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AUSTRIAN LIFE GUARDS IN UNIFORM.

849 Mr. Simon.
6.20 p.m.
20/2/42
This was ^{behind} a scene that we remember well from the Beaches of Manly and Bondi: a memory of peace-time when sport was the first consideration.

In 1940 the ranks of Australia's life-savers had recruited many women -- and in 1941 the life-guards were marching again, though not in Australia. They ^{were} at Gaza in New Palestine --- as part of the Australian Imperial Force.

Dr. Goebbels has spoken of Australians as "deluded, under-nourished farm boys" --- no doubt his ~~job as Germany's propaganda chief~~; but if these boys are under-nourished, you ought to see Joe in his pants.

No sporting group of men has a better record of war service than Australia's life guards. Over 50% of their peace-time ranks have reformed ranks with the A.I.F. At a time when war is crowding ever more closely upon Australia's shores, we wish them good luck; we know they have strong hearts and a steady nerve. Australia's soldiers in this war have proved worthy sons of their famous fathers of Anzac.

This sports day their prizes were distributed by Lady Blamey, wife of Australia's famous C-in-C. Australians have been brilliantly led and they have done the work of heroes from Libya to Greece and Singapore.

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Our hearts are with them in the dangerous days that lie before them. ~~Now~~ Australia stands in mortal peril in 1942; but Australians will face their peril with grim determination; ~~and~~ there are no better fighting men in the world.