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**ANZAC
PART TWO**

ANZAC – NEW ZEALANDERS AT WAR

PART TWO: 1939 – 1945

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TEXT

THE SEAFARERS

FACTS & FIGURES

Duration 0:31

On Screen Text:

New Zealanders on active naval service (Royal Navy and RNZN) peaked at 10,635 in September 1844. 7000 would serve in the Royal Navy on British vessels during the course of the war, a figure which included 1000 personnel in the Fleet Air Arm. Several thousand New Zealand civilian seafarers were involved in dangerous theatres of war serving in the British and New Zealand Merchant Marine.

Over 1200 were listed as casualties (killed, wounded, prisoners of war). 573 navy ratings and officers – a figure which included 150 pilots of the Fleet Air Arm, and 110 merchant seamen lost their lives during the course of the war.

GRAF SPEE 1939

The Years Back: The New Decade (extract)

National Film Unit 1973. Duration 0:29

The famous images of the scuttled Graf Spee.

On Screen Text:

The ceremonial flag of the HMNZS Achilles was draped over the coffin of Michael Joseph Savage. The cruiser Achilles had played New Zealand's first major role in WWII. In the Battle of River Plate in December 1939, the Achilles and two Royal navy cruisers had forced the commander of the German pocket battleship the Admiral Graf Spee to scuttle his ship on the South American coast.

JOINING UP

The New Zealand Home Front (extract)

British Ministry of Information 1943. Duration 1:18

Recruits for the RNZN are put through their paces.

HMNZS LEANDER

HMNZS Leander in the Middle East

National Film Unit 1941. Duration 1:26

The HMNZS Leander pulls into “a Middle Eastern port” (details were never given away in newsreels for intelligence reasons) after 14 months continuous service. After initially escorting the ships carrying the New Zealand Expeditionary Force, she operated in the Mediterranean, the Red Sea and the Indian Ocean. Leander was torpedoed in 1943 in the Pacific War and was replaced by the Gambia.

THE ADRIATIC 1945

Weekly Review 201

National Film Unit 1945. Duration 2:19

RECENT HISTORY... MTB's IN ADRIATIC: Men of the Royal Navy, load torpedos onto motor torpedo boats and pack them into tubes. Many New Zealanders served in the RN, with a particular liking for operations with some independence in small craft like these MTBs and in the Fleet Air Arm. Officially numbers were spread after 150 New Zealanders died when the HMS Neptune was sunk in December 1941.

THE AIRMEN

FACTS & FIGURES

Duration: 0:28

On Screen Text

Royal New Zealand Air Force numbers peaked at 42,000 in June 1944. Over 12,000 New Zealanders served in the RAF over Britain, Europe, the Far East and North Africa. Over 10,000 pilots as well as significant ground crew numbers served in the Pacific War.

Casualty rates were horrific, principally for those serving in the RAF. The relatively untold story of New Zealand's war was that of our airmen, who while contributing 16% of our combatants in World War II, suffered 36% of our fatal casualties. 4149 New Zealand airmen lost their lives during the course of the war.

TRAINING THE PILOTS 1941

Wings Over New Zealand

Government Film Studios 1941. Duration 2:40

550 kiwis were already in Britain when war began. 7000 more went to Canada as part of the Empire Air Training Scheme and many more were trained in New Zealand.

FIGHTERS & BOMBERS 1941

Pathe Gazette 231 (extracts)

Pathe 1941. Duration 3:16

Standard British newsreel during the early war period. This piece looks at a New Zealand fighter squadron, Spitfires by the shape of their wings. New Zealand, despite its size provided the third highest nationality behind Britons and Poles in Fighter command during the Battle of Britain.

The second item deals with the first New Zealand V.C of the war, Sergeant Jimmy Ward, who climbed out on a burning wing of his Wellington bomber to douse the flames. Patched up, he was soon in the air again.

On Screen Text:

Two months after his Victoria Cross efforts, Sergeant Jimmy Ward was killed in a raid over Hamburg. He was 22. The death rate for RAF bomber crew 1939-1945 was 47%. The New Zealand Squadron (No, 75), nicknamed the "Chop Squadron", often headed both the number of sorties and the subsequent aircraft loss amongst bomber command.

NEW ZEALANDERS IN THE EUROPEAN AIR WAR 1939-1945

British Movietone News: New Zealand Was There (extracts)

British Movietone 1945. Duration 7:10

Pieced together in the last year of the war this retrospective gives some idea of the large commitment of young New Zealanders to the air war in the European theatre. Few British newsreels made it to New Zealand theatres during the war and none in such depth as this. There were seven 'New Zealand' squadrons in the RAF and New Zealanders served in many other units of the RAF. One in four died, a percentage far beyond any other sector of New Zealand's armed forces.

THE PACIFIC WAR

On Screen Text: Duration 0:18

The RNZAF presence in the Pacific War began slowly but steadily expanded. While much of the NZEF's 3rd Division involvement was part of a secondary front, garrisoning and taking islands skipped in the allied advance, the RNZAF—whose numbers were roughly equivalent to the army in the Pacific—were on the offensive front pushing back the Japanese perimeter from 1943 on.

Weekly Review 152: NZ Squadrons Strike From Bougainville (extract)

National Film Unit 1944. Duration 2:45

New Zealanders in action in the Solomon Islands.

THE SOLDIERS

INTRO TEXT & HEROES OF CRETE

INTRO TEXT & HEROES OF CRETE

Duration 0:40

On Screen Text:

Because so many of New Zealand's airmen and seafarers were directly involved in RAF and Royal Navy operations, the New Zealand Army (2NZEF) became the focal point for war news back home. 104,000 soldiers served in the 2nd and 3rd New Zealand Divisions 1939 – 1945. The initial embarkation consisted of three echelons sent to Egypt in 1940, one diverted to Britain before finally joining the others in March 1941.

The 2nd Division NZEF served in Greece and Crete (March – May 1941), North Africa (June 1941 – May 1943), and Italy (October 1943 – May 1945). The smaller 3rd Division 2NZEF served in the Pacific War from late 1942 – 1945.

Casualty rates were very high. 29,678 New Zealand soldiers were listed as casualties of whom 6157 died and 8369 were captured as POWs. The 2nd Division 2NZEF in particular, easily one of the most effective infantry divisions on the allied side, was constantly in front-line operations, and things began badly in Greece and Crete – the first major news home in 1941 was not good.

Heroes of Crete (extract)

National Film Unit 1941. Duration 1:36

A worried Fraser minimises the administration's concern over British strategy after Greece and Crete. New Zealand forces in both campaigns were, as Fraser so pointedly emphasises, "almost entirely without air cover" and were "literally blasted out of their positions". The flipside is the wholehearted efforts of New Zealand in this conflict with the "Motherland", and "the other countries of the British Commonwealth, and our allies". Pearl Harbour was less than 4 months away.

THE NORTH AFRICAN CAMPAIGN 1941-1943

COUNTRY LADS 1941

Country Lads

National Film Unit 1941. Duration 3:38

"Week after week thousands of us have been in training – ever since we in New Zealand undertook to pull our weight in this war." A moving commentary accompanies scenes of troop departures and marching. "They are soldiers and fighters because they know that as things are, only soldiers and fighters can make the world safe for civilians to live in – safe for women and children and decent ordinary people."

Troops march through Wellington city, in and around Parliament grounds and along Waterloo Quay. The release date of this memorable film was barely two weeks after the final night of sea evacuation from Crete. The Prime Minister was so moved by the material in a pre-screening that production of wartime newsreels began in earnest eventually becoming the Weekly Review.

TEXT

Duration 0:17

On Screen Text:

The reinforcements sent to Egypt were entirely necessary. Fully one half of the 15,000 kiwi soldiers sent to Greece and Crete were killed, wounded or POWs. The first major battles of the North African campaign were equally disastrous with New Zealand troops being left in the front line without effective armour

against Rommel's legendary Afrika Korps. More heavy losses were suffered before the showdown at El Alamein in October 1942.

UPHAM, ELLIOT AND EL ALAMEIN

The War Years (extracts)

National Film Unit 1983. Duration 3:20

Lieutenant Charles Upham receives his V.C for displays of courage over a considerable period in March 1941 on Crete. He was to receive another in the battle to take and hold Ruweisat Ridge in 1942, but badly wounded and captured was not to receive the award till the end of the war. Keith Elliot also received the V.C. on Ruweisat. The second extract shows the turning point of the campaign at El Alamein.

ON TO TRIPOLI 1943

Weekly Review 75

National Film Unit 1943. Duration 2:42

ON TO TRIPOLI : New Zealand soldiers return to camp, west of El Alamein, after a night of fighting. From outside the medical unit, surgeons display a live shell which they skillfully removed from a wounded soldier. Tanks and weapons are maintained and on a Friday afternoon troops are entertained before leaving for another night of fighting.

THE MAORI BATTALION

Duration: 0:22

On Screen Text:

The Battalion and the song became legend during the course of the war. The reputation of the Battalion as a fighting force saw it used continuously in front line, often hand-to-hand situations. Their casualty rate during WWII was 7 out of 10 killed or wounded, 3 times an already high New Zealand rate. The following newsreel is Australian, showing how quickly the legend had spread.

Fighting Fury: Maoris Ready to Reinforce Famous Battalion

Fox Movietone 1943. Duration 2:05

Reinforcements for the Maori Battalion training in New Zealand. The men on parade, at bayonet practice, marching and singing the Maori Battalion song.

ANZAC: Part Two 1939 – 1945

The song became the New Zealand army song regardless of race, such was the reputation of the Battalion as a fighting force. Used continuously in front line, often hand-to-hand situations the casualty rate during WWII was 6 out of 10 killed or wounded, nearly 3 times the overall New Zealand casualty rate.

THE PACIFIC WAR

PROPAGANDA 1942

The War Years (extract)

National Film Unit 1983. Duration 1:32

Propaganda rushed out after Japan's advance after Pearl Harbour. The speed was alarming: Pearl Harbour 7/12/1941; Fall of Singapore 15/2/1942; Bombing of Darwin 19/2/1942. The Australians brought troops home and directly refused Churchill's directives. Note the 'heavy tanks' rolled out in the newsreel - there weren't any - the shots can't have been taken in NZ.

REALITY & THE U.S. INVASION

The War Years (extract)

National Film Unit 1983. Duration 1:28

New Zealand's defence put in perspective and given the American solution.

THE 3RD DIVISION ON NISSAN ISLAND 1944

Weekly Review 138 (extracts)

National Film Unit 1944. Duration 2:38

PACIFIC INVASION...WHAT IT TAKES : The 3rd division 2NZEF prepare for the invasion of Nissan Island.

THE ITALIAN CAMPAIGN 1943-1945

TEXT

Duration 0:15

On Screen Text:

While the smaller 3rd Division was engaged in secondary operations in the Pacific War the 2nd Division had landed in Italy. Any expectation that the Italian campaign would be any easier than the longer North African campaign was quickly dispelled. The 2nd Division were again in constant frontline activity and casualties were subsequently heavy - 8924 in 18 months, 2003 of whom died.

CASSINO 1944

Weekly Review 150

National Film Unit 1944. Duration 1:59

ITALIAN FRONT ... PETER FRASER VISITS CASSINO BATTLEFIELD : General Sir Bernard Freyberg greets the Prime Minister, Peter Fraser at an Italian aerodrome before they set off for Cassino. Heavy losses were sustained there by New Zealand infantry.

XMAS IN ITALY 1944

Weekly Review 183 (extracts)

National Film Unit 1945. Duration 3:07

NZEF XMAS IN ITALY : Soldiers prepare for Christmas dinner. Livestock is caught and those on the front line have their dinner transported by jeep, hot and ready to serve. Maori Battalion members are shown.

WOMEN AT WAR

THE NURSES

Our People Our Century (extract)

Ninox Films 2000. Duration 1:28

After the Greek campaign and the Battle for Crete the reality hit home in the daily newspapers. Nurses were involved in growing numbers from this time on.

TEXT

Duration 0:32

On Screen Text:

Nurses were involved in all aspects of the military chain from front-line to military hospital to evacuation of New Zealand's ill or wounded servicemen. 602 nurses of the New Zealand Army Nursing Service, over 300 VADs (Volunteer Aid Detachments of the Red Cross), and later 211 WAAC nursing assistants (Women's Auxiliary Army Corps) served overseas from the first moments of the North African Campaign to the conclusion of the Pacific War.

The armed services, with the necessities of of man power shortage, eventually followed the example of British initiatives. The RNZAF formed its Women's Auxiliary Air Force (WAAFs) in January 1941, and 4753 New Zealand women served during the war. The Women's Royal New Zealand Naval Service was formed in April 1942 and 640 Wrens served 1942-1945. The Women's Auxiliary Army Corps was formed in July 1942 and peaked at 4589 in 1943. Altogether more than 10,000 New Zealand women served in the armed services 1941-1945.

WOMEN ON ACTIVE SERVICE

Women at War (extract)

National Film Unit 1943. Duration 1:49

Looking at the WAACs with home training and overseas service (the Tuis). Ten New Zealand women died on active service. Statistical records show us that in April 1944 the WAAC had 3172 members in New Zealand and 733 overseas. Initially during the perilous days when Japanese invasion seemed imminent, the WAACs were being trained in coastal defence, 'manning' gun emplacements and anti-aircraft batteries as their counterparts had in Britain. As the fear of invasion subsided, the women of the armed forces played a different but integral role in the workings of the war machine.

THE HOME FRONT

THE HOME GUARD

Civilian Army (extract)

National Film Unit 1942. Duration 1:46

Over 100,000 New Zealanders served with the Home Guard during the course of the war.

AUSTERITY

The War Years (extract)

National Film Unit 1983. Duration 3:44

A collage of wartime newsreels that highlights wartime necessities at home –

LAND GIRLS

War Jobs For Women (extract)

National Film Unit 1942. Duration 0:46

'Jolly hockey-sticks' piece on being a 'Land Girl'. Quite in line with terminology of the times when the official term for women taking up wartime jobs was 'man-powering.'

WAR WORKERS

Workers For War (extract)

National Film Unit 1942. Duration 1:42

The Industrial Army. A great many New Zealanders turned on a huge effort in the economic side of the conflict. Many of those who served in essential services or were turned down for war service felt demeaned by their status. The triumphalism of the commentary and music track has a militaristic tone by way of compensation.

CHILDREN WITHOUT SCHOOLS

Children Without Schools

National Film Unit 1942. Duration 3:31

Palmerston North children experience some unusual education while their schools are being used to house and train army recruits.

ANZAC: Part Two 1939 – 1945

SCHOOL CADETS

Weekly Review 150 (extract)

National Film Unit 1944. Duration 1:38

SCHOOL CADETS... CHRIST'S COLLEGE BOYS HANDLE MODERN WAR

EQUIPMENT: The school cadet corps practice using guns and mortar. They march around the school grounds. "We hope the war will be over before these lads are of military age."

TROOP TRAINING

Weekly Review 87

National Film Unit 1943. Duration 1:08

ARMY ... JEEP! JEEP!... Soldiers learn to drive army jeeps at Seaview, Petone. The bouncy music and cherry voice-over were standard in government wartime newsreels. It was one of the government's ways of uplifting public morale on the homefront.

THE FINAL PEACE

P.O.W.S

Weekly Review 205

National Film Unit 1945. Duration 4:17

AUSTRIA ... STALAG 18A AND KLAGENFURT... Stalag 18a prisoner of war camp in Austria where New Zealand POWs are waiting to be repatriated. Some New Zealand soldiers are named. Shots include scenes in a beer garden for POWs only. Approximately 9000 New Zealanders from all services were captured as Prisoners of War, many of them in the first New Zealand campaigns in Greece and Crete (1941).

COMING HOME

The War Years (extract)

National Film Unit 1983. Duration 2:10

Returning soldiers, many wounded. The time factor. Most of the drafts were away for over two years, a long time for children, fathers and partners. The

returning, injured or uninjured, faced a rehabilitation which didn't necessarily fit in with the postwar mood.

V.J. DAY

Weekly Review 208: VJ Day Celebrations (extract)

National Film Unit 1945. Duration 1:48

Footage of VJ day celebrations, the end of the WWII. Troops celebrate at a Wellington naval base and despite the wind and rain, people parade and dance in the city streets. An enduring moment in New Zealand's history. After nearly six years of war, during which New Zealanders produced a huge effort at home and on the battlefields, the relief on the streets of Wellington is obvious.

TEXT

Duration 1:24

On Screen Text:

New Zealand made a huge commitment during the Second World War. From a population of 1.6 million 194,000 men (67% of those aged 18–45) and 10,000 women served in the armed services. Well over 100,000 served in the Home Guard. 30% of our national income was turned over to the war effort.

140,000 New Zealanders served overseas during World War Two. 11,625 were killed, the highest ratio of fatal casualties per head population in the Commonwealth. 6793 soldiers, 4149 airmen, 573 sailors and 110 merchant seamen gave their lives on active service 1939–1945.

Over 9000 New Zealanders were captured and interned as Prisoners of War, an inordinately high number as a percentage of total combatants. Over 15,000 were injured. No effective record has been established of those who died from their injuries or from impaired health in succeeding years.

“We must see to it, with a new world based upon social justice and human brotherhood,

that the dead have not died in vain.

And I believe that New Zealand will rise to any and every occasion.”

— Prime Minister Peter Fraser, 1945