

R.A.F. FILM PRODUCTION UNIT.

DAILY PROGRESS REPORT.

PR1

Date.....11.3.44.....

PRODUCTION No. 85 Detachment No. 3

Camera Days to date 4 Scheduled Camera Days.....

Time called..... Time started..... Time finished.....

Locations Camilla, Bham, Okhlong, Kyauktan
To-day To date Mute Sound

Script scenes Neg. footage to-day

Retakes..... Net footage to date 1185
waste

Extra scenes ~~Today's scenes~~ 215

Total scenes to be shot To-day's short ends

Stills to-day Stills to date.....

Hours aerial shooting Pilot TBX 11950

Camera Plane type..... No..... Origin.....

REMARKS :

Production depicts the supply dropping and evacuation of wounded during famous battle of the Ngakydedauk Pass on the Arakan front.

Adjutant.....

Scene No.	Description	Take	Footage
1.	Supply aircraft returns from supply dropping mission. Aircraft taxis to dispersal. -do-		10 5 10
2.	Loading supplies on to aircraft. L.S. C.U. -do- C.U. -do- C.U. -do- C.U. -do- (taken from inside supply truck) -do- -do-		10 5 5 5 7 7 5
3.	L.S. Supplies of ammunition being packed at Air Supply Company stores, C.U. -do- (75 shells) C.U. -do- C.U. -do- (2" mortars) C.U. -do- L.S. Parachutes being packed by men of Air Supply Company.		20 12 6 15 12 15
4.	M.S. Parachute packing. -do- -do- -do-		10 10 10 8
5.	M.S. Exxi Packing supplies of rations for dropping to forward troops. C.U. -do- M.S. -do- C.U. -do-		12 10 5 3
		Total printed	Mute Sound

Scene No.	Description	Takes		Footage
		Total Printed	Mute Sound	
6.	L.S. General view Air Supply Company base L.S. Loading lorry with containers and parachutes. Insert of Air Supply badge			15 20 5
7.	General Slim, commander of 14th Army congratulates men of Air Supply Company for part they played in winning battle. L.S. C.U. -do- L.S. -do-			10 15 10
8.	M.S. Jeep being loaded into one of transport planes. -do- 1-do- -do- Insert of mascot on nose of same plane. L.S. of crews being briefed for supply dropping mission. C.U. -do- C.U. Captain of one of aircraft. C.U. One of pilots. C.U. Two of observers.			12 15 5 5 15 10 5 5 5
9.	L.S. Supply planes taking off on one of their operations. -do- -do- -do-			15 65
10.	Casualties being assisted out of Stinson aircraft after being evacuated from front line by air. Casualties being loaded on to transport plane by West African troops pre-arranging prior to being flown to military hospital. -do- -do- -do-			10 25 25 10 15 25
11.	Transport plane taxis off. Stinson aircraft flying over Arakan jungle to bring seriously wounded casualties from Arakan battlefield. -do- -do- -do- Medical orderly inspects patients before they are evacuated by Air. These patients have been brought by stretcher from the front line three quarters of mile away. Stretcher bearers carry patient to aircraft Patient loaded on to aircraft. -do- -do- Aircraft taxis off for take off			15 10 10 15 10 15 10 10 10 10
12.	Stretcher case being loaded on to aircraft. Patient is securely fastened in. -do-			10 10 10
13.	Supply planes swoop over our forward troops and essential supplies are dropped with the aid of multicoloured parachutes. -do-			65 95
1a.	L.S. Men waiting to push supplies out of a/c M.S. Men push the supplies out through door.			10 10

Scene No.	Description	Takes	Footage
		Mute Sound	
1a (Cont)	Total Printed		n.g.
	Parachutes opening as they fall out of a/c.		50
	Parachutes floating down to earth.		10
	Plane dropping parachutes.		10
	Landing strip where small aircraft land to evacuate casualties from frontline.		15
	Route through jungle infested valley as seen by pilot.		5
	C.U. Pilot of aircraft.		10
	C.U. Pilot panning to controls of aircraft.		5
	C.U. Controls.		5
	C.U. Pilot of a/c.		5
	Wireless operator gives signal for supplies to be dropped.		5
	Crew jump out of a/c on return to base		15
	C.U. Captain of a/c.		5
	C.U. Navigator.		5
	C.U. Wireless operator.		5
2a.	Parachutes floating to ground.		15
	-do-		20
	-do- showing parachutes on ground		25
	Aircraft dropping some of the supplies.		15
	-do-		10
3a.	L.S. Aircraft with crew.		10
	M.S. -do-		10
	C.U. Flight mechanic		5
	C.U. Instrument Repairer.		5
	C.U. Flight rigger.		5
	L.S. Bowser filling up one of aircraft		5
	-do-		5
	Mechanic attends to one of engines.		5

BACKGROUND DOPE.

Recently men of the 7th. Indian Division of the ~~IX~~ 14th. Army fighting on the Arakan front were cut off by Jap forces but managed to fight their way out killing or seriously wounding some 4,500 Japs. Practically all supplies for this battle had to be dropped by air. This production shows how this was carried out. These aircraft were flying day and night through the battle which lasted for twenty days and on no occasion were the fighting men lacking supplies. Other midget aircraft were used to evacuate seriously wounded men right from the battlefield and these were transferred at a forward air base to one of the supply aircraft on its return flight. ~~Over~~ casualties including Japanese prisoners were evacuated in this manner. These aircraft were unarmed and had to fly in some of the most difficult conditions imaginable. Only one aircraft was lost during the operations. ~~American crews assisted in the operations~~ ~~the~~ ~~later~~ ~~stages~~ but the R.A.F. bore the brunt of the task. Men of the Air Supply Company packed the parachutes and supply containers and supplies roped included rations of every nature, cigarettes, chocolate, ammunition, various items of equipment and even thirteen hundred bottles of beer. The midget Stinson aircraft, evacuating the wounded, had to fly under very difficult conditions and often had to land in the face of heavy enemy fire. They brought out wounded right under the Jap noses.

CAMERAMEN.

F/O. R.H. Thomas.
A.C. Clot, E.F.D.