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TITLE: SINGAPORE—THUMBS UP, etc., etc.

**(MARCHING AUSSIERS)**

Let me tell you first, this Singapore fortress the British have is an Australian New Zealand suburb today. Strapping big men with everything our own boys from the Far Western ranges have—excepting the accent. (Time in Gordon Bennett). These are war times and of course it is not cricket—and also not safe, to quote numbers.

**(BIG TRANSPORT)**

My fellow Americans back home, however, are entitled to form their own opinions as to the capacity of the little ferry boat shown therewith. Her name is no longer painted on her huge sides and she is jammed from stem to stern with non-paying passengers, all dressed alike. They are Empire fighting men heading for a certain spot where they can do a lot of good for King and country. Incidentally, I had the privilege of meeting a few of the very charming nurses they had with their medical staff.. And these girls from Down Under are very, very nice, indeed!

**(CLIPPER)**

Not a one of us in Singapore even in the news services, knew until an hour before hand that one of our own Yankee Clippers was coming into Singapore harbor. There's a tremendous kick in seeing your own fellow countrymen in a far away spot such as this—especially when only a few days before they had had their dinner in San Francisco. (Time for Brooks-Popham, etc.) The Clippers are slated for a vitally important part in communications with America and the rest of the world, etc., etc.

**(GROUP OF JOURNALISTS WITH SIR SHENTON THOMAS)**

The big news services in New York and Chicago have been flooding star men down this way. The British have been most ~~xxxxxxxx~~ cordial to us all within the necessities of military restrictions.

**(GRAVINE DOCK)**

It was my special and unexpected privilege to photograph the huge floating dock the British have here for freight and mercantile repair work. There's nothing like it in all the rest of the Far East. The mightiest of the British battle wagons could be patched up in ~~xxxxxx~~ this dock if need arose—that is one reason Singapore is so important.

**(REPAIR DOCKS)**

And I have never seen better facilities for ship maintenance than this in operation here in the key to the Orient. No matter how small the job, no matter how large, it can be done here quickly and thoroughly, which is an exceedingly vital fact for Americans as well as British to remember, come what may in the future.

**(MACHINE SHOPS AND FOUNDRY)**

Another amazing fact the British permitted me to describe is this: There is now an abundant reservoir of skilled native labor right here on the job—Malays, Eurasians, and still others of the polyglot Singapore native population.

**(COAST DEFENSE AND A.S. GUNS)**

The whole area in and about Singapore reminds me of our own Canal Zone. It is one of the most heavily fortified spots on the earth's surface. The armament is extremely modern—the last word in automatics. (Time for gun firing in the clear).

**(HARRISON AT DOCK)**

The biggest news of course in Singapore today is American aid. The pictures I am sending herewith have historical significance because they record the first of the flood of war supplies coming from the States in American bottoms. Whole ship loads of tractors, and of all sorts of motor transports; all sorts of barbed wire and other things as well.

**(LUDINGTON)**

The U.S. Army freight transport Ludington is here too discharging Lend-Lease supplies. And nearby is another ship whose identity need not be disclosed, discharging artillery.

**(PLANES)**

I confess that the big crates marked "Buffalo, New York" made me feel a bit homesick. I know a lot of the boys making these very planes and there they are on the other side of the world going into wartime use.

**(TAKING AWAY GUNS)**

The big guns roll away from the decks because more ships are due and ~~more~~ more guns, more planes for Singapore is the key to democratic freedom in the Far East.... Thumbs up, Singapore!