

ADVANCE AUSTRALIA!

The story of the Battle of New Guinea, once a Japanese stronghold in the South Pacific, is the Story of Men. Every once in a while there come from Newreel cameramen sharing the hardships and dangers of the Jungle campaign, pictures to tell the world of the epic bravery of these Australians advancing inch by inch up the hot, wet coastline from Milne Bay to Buna, last Lae and Salamaua to drive the enemy into the sea. These veterans of Jungle warfare live close to death in all its ugly forms. They carry their Tommy guns and sniper's rifles as though the weapons have grown on them like an extra arm. The threat of swift surprise fills every second in this hide-and-seek-land. The whine of ricocheting bullets, the rattle of machine gun fire and the fight is on. The Australians open the phase of the attack that took Salamaua.

Cautiously they advance, wiping out every hidden Japanese machine gun nest and outpost. In dug outs and foxholes, enemy dead mark the path of the Australians.

The wounded are brought back in primitive stretchers over the wild, jungle trail. Many lives are saved by the invaluable help given by native bearers. Back through the dense bush - over swollen streams along the painful miles they carry their burdens.

We will do well to turn our thoughts more often to that battlefield 13,000 miles away. Pain and hardship are no new things to the Australians fighting men. These sons of the Diggers of Gallipoli were born with iron in their blood. They are acquitting themselves with consummate bravery in the regions where physical endurance is stretched to unbelievable proportions.