

*Ledo, Assam*

11-5-44. River trail APO 689. Picture 3-11-5-44 of old Hindu character. (for picture 4-11-5-44) see page 174) 5-11-5-44 Hindu male with turban. Picture 7-11-5-44 of a dumb Hindu boy and Muslim girl. This young lady is approx six years of age. During our usual conversation they were happy and always laughing but as soon as they were posed for a picture the joyful expression passed from their faces. It is most difficult to record the true character of these people thru their faces. The river is a most delightful one giving that feeling of serenity and calmness. It is bordered by a bench of about 20 feet high. A Hindu man is taking a bath in the river below, a very common site with both the men and women of this area. In both cases they bath with only a cloth from the waist down, a cloth which is never removed except during the momentary change from the dirty one to the clean dry one. They complete the routine by washing the dirty cloth. From the commonness of the site would be led to believe that these people take a bath daily and during each day more frequently in the morning. This river water is used for bathing, washing, drinking and personal toilet and it is therefore not surprising that some of the water carried diseases are so common and epidemic in extent, however, the water volume is so great that what little contamination they may introduce is too completely diffused to effect the next party below.

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8-11-5-44 Picture of tent mates APO 689. From left to right: Virgil Braughton, William Ewing, Bernard Kaplan and James Broz. Lee Johnson not represented in picture.