



Bring 'Em Down Alive!

Three Lions Photos



An Alpine rescue squad assembles equipment for ascent to "injured" climber in practice drill.



The rescuers, ordinarily guides, drill during bad weather conditions to toughen themselves.



The "injured" mountaineer is really a guide, too, who receives first aid at "accident" scene high in Alps.



Now the ticklish part—a descent down precipitous slopes with victim helpless in sack-like stretcher.



The "survivor" rides a sled to guide house and safety.

TEN ITALIAN mountain climbers, roped together, tumbled 2,000 feet from Piz Palu in the Swiss Alps this Summer. Although there was little hope of survivors, an Alpine rescue team started up the treacherous paths. Their perilous journey was rewarded: an injured man, cushioned by an envelope of snow, had survived one of the worst climbing disasters in years. The survivor joined a long list of climbers who owe their lives to such Alpinists, men always ready to leave their regular jobs as expert guides to aid distressed mountain parties.

The teams stage regular training exercises during the worst Winter weather to make certain every man knows his job in a time of crisis. Several members of the squad act as stranded climbers, injured in an accident about halfway up a precipitous slope. The remaining members of the squad climb to the "accident" as rapidly as possible, administer first aid, and carry the "survivors" down some of the steepest slopes in the Alps. All phases of the "rescue" are carried out under the worst possible conditions to toughen climbers for the real thing.