

# FUR COVERED CAPS AND ICE CRACKERS FOR RUSSIAN A.E.F.

**Yanks on Murman Coast  
Get Ready for Real Old  
Time Winter**

**EVEN HAVE SPECIAL HORSES**

**Arctic Tents, Stoves and Sleeping  
Bags Also Being Provided  
by Quartermaster**

Up on the Murman coast of Russia, on the rim of the Arctic Circle, where nature has provided all the stage settings of the North Pole, including the midnight sun, a frozen ocean and lots of snow and bears, thousands of American soldiers are getting ready to spend the winter after the fashion of Arctic explorers.

They are carrying ice chisels in addition to entrenching spades, and they are wearing moccasins and snow goggles, fur covered white caps—white to camouflage with the snow covered steppes—sheepskin lined coats and leather jerkins with big corded loops and toggles down the front, and Shackleton boots.

Even their horses are special cold weather horses—tough little shaggy-coated animals brought out of Siberia. They also are using 88 toboggans and many sledges and skis bought in Norway, and hundreds of pairs of snowshoes.

### **Q.M.C., A.E.F., Did It**

The Q.M.C., A.E.F., has spent several interesting months equipping the American expedition which is operating on the Murman Coast in conjunction with British and French expeditions. So far, aside from occasional brushes with Bolshevik forces, the Murman coast expedition has been principally occupied in keeping open the railway lines that lead to the Murman Coast ports.

The Americans have special Arctic tents and stoves, and large quantities of a long grass that grows on the steppes were purchased for bedding purposes. Hundreds of sleeping bags have also been provided. Many of the materials were bought in England, although the Scandinavian countries were drawn upon also.

Special woolen coats and breeches and underwear, long mufflers, worsted socks and long stockings, gloves and gauntlets are other things which are being issued to the doughboy in Russia. Alaskan Yanks are said to be right at home in their new surroundings, although they complain sometimes of the heat.

## Arctic Quartermaster

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### Honolulu Jazz in Russia

North Russia being peculiarly adapted to twilight concerts, the American expedition has its own band, and Honolulu jazz music suggestive of palm trees and volcanoes is said to be popular with the boys who are using ice blocks to make dugouts.

An international ration has been agreed upon, so that British, French and American troops eat the same things. While not a true Esquimo diet, the food includes much fat, and instead of having fresh pork from company piggeries, for variety the American soldiers may have fresh polar bear, providing bears up that way are indiscreet.

The favorite joke at company messes, however, is the mastodon—the prehistoric ancestor of the elephant, whose frozen carcasses are said to abound in the ice fields underlying some of the country, presumably where ingenious mess sergeants find them.

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THE STARS AND STRIPES,  
May 23, 1919

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# MEDALS BY WIRE FOR YANKS UP IN RUSSIA

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## Snowbound Doughboys to Have a Reserve of Shiny Ones

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Medals by wire is the latest spring fashion in the A.E.F.

And the wires reach a long way, from Chaumont up to the snowbound circle of the A.E.F. family in northern Russia.

The medals themselves are on the way. A special courier left Chaumont this week with a package containing five Medals of Honor, ten Distinguished Service Medals and 50 Distinguished Service Crosses.

They are to constitute, as it were, a medal reserve for the North Russian E.F.

When the time comes for one or more of them to be awarded, it will only remain the little matter of the wires, and then the prompt decoration of the waiting breasts.

The Russian A.E.F. has only gotten four D.S.C.'s so far and evidently a goodly portion of the bunch of medals en route will have been earned before they arrive.

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