

THE SPEED OF SEABEES AIDS IN PALAU FIGHT; FROM RANKS ORGANIZED LABOR

WASHINGTON. — American occupation of islands in the Palau group was made less costly in lives and equipment by the speed with which Seabees—the Navy Construction Battalion recruited largely from the ranks of organized labor—who landed in support of Marines readied fighter and bomber strips, according to newly received information reported by the Navy.

The Navy construction men had the fighter strip in operation 72 hours after the first construction equipment came ashore, cutting completion time from a scheduled nine days to three. The bomber strip, for which 23 days were allotted, was completed in 16.

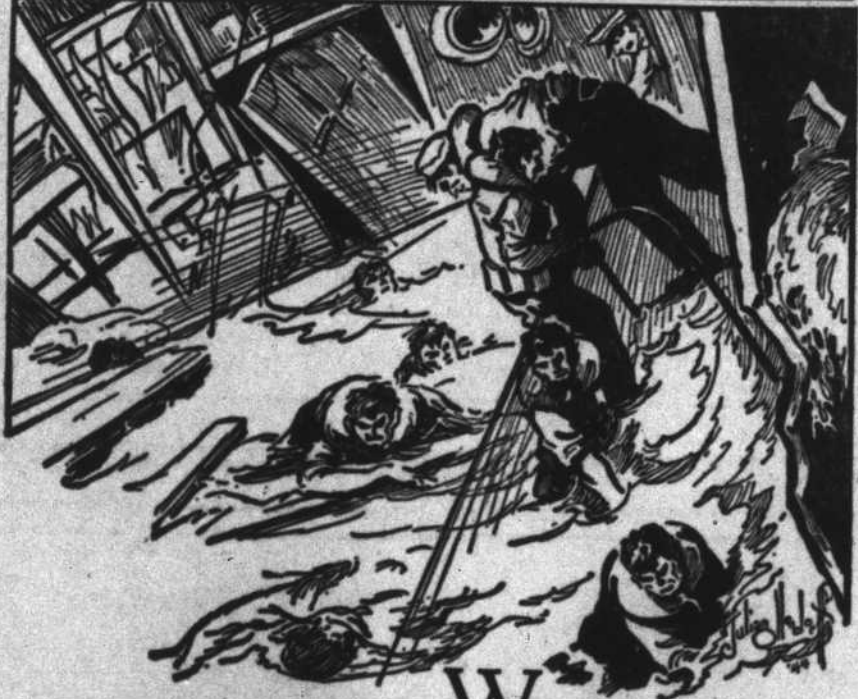
This construction pace was maintained under particularly hazardous conditions. Land mines covered the entire area of the abandoned Japanese fighter strip. The Seabees were untrained to handle these, but

to wait for regular bomb disposal crews would have meant a delay of days, so the construction men removed the explosives themselves. They cleared the field of shell fragments, disarmed duds, and disposed of booby traps. Tons of metal were carted away from the airfield.

During the first six days of operations, portions of the airfield were subjected to mortar fire, and throughout the construction of both fighter and bomber strips, snipers were active at night.

AMERICAN HEROES

by JULIAN OLLENDORFF



When a tanker ramm'd the SS Uruguay with 4700 troops aboard, Chief Officer Pardoe dropped into the pitch black flooded depths of his vessel and yanked trapped and injured men from certain death. Disregarding all danger, he directed the construction of a temporary bulkhead that enabled the ship to make port. Chief Officer Pardoe wears a Merchant Marine Distinguished Service Medal for his bravery. Buy War Bonds to back the men who ferry our troops to battlefronts. U. S. Treasury Department

OFF THE BEAM

From Baer Field Beacon, Fort Wayne, Ind.

She: "Would you like to see where I was operated on for appendicitis?"
GI: "No, I hate hospitals."

The man in the moon isn't half as interesting as the lady in the sun.

In our standard of liquid measure, two pints make one quart.

She: "Do you think you're Santa Claus?"
He: "No."

She: "Then leave my stockings alone."

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Just because you get her well-oiled, don't think she may not squeal.

He: "I like your form?"
She: "Must we go all over that again?"

A girl who slaps her sweetheart may not want to hurt his feelings as much as she wants to stop them.

She (gushingly): "Will you love me when I'm old?"

He: "Love you? I shall idolize you. I shall worship the ground under your little feet. I shall — say, you aren't going to look like your mother, are you?"

"Oh, dear," she exclaimed, "I've missed you so much!"
Then she raised the revolver and fired again.

"Did she blush when her shoulder strap broke?"
"I didn't see her face."

"You've been holding my hand for two hours, Genevieve; is it love or mistrust?"

Alimony is defined as the high cost of leaving.

GI (at concert): "She has quite a large repertoire, hasn't she?"
Gal: "Yes, and that dress makes it look worse."

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