

ROCKS OF EMPIRE

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Tracks: Persons In Hiding..Safari.	Lines: Staggs.
Bengal Lancers..If I Were King.	Voice: Do.

Through the frontier barriers, strictly guarded on both sides, Spaniards with business in Gibraltar pass, as in peacetime, - friendly unconcerned with the anti-British feeling which the Axis attempts to foster among Franco's people. As it has always been since Britain captured it in 1704 the Rock is a key naval stronghold. At this western gateway to the Mediterranean the Royal Navy stands guard.

Reinforcing the garrison, ashore, Britain determines that Gibraltar shall be unassailable by land, as well as sea. Already honeycombed with underground defences the Rock is being further strengthened. Frequent blasting quivers the smoke at the tunnel-mouths.

For the first time in cinema-history, newsreels have been allowed to film Gibraltar defences, old and new. Against the heaviest conceivable air-attacks the garrison could now safely switch underground, from point to point. Something like a complete town, with its own hospital, has been constructed in the tunnels made by the Canadian dry-rock miners.

(PAN DOWN) Realising that we face the most enterprising enemy we have ever fought, we have wisely done everything possible to make the Rock invulnerable to whatever assault might be launched against it.

(LV RUNNING) Troops could now rapidly stiffen resistance wherever the fight was hottest. In the Eastern Mediterranean Germany's drive towards the Suez Canal gathers intensity at Crete. Hence upon the defenders of Gibraltar rests responsibility unparalleled in the history of the Rock.

Long-range coastal guns command the Straits.

Sea power, unimpaired and reinforced by American help, will bring victory in the battle of the Atlantic.

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ROCKS OF EMPIRE (continued)

Seven thousand miles from Gibraltar an American clipper brought Lease-and-Lend supervisors to Singapore.

Manufactured, not natural defences, give value to Singapore. It's dry dock, never before filmed till Paramount cameraman Edward Genock obtained permission, easily accomodates the largest battleships in the world. Here are the only British graving-dock and repair docks of this size in the Far East. Britain now invites American men-of-war and merchant ships to use the unrivalled repair facilities of Singapore, just as U.S. Atlantic harbours are now open to the Royal Navy...Skilled Indian and Chinese mechanics man the marine repair shops.

Big shipments of military equipment, much of it from the States, are now coming in. Paramount filmed the first Lease-and-Lend cargoes to reach Singapore. Large calibre anti-aircraft guns and new coastal guns are now in position.

Latest loading mechanism puts shell and explosive charge in the breech as fast as the gun can be fired.

Every day American merchant ships dock with fresh cargoes. In this war the Pacific is only one degree less important than the Atlantic. So do the guns and planes flow from U.S. factories to the Gibraltar of the Far East.

Along with the tools of war come the men to use them - the sons of Anzac. The latest and largest reinforcements came on great liners, of which no complete views were allowed.

Nurses from Australia accompany the regiments, more evidence that the Dominion is whole-heartedly behind the Empire war effort. No country boasts finer soldiers than the Australians. Their G.O.C., General Gordon Bennet, took the salute. They come to make sure that here, as in the west, the Empire will beat off the foe.
