

CHAPTER THIRTEEN

THE ROLL OF HONOUR

The Rank and File

There had been casualties in the ranks of the fighting units of the I.N.A. through open clashes with the enemy, bombing, starvation and sickness.

The Supreme Commander wanted their 'blood' and assured them 'freedom'. His valiant and faithful soldiers of all ranks offered it in an unstinted measure making the way to Delhi gory and slippery for others to proceed cautiously with firm steps till the gates of the enemy's bastion had been battered and broken. It is not possible to get all the names of the martyrs unless both the Government and the men and Officers of the I.N.A. still living, combine in a fond desire to prepare a list as comprehensive as possible.

There should be an honest attempt with the fullest knowledge that at this late stage it is bound to be very incomplete. Soldiers had sacrificed their lives in far off places, in dense jungles, along the route of the march laying their heads in the roadside, with the supreme consolation that they had done the 'most heroic deed on earth', 'cherished the loftiest purpose' and 'made the most generous sacrifice' for the liberation of India.

All glory to them. India must remember with sincere gratitude the supreme sacrifice they made in the attainment of Indian Independence which came in the wake of the fight they raged though suffering temporary reverses in a distant front but cheering up the spirit of the fighters for freedom on the mainland of India.

An attempt has been made, however incomplete, to remember such names of the heroes as are available from an issue of the

Azad Hind Gazette, the Official Gazette of the Provisional Government of the Azad Hind and the *Azad Hind Fauj*, of February 28, 1945, that could find its way into India.

The names of the heroes are:

Saheed-E-Bharat Lt. KUNDAN SINGH

Vir-E-Hind 2/Lieut. ASHRAFI MANDAL

Tamagh-E-Bahaduri No. 54207 Hav. RAN SINGH

No.	Rank/Name	Date of death	Place of Death	Cause of Death
1.	Dalpati M. C. BAL	25.5.44	Ye-U	Snake-bite
2.	Jathadar I. D. BHATIA	31.5.44	Morah	Malaria, etc.
3.	Tolipathi SEWAK RAM	3.6.44	"	Air Raid
4.	Deotha MANI	5.5.44	Narun	Air Raid
5.	Lt. K. S. SURI	10.6.44	Morah	Fever
6.	Tolipathi N. D DALANI	5.6.44	Narun	Air Raid
7.	Sri SAMPURAN SINGH	11.6.44	Burma	Dysentery
8.	Sri S. N. ROY	About mid-July	Burma	Dysentery
9.	Sri J. L. MAJUMDAR	14.7.44	Kantha Vill.	Dysentery
10.	Sri B. N. CHATTERJI	16.7.44	Kalewa	Drowning (in Chundwin)
11.	Sri A. NADESAN	16.7.44	Kalewa	Drowning
12.	Naik RAM SWARUP CHOWDHURY	16.7.44	Kalewa	Drowning
13.	Sri ABHU HUSSAIN	16.7.44	Kalewa	Drowning
14.	Sri DEBI BAHADUR	16.7.44	Kalewa	Drowning
15.	Jathadar N. K. NAI	18.7.44	M. S. S. Burma	Neuro-Syphilis
16.	Sri ARJUN DAS	19.7.44	Kalewa Hospital	Dysentery
17.	Sri MANGA RAM	19.7.44	Kalewa Hospital	Tetanus
18.	Sri B. K. MUKHERJI	19.7.44	Kalewa	Dysentery
19.	Jathadar A. GOVINDAN	27.7.44	Imabaung Vill.	Dysentery
20.	Tollipathi N. S. SUNDARAM	19.7.44	Whitok River	Washed away by current
21.	N. 1428, LN/K SAUSARI RAM	29.7.44	M. S. S. Burma	Neuro-Syphilis
22.	Sri RAM GOVIND AHIR	1.8.44	M. S. S. Burma	Bacillary Dysentery
23.	Sri K. MARIMUTHU	2.8.44	M. S. S. Burma	Malaria B. T.
24.	Jathadar M. S. HARI	4.8.44	Mandalay	Malaria
25.	Sri KABINAL SINGH	5.8.44	M. S. S. Burma	Cerebral Malaria
26.	T. P. V. IYER	13.8.44	M. S. S. Burma	Bronchitis and Malaria
27.	Tollipathi T. K. RAMCHANDANI	14.8.44	M. S. S. Burma	Dysentery

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No.	Rank/Name	Date of death	Place of Death	Cause of Death
28.	L. K. SUNDARAM	14.8.44	On the way to Rangoon	Hospital air-raid casualty
29.	No. 64275 Sp. RAM RAM	26.7.44	M. S. S. Burma	Tuberculosis
30.	Sri K. M. SREEDHARAN	2.9.44	Maymyo Hospital	Tetanus
31.	S. C. A. M. CHANDRA	2.9.44	Maymyo No. 2 Hospital	Fever
32.	Sri TALRAJ KRISHNAN	10.9.44	Mandalay Hospital	Fever
33.	Hav. No. 1409 LAL KHAN	11.9.44	Myang Hospital	Dysentery
34.	Sri MOHINDRA KUMAR MAJUMDAR	17.10.44	M. S. S. Burma	Cerebral Malaria
35.	Sri P. M. KAKA	11.10.44	M. S. S. Burma	Cerebral Malaria
36.	Sri MOORJIMAL HANCHAND	18.8.44	Kalewa Camp	Pyaemia
37.	Sp. YUNG BAHADUR	10.10.44	Myang Hospital	G. S. W. left foot
38.	Sri S. C. NAHA	6.9.44	Monywa Hospital	Typhus
39.	Sri N. N. ROY CHOUDHURY	5.6.44	Killed in Mintha area — Nurun village	
40.	Sri H. C. DAS	18.6.44	M. S. S. Burma	Anaemia secondary
41.	Sri KABIR KHAN	14.11.44	M. S. S. Burma	Appendix with suppurative gangrene
42.	Sri BHIKARI JENA	3.12.44	Myang Hospital	Anaemia
43.	Sri JAGAT NARAYAN	18.9.44	Monywa	Malaria
44.	Sri VEER SINGH	7.12.44	Myang Hospital	Malaria
45.	Sri PRITAM SINGH	16.12.44	Myang Hospital	Tubercular enteritis
46.	Sri HASIM	6.11.44	Shwebo	Air-raid casualty
47.	Sri MANJU	6.11.44	Shwebo	Air-raid casualty
48.	Sri GANGULI	6.11.44	Shwebo	Air-raid casualty
49.	Sri YOSOOF	6.11.44	Shwebo	Air-raid casualty
50.	Sri RAN SHANKAR RAI	6.11.44	Believed to have been killed by enemy action near Intaungi about the first week of August (missing)	
51.	Sri PURAN BAHADUR PURI	27.7.44	Believed captured as prisoner in Mintha area (missing)	
52.	Sri RAJPAT PANDE	August	Believed killed by enemy action (missing)	
53.	Sri BABOO LALL	Unknown	Dead	
54.	Sri R. C. THAMBI	Unknown	On the way to Xabwa	

Faithful Follower

COL. MISRA, who was awarded the *Sher-e-Hind* Medal by Netaji for his heroic battle in the Akyab area on February 4, 1944, died as a result of enemy firing on April 14, 1945, while conducting Netaji from Rangoon to Bangkok.

Heroic Ladies

Two Ladies, units of *Rani Jhansi Regiment*, Lt. JOSEPHINE and Havildar STELLA were killed on April 3, 1945, while returning from Rangoon to Bangkok

Self-immolation

A. YELLAPPA, Adviser, Azad Hind Government and Officer-in-Charge, Netaji Fund Committee, died in a clash with enemy forces near Mandalay in the course of his attempt to evacuate patients from the Mandalay Base Hospital.

Watery Grave

Wounded soldiers were being removed by . . . Chatterji along the Chindwin river in November 1943, when an enemy bomb dropped from the sky, hit the boat and sent it under water with all its occupants.

Embracing Death

An admiring Comrade, under anonymity, recorded the death on June 5, 1945, of one MR. P. on Indian soil in his attempt to blow up an ammunition dump lying beyond Burma border which was likely to be of use to the enemy.

Missing

The whereabouts of the following personnel of the A. H. F. who went to the front are not known yet (missing) :

1. Jathadar N. S. CHARLU
2. Jathadar R. N. RAHA
3. Tolipathi MOORJAMA KHUBCHAND
4. Tolipathi C. VASUDEV
5. Tolipathi VASUDEV POHUMAL
6. Tolipathi TEJ NARAYAN

7. Tolidas RAM SURAT TEWARI, and
8. Sri P. N. NAIR.

In the western front in Germany there was a large number of casualties due to enemy action. It is a pity that the names of the valiant warriors are not available.

The circumstances under which the men of *Indian National Army* fell on the German soil, as could be gathered from S. M. Ishaque, (Colonel in the I. N. A.), give just a glimpse of what happened in that far off region.

The contingent of Netaji in the I. N. A. West, was posted to the Atlantic wall in France to receive practical training of coastal warfare around the Bay of Biscay near Bordeaux from the middle of 1943, till the landing of the Allied troops on the French soil in the latter part of 1944.

The I. N. A. contingent had to retire along with the German forces towards the mainland of Germany. While retiring many valuable lives, nearly 200, of the I. N. A. heroes were lost. The names of the heroes are not at all available now except of

2nd Lieut. ALI, S. M.,
Under-Officer PAHELAD SINGH,
Sgt. INDER BAHADUR, and
Soldier GURMUKH SINGH
all from Punjab.

The I. N. A. contingent after retiring from France concentrated in South Germany in Heuberg, a military cantonment near Stuttgart where it remained till March 1944. At the beginning of April 1945, it had to move due to advance of the allied troops towards Germany. In the last week of April, the I. N. A. contingent was surrounded by the Allied troops, the 2nd French Army, near Lake Constance, South Germany, close to Swiss border. One Company, consisting of about 150 I. N. A. men were shot dead in the last week of April in a small cinema house in the morning after being kept there for the whole night without food and drink.

The remaining I. N. A. soldiers were made prisoners of war and some of them were taken to Thetfort Brandon near Norwich, England, for interrogation, and kept under strict guard. Some of them lost their lives while in confinement.

The World has not even been partially told about the vicissitudes of fortune of the I.N.A. in the Far East and in the Western front. These have come out only in dribbles. It proves that the demand on suffering and sacrifice of men of every religious faith, caste, creed, speaking different tongues and coming from every quarter of this vast sub-continent—so much essential for attainment of Independence—had not been fully met by the Indians before the epic struggle of the *Azad Hind Fauj*. The thirsty Mother of Liberation of the down-trodden seemed now to be propitiated with the flow of blood of every strain mingled in a common stream. In a single day or in a single stray encounter, more soldiers sacrificed their lives than the total, both of the non-violent and violent schools, had offered since the most gigantic effort in 1857.

Even a cursory glance over the list of Martyrs would reveal that no body had any clear idea of men dying in the Western Front of the War in such a large number. Honourable men committed suicide at the news of surrender of the Japanese and I.N.A. arms to the enemies. Besides the names of a few hanged by the British-Indian Government already recorded (p. 577) other names are now available who were executed in the Delhi, Multan, Sialkot and other jails. It is needless to go into more details, a sympathetic scanning of the list is earnestly commended.

Through the generous help of S. M. Ishaque (Col.), Shah Nawaz Khan (Maj.-General, I.N.A.), and Dr. Jagdev Singh (Col.) with Shri Nanak Chand (I.N.A.) of the I.N.A. Enquiry and Relief Committee, Delhi, it has been possible to publish the following list (part of a bigger one) in this volume, enabling it to put rightful claim on its title, "THE ROLL OF HONOUR".