

A.811/5 (contd.).

It is not possible to photograph the supply story because this all takes place during the night.  
 The forward positions are densely wooded and to make matters worse the men are now wearing camouflage smocks.  
 Activity is almost nil; patrols go out now and again to try and draw enemy fire but the Germans will not give their positions away.

Roll 1.

Extreme long shot from forward O.P. showing the village of Marciana which is on the lower slopes of the ridge holding the Gothic Line outposts.

Preparing dinner on top of a mountain.  
 ditto.

A Guards officer views the approaches to the Gothic Line (Pan shot).  
 A patrol returns, after being out trying to draw enemy fire.  
 The hamlet is La Vergine (MR 482917).  
 An Officer explains on the map where the patrol had been.

Camoraman: Sgt. Marshall  
 Story: Demolition before the Gothic Line.  
 Location: Docemano - Vicchio Road, Italy.  
 Length: 200 ft.  
 Date: 18.9.44.  
 Formation: Indian Division.

A.811/6

*Yes*

Before retreating into his stronghold of the famous Gothic Line, the Hun has carried out extensive demolitions to the roads in this area, particularly on the last lateral road - between Docemano and Vicchio (See M/R above).

The particular 'blow' shown in the following two rolls has been hampering our transport for the past five days - since the enemy left - and repair work has been in progress day and night to keep the road open. Now the R.E's have decided to blast away part of the rock face to widen the road.

It should be appreciated that in this latest position a large supply base must be established in this area to feed forward troops with rations and war material for the coming offensive over the mountains - for in front we have only the mountain tracks.

Roll 1.

Various shots showing road before blasting ... traffic passing through - cut in shots - charges being placed, etc.

Roll 2.

Tanks pass through before the blast. The actual blast. Shots of bulldozer clearing rubble. Cut in of plunger being pressed home.

ARMY FILM UNIT  
DOPE SHEET

Cameraman: Lt. Herbert.  
Story: Neutral San Marino  
Location: San Marino  
Length: 160 ft.  
Date: 19.9.44.

A.811/9

Resembling the castellated pinacles of fairy tales and suitable for a set in a Hollywood production of 'The Prisoner of Zenda', the neutral state of San Marino is now the scene of battle. The centre of this small Republic is dominated by a precipitous feature, crowned in three places by castle-like structures and upon the Northern end of which stands the Capital. It is for this town that troops of the Indian Division are today fighting. The borders of the State are clearly defined by huge white crosses marked on the ground and, of course, by a notice over the roads where they cross the border. If the civilians are to be believed, the enemy respected the neutrality of San Marino until 2 or 3 weeks ago, when, pressed by our advance through the Gothic Line, he commenced to use the roads and, without doubt, the wonderful O.P.s afforded by the heights. As the Germans had violated this neutral territory, the Allied Armies have no alternative but to do likewise in order to throw out the enemy and restore peace to neutral San Marino.

Roll 1.

- L.S. The dominating feature of San Marino
- M.S. Showing the three pinacles crowned with castle-like buildings.
- L.S. Another angle of the feature - in the foreground the village of Factano also in the State of San Marino.
- L.S. Showing two of the white crosses which mark the border of San Marino.
- M.S. One of the crosses.
- M.S. Jeeps approaching the border.
- M.S. Jeep crosses the border under the notice - pan up to notice.
- C.U. Notice board - 'REPUBBLICO DI SAN MARINO - NEUTRALE STATO'.
- L.S. SAN MARINO peaks with smoke of battle rising.

Roll 2.

Shots of H.E. and smoke shells falling on the lower slopes of the San Marino feature.

Cameraman: Sgt. French  
Story: Remains of German armour and strong point.  
Location: Trarivi (Adriatic sector).  
Length: 100 ft.  
Date: 18.9.44.

A.811/10

Remains of German armour and strong point in Gothic Line. In the small village of Trarivi, the enemy formed a terrific strong point supporting his infantry with three Mark VI tanks and one Mark VI but thanks to our dive bombers the advance of the 8th Army was only held up for a short time.

Roll 1.

- M.S. of German Mk VI tank with Mark IV knocked out on the cross road near village of Trarivi.
- M.C.U. of Mark IV on crossroads with damaged houses in the background.
- M.S. of Mark VI tank burnt out on the roadside in main part of village
- M.C.U. of remains of Mark VI tiger tank left behind a large house caused during the attack on tanks.
- M.S. of a British jeep which had apparently been captured by the Germans and being used by the, left behind hayrick in village of Trarivi.

OVER/...

A.811/10 (contd.).

Note the German markings on Jeep.  
L.S. of deserted and battered village of Trarivi.

Cameraman: Sgt. Frost.  
Story: Armour through Mulazzano  
Location: Mulazzano  
Length: 200 ft.  
Date: 19.9.44.

A.811/11

Roll 1.  
L.S. Bren Carriers negotiating the dried river bed of the Marano River.  
M.S. Various angles, carriers advancing.  
C.U. Various angles, carriers advancing.  
L.S. Bren Carriers proceeding up slope towards the wrecked village of Mulazzano.

Yes

Roll 2.  
L.S. Sherman tanks advancing uphill towards Mulazzano showing River Bed in the background.  
C.U. Sherman passing through the ruins Mulazzano - various angles.  
M.S. Tanks passing through Mulazzano showing ruined Church and buildings in the background.

Cameraman: Sgt. Deeming.  
Story: Firing a 155 mm. rifle.  
Location: Italy.  
Length: 200 ft.  
Date: 19.9.44.

A.811/12

In the town last road junction to the lateral road immediately in front of the Gothic Line, are situated 155 mm. guns (American made rifle), manned by British R.A.

No

Roll 1.  
M.S. Loading gun.  
M.S. Inside gun pit, showing 155 mm. gun firing.  
L.S. ditto.  
C.U. After firing, greasing barrel.  
M.S. Elevating of gun.

Roll 2.  
M.S. Loading the gun.  
C.U. Closing breech and attaching lanyard.  
C.U. Elevating of barrel and sight laying as gunner adjusts same.  
L.S. Showing gun position and elevating to extreme range.  
M.S. After firing, Pan over from deserted gun to gun crew, having a snack and resting.  
C.U. Gun in background, 2 gunners have a bottle of beer.

Cameraman: Sgt. Currey  
Story: Rimini falls to Greeks.  
Location: Rimini.  
Length: 200 ft.  
Date: 21.9.44.

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A.812/1

Greek Troops entered Rimini on the morning of 21st Sept. The town is badly battered and whole buildings have been demolished by our naval shelling. There are still snipers in the Northern part of the town and Greek soldiers are clearing up the town.

Roll 1.

Various shots of Rimini. The Porto Rimini Arch.

A Sherman tank bogged in the river bed.

Various shots showing the ruins of the town.

Roll 2.

Greek Infantry clearing the streets of Rimini

Machine gunners and riflemen of the Greeks mount guard on the street corner.

Clearing the houses and streets. The Greeks move forward slowly, cautiously towards the streets in search of the enemy snipers.

ARMY FILM UNIT  
DOPE SHEET

Cameraman: Sgt. Elvin  
Story: Deep penetration into Gothic Line.  
Location: Razzolo  
Length: 100 ft.  
Date: 21.9.44.

A.812/4

25 pdrs. of a Field Regt. R.A. lead a convoy of Bren Carriers, ammunition lorries, and miscellaneous 'soft' transport along arrow route. They moved forward as soon as the demolitions were repaired, past Razzolo (seen in background), over the narrow winding road to assist and supply the infantry who are in full cry after the enemy.

Yes

Roll 1.

Shots show the 25 pdrs. etc. moving up along arrow route as above.

Cameraman: Sgt. Marshall  
Story: Road to Marradi.  
Location: Valley Road to Marradi, Italy.  
Length: 90 ft.  
Date: 22.9.44.

A.812/5

The breakthrough the Gothic Line has been forging well ahead, especially since the fall of Rimini.

No

The following roll is an attempt to show the very difficult terrain from the air. It was impossible to come down to a very low altitude for fear of flying into our own shells, and consequently these shots are all very long.

Roll 1.

Various shots showing the winding valley road.  
2 shots of Marradi still occupied by the enemy.  
Last shots to show traffic on road - but many air pockets.

All material quite self-explanatory.

Cameraman: Sgt. Elvin  
Story: Troops consolidate.  
Location: Central Gothic Sector.  
Date: 22.9.44.  
Length: 100 ft.

A.812/6

As we push forward into the hills it becomes apparent that there are few places suitable for large groupings of men and material. Mostly, the hills follow each other without any plateau or flat ground that can be reached from Route. At Monte Di Cassiglia, the first flat ground on this route is reached and full use is made of it to accommodate the mule Pack Coys. attached to the troops who are doing vital work in supplying the infantry.

Yes

Roll 1.

L.S. General view of the Monte di Cassiglia area showing the Mule Coys - the only road through the hills at this point - and an impression of the difficult terrain.

OVER/...

A.812/6 (contd.).

Roll 1 (contd.)

L.S. Looking back over the ground gained so far, one can realize how arduous the task of assaulting the Gothic Line was; from this vantage point full observation can be obtained right down to Borgo San Lorenzo, and the hills backing them.

L.S. and M.L.S. 25 Pdrs. of the Field Regt. R.A. in action, with the village of Cassaglia behind.

Cameraman: Sgt. Barnes.  
 Story: Artificial Moonlight.  
 Location: Catorsani (Point 108).  
 Date: 22.9.44.  
 Length: 200 ft.

A.812/7

The general feeling towards searchlight batteries is that they; through no fault of their own, are classed as somewhat 'base' troops, due to the part they play as Anti-Aircraft defence around cities and towns; on the Adriatic Sector, 8th Army Front, these searchlights have assumed a new and very effective role, providing artificial moonlight for our attacking infantry - no longer do these searchlight batteries sweep the night skies for the remnants of the Luftwaffe but they all expose on a static bearing and deviation illuminating the area the infantry patrols are reconnoitring, and although their searchlight beam extends a distance of 7-8 miles for effective use they have to be stationed well up in the front line.

NO

These searchlights illuminate such a large area that sappers have been able to erect Bailey Bridges at night thus ensuring that we continue to advance at an even greater speed and it also helps to show up the roads where our supplies have to travel. The infantrymen who once derided the S/L Batteries with scorn and contempt have revised their opinion and declare that in their new role they are as largely responsible for their successful night operations as they themselves are.

Roll 1.

M.S. The No. 5 (Searchlight operator) stands silhouetted against the beam from the projector Mk. IV whilst checking volts, amps and carbons

M.S. L/Bdr. L.J. Nisbett of Glasgow gets to bed, in his slit trench complete with steel helmet and reads a newspaper (The People's Journal, Scottish) by the light of the beam.

C.U. of L/Bdr. L.J. Nisbett catching up on his 'home town news' the S/L beam providing the reading lamp at his slit trench cum bedside.

C.U. of the searchlight projector, looking three quarter on, as one of the S/L crews walks through the beam, his face turned away from the intense light.

M.S. from rear of projector as the Detachment Commander orders 'Douse - Change Carbons' the searchlight douses and the No. 5 (S/L Operator) changes carbons and two of the S/L crew cover up the face of the lamp and in a matter of a few seconds they are able to 'Expose' once more for another 30 minutes.

Roll 2.

The effect of these search lights and how useful they are to infantry on night reconnaissance.

M.S. A British infantryman silhouetted against the beams in the background peers cautiously around him.

OVER/...