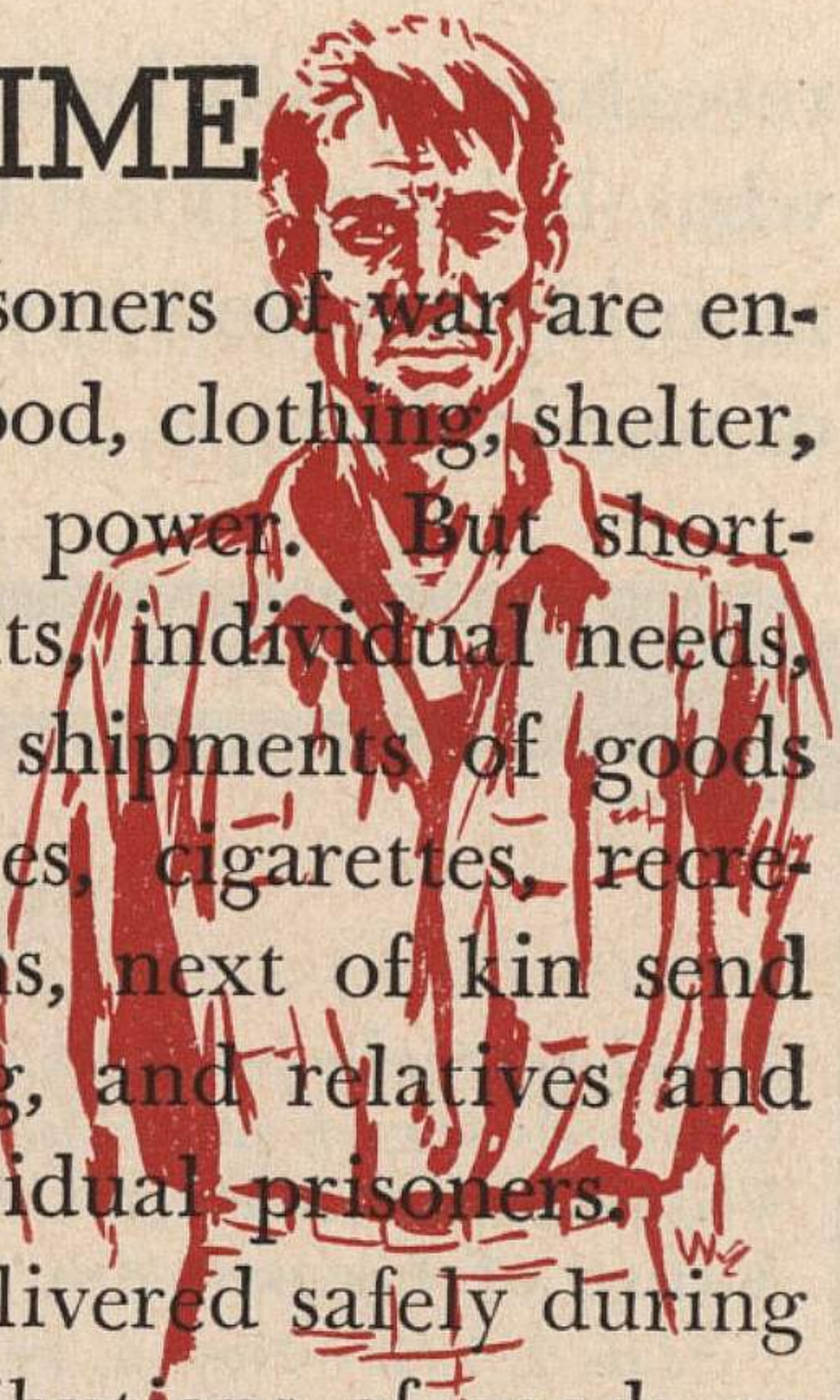


MEN WHO MARK TIME

THANKS to treaties, American prisoners of war are entitled to fair treatment, essential food, clothing, shelter, and medical care from the detaining power. But shortages, differences in national food habits, individual needs, and other conditions require special shipments of goods from home: foods, clothing, medicines, cigarettes, recreational equipment. Under regulations, next of kin send favorite foods and articles of clothing, and relatives and friends may have books sent to individual prisoners.



Getting these things together and delivered safely during the past twelve months utilized contributions of goods or services by many branches of the United States government, by individuals, by organizations, and by the American Red Cross and the International Red Cross Committee.

During this period Red Cross packing centers packed millions of Red Cross standard food packages, the contents of which were furnished and paid for principally by the United States and United Nations governments for whose prisoners of war they were destined. All were consigned to the International Red Cross Committee at Geneva for distribution to American prisoners and internees in enemy camps, and for other United Nations prisoners of war. One food package per week was allotted to each American prisoner of war.

With other army goods, medicines, and personal packages, they were shipped to Europe by the American Red Cross in neutral vessels to Lisbon or Marseille, and on to Geneva by rail, or to the Far East by diplomatic exchange ships and on Russian vessels to Vladivostok for transshipment as arranged between the American and Japanese governments.

Safe arrival of packages, and the maintenance of suitable prison conditions, pledged by international treaties, were checked by delegates of the neutral International Red Cross Committee.

A bulletin published by the American Red Cross was mailed monthly to next of kin of prisoners of war and internees. It brought a measure of relief from anxiety by