

AIR & SEA BATTLES MAKE WAR IN PACIFIC

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Meanwhile, other forces are striking at New Britain! Two years in Japanese hands, the island is heavily fortified. From Cape Gloucester on one side and Bougainville on the other, allied forces drive against the Jap bases at Rabaul.

On shipboard, Major General Rupertus, commanding United States Marines, sees giant Liberator bombers launch the softening-up attack.

Now, warships circle into firing position and begin a terrific bombardment of enemy positions ashore.

The hour of invasion. Marines go into action. Veterans of this island warfare, they swarm into landing boats for the swift assault upon the shoreline. The invasion fleet roars in behind death-dealing fire power.

From giant tank-carrying ships, heavy equipment - artillery - tanks - roll ashore to support the infantry.

Tanks lead the way. Squads of riflemen in close formation follow in their tracks. This is how the Marines advanced inland from their beach head to their Cape Gloucester strip.

Mortars lay down a continuous barrage.

The enemy was apparently taken by surprise. Japs, in dugouts and trenches, are destroyed. Their planes never left the ground.

Heavy rains and seemingly impassable jungle streams fail to stop the Americans as they push on towards Rabaul.

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Pressing steadily forward, men and machines make their way through mud and mire. These are some of the barriers on the road to Tokyo. With grim determinations, Australians and Americans are meeting the challenge.

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