/vBulletin/showthread.php?t=1000000>
10. A rescuee looks out from an access hole
cut into the rubble of a collapsed garment
factory in Bangladesh <http://www.fresh.co.il/vBulletin/showthread.php?t=1000000>
10. President Barack Obama and Vice President
Joe Biden, Secretary of Defense Robert Gates,
Secretary of State Hillary Clinton along with
members of the national security team, as
Bangladesh garment factory collapse kills
hundreds <http://gmialshubpages.com/hub/SavageTragedyInBangladesh-Pictures>
12. A worker assembles Apple iPhones <http://www.nepaf.com/forum/showthread.php?t=446545&page=35>
13. Image claiming to show a Foxconn worker
preparing to jump from the roof of a
dormitory building. Released by Chengdu
police <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/>

- article-2159457/Apple-faces-fresh-**
questions-apparent-suicide-worker-
Chinese-iPad-Phone-Supplier-Foxconn-
html <http://www.foxconn.com/news/world-foxconn-employee-jumps-to-death-in-southwest-china>
14. Anti-suicide nets outside a Foxconn
dormitory <http://www.gettyimages.com/article/228090-You-are-NOT-soldiers-cut-off-the-dead-boy-s-clothes-and-allowed-to-commit-suicide-Workers-in-Chinese-iPad-factories-forced-to-sign-tattoos-Here-they-are-shown-scanning-his-iris-and-fingerprints-using-a-portable-biometric-scanner>
15. Garbage pickers in Manila,
Photo AP/HEA <http://fairforall.org/2011/01/21/aid-for-garbage-pickers-published-more-u-s-kill-team-photos-and-videos/>
16. Bradley Manning, the US Intelligence analyst
accused of leaking secrets to Wikileaks, has
been found competent to stand trial.
pixels: Height: 1079 pixels. <http://www.queerty.com/new-chat-logs-reveal-bradley-manning-is-an-abused-depressed-trans-curious-queerty-view-of-an-informal-settlement-or-shanty-town-in-lima-peru>
17. Video image released by Iraqi state television
shows Saddam Hussein's guards wearing
workers are transported atop a truck
after finishing work at a construction site
in the Burmese capital Naypyitaw January

24. <http://www.reuters.com/wasab3v=iT9K4r3ytz>
 19. <http://www.flickr.com/photos/20070114/a-company-signpost/>
 16. <http://www.kalogs.net/reuters.com/great->
 20. <http://www.fox.com/02/22/the-back-of-steve-jobs-apple/>
 20. <http://www.fox.com/conversation-on-corporate-responsibility/>
 21. <http://www.fox.com/02/22/the-back-of-steve-jobs-apple/>
 21. <http://www.fox.com/02/22/the-back-of-steve-jobs-apple/>
 17. <http://www.fox.com/02/22/the-back-of-steve-jobs-apple/>
 22. <http://www.fox.com/02/22/the-back-of-steve-jobs-apple/>
 19. <http://www.fox.com/02/22/the-back-of-steve-jobs-apple/>
 23. <http://www.fox.com/02/22/the-back-of-steve-jobs-apple/>

20. <http://www.tumblr.com/tagged/victor-seal-uniform-smiling-beside>
 24. <http://www.fox.com/02/22/the-back-of-steve-jobs-apple/>
 21. <http://www.fox.com/02/22/the-back-of-steve-jobs-apple/>
 21. <http://www.fox.com/02/22/the-back-of-steve-jobs-apple/>
 26. <http://www.fox.com/02/22/the-back-of-steve-jobs-apple/>
 22. <http://www.fox.com/02/22/the-back-of-steve-jobs-apple/>
 27. <http://www.fox.com/02/22/the-back-of-steve-jobs-apple/>
 23. <http://www.fox.com/02/22/the-back-of-steve-jobs-apple/>

cameras.

<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jep.2023.113013>

37. **Children working in an Indian brick kiln, there are estimated to be fifty million child labourers in India alone** <http://www.toptenstings.co.uk/2012/08/10/facts-that-should-change-the-world/>
38. **Fortress Europe's busiest frontier is awash with illegal immigrants - despite mines, forest and razor wire** <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/europe/greece/8181331/Fortress-Europe-s-busiest-frontier-is-awash-with-illegal-immigrants-despite-mines-forest-and-razor-wire.html>
34. **Did you ever wonder what happened to Saddam Hussein's Arabian horses?** (photo Christoph Bange) <http://militarylife101.tumblr.com/page/3>
39. **A victim of domestic violence. From 'International day to end violence against sex workers'** <http://www.womensviewsonnews.org/2010/12/international-day-to-end-violence-against-sex-workers/>
35. **BASRAH, Iraq deputy division chaplain for the 36th Infantry Division, baptizes Special Forces A. Holmes, a trumpet player with the 36th Infantry band.** <http://www.arabianbusiness.com/hundreds-sick-in-food-poisoning-outbreak-in-labour-camp-390687.html>
40. **200 workers fall ill and forty are hospitalised as a result of squalid on site catering at a construction site in Abu Dhabi** <http://www.arabianbusiness.com/hundreds-sick-in-food-poisoning-outbreak-in-labour-camp-390687.html>
41. **A group photograph showing an American police unit with an armoured vehicle. From: David Pittgers, a legal policy analyst at the Cato Institute who served three tours in Afghanistan as a special forces officer, laments the militarization of police in America.** <http://www.outsidethebeltway.com/american-army-third-infantry-division-sgt-roscoe-arrester-of-port-stewart-ga-catches-a-nap-on-a-couch-in-the-republican-presidential-palace-the-compound-is-now-guarded-and-has-been-secured-by-the-u-s-military-photos-mario-america/>
36. **U.S. Army Third Infantry Division Sgt. Roscoe Arrester of Port Stewart, GA catches a nap on a couch in the Republican Presidential Palace. The compound is now guarded and has been secured by the U.S. military.** (photo Mario America. <http://www.outsidethebeltway.com/american-army-third-infantry-division-sgt-roscoe-arrester-of-port-stewart-ga-catches-a-nap-on-a-couch-in-the-republican-presidential-palace-the-compound-is-now-guarded-and-has-been-secured-by-the-u-s-military-photos-mario-america/>)

42. **Relative's mourn a victim at the site after an eight-story building housing several garment factories collapsed in Savar, near Dhaka, Bangladesh, Wednesday, April 24, 2013** <http://www.wikiwix.com/Compare+and+contrast+the+Holocaust+and+the+genocide+in+Darfur%3F+SB>
38. **U.S. Army soldiers with Task Force Thor Some 400 Migrants Killed After Boat Capsizes in Mediterranean** <http://gcaptain.com/400-migrants-killed-boat-capsizes-explosive-device-ied-that-they-discovered-mediterranean/>
44. **Shipbreakers at work on boats in the background** <http://www.globallabourrights.org/alerts?id=0157#2>
45. **A Bangladeshi woman looked at a wall filled with portraits of Afghanis** <http://www.nytimes.com/2013/05/04/world/asia/death-toll-in-bangladesh-building-collapse-after-three-weeks-of-intense-training-these-volunteers-will-be-ready-to-fight-against-forces-loyal-to-libyan-leader-muammar-gaddafi-photos-rodrigo-abd/>
39. **Benghazi, Libya, June 2, 2011 Libyan volunteer Alan Ito, Associated Press** <http://www.nytimes.com/2013/05/04/world/asia/death-toll-in-bangladesh-building-collapse-after-three-weeks-of-intense-training-these-volunteers-will-be-ready-to-fight-against-forces-loyal-to-libyan-leader-muammar-gaddafi-photos-rodrigo-abd/>
46. **A protester will be ready to fight with mask gesticulates outside the Royal Bank of Scotland** <http://www.zamannews.ir/View.aspx?ID=900318013>
40. **Prison planet** <http://www.prisonplanet.com/articles/february-2006-040206-criminal-desperation>
47. **A group showing criminal desperation**
41. **A dollar, correlating with the 11 year business cycle that marks economic growth**

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A Worker Reads History

My spoon was lifted when the bomb came down
That left no face, no hand, no spoon to hold.

Bertolt Brecht, 1935

One hundred thousand died in my hometown.
I never saw one to pass before my soup was cold.

We are lucky to have had her patient and self-effacing collaboration.

Translated by H.R. Hays

For material in the present Afterword and the Notes (pp. i-iv) we are
indebted to the German poet Günter Kunert, who was largely
responsible for the original Eulenspiegel publication a decade after the fall
of the Third Reich. Some of his 'late thoughts' about his friend Brecht can
be found in the same *Brecht Yearbook*, and we owe to him a first-hand
insight into the problems of producing a book that was so hard to reconcile
with the Stalinist doctrine of Socialist Realism. Documentary evidence of
the difficulties put into it by the politicians has also been generously sup-
plied by the Bertolt-Brecht Archiv in Berlin under its director Erdmut
Wizslas, who has helped and encouraged us throughout. Thanks are also
due to Gunn Brinson who located the original use of many of the
photographs in Scandinavian and US newspapers and magazines. We
must now hope that these and other supporters of this relatively little-
known Brecht work will be happy at the result of its introduction to the
English speaking world. One hundred years since the world's first half
century since the end of our war.

**Who built the seven gates of Thebes?
The books are filled with names of kings.
Was it the kings who hauled the craggy blocks of stone?
And Babylon, so many times destroyed,
Who built the city up each time? In which of Lima's houses,
That city glittering with gold, lived those who built it?
In the evening when the Chinese wall was finished
Where did the masons go? Imperial Rome
Is full of arcs of triumph. Who reared them up? Over whom
Did the Caesars triumph? Byzantium lives in song.
Were all her dwellings palaces?
And even in Atlantis of the legend
The night the seas rushed in,
The drowning men still bellowed for their slaves.**

**Young Alexander conquered India.
He alone?
Caesar beat the Gauls.
Was there not even a cook in his army?
Phillip of Spain wept as his fleet
was sunk and destroyed. Were there no other tears?
Frederick the Great triumphed in the Seven Years War.
Who triumphed with him?**

**Each page a victory
At whose expense the victory ball?
Every ten years a great man,
Who paid the piper?**

**So many particulars.
So many questions.**

BRECHT'S WAR: A CHRONOLOGY

Prelude

The Brechts had been living as exiles in Denmark since the end of 1933, the year in which Hitler came to power in Germany. In 1935 the Nuremberg Race Laws marked the beginning of official anti-semitism in Hitler's newly-instituted Third Reich. (Brecht was not Jewish, but his wife Helene Weigel was.) The Communist International decided to join forces with the Socialists and any others prepared to resist German and Italian Fascism; the result was Popular Front governments in France and Spain. The Spanish Civil War started in summer 1936 as a revolt against the second of these by the Spanish army under General Franco. As links between Germany, Italy and the Spanish rebels became closer, with Japan as an anti-Communist ally, Stalin in Russia launched a massive purge of his Communist Party, during which a number of German exiles were banished to camps or killed.

By early 1937 Brecht had written most of his earlier (unrhymed, un-illustrated) 'German War Primer' poems, which were included in his book of *Svendborg Poems* the following year, along with the 'German Satires', the literary sonnets and such longer items as 'Spring 1938', the Lao-tse poem and 'To Those Born Later'.

In 1938 Hitler annexed Austria and the German-speaking areas of Czechoslovakia. The rest of that country fell to him in spring 1939. Europe, including Britain, began last-minute preparations for war.

