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Paramount

BRITISH PICTORIAL PRODUCTIONS LTD.,

Story and Location. On the Road to Rome with the French.  
 Operator. Eric Barrow.  
 Date. May. 17th 1944.  
 Length. 300ft.

Box-12149.

Roll.1.

C.u. Warning Notice of mines and booby traps in Church at Carem.  
 C.u. Notice other deer.  
 C.u. showing interior of Church.  
 L.S. Church.  
 French troops operating O.P. over looking Mount Fammaera.  
 French troops dig in Lt. Howz's (Mountain equipment) overlooking Liri Valley, East of S. Giorgio.

Roll.2.

French troops use B.C. scope lining up Guns over looking Liri Valley  
 French troops interrogating German Prisoners.  
 French troops with prisoners overlooking Liri Valley.  
 C.u. types etc.,  
 German prisoners shake hands congratulating one another on being made prisoners.  
 L.S. Esperia ( shells falling on right of town)  
 French troops moving up to the front past U.S. tanks and crews.

Roll.3.

3 dud takes of french troops trample on captured.  
 Swastika by Half track.  
 Engineers and road men (French ) build bye pass on blown bridge.  
 French A.A. on Br.Bofor Gun protect Aussonia (Fammaera Mount) in back ground rising up into the mist fighting still in progress in heights.

Note. Have tried to repeat air coverage of entire front but weather too hazy. This will be seen in the l.s. of Liri Valley and the heights of Mount Fammaera..

D-2120

*Screened*      *Yes*  
*22/9/44*

BRITISH PICTORIAL PRODUCTIONS LTD.,

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Story and Location. - The Offensive Starts.  
Operator. - Eric Barrow.  
Date. - 13.14th May 1944.

*Box-12145*

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Rolls. 1. to 6. in that order.

Italian refugees stream from the tiny town of Castleforte, German stronghold captured by French troops of 5th Army during the second day's fighting of the offensive in Italy.

Two American soldiers stand at the outskirts of Castleforte to examine a German M.G. tank knocked out at edge of the town by 5th Army Arty.

French Poilus stand guard over German prisoners. They were left to "Defend the town at all cost" but were cut off by French forces before they could flee.

Effect of American Artillery is shown on the roofless shell racked Castleforte. French Tank Crews in U. S. tanks move up. L.S. Castleforte as seen from the outskirts.

Shell bursting to left of town. Fighting French move up along the dusty roads to take positions by their advanced units.

C.G. Young German aged 19 years soon fighting since he was 17 and has seen service in Denmark before coming to service on the Italian front some 3 months ago.

End of 1st days taking. End of roll 3.

French troops take up mines from roadside on the approaches to Castleforte.

Hard in the wake of the French foreadvance through "Castleforte" comes the long line of ammunition, food and other supplies go to forward echelons and frontline infantrymen. The pictures were made north of the Carigliano river, not far from the first important objective gained on the second days all out offensive.

American Crews and tanks support French forces on their first break-thro' of the famed Gustave Line. They are jockeying to move positions

/cont.

2.

Box-12145

after firing on German positions ahead. These were shot on the outskirts of Castleforte.

G.V.'s. Shell battered Castleforte scenes in the town with French troops moving through ~~the~~ with German prisoners.

Italian civilians that lived thru the assault.

Friendly Italian lights and gives a cigarette to slightly wounded Italian.

More scenes in Castleforte.

Scenes in the Church.

Scenes of more prisoners in the town.

Notes.

See press reports on above. for background.

Screened  
221544

ARMY FILM & PHOTO SECTION  
DOPE SHEET.

Cameraman: Sgt. Best.  
Story: "French Troops advance beyond Castelforte".  
Location: Castelforte.  
Length: 200 feet.  
Date: 15.5.44.

Box- 12146

A.724/1/1. The French troops in their rapid advance first of all took German strongpoint No.1, Castelforte. Although these pictures were taken within hours of the town's capture by the French, the devastated streets were almost deserted so fast were the French troops pushing on. Masses of transport, mules and mechanical, hurrying in the wake of the triumphant French.

yes

- L.S. Castelforte showing devastation.
- M.S. Devastation in the town.
- M.S. Knocked-out German tank in main street.
- C.U. German tank.
- M.S. French troops in the town.
- M.S. French officer inspecting knocked-out German tank.

M.S. The approach to Castelforte. French troops passing a second enemy tank on the way to the town.

L.S. Mules and mechanical transport, pushing on along the hot dusty roads.

- M.S. Mules and transport.
- M.S. 155 m.m. Howitzers moving up.
- M.S. Transport moving up.

Cameraman: Sgt. Courtney.  
Story: Various St. Angelo.  
Location: Area S. Angelo.  
Length: 200 feet.  
Date: 15.5.44.

Box- 12146

A.724/1/2. 75 m.m. Mountain guns moving up to front. General views of transport and supplies crossing River Gari with S. Angelo in background.

yes

Miscellaneous material around S. Angelo including:-  
S.P. (105 m.m.) in position by S. Angelo  
German wounded prisoner is carried to a Jeep for evacuation.

Cameraman: Sgt. Lupson.  
Story: Advance beyond River Gari.  
Location: S. of Cassino.  
Length: 200 feet.  
Date: 15.5.44.

Box- 12146

A.724/1/3. After a successful crossing of the River Gari our troops are pushing on. Large numbers of men and much armour is being brought across the river under cover of a smoke screen.

yes

L.S. At Battalion H.Q. just across the River, men of the Pioneer Platoon sweep and test for hidden mines. In the background is a shell-battered house and the heavy smoke screen covering the river crossing.

(cont)

M.S. One of the men mine-sweeping.

M.L.S. On the track leading up from the River bridge, men are on the march forward.

In the background is the smoke screen.

C.U. Same troops, back view, on the march, which is heavy going owing to the heat and dust.

M.S. German prisoners being brought in after being captured.

M.S. More prisoners passing by a dead mule on the left of the lane and an overturned Jeep on the other side.

M.S. At this same place, a scout car passes by the dead mule, while in the background some sappers are improving the road surface to take the large volume of traffic which is advancing.

L.S. Parked beside a track are many Sherman tanks and other vehicles waiting to move forward. In the foreground a Red Cross Bren-carrier passes. These tanks had recently supported the Infantry.

M.L.S. More Shermans on the move and shots shows tanks on a track crossing a field.

M.S. A closer shot of another tank.

M.L.S. Rear view of tanks on the move.

A tank negotiates a steep dip in the track. Behind, many other tanks follow in line.

Cameraman: Sgt. Day.

Story: Across the River Gari to St. Angelo.

Location: River Gari Area.

Length: 200 feet.

Date: 14.5.44.

Box - 12146

A.724/1/4. The first scenes on roll one were taken of infantry, tanks and soft skinned vehicles hurrying through the smoke screen and over the "Oxford" Bridge. All these can be easily identified.

The last shots on roll one depict the village of St. Angelo. Roll two contains more material on St. Angelo and some scenes of "London Bridge" which lies immediately behind the village.

yes

Cameraman: Sgt. Courtney

Story: "St. Angelo".

Location: Cassino area.

Length: 100 feet.

Date: 14.5.44.

Box - 12146

A.724/1/5. German prisoners taken during our advance across the River Gari, being deloused and being loaded onto trucks for evacuation.

yes

Cameraman: Sgt. Meyer.  
 Story: Aerial views of Rapido and Garigliano Rivers and Smoke Screened Battle Area.  
 Length: 100 feet.  
 Date: 15.5.44.

A.724/1/6. So as to protect bridges which we have recently built over the River Rapido, we keep a permanent smoke screen over the area. This smoke also covers the battle area.

*no*  
 Smoke screen on Rapido spreading over the battle area.  
 River Rapido flowing away from smoke screen.  
 River Garigliano - showing its widening course running down towards the sea.  
 More smoke, taken from well inside the plate.

Cameraman: Sgt. French.  
 Story: Cassino in the early stages of the Offensive.  
 Location: Cassino.  
 Length: 100 feet.  
 Date: 13.5.44.

*Box 12146*

A.724/2/1. This roll arrived from Cassino without a Dope Sheet. A dope sheet has been asked for but the position the Cameraman is in cannot be approached in daylight and therefore it will not be available for a day or more.

It is believed that it shows the same subjects covered by Sgt. Curtis on stills "Cassino in early stages of the Offensive" as follows:-

*yes*

On Friday the 12th May 1944, the Allied Forces of tanks and infantry started their attack on the Gustav Line. The men were given the job of holding Castle Hill and sections of the town of Cassino, whilst other units attacked the enemy's left and right flanks.

Waiting in the ruins of St. Angelo school for enemy tanks which may attempt to break out of Cassino is this 6 pounder Anti-tank gun which had to be stripped and rebuilt in the ruins by the crew.

Sniper in action, looks out for enemy trying to escape from Cassino.

Bombardment of 25 pounders on German machine gun nests in houses at the bottom of Castle Hill.

Smoke screen being laid on Monastery Hill to blind the German O.P. watching Allied attack on Cassino.

Heavy bombardment on the Monastery with H.E. and smoke shells.

Guards sitting in the ruins of St. Angelo Church prepare their weapons ready for future battle.