

BOB MILLER



On the day following the first landing made by United States Marines on Guadalcanal, United Press' Bob Miller accomplished something which probably no other war correspondent has ever done. Single-handed, he captured a Jap prisoner.

That was only one of the several "firsts" that Miller scored as he beat his way around from one major battle to another in the Southwest Pacific. He was the only reporter to be present for both the initial landing on Guadalcanal and the final collapse of Jap resistance there last February. And he was the only man to interview Captain Eddie Rickenbacker on the latter's rescue from the sea—and then had to watch the censors "kill" his exclusive story since Army policy would not permit its being released.

It was the day after he made the landing at Guadalcanal that Bob managed to nab the Jap prisoner. As he walked along he suddenly found he had bumped right into a Japanese soldier's tent. Inside sat the owner—with no weapons handy. So Bob made the capture and set a new record for other correspondents to admire.

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During the six weeks he spent on Guadalcanal, Miller's group was bombed almost daily during the entire time, and Jap ground forces were a constant threat. One time he changed his plans to go out with a patrol on a scouting mission at the last minute, and later learned that only three out of the 26 who started out on the patrol ever returned. On another occasion he stood talking with a Marine in the jungle on Lunga ridge, and as he turned to walk away a sniper shot and killed the Marine.

But finally the plague of the tropics, malaria, caught up with him and forced him back to the United States for a rest last March.