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**Title**                      **1939 Press Cuttings**  
**Prime Source**            **Harrogate Advertiser**

**SHELTER IN AIR RADS.**

**06.09.1939**

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**Advice to the Public**

The following hints and information are issued for the benefit of the public in regard to the best forms of protection against bombs in an air raid.

First of all, it should be borne in mind that the direct effects of a high explosive bomb, that is the effects which cause major destruction, extend over a very limited range, not further, in most cases than a 30 foot circle round the bomb.

20 It may be assumed that if, as many as 50 bombs of the largest size fell in a square mile, any individual within that square mile would have something like a hundred-to-one chance of escaping what may be called the "direct hit effects." It is the secondary effects that is, splinters (including splinters of shells from anti-aircraft guns) blast and the fall of debris, which are liable to cause by far the greatest number of casualties in an air raid, and the individual can do a great deal to protect himself against such effects.

30 Anyone who has an Anderson shelter, properly earthed over is virtually secure from anything except a direct hit, or its equivalent. Therefore, anyone who has a shelter not yet erected should see to its erection at once. Those who have no garden shelters can obtain a considerable degree of protection buy digging a trench in the garden, with 18 inches of overhead earth cover.

It should be remembered that the ordinary dwelling house offers a good deal of protection. The side walls, or one or two floors overhead, will stop most splinters. Remember that well-constructed buildings are not easily brought down unless a big bomb falls very close indeed. People should not be upset by pictures of what happened to the poorly-built houses in Spain.

### **Shelter in the House**

10 The best place inside the house is the basement, of if there is no basement, the ground floor. Choose a passage or a room with a small window for the place of refuge, especially if it looks out on a narrow passage. Small or narrow rooms are better than large ones. If it is necessary to choose a room, choose a position where splinters coming through the window will not hit anybody. On no account look out of the window during an air raid. The sticking of stout paper, or adhesive tape criss-cross on the glass or windows will greatly reduce the danger from flying splinters of broken glass. Windows are best left open if there has been no gas warning.

### **Shelter out of Doors**

20 Anyone who is out of doors should follow any signs leading to public basements or trenches. Otherwise seek shelter in any substantial building. Remember, again, that any such building offers good protection against anything but a virtual hit. A narrow passage between buildings, an area, or a stout archway will give protection. Do not in any event remain standing or running about in the stre

## **KNARESBOROUGH PETTY SESSIONS COLUMN**

**9 December 1939**

### **“Disrespect” to Court**

30 William Ward and William D. Husband, two soldiers, failed to appear on adjourned summonses for being drunk and disorderly at Boroughbridge.

P.C. Hartley said he had seen the men's adjutant, who admitted having seen the summonses, but said that the men had already been dealt with by the military authorities.

Supt. Cockroft: The military authorities have no jurisdiction in this matter, and I suggest that it is highly irregular and disrespectful to the Bench for them to adopt such an attitude.

The Chairman: I quite agree. I think they should be ordered to come here and explain.

The Deputy Clerk was directed to communicate with the Commanding Officer.

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### **The Home Front by 'Koko'**

**30 September 1939**

War unleashes strange passions but I hope our traditional English kindness will not be perverted and that we shall never meet frightfulness with frightfulness. I am moved to write this because I have just heard of a scheme to punish the Germans. When German prisoners arrive here and are placed in camps, a number of small town dramatic societies are planning to give them shows – preferably musical ones. The Germans will be compelled to sit them out as armed guards will be placed at strategic points to prevent any desertions during the performances. This adventure in sadism will, it is hoped, be nipped in the bud by the proper authorities. I am not mealy mouthed and I do not think this war should be fought in kid gloves, but even Germany can be made to suffer too much.

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