

ALGERIAN FRONT OF NATIONAL LIBERATION

December 25th/December 30th - January 3rd 1958

20528

The Algerian rebel army fights on for independence. Our pictures were taken at an F.L.N. army camp on the Tunisian - Algerian border. Once a French camp, the national flag flies as the morning inspection takes place of four Algerian companies. The place is virtually a "staging post" for young Algerians. Breakfast consists of coffee and bread, the consumption of which is watched by a few Algerian refugees. A political leader talks to the troops.

After a few days at this station on the Tunisian-Algerian border two sections (70 men) moved off to supply rebel troops in Algeria. This group is carrying arms and ammunition for 110 men, together with explosives. Their orders were to move to a spot near Constantine without attracting attention or counter-action. Movement for the Liberation Army is almost exclusively on foot, there is no transport. For this reason they must operate with light weapons. This group marched only at night, averaging 15 to 20 km. Civilian guides were used on the march, who know every French camp and patrol route. A soldier receives about 1000 fr. and a captain 4000 fr. F.L.N. Headquarters state that morale is high and they have troops and money to fight the French for ten years if necessary.

The troops move through the mountains with rest periods. Discomfort is their lot - rain, clothing sodden after crossing rivers.....

Before a night march troops descend from the hills to seek food from villagers and farmers, but many of the latter are poor and have little to offer - fare for the troops is thus often nothing better than bread and water. In some areas dwellings are bombed to the ground, the inhabitants leaving. But they seem to cooperate with the military, offering themselves as guides and in other useful capacities. Usually fires are forbidden, but the rigours of a night march in driving rain, cold and across swollen streams and rivers enforce a relaxing of the rule so that the men may dry clothing and warm themselves.

After four nights on the march the party were high in the mountains, and it was permissible to march for an extra two hours a day in daylight, detection in such remote areas being unlikely. On some hills are signs of past French - Algerian conflict. Seared and withered trees and undergrowth witness the use of napalm.

The troops are carrying long tubes filled with explosives. Certain sectors in the Tunisian-Algerian border areas are fenced with electrified barbed wire. The tubes are fitted end to end and slid under the electrified fence and detonated, thus making a passage for the troops. These fences are extremely difficult to cut in any other way.

Expeditions like this are commonplace in the National Liberation Army's fight against the French.

ENDS.

F.I.N. TROOPS TUNISIAN/ALGERIAN BORDER.

1. GV. Troops lined up in camp for Morning Parade.
2. SV. Ditto soldier with rifle in F.G.
3. SV. Troops and National Flag.
4. SV. Pan troops formed up.
5. SV. National Flag and soldiers.
6. LV. Pan soldiers lined up.
7. SV. Troops march off with Flag.
8. SV. Algerian refugees looking on.
9. CU. - ditto -
10. LV. Soldiers dispersing for breakfast.
11. SV. Rifles stacked.
12. SV. Coffee being given to troops.
13. CU. Coffee poured into cup pan soldier's face.
14. SV. Two soldiers eating bread and drinking coffee.
15. CU. Young soldier eating thick bread shyly.
16. LV. Political Leader talking to troops.
17. CU. - ditto -
18. SV. Algerian refugees look on.
19. CU. - ditto -
20. TV. Pan troops marching out of camp.
21. GV. Soldiers marching away thru woodland.
22. GV. Algerian scenic scene pan down to soldiers resting and eating after 2nd night's march.
23. SCU. Two soldiers eating.
24. CU. - ditto -
25. SV. Captain talking to group of soldiers.
26. CU. - ditto -
27. SCU. Small bonfire Pan up to soldier (Captain) talking.
28. SV. Troops listening Pan up to civilians also.
29. CU. Civilian types listening.
30. CU. - ditto -
31. SCU. Captain talking.
32. SCU. Soldiers listening.
33. SV. Breaking bread and passing to soldier.

34. SCU. Soldier eating bread and drinking from bucket.
35. CU. Soldier drinking from bucket.
36. SV. Troops about to move, fastening on ammo pouches.
37. CU. - ditto -
38. SV. Soldiers sling machine guns on shoulders and
move off past civilians.
39. SV. Early morning - guard on duty.
40. CU. - ditto -
41. SV. Troops still resting after night's march in
Wooded Area.
42. SCU. Soldier sleeping.
43. CU. Soldier resting.
44. CU. Machine gun hanging on tree.
45. LV. Two captains of sections meet after 3rd night of
march and decide to move higher and make fire.
46. CU. Captain giving directions.
47. SV. Captain gives order, soldier waves to others to
move on.
48. LV. Soldiers prepare to move on/off.
49. LV. Towards soldiers move to higher ground Pan on
soldier carrying Iron Explosive Tube.
50. SV. Troops towards carrying various types of ammunition.
51. CU. Pan ditto.
52. SV. Ditto and soldier carry explosive pole.
53. SV. Soldiers moving to higher ground.
54. LV. Soldiers around fire warming and drying themselves.
55. SCU. Ditto holding hands over fire.
56. SV. Pan down ditto to soldier seated in front/of fire.
57. SV. Pan down troops warming feet.
58. SV. Putting more twigs on fire Pan to soldier drying
his back of uniform.
59. CU. Soldiers socks in front of flames.
60. CU. Young soldier's face.
61. CU. Another type face.
62. CU. Type smoking cigarette.
63. LV. Putting more twigs on fire.
64. CU. Soldier holding boot with stick over fire.
65. CU. Pan along explosive iron tubes lying on ground.
66. GV. Scenic scene high up in hills.

- 67. LV. Line of troops on the move after/ / 4th night.
- 68. CU. Pan soldiers carrying various ammunition and firearms.
- 69. CU. Pan soldier. carrying belt of ammunition and machine gun.
- 70. SCU. Pan soldier carrying rifle and explosive iron tube.
- 71. SCU. Soldier type carrying ammo and machine gun.
- 72. LV. Scorched and burnt trees and bushes from Napalm attack to troops moving forward.
- 73. SV. Towards thru scorched trees and bushes.
- 74. SV. Towards ditto, soldiers carrying explosive tubes.
- 75. LV. Towards and pan to B/V troops marching away from camera.

16 mm - Length - = 220 Feet.