

American Troops Battle On Forgotten Front

By A. I. GOLDBERG
WITH THE SIXTH ARMY GROUP, Southern France, March 14 (P)—U. S. troops, including fighting Americans of Japanese ancestry and some Puerto Rican units, are still fighting a holding action on the important "forgotten front" along the French-Italian border.

In the towering mountains of the maritime Alps, where pack mules must be used to carry supplies to outposts and maintain communications, Brig. Gen. Ralph C. Tobin commands a small army which contains a front where a German breakthrough might prove embarrassing to American and French armies in southern France.

There is no idea that Italian troops, leavened by German units, have any intention now of doing more than guard the escape route for German troops

left in northern Italy. But if the Ardennes breakthrough had succeeded, this Alps sector might have provided an area for a diversionary thrust valuable to the nazis.

Little more than an hour from the luxury of the French Riviera, Tobin's troops man mountain observation posts and engage in constant patrolling, capturing a few enemy soldiers to keep their information up to date and occasionally engaging in pitched battles. The Italians opposite them generally are content to fight off the patrols sent out from our lines.

The nisei—it's hard to consider them Japanese in the face of their own proud insistence they are Americans who have Japanese forbears — are small, stocky, wiry and tough, every inch fighters who have won un-

stinted praise from their superiors, from Gen. Tobin down. They suffered casualties in the Italian campaign and this front is proving restful after the rigors of Italy, but if there is a scrap in sight they spoil to get in it. One measure of the worth of these troops is the amount of trouble they give the MP's. The latter haven't the slightest difficulty with the nisei, because

the nisei don't quarrel, don't go AWOL, don't gripe. It's not a question of discipline only, officers say. Their good behavior and intense effort in battle are part of their way of saying: "We are fighting for America, we're loyal to her and this is our way of proving it."

Their officers' main difficulty is trying to keep them in hospi-

tal beds when they are wounded or ill. They want to get back into the scrap. No nisei patrol ever leaves a wounded man on the field. It is an unwritten law that a wounded man must be brought back. Their officers say no nisei ever has been known to shirk his duties and that they still are as eager for action as they were in their first battle.

Salvage Workers Clear Wreckage

NANIMO, B. C., March 14 (Canadian Press)—Salvage workers began the process of recovering winches, loading gear and lumber today from the harbor after a heavy gale and a confused order resulted in a 10,000-ton freighter from Portland,

Ore., crashing into the Western Fuel company ballast wharf yesterday. The vessel was undamaged but unofficially estimated placed loss on the wharf at \$50,000. The vessel cleared port and entered mid-stream but was caught in a heavy gale and turned around. Workmen on the wharf said the pilot called for full speed astern and

in some way the full speed signal was given. The freighter, however, was not stopped and its bow struck the wharf. More than a score of workmen on the dock were uninjured. The gun-secreting bulwarks on the bow of certain plants are

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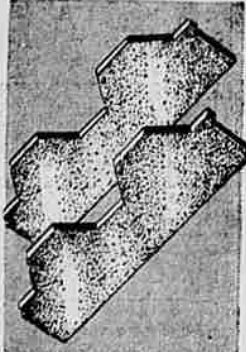
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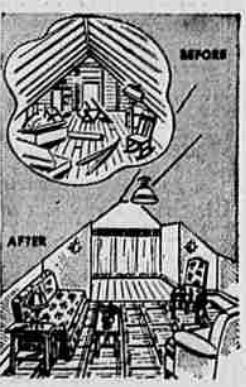
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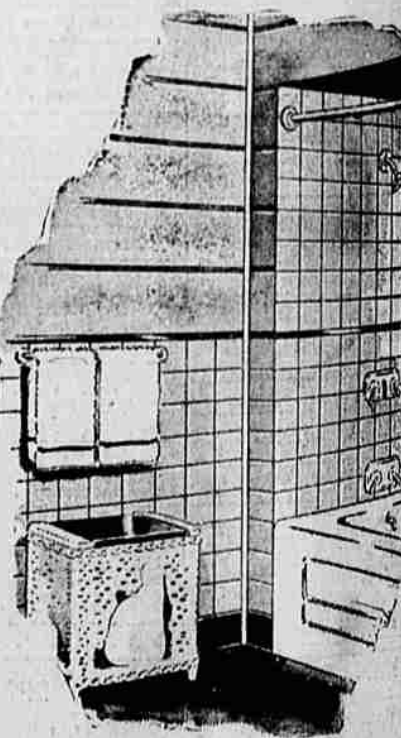
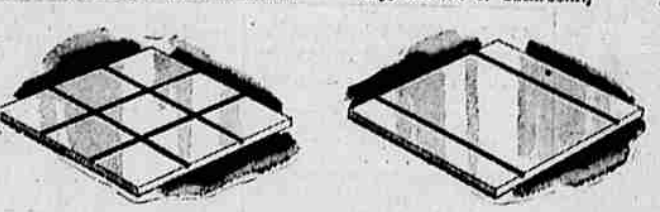
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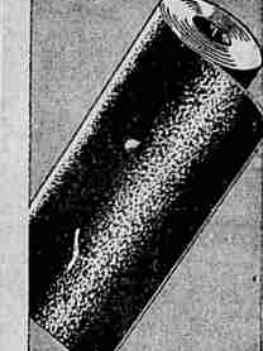
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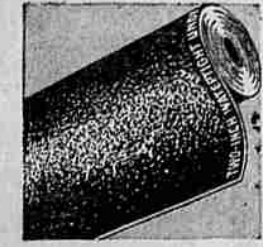
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