



VJ DAY 75

Children's Activity Pack



Charity No. 1043992



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The Second World War ended in 1945, which was 75 years ago. So, this year people across the country are taking part in activities to remember those who served in the Second World War.

Two of the most important anniversaries are VE Day and VJ Day. On each of these days, different countries surrendered and some of the fighting stopped. VE Day and VJ Day led to the end of the Second World War so are very important anniversaries.

VE Day

VE Day stands for Victory in Europe Day. This took place on 8 May 1945, the day after Germany surrendered, and was the end of the war in Europe. You may have marked this day with your family in May this year.

VJ Day

VJ Day stands for Victory over Japan Day. This took place on 15 August 1945. Japan's surrender led to the end of the fighting in the war. This August the whole country will be taking part in activities to remember VJ Day and the end of the Second World War.

Why not try some of these activities and discover more about VJ Day?

The Second World War

The Second World War took place between 1939 and 1945 and involved countries across the world.

Britain had many friends, or allies, in the war including the United States of America, Russia and Commonwealth countries such as India and Nigeria. These countries helped each other to defeat their enemies including Germany, Italy and Japan.

The fighting against Germany and Italy mainly took place in Europe and North Africa. This came to an end on 8 May 1945 when Germany surrendered. Italy had already surrendered.

To discover more about the people who fought against Germany and Italy, download our VE Day activity packs from: thenma.org.uk.

The conflict against Japan took place across Asia and the Pacific Ocean. The battles were extremely dangerous and the people who fought against Japan had to be very brave. They won some big battles and on 15 August 1945 Japan surrendered.

Fighting Japan: The Fourteenth Army

One of the biggest armies in the war was the Fourteenth Army. This Army included people from Britain, East Africa, West Africa, pre-partition India and other Commonwealth and Allied nations. The people in the Fourteenth Army stood side by side in the war. Although it won some of the most difficult battles in the Second World War, many people do not remember the Fourteenth Army, giving it the nickname 'The Forgotten Army'.

Over 40 Languages

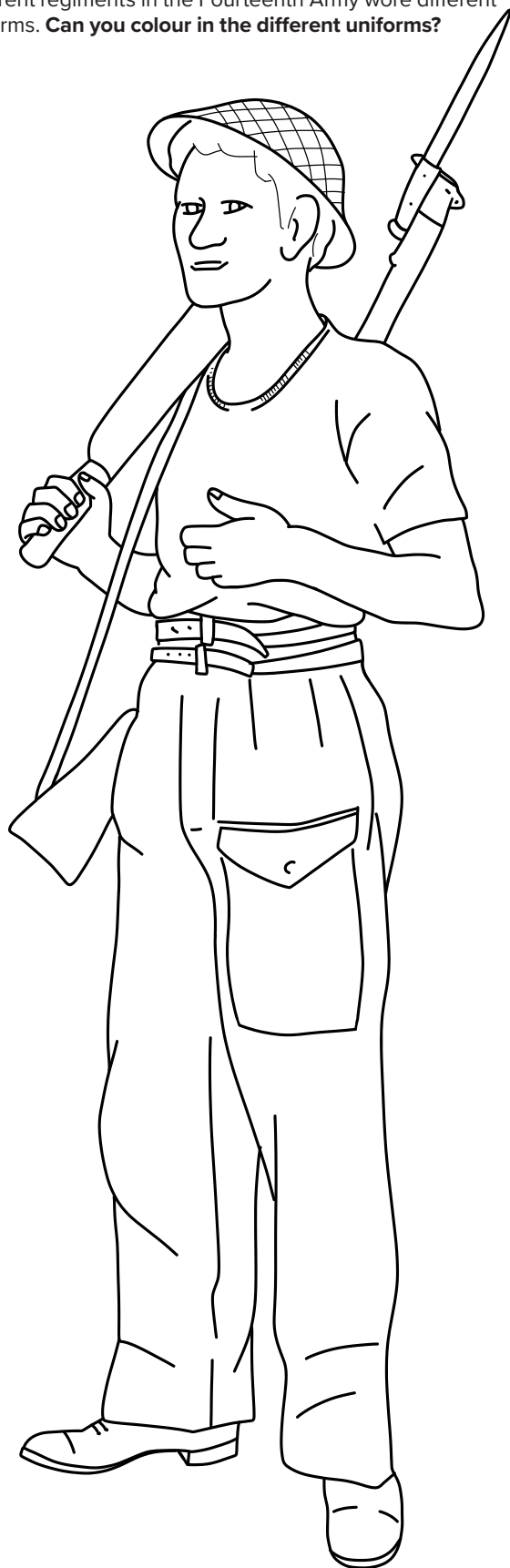
People in the Fourteenth Army came from many different countries and over 40 different languages were spoken.

Can you learn these words and phrases in some of the different languages spoken in the Fourteenth Army?

	Hello	My name is...	Thank you / thanks
Nepali Formally known as Gurkhali	Namaste	Mero naam [your name] ho	Dhanyebaad
Urdu	Assalam O Alaikum	Mera Naam Hai...	Shukria

Uniforms

Different regiments in the Fourteenth Army wore different uniforms. **Can you colour in the different uniforms?**



5th Indian Infantry Division



36th Infantry Division (British)

Animals and Insignia

Each regiment had an insignia on their uniform. Some of these symbols were animals that lived in the country or continent where the regiment was from.

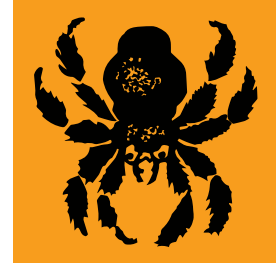
What animal did these regiments use as their insignia?



26th Indian Infantry Division



11th East Africa Division



81st West Africa Division

Design an insignia for yourself. Include an animal and say why you chose it.

A large, empty rectangular box with a black border, intended for drawing a personal insignia.

Visualising History: Remembering the Forgotten Army

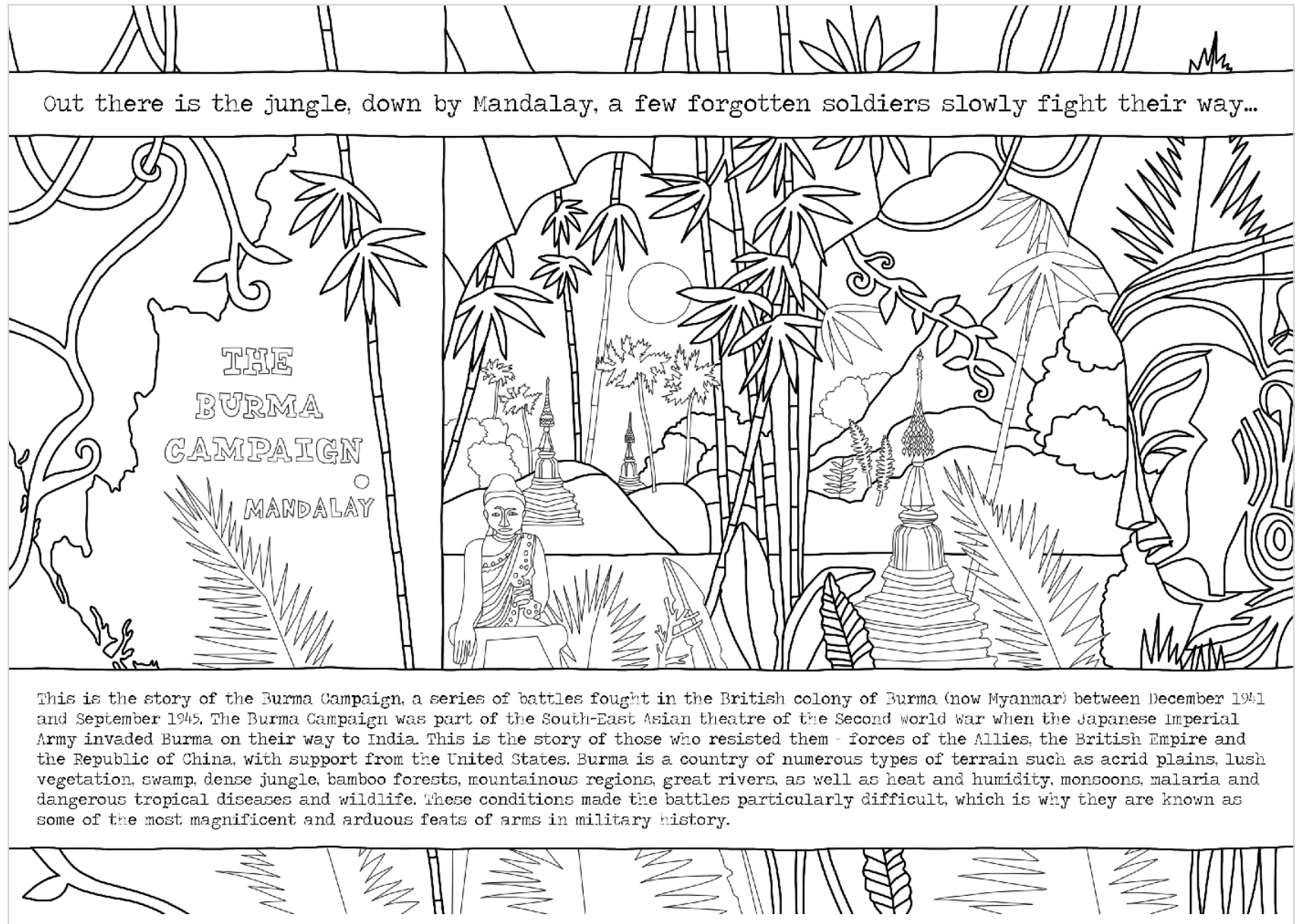
Visualising History: Remembering the Forgotten Army is a new exhibition that tells the story of the Fourteenth Army.

In the exhibition the artist, called Kremena Dimitrova, uses illustrations to create characters and to tell stories.

Visit the exhibition at thenma.org.uk from 8 August to see the exhibition follow the story.

Here's one of the drawings for you to colour in.

On the next page, you can make your own cartoon strip based on a story.



Rajindar's Story

Kremena Dimitrova uses drawings to tell a story about the Fourteenth Army.
Rajindar Singh Dhatt served in the Fourteenth Army.

Can you tell his story by drawing a picture to match the captions?

Rajindar Singh Dhatt lived in pre-partition India. He joined the army when he was a teenager.

In the Second World War, he served in the Fourteenth Army alongside people from around the world, including Britain.

He fought against the Imperial Japanese Army, and won some big battles.

After many years of fighting, on 15 August 1945 Japan surrendered and the Second World War came to an end.

Many years after the war, in 1963, Rajindar moved to Britain.

He made many new friends in his new country where he still lives.

Outdoor Games from Commonwealth Countries

Children and families all over the world like to play different games. Here are a couple of games that children enjoy playing in countries linked to the Fourteenth Army.



Why not have a go at playing them with your friends and family?

Ampe



Region
Ghana, and is also played in neighbouring countries.



Number of players
2+



Equipment
None

How to play

1. One player is chosen to be the leader. This could be the youngest player.
2. The rest of the players stand spaced out in a semi-circle.
3. The leader turns to a person at one end of the semi-circle.
4. Both players clap their hands. After that they jump twice. On the second jump they thrust one foot forward.
5. If both players put the same foot forward, the leader is out and the player takes the leader's place. If they put different feet forward then the player is out. The leader remains and challenges the next player.
6. The winner is the last person left in.
7. If there are just 2 players, they keep score till the first person reaches the number they decided on before the game. For example, the winner would be the first to 10.

Kanche



Region
India



Number of players
2+



Equipment
Marbles

How to play

1. Mark out a small circle on the ground, the circle should be slightly larger than a dinner plate. This can be done using chalk, tape, or any other way you can think of.
2. Take a handful of marbles (about 10) and place them randomly in the circle.
3. Each player has a marble and they take it in turns to flick their marble at the marbles in the circle.
4. If a player manages to knock a marble out of the circle, they get to keep it.
5. This continues until there are no marbles left in the circle.
6. The player with the most marbles at the end of the game wins.

