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recovered, intact. General Clark, looking like a half-drowned water spaniel, loses his trousers, shoes and other gear that had been either tied or placed loose in the bottom on the Falbot. The group drags its boats and gear back into a clump of trees. A conference follows and it is decided that any further attempts to get the boats through the surf tonight will be useless and dangerous. General Clark goes back up the hill to the house to find dry clothes. Unable to find a towel with which to dry himself, he gropes in a closet and comes up with a fine French linen table cloth. It makes a fine towel! Colonel Holmes offers the general an "extra" pair of pants. They are General Lemnitzer's, the ones he lost in the police raid scramble! Holmes explains he "just picked them up somewhere." General Clark finally gets into dry make-shift clothes. Down on the beach, everything has been dragged back in the bushes and the remainder of the group is huddled in hiding, waiting.

The P-219, which has been previously signalled to come in as close to shore as possible, is within a mile of the beach. With the special light, Lieutenant Jewell is instructed to put to sea again until the surf quiets or until it is apparent General Clark's group will have to wait another day. The French civilians aiding the American in getting away are now frantic. They are scared since capture under the circumstances would mean their lives. They urge the Clark party to leave.

In the meantime, the French police return to the mysterious chateau. General Clark is there alone. Rather than retire again to the stuffy wine cellar, he gets out of a window, jumps over a wall and sprints for the beach, in his stocking feet! The sprint is through the woods, over rocky paths and down a sandbank. He joins the rest of his group and they settle down to wait and plan.

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ON THE BEACH NEAR CHERCHEL, ALGERIA, OCTOBER 23, 1942—General Clark decides to try and buy a trawler or any kind of power boat to get his party to the submarine but all efforts fail. Someone produces another bottle of wine and the tired, bedraggled group disposes of it in their little cul-de-sac. At intervals, officers go to the beach to inspect the surf. It seems to be quieting.

About 1:30 AM everyone but General Lemnitzer and the three Commandos, who remain to guard the boats and equipment, return to the chateau for food and rest. It is decided to wait until about 4:00 AM, the last possible minute if the Falbots are to reach the submarine before dawn, before making the final decision on whether to attempt to get away today. While waiting on guard, General Lemnitzer notices that the surf is quieting. During the period from 1:30 to 4:00 AM, there are several false alarms—there are mysterious Arabs in the vicinity, the police are returning again. All prove groundless but they are nerve wracking. At 4:00 AM General Clark and the rest of the party return to the beach hideaway. The situation is surveyed. During his guard period, General Lemnitzer found a spot along the beach where the surf seemed especially placid. It is finally decided to make another embarkation attempt, despite the cost: it seems hopeless that the group can launch four boats successfully without losing some personnel and a lot of equipment. However, indications are that the place is exceedingly "hot" and General Clark and his party, if they remain, may at any moment be seized by the police who might return in greater strength.

All equipment that is not absolutely necessary is jettisoned. This includes the tommyguns, carbines and radio. The boats must be as light as possible. General Clark and Captain Wright are to make the first attempt. It is decided that four

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including the Americans

of the French officers and civilians still with the Clark party will wade into the surf and assist in the launching. These Frenchmen are still frantically trying to get the Americans away and are willing to make almost any sacrifice. After careful preparation and rehearsal, General Clark and Captain Wright start through the surf. Their Falbot bounces and teeters but soon they are beyond the breakers and headed for the submarine which, having again been summoned, was standing by a mile at sea.

General Lemnitzer and Lieutenant Foot make the next attempt. They discard all kit and equipment except the infra-red equipment that is necessary to locate the submarine and Lemnitzer's musette bag which contains all notes on the conference and the highly-valuable papers turned over by General Mast and Colonel Jousse. The musette bag is tied to a cross-arm of the Falbot. The sea is a little rougher for the second launching. After waiting for several large waves to come in, Lemnitzer and Foot, assisted by the four frantic Frenchmen, make a dash through the surf. A tremendous wave hits them! Over goes the Falbot. The two officers, the Falbot, their equipment comes tumbling through the surf. Lemnitzer and Foot are half drowned because the undertow prevents them from getting on their feet, even when the water is shallow enough for them to stand. When Lemnitzer finally gets on his feet, the Falbot, carried by a big wave, hits him in the back, knocking him down again. Everyone feared the keel of the boat had been broken but examination shows that while damaged, it can still be used!

*Martin
not
to Clark*

The Falbot is turned over, the water poured out, what gear is left is rearranged. Lemnitzer and Foot, still coughing up water and sand, are ready to push out again. Speed is essential because of the imminency of dawn. The second attempt goes successfully, although twice the Falbot nearly capsized and the boat is one-quarter filled with water and several of her ribs are broken. The two officers have difficulty keeping the crippled craft headed into the tremendous swells. After paddling for half an hour, unable to see General Clark and Captain Wright who are somewhere ahead, they try the infra-red detector and locate the submarine.

Back on the beach, Colonel Holmes and Captain Courtney and Colonel Hamblen and Captain Livingstone make precarious surf launchings but their two Falbots come riding through. None of the eight men is dry when he boards the submarine. The all-important musette bag carried by General Lemnitzer is soggy and in bad shape. An envelope containing gold pieces has broken open and apparently many coins were lost when the Falbot capsized. Most of the men have cuts and bruises and their clothes are torn and soaked. The Falbot of Colonel Holmes and Captain Courtney jams up against the submarine, has its back broken, jackknifes and sinks. Colonel Holmes musette bag, containing all his clothes, gold and personal equipment goes to the bottom. Three of the four boats, all except the one handled by General Clark and Captain Wright, capsized while going through the surf.

The eight men go into the innards of the submarine to dry off and get warm. A bottle of rum is broken out and disappears in no time flat. In a few moments the Klaxon sounds for diving and at 6:00 AM the P-219 submerges, goes down to 90 feet and proceeds at 3 1/2 knots for Gibraltar. General Clark and his party soon fall asleep. They awake at 2:30 PM. The air is hot and extremely bad. The entire landing group has severe headaches. They are a sorry-looking lot--long whiskers, hungry, bleary-eyed and more than a little banged up. Equipment brought aboard the submarine is re-checked and it is discovered that a letter that Murphy had given to Holmes to take to Gibraltar for mailing was lost when the Falbot broke up. These boats have a small air chamber at each end and there is a possibility the boat--and the letter--will be picked up on the beach. After debate concerning the advisability

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of breaking radio silence, General Clark orders that the submarine surface immediately (about 3:00 PM) and send the following message to Gibraltar:

"Immediate to FOCNAS (Flag Officer Commanding North Atlantic Station). Operation completed. Am returning through position A 2330 A/23 position B 2200 A/24 arriving Gibraltar 0830 A/25. Request you have planes ready for early departure weather permitting. Request you notify Mc Gowan (code for Murphy) that letters he handed Julius (Holmes) were lost when his canoe broke up. They were in weighted musette bag which may have fallen out. Canoe may have floated inshore. Search of beach should commence immediately."

Having dispatched these two messages, the submarine again submerges to 90 feet and proceeds on its electric motors. General Clark plays bridge with Holmes, Wright and Lemnitzer. Later, the following message is received from FOCNAS:

"Your 1417 and your 1420 acknowledged. Destroyer from "U" patrol will rendezvous with you in 113 degrees EUROPA 16 at 0645 A/25 and escort you into harbor. Aircraft for onward journey arranged 1740 A/23."

The P-219 surfaces at 6:45 PM and everyone feels better. Clothes are dried out. General Clark and his officers go on deck and spend over two hours squeezing sea water and shaking sand out of their clothes. Returning to the wardroom, the officers sort out their wet equipment and clothes and lay out the secret papers to dry.

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ENROUTE TO GIBRALTAR BY SUBMARINE AND FLYING BOAT, OCTOBER 24, 1942--After discussing and preparing a rough draft of a cablegram informing London and Washington of the success of his mission, General Clark turns in, sleeping until 9:00 AM. After breakfast and a couple of rubbers of bridge, General Clark goes up into the conning tower, finds the sea fairly smooth and decides to cable Gibraltar asking for a flying boat to speed the return trip.

Cables General Clark: "Consider weather conditions ideal for transfer to Sunderland. Request you have Sunderland rendezvous soon as practicable. My position course and speed 1100 36° 4' N 01° 41' W 254° 11 knots." General Clark goes back to the diversion of bridge until Gibraltar informs the submarine that a Catalina Flying Boat will rendezvous with the submarine. The party begins packing. Most of the clothing has been hanging in the engine room to dry. The plane is sighted at 2:45 PM and the Falbots and baggage are moved on deck. The three Commando officers are remaining aboard the submarine. Generals Clark and Lemnitzer, Colonels Hamblen and Holmes and Captain Wright say goodbye and move across the gap of water to the big plane. As they board the Catalina, the entire crew of the submarine is on deck and they give General Clark and his four staff officers a "Hip-Hip-Hooray" as the Catalina takes off for Gibraltar at 3:15 PM. The British submarine crew, particularly Lieutenant Jewell, were magnificent throughout the long and hazardous trip.

Gibraltar is sighted at 4:40. The Catalina lands in the harbor and General Clark and his party go ashore in an R.A.F. launch. Card take the group to Government House for tea. General MacFarlane is told of the mission's details and the following cable is sent to London:

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"Following for Commanding General European Theater of Operations London, from CLARK for EISENHOWER'S eyes only. BEGINS Pending more complete details to be furnished on our arrival following is brief summary of events to date. Due to not having heard from Mc Gowan as to exact time of meeting we stood off rendezvous point 36 hours submerged waiting signal to land. Definite contact finally established and with favorable weather we landed in four canvas canoes about midnight 21/22nd. Conference General Mast representing General Giraud and five staff officers commenced 0700 hours on 22nd. Discussions considered satisfactory and followed general lines anticipated by you. Giraud being contacted today by Mast. Definite decision by Giraud expected by Tuesday. Anticipate it will be favorable. I base this on their favorable reaction to the strength of the forces U.S. could put into such an operation. All questions settled satisfactorily except time of assumption of supreme command by French. My view on this submitted to Giraud through Mast for his consideration with definite understanding that my proposal had yet to be confirmed by you. Extremely valuable intelligence data obtained and will be prepared upon my return for immediate radio transmission to Commanders concerned. From discussion and information received our plan for operations appears to be sound. The necessity our being prepared to occupy Tunisia promptly with airborne units abundantly confirmed. Whether Giraud assumes leadership in North Africa or not anticipate the bulk of French army and air forces will offer little resistance. During conversation with Mast I promised delivery of two thousand small arms with ammunition by submarine to vicinity of our landing at earliest practicable date. Also promised submarine which French insist must be American to bring Giraud from France to North Africa. Naval information indicates initial resistance by French Navy and coast defenses which will fall off rapidly as our forces land. Detailed conferences continued throughout day until 1900 hours when intervention by local police who had become suspicious of increased activity in rendezvous area brought conference to abrupt conclusion. Frogs flew in all directions and our party hid in empty REPEAT empty wine cellar in house while argument with police ensued. After two hours during lull in conversations with police we made our way to woods near beach where we awaited favorable surf conditions to permit re-embarkation. First effort to re-embark resulted in capsizing and damage to one boat. Further effort futile in view of high waves. We remained in hiding until 0430 on 23rd when another attempt was made. All boats reached submarine after two had capsized at beach and one was broken while boarding submarine. Ran submerged during daylight hours of 23rd except for brief surfacing to send message to Gibraltar. With ideal conditions for transfer to flying boat available morning 24th Gibraltar was requested to dispatch Catalinatto rendezvous with us at sea to expedite return. Will advise time and place of arrival in U.K. ENDS."

General Clark and his four officers get their first bath in a week. (This doesn't count unwanted dunks in the Mediterranean!) Later, further conferences are held with General MacFarlane; Vice Admiral Sir Edward Collins, commanding the North Atlantic and the man who made the P-219 available, and other British officers. This is followed by a dinner at which General MacFarlane is host. This breaks up at 18:58 PM so the group can listen to the 9 o'clock news. General Alexander is attacking in the Middle East according to plan! Another of the first active phases of TORCH has started. During later discussion, General Clark is told of an attempt the Italians have made to bomb Gibraltar. Three planes made the attack but had to drop all their bombs in Spain or in the water. The Spanish are very angry. One Italian plane was brought down by ack-ack. Remembering his promise to General Mast, General Clark has a conference with a British naval officer who has been smuggling guns into Africa and France. Arrangements are made for the SOE to furnish 2000 weapons to mast from Gibraltar stocks. General Lemnitzer collects 16,500 Algerian

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francs from members of the Clark party to cover gun delivery expenses. Clarke is instructed to proceed with his smuggling, dealing directly with Mr. Murphy.

General Macfarlane then offers to show General Clark and his party "The Rock" so, at 10:00 PM the group starts out in two cars. It is an impressive and thrilling drive up the narrow, twisting road to the 1,200 foot top. General MacFarlane, disgusted with the timidity of his driver, takes the wheel himself and it is a wild ride. Because of a damaged bridge, the party finishes the climb on foot. General MacFarlane takes a nasty fall but by luck is uninjured. From "The Rock" General Clark goes directly to the airport. The "Red Gremlin" and the "Boomerang II" are waiting. Baggage is stowed aboard the two flying fortresses and the party takes off at 15 minutes after midnight.

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TO LONDON BY FLYING FORTRESS, OCTOBER 25, 1942--The first two hours of the flight are pleasant. The officers lounge around wherever convenient and doze. Bad weather comes two hours out of Gibraltar. Ice begins forming on the wings and Lieutenant Colonel Tibbits begins climbing so the "Red Gremlin" can avoid it. The air is very rough and extremely cold. General Clark, Colonel Hamblen and Colonel Grunther (picked up in Gibraltar) huddle together, sharing the warmth of each other's bodies. The temperature is below 0 degrees centigrade. The "Boomerang II" is having the same difficulty--flying at 11,000 feet with zero visibility.

The English coast is sighted at 6:30 AM. The weather gets warmer and the air smoother. General Clark's plane gets lost and does not arrive at Polebrook until 9:52 AM. The second plane, coming straight to the field, lands at 8:26 AM. There is anxiety while General Clark's plane is charted. Somehow it gets over the English channel and finally comes into Polebrook from the Northwest instead of the South. After breakfast at the Polebrook Officers' club, General Clark departs in his car for London at 10:50 AM. During the long ride back, he dozes.

Immediately upon his return, General Clark calls General Eisenhower, then drives out to the Commander-in-Chief's hideout for a two and a half hour conference during which he details his trip. One of the greatest difficulties in dealing with General Mast was General Clark's instructions that he was to indicate only what the United States COULD do, not what it was GOING to do. This had to be kept uppermost in mind at all times and it made the General's task complicated and extremely difficult at times. For instance, when General Mast asked that certain things be done when the American army came in, General Clark had to be adroit in his answers and make no unfulfillable promises since such changes, at such a late date--with some units already at sea, were impossible. When General Mast laid down the French plans for occupying French Africa, General Clark had to be careful that he gave no indication that the U.S. already had definite plans. He was able, however, to show how what he had to term PROPOSED plans differed from those of the French. The parallel in the U.S. and French plans was astonishing. When General Mast pointed out General Giraud's plan of establishing a bridgehead in southern France so the French could resist German moves into Unoccupied France, General Clark had to move with great care. How could he make any promises when the North African operation--the movement of combat troops to the area--was already launched.

After conferring with General Eisenhower, General Clark returns to his Norfolk House office so he can talk to Prime Minister Churchill over the scrambler telephone. Mr. Churchill is extremely pleased. He invites General Clark to dinner but the general, exhausted, has to refuse in favor of sleep.

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LONDON, OCTOBER 26, 1942—"The Great American Eagle" (Prime Minister Churchill's nickname for General Clark) has just returned from a very important and highly successful mission, says General Eisenhower, opening the regular Commander-in-Chief's meeting. "He's going to tell us about it."

Thus, General Clark takes over the meeting today and spends the next half hour outlining in detail his discussions in Algiers with General Mast and his staff. He leaves out all the travel details and the humorous anecdotes, confining himself entirely to the serious details. Every man around the big conference table listens intently. Air Marshall Welsh and General Doolittle beam when General Clark tells of having details of the disposition and strength of the French Air Force, the condition of airfields and the disposition of gasoline. Admiral Cunningham is highly pleased that the general has returned with detailed plans on how the French navy intends to block the harbors; this will greatly facilitate prevention of this by the special harbor task forces. General Clark goes thoroughly into all phases of his mission. Even General Anderson beams when he hears of the plan to land paratroops at Bone to facilitate General Anderson's drive to the east. When the general has finished his outline, there are no questions and General Eisenhower breaks up the meeting. Afterward, the officers crowd around to get details concerning how the trip was made. Few officers knew the nature or the destination of General Clark's trip. It was a closely guarded secret.

General Clark plunges immediately into conferences concerning an attack at Bone. He calls in Generals Gale and Gruenther and Colonel Stirling. They begin discussing the possibility of altering plans of the Eastern Assault Force so it can land at least part of its strength at Bone. The initial Bone landing probably will be from the air, by paratroops. General Clark explains that "certain key Frenchmen in North Africa--Mast and possibly General Giraud--will have to be taken into our confidence by D-4 so they may have time to issue necessary instructions to their commands."

The Deputy Commander-in-Chief next takes up with General Gale the proposal that French forces in Unoccupied France be supplied so they can resist the German move into that area--a move that Mast says Giraud believes is inevitable when the North African theater opens. Giraud wants to hold a bridgehead in Southern France through which the United Nations will supply the French patriots. Gale believes the question of supplying these forces is one of priorities, rather than alternate plans. Obviously, shipping diverted to Southern France would delay the buildup of TORCH troops and supplies in North Africa.

General Clark recommends that a French section be set up in Allied Force headquarters to foster development of French military power in North Africa. He suggests that the officer to head this section might be found among Frenchmen now serving in the British army. The Deputy Commander instructs Gale that, in view of his promises to General Mast, 500 tons of shipping space per convoy is to be reserved to carry goods required by the French civil population in North Africa after KMS3.

Only one of General Clark's many conferences today does not concern developments resulting from his North African coup. Lieutenant General Morgan, commander of the British 1st Corps and the man who is heading the newly-created Northern Task Force (which is to be ready to invade Spanish Morocco if necessary), comes in to discuss his problems. He is preparing his forces, which will include the Royal Marines, as fast as possible. Like the Center Task Force, General Morgan is having

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tank troubles. The large Churchills are not suitable for the invasion task. Morgan says he cannot undertake his task without tanks but believes the attacking force "probably would lose face in the eyes of the Spaniards" if they do not have armored equipment. General Clark tells Morgan that General Mast informed him that three French native divisions are dispersed along the southern Spanish Morocco border and if the Northern Task Force should have to attack Tangiers, both French and American forces would assist him by advancing from the south and east.

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LONDON, OCTOBER 27, 1942--Both General Marshall and Lieutenant General Eisenhower are recommending General Clark for the Distinguished Service Medal for his North African mission! General Clark's four staff officers are also going to be put up for decorations. The success of the highly hazardous mission has brought high praise from both London and Washington.

Word is received late today that General Giraud, on the basis of word brought to him by a special courier, is eager to go to North Africa and discuss the French-American collaboration further. He approves, tentatively, the principles agreed to by Generals Clark and Mast, but is awaiting written communication from Mr. Murphy and General Mast before giving his whole-hearted approval.

Captain Wright is returning to Gibraltar to take command of the P-219 and proceed to a rendezvous in Southern France to pick up General Giraud and take him to North Africa. The entire scheme is working beautifully. Wright will await further instructions from Murphy before taking the British submarine out of Gibraltar.

The possible change in plans for the use of paratroops--as a result of General Clark's conference with General Mast and the possibility of including an air assault on Bone--occasions a large conference in General Clark's office. Attending are Air Vice Marshal Sanders, Generals Gruenther, Doolittle and Lemnitzer, Colonels Bentley and Raft and Major Yarborough. "General Mast," says General Clark, "has assured us that paratroops will not be resisted at the Oran and Bone airports. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss means of getting paratroops into Bone as soon as possible. Obviously, we must have alternative plans: one to be used in case of unexpected resistance, and one in the event of free entrance. The first has been prepared in detail; the second will be prepared at once."

It is decided that if the loaded air transports can be landed at La Senia airport, near Oran, without resistance, they will be refueled and ready to proceed so they arrive at Bone early on D plus one. The paratroops will not jump at Bone unless conditions make it necessary. The purpose is to conserve the parachute battalion for a jump to seize the airport near Tunis. The problem of anti-aircraft defense at Bone and an aviation gasoline supply causes concern. Later, General Anderson, who will have the responsibility of airborne operations east of Algiers, is called in. He thinks that by D plus one he might be able to provide the transports with some fighter escort. Anderson is concerned about both the anti-aircraft and petrol shortage at Bone. He expects to get petrol into the area by D plus five. Automatic anti-aircraft weapons could be transported to Bone by air. Air Marshal Welsh and General Anderson both urge that 10 of the air transports allotted to the 12th Air Force be used for this purpose. General Clark objects to reducing the size of the 12th's transports and recommends that this A*A equipment be flown in by British bombers. Welsh promises to make an effort in that direction.

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Anderson feels that with French cooperation it will be unnecessary for him to rush British paratroops into the Bone area. He prefers to have the British jumpers make a single move from Algiers directly to the airdrome at Bizerte. He thinks this strategy can be pulled on D plus 5. He plans, at the same time, to have the re-fueled U.S. transports drop the U.S. paratroops over the Tunis airdrome. All the planes would then return to Algiers, possibly to fly up airborne infantry. General Clark's plan of long-ago--having paratroop and airborne units "leapfrog" toward Tunis--appears to now be working out. Seizure of Tunis is one of the key aims of TORCH and each day it looks more feasible.

General Clark lunches today with Prime Minister Churchill at Number 10 Downing Street, the "Great American Eagle" giving Mr. Churchill a complete report on the North African mission. Churchill listens avidly and clucks his approval. The dramatic nature of the mission appeals to the Prime Minister's imagination. The report over the scrambler telephone on Sunday night just served to whet Mr. Churchill's appetite. He compliments the Deputy Commander-in-Chief on the way in which he carried out his mission.

A general discussion of TORCH air problems is held in General Clark's office. The conferees are Air Marshal Welsh, Generals Smith, Doolittle, Lemnitzer, Gruenther and Craig and Vice Air Marshal Sanders. Doolittle is concerned about the slow rate in which he claims Spitfires are being made ready at Gibraltar. Welsh and Sanders say progress is being made on schedule. Doolittle is concerned about the lack of time for testing the aircraft and installing armament following their erection. Doolittle argues for stronger air support at Casablanca but General Clark tells him that the North African conversations "resulted more than ever in a trend toward strength to the east and our plans must permit us to shift the weight of our air forces in that direction very early if we are to be welcomed by the French. In order to furnish air support for the Northern Task Force, General Doolittle plans on forming a small self-sustaining air force composed of one bomber squadron, one fighter squadron and two transport squadrons. They will be based at Port Lyautey so they will have ready access to General Morgan's force to the north.

The French plans and intelligence reports that General Clark obtained in Algeria have been translated and are being distributed to the proper sections. The completeness of them, and their terrific value to TORCH operations, are astounding. The value of General Clark's trip could never be estimated. Even if things went wrong, TORCH is in a vastly improved conditions because of the intelligence brought back. General Clark has instructed General Gale to expedite action on General Mast's request that we supply French troops in Southern France.

The problem of colored troops in England is growing. Difficulties have been present since their arrival in the United Kingdom last summer. General Doolittle reports "growing lack of discipline among colored service units." He cites a case of aggravated assault on a white officer by a colored soldier. General Clark tells Doolittle that the European Theater of Operations "will back up the actions of Courts Martial, even to the extent of approving the death sentence in such cases." It is regrettable that army officials, preparing for a great offensive, should have to concern themselves, and devote precious time, to the colored problem. General Clark believes that an equal percentage of color troops should go overseas.

After disposing of a number of smaller matters--including the question of auxiliary U.S. troops to augment the Royal Marine division and establishment of an S.O.E. mission in North Africa--General Clark goes to dinner with Mrs. Roosevelt. The president's wife is currently visiting England.

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CSKs know all about sub group
Percent of population

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LONDON, OCTOBER 28, 1942--The British submarine, under command of Captain Wright of the U.S. Navy, left Gibraltar at 8:00 PM last night for the Gulf of Lyon where it will pick up General Giraud, the French general who is the key man in French collaboration in TORCH. Giraud will be taken to North Africa to be oriented on plans and so he can issue instructions paving the way for American entry.

The following cable is received early today from General Marshall: "We are following with great interest and considerable suspense the negotiations going on with respect to Kingpin (Giraud) and Flagpole (Mast). If the results we hope for are attained it will make an interesting page in history. I am in complete accord with your (Eisenhower's) views as to decorating for Clark and his party. Give him my thanks for his courageous and able performance of a hazardous task."

Final preparations for TORCH are being buttoned up fast now. Generals Clark and Eisenhower and 52 other officers will leave for Gibraltar Monday evening to set up the Allied Force Headquarters from which TORCH will be directed in its early phases. The final Commander-in-Chief's meeting is held this morning. To conclude it, General Eisenhower declares:

"This is our final meeting. All of us will be away from here by early next week. Admiral Cunningham has already gone to take naval command. I hope that our next meeting is held in Algiers--and soon! I am hopeful that Allied Force Headquarters will be out of Gibraltar by D plus two or D plus three. Later, we hope to make French North Africa our springboard for carrying on operations elsewhere. The French, if they go along with us, are going to be the bosses in North Africa while we go to fight elsewhere.

"I can't possibly express to you my gratitude for the fine work all of you have done. I appreciate it more than I can say. From the very start I have been aware of a great and fine devotion from all of you. The work you have done has been highly successful. Given a fair break on submarine activity and the weather, TORCH is in--a success. This success will be due to this group and I am grateful to each and every one of you."

One of the most interesting developments at the final TORCH conference is a report from Admiral Ramsay on submarine charting. He declares that spotting shows that KMSI, already well at sea, might run across a submarine "but, otherwise, everything in normal." The convoys are all proceeding according to schedule. They and the naval units are approaching the Straits of Gibraltar at varying speeds so they will arrive more or less simultaneously at the Straits. Each convoy is getting complete reports on Axis submarine locations and activities.

General Eisenhower tells the conference that "there is every indication that General Giraud intends to go along with us." Mast, Giraud and other trusted French officials will be told on November 4 that TORCH is about ready to start. This will give them the necessary four days to pave the way for the entrance of American troops. Giraud is sticking to his request for a Southern France bridgehead and the Prime Minister believes everything possible should be done to get supplies to the French in Unoccupied France. As a matter of military economy, says General Eisenhower, "we must give people in a position to fight something to fight with." He declares that fighting in Southern France "must be a development, rather than an added feature, of TORCH." The drive must be to the east and where possible the effort will dovetail with French plans. To expedite invasion of Tunisia, plans are being promulgated to land a small force from Malta in the Sousse area, which

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can be successfully held by a small group.

General Anderson asks what the French consider as the best possible time an Allied army could get into Tunis. General Clark declares that the French pointed out to him "the great necessity of getting in fast--before the Boche." He says the French hope is to have Allied troops in by D plus 2 or D plus 3. Certain civil patriots, out-numbered by people favoring the Axis, will have to hide in the hills until the Allied troops arrive. Help from Malta plus the action of British and American paratroops might speed the date, says General Clark. General Anderson replies that he "can't get anything into Bone from the sea until D plus 5." General Clark terminates the discussion by declaring: "The French want speed all the way through."

A humorous cable, resulting from General Clark's North African trip, arrives from Murphy. It says: "Inform X (General Clark) that police incident at end of meeting proves to have been innocuous according to investigation but our friends (the French conferees) regret exceeedingly that end of party's stay was so uncomfortable. Inform X that he has not lost his pants nor his coat but he will find them here clean and pressed on his return."

All arrangements for the 30-odd war correspondents who are to accompany the North African expedition have been completed. Four of these correspondents will be at Gibraltar, the remainder with the task forces. Major Phillips, the PRO, outlines the entire set-up to General Clark.

It has now been decided to send a message to Admiral Godfroy, commanding the French squadron at Alexandria, on D-day informing him of the landing and pointing out to him that there are no designs on French territory. Godfroy is believed to be friendly to the Allied cause. Two messages probably will be delivered to the French Admiral, one by a British naval official and the other by an American state department officer.

The problem of obtaining equipment for the French comes up again. It is General Clark's belief that both the British and U.S. governments should both quickly determine what they can furnish in the way of military supplies and shipping and how soon it can be made available. "It is obvious," says the Deputy Commander-in-Chief, "that equipment and shipping set up for TORCH must not be diverted. Whether or not equipment obtained for the French is to be put into Southern France or North Africa is a matter for command decision at the time."

General Clark makes one point clear constantly in his discussions with officers:

"It appears to me," he says, "that it is very important that we do not let the possibility of French non-resistance weaken our plans for active combat in the theater in case things do not go in the way we hope for!"

These are other problems that come up during the day: (1) The paratroop carrier force must know by 5:00 PM on November 7 whether or not the C-47s are to take off for Oran. The ships must be off by that time in order to reach their objective by H-hour (1:00 AM). General Clark is setting up "a definite signal" for this vital information. A premature takeoff of the paratroops would be disastrous since they cannot be recalled because of heavy loading. (2) The Northern Task Force is having tank and shipping troubles. General Clark orders the use of lighter Valentine tanks instead of Churchills. Certain ships will be taken from the

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Russian convoys so loading can start. Ships returning from North Africa will then take the place of the vessels removed from the Russian convoys. (3) General Anderson is concerned over a letter declaring we might be able to supply the Malta air force by air by D plus 5. General Clark phones General Ismay and asks him to "leave out any reference of our capability of supply the Malta force by air, and stress the need for this force to be accompanied by the maximum possible number of days of supply. (4) Anderson is also alarmed about a cut in the KMF3 and KMF4 convoys proposed by the British Director of Movements. General Clark and he agree that they will fight any reductions."

In the evening, General Clark attends the first show since his arrival in England almost four months ago. With three friends he sees a musical review-- "The Dancing Years." The general gets increasingly optimistic as D-day approaches. He's in fine spirits, despite terrific responsibilities and long hours of work.

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LONDON, OCTOBER 29, 1942--General Clark has an audience today with King George VI. General Eisenhower and he go to Buckingham Palace together at 11:30 AM. The invitation was issued by the King who wanted to say goodbye to the two top-ranking American generals before their departure for North Africa, via Gibraltar.

The generals are ushered into the huge brownstone palace, only four blocks from Norfolk House, and taken to the office of the king's secretary. When introduced to General Clark, the man declares: "I know all about you. You're the one that took that fabulous trip. Didn't you get stranded on the beach without your pants?"

Generals Clark and Eisenhower are conducted down a long, cold hall. The palace, probably for fuel conservation reasons, was chilly except in the section that was apparently the king's portion. The generals are ushered into a huge room. All the chandeliers and pictures have been removed but it is still an attractive, well-furnished room. A small fire is burning in a fireplace. King George, in uniform with the insignia of a field marshal on his shoulders--a wreath and a crown--shakes hands with the two Americans and invites them to sit down.

King George immediately goes into a discussion of TORCH. He is thoroughly familiar with the pending operation. The king told General Clark he had heard "all about your trip to Africa and I thoroughly enjoyed the statement in your cable that you had been forced to hide in an "empty REPEAT empty wine cellar." He compliments General Clark on "a task well done."

The discussion, which lasts 40 minutes, then turns to General Giraud and Admiral Darlan. The king declares emphatically that "no one trusts Darlan." He then recounts meeting Darlan at a luncheon a few years ago and how his greatest remembrance was "Darlan's shifty eyes." Plans for the generals' departure and for development of the North African theater are then discussed. King George appears to have a complete grasp of the military picture. Apparently he is briefed often on developments. He expresses concern over the Axis submarine concentrations in the TORCH area. He wants to know what troops are participating and what American units will remain in England to assist in defense of the British Isles. The 40 minute talk is almost entirely military.

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General Clark is surprised by the king's appearance. He had always imagined him as a man of at least average height. Instead, the king is of small stature. He carries himself well and has a pleasing personality. The king at one or two points had some difficulty speaking. He has a habit of holding his hand over his mouth a great deal of the time. Only once or twice does he stutter. This comes when the king is excited or showing emotion. It strikes him as he bids the two American generals farewell. He falters as he says:

"Goodbye and God speed."

A cablegram from General Eisenhower to General Marshall concerning command of the 5th Army, scheduled to be set up in North Africa, is dispatched to Washington today. "If initial stages of operation proceed as favorably as now seems possible, it may become quickly necessary to establish a direct coordinating agency for all American forces involved," the cablegram says. "I am planning, in these circumstances, to use General Clark for the purpose and have already selected, from officers now available to me, key members of an army staff. In anticipation of this development, it will be necessary for the army headquarters now being organized in the United States to sail at a moment's notice at any time after November 15. I request that all preparations be perfected so that if it becomes desirable to ship this headquarters on an early convoy in lieu of some other unit of similar size, this can be done quickly...."

General Clark sends the following commendations today to the four staff officers who accompanied him on the North African trip: (General Lemnitzer, Colonels Holmes and Hamblen and Captain Wright)

"1. I desire to take this opportunity to commend you for the manner in which you carried out your important part in our recent mission to North Africa. When you volunteered for this assignment I was particularly pleased, since your intimate knowledge of the details of the operation made it highly desirable that you should be present and participate in the conference with the French representatives.

"2. Under the adverse and sometimes hazardous conditions that we encountered, your efficiency and high morale—although no more than I would have expected under the circumstances—made your assistance and presence invaluable to me.

"3. In recognition of your able and courageous conduct I have recommended to the Commander-in-Chief that you be awarded an appropriate decoration. This recommendation has been approved by him and has been transmitted to the War Department. I am happy to inform you that General Marshall in a radio to the Commander-in-Chief, dated October 28, says: "I am in complete accordance with your views as to decorating Clark and his party." He also sent his thanks which I now transmit to you, for without your fine assistance our mission could not have been completed."

The general also sends letters to Sir Dudley Pound, first Sea Lord, praising the work of the crew of the P-219 and particularly Lieutenant Jewell, and to Lord Louis Mountbatten, thanking him for the splendid service of the three Commandos.

Although preparations for TORCH are complete and the amount of work has slackened off pending departure of Generals Clark and Eisenhower, the Deputy Commander-in-Chief has several important conferences during the day. Commodore Douglass-Pennant reports on the location and number of Axis submarines in relation

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to the TORCH convoys. KMS-1 has now passed the danger area where a sub was lurking yesterday. The Aquitania, carrying troops, is straggling but is in no danger. Two cargo vessels in another convoy have had to turn back because of shifting loads. The weather has been extremely rough but the Admiralty is satisfied with the way the convoys are moving. The greatest fear, and there is a slight movement indicating such, is that the Axis is going to concentrate submarines in the Western Mediterranean.

Brigadier Mockler-Ferryman is called in to give General Clark an estimate of the Axis' ability to move troops into Tunisia. Before launching of the British Eighth Army's offensive, now underway in Egypt, it was estimated that 2,000 airborne troops per day, up to between 15,000 and 20,000, could be transferred to Tunisia. Recent heavy losses to Axis shipping in the Eastern Mediterranean," says the British Intelligence officer, have led to greater dependence being placed upon obtaining supplies by air transport. This had reduced the number of air carriers. So far as is known there are no German airborne troops in Sicily at present. Recently about 8,000 airborne troops, believed Italian, arrived in Tripoli. They are, reportedly, without heavy equipment. Mockler-Ferryman tells General Clark he believes that if we are successful in putting our airborne forces on the Bizerte and Tunis airdromes early in the operation, the Axis will attempt to invade this area with their airborne troops.

General Anderson's alarm over the proposed cut in KM3 and KM4 loads is gone into next by General Clark. Colonel Hamblen reports this has resulted from overly-optimistic estimates as to the number of vehicles that could be accommodated on the ships. A letter is sent to General Ismay asking that "every effort be made by the British to provide additional vessels."

A broadcast scheduled to be made over B.B.C. on October 31 by Admiral Stark is causing concern. It makes favorable references to the de Gaullists and Mr. Matthews reports this probably will not be well received in the TORCH area. Conversely, Matthews feels sudden cancellation of the speech might jeopardize security. General Clark informs Matthews he will take the matter up immediately and that the broadcast can either be cancelled or modified. Means to take care of this will be found.

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LONDON, OCTOBER 30, 1942--The inevitable lull has arrived. All of the D-day convoys--personnel and supply--are well at sea. All naval groups and escorts are underway. Most of the officers in Norfolk House have departed. The only business that can be conducted now concerns future operations. General Clark is in his office throughout the morning but during the afternoon, tired of peripatetically pacing his office and filled with nervous energy, takes a drive.

The report on activities of Axis submarines is still good. None of the convoys has been attacked yet. Final arrangements are made for departure of Generals Eisenhower and Clark and their staffs. A special train will leave London at 7:30 PM Monday for Bournemouth where the group will go by car to the airport from which they will depart, sometime early Tuesday, for Gibraltar.

General Clark's only important conference of the day is with General Smith, his chief of staff. He orients Smith concerning arrangements made with regard to make-up of the Royal Marine Division which will be a major part of the Northern

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Task Force. General Clark points out that the United States merely agreed to reinforce the Royal Marines with additional combat units such as tanks and artillery. Through some error, the British had figured on the U.S. providing service or maintenance units.

The question of a staff for the Fifth American army is also taken up. General Clark tells Smith that the slate of key personnel should be published soon and commanding officers concerned informed so they can be prepared for the withdrawal of certain personnel from their commands. General Clark tells General Smith that he would like to have Colonel Bowman as his Army Engineer. The skeleton of the army staff has already been agreed upon.

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LONDON, OCTOBER 31, 1942--Arrangements have been made to transport anti-aircraft weapons to Algiers to strengthen this type of protection there. After days of conferences and searching by both British and American units, Air Marshal Welsh reports to General Clark that the weapons can be taken in by British bombers. Thus, another, and just about the final, organizational problem of TORCH is disposed of. The A-A carriers will return to Gibraltar without refueling.

Welsh is leaving for Gibraltar tomorrow. General Clark praises him for his arduous work. From Gibraltar, the Air Marshal will move to Algiers with General Anderson. British aircraft will be available for this move. General Clark tells Welsh that if the operation goes as planned, the two American B-17s and Welsh's British plane can leave Gibraltar via Oran for Algiers under fighter escort. Welsh reports that 154 Spitfires arrived safely at Gibraltar yesterday. He brings the general a heartening report: The British Secretary of State reports that "German authorities apparently do not yet know of our movements or intentions."

The problem of what to do with the carrier transports in case the paratroops are unable to take off from England because of bad weather enroute or at Oran is taken up by General Clark with Generals Doolittle and Craig. If the paratroops departure is delayed after D plus 3, departure airdromes will be overloaded. General Clark orders that the transports be returned to their home stations in event they cannot move out by noon of D plus 3. Such action will entail only a 24-hour delay in the subsequent movement of the parachute force to the theater.

The desirability of complimentary action by the 8th (European Theater) and the 12th (African Theater) Air Forces is brought up. Operations of the 8th will be facilitated if it is possible for squadrons to move to airdromes in TORCH theater when condition are unfavorable for their return to the U.K. Thus, the 8th could strike at Europe from African bases during the English winter, noted for its poor flying weather.

A great deal of General Clark's time, during this 11th hour waiting period, is devoted to planning for the Northern Task Force that General Morgan is heading. General Morgan's directive from the British War Office contemplates employment of his force in Spanish Morocco only. General Clark says the staff is considering possible use of the Northern Task Force in other areas, for example, Sicily, in case there is no Spanish intervention. Morgan says he is "eager to get into the show in any locality." He wants the War Office to broaden his directive. General Clark promises to look into the matter.

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The Northern Task Force is going to have difficulty getting into the theater at an early date. The earliest possible date of Spanish Morocco attack has been estimated at D plus 45. The availability of shipping is causing the bottleneck. Prime Minister Churchill is unwilling to have vessels set up for Russian convoy PQ-19 unloaded in order that they may be ready for use by General Morgan's force. Although General Clark has argued "we should make every effort to set the date forward rather than accept a delay," it appears that, because of circumstances surrounding shipping, that the Northern Task Force may not be ready to sail from the United Kingdom until about D plus 53. It will use ships that have already made one trip to the North African theater. Morgan is aware of the need for early action. The crux is that we must have reasonable control of the Straits of Gibraltar as soon as possible.

General Morgan asks General Clark if there will be any restrictions by his headquarters in the use of 12th Air Force elements assigned to his command. General Clark assures him that such U.S. forces will have no strings attached to them. Steps are now being taken to provide Morgan with an air staff and a political section.

Need for astro-navigators for the 64th Troop Carrier group is brought to the general's attention by Air Vice-Marshal Sanders and General Craig. The Air Ministry is unable to furnish 25 navigators with the requested qualifications. These men will navigate the group transporting British paratroops to the theater. The British have 25 "dead reckoning" navigators. General Clark sets out immediately to solve the problem and finds the proper navigators, getting them from the 8th Air Force.

General Ward, commanding the 1st Armored Division, reports to General Clark. The division, less detachments enroute to North Africa for the TORCH attack, is now in the Liverpool area. Ward reports that two of the remaining tank battalions are equipped with M-4 tanks; the third with M-3s. The division is now getting 105-mm A.P. ammunition which will greatly increase effectiveness of the field artillery as anti-tank weapons when the outfit moves into action.

In the evening, General Clark goes to General Eisenhower's outside-London retreat. There the two generals relax and discuss the long-planned and now imminent operation.

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LONDON, NOVEMBER 1, 1942--A disturbing cable arrives this evening from Mr. Murphy in North Africa. General Giraud will not be able to leave France until November 20. General Mast asks postponement of TORCH!

General Clark dashes to Norfolk House from his flat and reads this message:

"The Eisenhower-Kingpin (Giraud) messenger returned last night from Marseilles reporting that it is utterly impossible for Kingpin to depart until November 20th at earliest. Flagpole (Mast) supports this view.

"I have had several hours heated discussion with Flagpole at end of which I am convinced we should yield on date.

"I am telegraphing the President recommendation as I am convinced that TORCH without favorable French High Command will be a catastrophe. The delay of two weeks unpleasant as it may be involving technical considerations of which I am ignorant

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is insignificant compared with result involving serious opposition of French army to our landing.

"Flagpole points out that no warning of our imminent attack was given him by Clark at conference on October 22nd which led him to believe that at least three or four weeks was available.

"Our present proposition he suggests amounts to an ultimatum of hostile action. We must give Kingpin a reasonable time to prepare not merely his departure but French resistance in Northern France to designate his replacement which undoubtedly will be Delattage de Tassigny and arrange numerous details. These simply cannot be accomplished in four days.

"Kingpin does not share opinion that Axis intervention in French North Africa is imminent. He believes desirable operation for us is a combined European and African operation in full cooperation between American and French forces but he is willing to yield if we insist on African operation now, granted he is given a reasonable time to make his preparations.

"I suggest your most serious consideration of this question as it seems to me that is you are to accept Kingpin as a partner he is entitled to three weeks' notice."

General Clark is furious. He thinks that Murphy is knuckling down to French pressure. He paces his office and dictates this cable draft to a stenographer:

"It is inconceivable that Murphy could possibly recommend such a delay with his intimate knowledge of the operation and the present location of troops and convoys afloat. It is likewise inconceivable to me that our mere failure to concede to such demands as have been made would result in having the French North African Army meet us with serious opposition. Such opposition for the reason stated would amount to a double-cross by Mast. I cannot believe that he would degrade himself to this extent. Recommend you (General Marshal) advise Murphy his suggested action is entirely out of the question and impracticable; that we will proceed to execute this operation more determined than ever to blast our way ashore. He should be directed to tell Mast that we are coming as planned; that all Hell and the North African Army can't stop us and if he uses the information already furnished him on the operation as to time of its execution to our disadvantage, either by regrouping his troops to more effectively stop us; by disseminating the confidential information Murphy has intrusted to him; or otherwise betraying our cause, we'll hang him higher than a kite when we get ashore."

After the general's draft is gone over, the following is sent to Washington:

"It is inconceivable that McGowan (Murphy) can recommend such a delay with his intimate knowledge of the operation and the present location of troops and convoys afloat. It is likewise inconceivable to me that our mere failure to concede to such demands as have been made would result in having the French North African army meet us with serious opposition. Recommend the President advise McGowan immediately that his suggested action is utterly impossible in view of present advanced state of operation, and that we will proceed to execute this operation with more determination than ever. He should also be directed not to divulge on November 4th the exact date of the operation unless complete cooperation by Flagpole is assured. Submarine will remain available for the present. (The sub commanded by Captain Wright that is lying off the Gulf of Lyons) Will notify McGowan when it becomes necessary to withdraw."

This new development is handled by General Clark alone since General Eisenhower cannot be located. It will not change any of the plans. But it naturally will bring a lot of apprehension.

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General Clark holds a final conference today with most of the section heads with whom he has been working so closely for the past several weeks. The high-ranking officers sit around the Deputy Commander's desk in a semi-circle. Present are: Generals Gruenther, Craig, Lemnitzer and Gale; Brigadiers Mockler-Ferryman, Mc Millan and Whiteley; Colonels Vandenburg, Holmes, Stirling and Hamblen, Commodore Douglass-Pennant and Mr. Matthews.

"We are approaching the end of our harmonious collaboration," says General Clark. "At noon tomorrow I am leaving Norfolk House. It has been a privilege and a pleasure to work with all of you. I brought you in today to give you a last minute survey of developments (the conference occurred hours before the Murphy cable) so you will know the status of things. Tomorrow I will be in conference most of the afternoon with the Prime Minister. This probably will be my last meeting with all of you. As you know the last part of TORCH planning has been largely political: attempts to pave the way for our North African landing and an attempt to get General Giraud out of France.

"All the data on these political developments had been sent to Generals Ryder and Frendendall so that they can revise, as practicable, plans for their landings at Oran and Algiers. I know they are going to want to go in with guns firing. We must impress on them the political developments that have occurred since their departure."

General Clark turns to Douglass-Pennant and tells him: "I want to board the ships that Generals Ryder and Fredendall are on when these vessels go through the Straits. Is it possible?" Douglass-Pennant says it will be difficult but he thinks it can be arranged through Admiral Cunningham. General Clark says it is imperative that the two Task Force generals have the latest background.

Information has been received that General Nogues, governor general of French Morocco, apparently isn't going to take a stand regarding American collaboration. The Deputy Commander discusses this and is told that it will be possible to go to Fez, arrest Nogues and put a sympathetic officer in his place, just before H-hour. Departure of General Giraud from France has been held up 48 hours because of reports of a British fleet in the Mediterranean. Douglass-Pennant says there is only one large British ship in the region. Apparently, it has been mistaken for a fleet!

General Clark reports to his group that the weather in the TORCH region has been unusually bad during the past few days but that the storm front is moving east. "Maybe after this storm we will get a good break in the weather," says the general. He reports that 18 more transport planes have been promised from the U.S. and that the air transport problem is looking more optimistic. He tells the officers that the Germans in Africa apparently are attempting to locate the short wave radio through which Murphy is communicating with Gibraltar and, for that reason, Murphy will remain silent for the next two days except in case of emergency.

One of the toughest problems facing Allied Force headquarters is to meet the request to supply arms through the Southern France bridgehead General Giraud plans on having when the Germans sweep into Unoccupied France. Because of logistical problems, it will be impossible to supply this materiel. There is insufficient time and General Clark says nothing can be done about getting this equipment in at the present time. After the North African situation clarifies, General Clark believes certain artillery and ammunition can be shipped from North Africa to Southern France. The French are to be told that it is impossible to send the supplies into Southern France for at least two or three weeks.

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One development has occurred in North Africa since General Clark's secret rendezvous that has proven the faith of General Mast and his staff. The French general's air officer has been made commandant at Maison Blanche airport. That is where the paratroops are to land and the air officer is the one who promised he would switch on the airport lights at the proper time "with my own hands."

General Mast has sent, through Murphy, instructions on how Bone should be attacked. The landing assault should be made against a point 15 kilometers northwest of Bone. He stresses that the port of Bone must be taken from the rear. General Clark asks Mockler-Ferryman for an evaluation of Mast's recommendation and the British Intelligence Officer shakes his head and says: "We'll just have to take the Bone suggestion at its face value. Mast also informs TORCH leaders that a Colonel Lorbeer has promised to give the Americans "a friendly reception" at Sidi Firouch. Mast implores that if "an excited Arab" fires during the landing that the Americans are to pay no attention. Mast also asks that a liaison officer be sent to his 19th army headquarters at Algiers.

"That's the dope up to date," says General Clark. "I just wanted to let all of you know the current status of things."

Brigadier Mockler-Ferryman then brings up the subject of a dummy parachute drop on Sicily. The British want to drop dummies on D minus 2 "to create alarm and possibly bring part of the Italian fleet scurrying to Sicily." This will require the use of only one Liberator so the General tells Mockler-Ferryman to inform the British that they can proceed. Another question that is brought up is the smuggling of the promised 2,000 weapons to North Africa. Although General Clark made arrangements for this when he was in Gibraltar, no word has been received concerning the delivery of the weapons.

Commodore Douglass-Pennant makes a report on submarine activities. The situation is excellent. One very small convoy appears to be being shadowed by a lone sub but the Axis apparently knows nothing about the other larger convoys. All the convoys are ahead of schedule because of the northern gale that has driven them faster than planned. The sea has been rough and a lot of the troops undoubtedly have been seasick. One convoy--KMS2--is 36 hours ahead of schedule and is wasting time by cruising in the vicinity of the Azores. KMFL is wasting 70 miles. The auxiliary aircraft carrier Dasher has lost one engine and now has a top speed of only 13 knots but this will not interfere with its employment in TORCH. The battleship Furious has arrived at Gibraltar and landed several Spitfires. Admiral Cunningham and his staff are safely into Gibraltar. The British navy estimates that 25 German submarines are in the Mediterranean. As yet, there are no indications that they are concentrating in the Western end of the sea. One heartening report--indicative of the security of TORCH--is that a French convoy has just left Casablanca for Dakar. It is "stuffed with ammunition."

Lieutenant Colonel Raft and Major Yarborough come in for a final discussion of paratroop operations. Raft suggests suggest that by using 10 transports, the headquarters and one company of his battalion could be moved from Oran to Bone on D-day. This force could jump if necessary but would expect to land on the Bone airport in the transports. The planes would return immediately to Oran and bring up engineers and infantry to relieve the paratroops for other missions.

Colonel Gale reports that the Flying Fortresses are set up to depart from the Bournemouth area early Tuesday morning. Fifty-five persons are scheduled to fly to the Gibraltar headquarters. Two of the six Fortresses will remain at Gibraltar.

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LONDON-BOURNEMOUTH, NOVEMBER 2, 1942--Generals Clark and Eisenhower, preparing to leave for their command post on Gibraltar, pay a final visit today to Prime Minister Churchill. Mr. Churchill is ebullient. The drive by Alexander in Egypt has begun to click and the British forces are advancing and causing Rommel, who has returned to the battlefield from Germany, to re-group his forces. Second reason for the Prime Minister's jubilation is the movement of convoys. Not a single submarine nor any enemy aircraft has been sighted. Apparently, the Axis knows nothing of the move.

The two generals lunch with the Prime Minister at Number 10 Downing Street and most of the conversation revolves around TORCH. Mr. Churchill is briefed on last-minute developments. He is not particularly perturbed about the Giraud-Mast reaction to a landing in the near future. Like General Clark, he believes Giraud is bluffing and that he will fall in line when he sees how resolute the Americans are.

When the two American generals leave the British Prime Minister affectionately bids them farewell. His only comment concerning the imminent operation is:

"Goodbye, good luck and God bless you!"

General Clark remains at his Norfolk House office until noon. During the morning he holds a few quick conferences concerning last-minute cables from Washington. He also goes to Grosvenor Square for an hour's conference with General Eisenhower. Following the luncheon and conference with the Prime Minister, the Deputy Commander-in-Chief returns to his flat, to pack and prepare for departure.

At 6 P.M. a few close friends of the General go to Hays Mews for a farewell drink. After the small cocktail party, the general drives to Addison Road station to board the special train that is taking the 54 officers and two enlisted men to Bournemouth where they will be driven to Hurn airdrome, a British station, to take six American Flying Fortresses for Gibraltar. The train has been pulled into a little-used station and the place is well-guarded by British bobbies and British and American military police. Each officer and man is checked through the grilled gates leading to the trainyard. Then they are escorted to the 11-car train. It is a strange sight. The only lights are flickering coal-oil lamps; there is a semi-fog. The train is completely blacked out. Inside most of the officers are sitting in a club car, British and Americans sitting side-by-side along the walls with a long refreshment table running down the middle. The development of friendships, and resultant close collaboration, between the British and American members of the TORCH staff, has been surprisingly fast and pleasing to General Clark. That this close personal collaboration has resulted is shown in the mixture of officers along the conference table.

The train departs from London at 7:37 PM and dinner is served aboard. Just before the departure an important cablegram is received. Giraud, informed that plans can't be postponed until November 20, has agreed to come out of Unoccupied France! He will be picked up by the submarine that has been waiting off the Gulf of Lyons so long. This means that Giraud might not get into North Africa until a few hours before--or possibly after--H-hour. General Clark is tremendously pleased. At 11:23 PM the special train, going by the code word ALIVE and moving with only brief and infrequent stops, the train arrives in Bournemouth. The passengers will be awakened when it is time to drive to the airdrome.

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BOURNEMOUTH-LONDON, NOVEMBER 3, 1942--Everyone is awakened by batmen at 3:45 AM. Breakfast is served aboard the train at 4:15 and then begins a long period of waiting. The weather at Bournemouth is clear and cold but reports from Gibraltar are that the visibility there is almost zero. There is doubt about our taking off today.

Because the standing train will menace security and since Axis raids over the Southern coast are frequent, the train probably will be moved elsewhere. At 6:45 AM, another weather report is received from Gibraltar. A takeoff today would be inadvisable. Then comes the problem of what to do with the train and the Allied Force headquarters officers. The feasibility of taking them to Salisbury and having them while away their time in the old Castle headquarters of General Clark is considered but Generals Eisenhower and Clark must be somewhere where they can keep fully informed on TORCH developments. The train has a scrambler telephone that can be plugged in anywhere but it is finally decided to return to London, with as many officers as possible remaining on the train. A takeoff late tonight or early tomorrow is hoped for.

At 7:12 AM the special train starts the return trip to London, arriving at Addison Road station at 10:52. Disappointment at not getting off is great. The prime reason is that time is of the essence; the headquarters should get to Gibraltar as soon as possible since the first convoy--going to Algiers--will be passing through the Straits on the night of November 5-6. Continued bad weather at Gibraltar will bring serious complications.

When the train arrives in London, General Clark proceeds immediately to his flat. All officers are requested to remain away from Norfolk House and Grosvenor Square. By mid-afternoon, all officers are to phone and find the time the train is scheduled to depart. General Clark confers with General Eisenhower at his hotel room. No vital cables have arrived. The convoys still apparently are traveling undetected. The British navy is astounded at the success of the convoys' movements. The Axis appears to be in the dark about TORCH. With the exception of the three ships on which the cargo shifted, the convoys have gone forward without a hitch.

The weather report in mid-afternoon is more dismal than ever. Takeoff tonight or tomorrow morning is impossible. General Clark and his officers will have to wait in London another 24 hours. They are as impatient as fire horses that have heard the bell and can't get hitched to the wagon.

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LONDON-BOURNEMOUTH, NOVEMBER 4, 1942--Unable to stand the inactivity after so many hectic weeks and tired of waiting in his flat, the General goes to Norfolk house to go through the incoming and outgoing cables and confer with General Smith who is remaining in London to integrate cables and take care of rear echelon matters. The convoys are still proceeding without incident. Everything, except the weather at Gibraltar, is good.

In mid-afternoon, a Gibraltar weather report comes in and indications are that the takeoff can be made tomorrow morning. The special train is to leave Addison Road station at 9:00 PM. General Clark confers again with General Eisenhower. There has been no word on whether or not the submarine has succeeded in getting Giraud out of Southern France. The convoys are still undetected.

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The same scene as two nights ago is repeated at Addison Road station. The quiet checking in of officers by the station guards...the flickering, yellow lamps beside the blacked-out coaches...the officers seated in the club car. At 9:09 PM, the special train pulls out again for Bournemouth. Again, dinner is served aboard. Everyone retires early since a takeoff must come today if the proper preparations are to be made at Gibraltar. The Flying Fortresses will take off if there is the slightest hope of getting through. The train is nearing Bournemouth at midnight.

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ENROUTE TO GIBRALTAR BY FLYING FORTRESS, NOVEMBER 5, 1942—Everyone aboard the special train is awakened at 4:15 AM. After breakfast, the baggage is taken off and loaded into trucks and cars at the Bournemouth South station. The take-off is scheduled for dawn. It is raining steadily and is quite cold. Hardly a good morning for the huge planes to get off the R.A.F. airdrome at Hurn, eight miles from Bournemouth. The cars and trucks grope down the muddy roads in an ebony night.

When the long convoy arrives at Hurn, the motors of the six Fortresses are already turning over. The cars and trucks are numbered and they drive to the planes with corresponding numbers. General Clark and his party are riding in plane number 2—the Boomerang II, the same ship that took General Lemnitzer to Gibraltar and return for the famed North African trip. The pilot is Captain W.B. Connors. The baggage is stowed aboard quickly but it is sometime before the takeoff. The other five planes in the Gibraltar bound group are dispersed around the black and rainy-field. All that can be seen of them is their glowing exhausts. The party in General Clark's party board the Boomerang. Riding in the radio compartment are General Clark, Colonels Gale and Turner (air force). Lieutenant Beardwood and Staff Sergeant Chaney ride in the ship's nose, with the bombardier and navigator.

The plane bearing the Deputy Commander-in-Chief takes off from Hurn at 8:21 AM, three minutes after the "Red Gremlin" which is carrying General Eisenhower. In event of accident, the personnel has been distributed in the six planes so no key men are in the same Fortress. It is raining hard; the ceiling is about 200 feet. The Boomerang roars down the tarmac, takes off easily, circles the field once and at 8:26 crosses the southern coast of England, then heads west out past lands end. It continues to rain for two hours. The ceiling is so low that Connors keeps the plane between 200 and 500 feet. This also prevents the plane's motors being picked up by the radio detectors in Occupied France. At about 10:30 AM the ceiling lifts and about two miles to the right another Fortress is sighted. The Boomerang then heads south, purring along smoothly until the coast of Spain is sighted at 11:18 AM. The Fortress crosses scores of small fishing boats and tiny Spanish and Portuguese freighters. Except when crossing bays, the Fortress remains two to three miles off the Spanish and Portuguese coasts. About 2:00 PM, two other Fortresses are sighted, flying two miles to the east. The Boomerang is cruising along steadily at 150-160 miles an hour. It is making good time, being aided by a tailwind.

General Clark's plane passes through the Straits of Gibraltar at 4:10 PM, following on the tail of the two other Fortresses. None of our convoys has been sighted during the trip, since we ran close to the coast of Europe. At

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4:20 PM, the Boomerang begins circling the Rock of Gibraltar. The ship calls in to the Gibraltar airport and is told that it will make the number three landing. There are five planes in the air, including British fighters that fly up to look us over. We are just preparing to start in for the landing when the operations officer warns all planes that a "yellow alert" is on and that all aircraft must remain aloft.

Inside the Boomerang, a horn sounds and all gunners load their machine guns. They take gun stations in case enemy aircraft appear. Soon the air is filled with fighter planes, Spitfires, Hurricanes and the slow and ugly aircraft carrier biplanes. The Boomerang circles the Rock. The harbor is filled with all kinds of ships--naval, merchant and seaplanes. There is a tremendous concentration, a prime bombing objective. Also, Gibraltar airport is crammed with airplanes, almost wing to wing. General Clark's plane circles for over an hour before the alert ends. Then it is given clearance to land. Connors noses the plane down past the most publicized face of the famous "Rock." The airport is short and extends out into the bay behind Gibraltar. On his first try, Connors believes he is coming down too far down the runway so he pulls the plane up from 20 feet and we circle the Rock again. The second landing is made at 5:33 PM.

General Clark takes a car immediately to Government House. General Eisenhower's plane has already landed. Soon all the planes but one are in. The sixth Fortress had to turn back because of motor trouble. It contains, among others, General Lemmizter and General Doolittle. It will continue to Gibraltar tomorrow if the weather is good. General Mason-MacFarlane, governor of Gibraltar, welcomes General Clark at Government House. After tea, the high-ranking officers and General MacFarlane confer. One interesting cable has come in from Murphy. It follows:

"General Juin, French North African commander, asked me to call last evening. In order to remain in closer liaison which he felt was necessary, he designated for that purpose two officers of his staff. Crux of his conversation was that while he hopes any provocation will come from the Germans at which time he would ask for American aid, he has orders to defend French Africa at all costs so that we should not make the mistake of attacking because he would have to give orders to oppose us. I mentioned that this did not seem logical since Germany occupies most of France but that we would expect French invitation if we ever came here in force. Juin said he discussed eventual American aid with Admiral Darlan who admitted his desire expressed to Admiral Leahy in 1941 for the U.S. to talk to him when we are able to provide large scale assistance but that he had no commitments to make at this time.

"Juin's G-2, Col. Chretien, called this morning confirming his superior's conversation and said they would be glad to receive a competent high ranking army officer to discuss technical matters relative to Franco-American military cooperation which message I promised to convey.

"Although not looking for immediate intervention both Juin and Chretien expressed concern over Axis plans for this area and they did not indicate immediate anxiety concerning our own plans."

None of the generals is worried about Juin's attitude. With Giraud and Mast in the picture, Juin can be taken care of by them. As Mast promised General Clark, "Juin? Pfft--I take care of him just like that."

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After dinner at Government House, where he is staying, General Clark goes to his Gibraltar office. It is located right under the Rock and is reached, after getting by two guards, by a 500 yard tunnel bored straight into the Rock from the naval yard side. The offices have been hewn from the Rock itself. Spanish workmen are still clearing away the rubble and they present a security problem. Generals Eisenhower and Clark share the same office. Space is at a premium, as many as seven high ranking officers being in the same 9 by 10 room.

At 10:00 PM Allied Force headquarters on Gibraltar, is opened. Washington and London have been informed. What a command post! Under 500 feet of solid rock, reachable only by a long lighted tunnel.

Before midnight the first TORCH convoy, heading far inside the Mediterranean for the Algiers assault, is passing through the blackness of the Straits. The North African attack is almost ready to start! General Clark goes back to Government House shortly before 11 PM.

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GIBRALTAR, NOVEMBER 6, 1942--At dawn, part of the British navy has slipped out of the Gibraltar harbor. Several warships, including two of the four aircraft carriers, have gone to join the first convoy that sneaked through into the Mediterranean.

General Clark goes to his office under the Rock at 8:45 AM and immediately holds a long conference with General Eisenhower. The Commander and Deputy Commander are concerned chiefly with the Giraud problem. Nothing has been heard yet from the submarine as to whether the French General has been evacuated from Southern France. The new headquarters, despite its cramped quarters, is functioning smoothly. The rabbit-warren offices along the twisting halls cut through solid rock are swarming with officers and men. Cables are coming and going. Of immediate concern is communications so General Matejka is called in to outline plans for transmitting messages not only from Gibraltar to London where they will be sped along to Washington, but also headquarters communications with the three task forces. Later, Admiral Cunningham has a long conference with the two generals leading the North African effort.

At 11:00 AM, General Clark goes to Government House for a general conference. It is held in a sitting room overlooking a palm-tree filled yard. General Eisenhower presides. In addition the conferees include Admiral Cunningham, General Mason MacFarlane, Air Marshal Welsh, Admiral Bieri, General Anderson, Brigadier Mockler-Ferryman, Commodore Dick and Colonel Slocum.

The first subject that is brought up is, as General Eisenhower puts it, "the confusion of ideas on treatment of the Spanish." The fear is that the French will attempt to take Spanish Morocco and squeeze the American forces into helping them by antagonizing the Spanish. Giraud and Mast must have it made plain that any move against the Spanish will not be countenanced. Washington also recommends a policy of bluff toward the Spanish to keep them in line but TORCH leaders believe this is unwise. General Eisenhower is willing to "buy the Spanish off if necessary."

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The second problem is the handling of Giraud. It will be impossible to contact the pick-up submarine before tonight. The problem is how to get Giraud to Africa before D-day. General Eisenhower suggests that a flying boat pick up the French general and fly him to Algiers. The plane would have the French tri-color painted on it and would be "a gift to Giraud." An amphibious plane is not available so it appears a seaplane will have to pick up Giraud, fly him to Gibraltar. He would then be transferred to a land plane, also painted with the French flag, and flown to Algiers. Not wanting to confer with Giraud because he fears a conference on "conditions and rules," General Eisenhower will pretend he is still in London. General Mason-Macfarlane will meet him at the airport, hand him a letter from General Eisenhower and then speed him on to Algiers. General Clark suggests that a French plane might be flown from North Africa to Gibraltar to take Giraud to Algiers. Says General Eisenhower: "That's a good idea. I hadn't thought of that!"

Then comes discussion of what if Giraud should balk on paving the way for the American landing either after he boards the submarine or after he reaches Gibraltar. Admiral Cunningham laughs: "He's thrown his coat over the fence. He will do what he's told." An attempt is going to be made tonight to get in touch with Giraud. He will be asked to outline his order to the French North Africans. It will be expanded here. If Giraud isn't reached, the order will be put out under his name anyway. "There's not much Giraud can do but go along with us," comments General Clark. In event the sea is rough and the seaplane can't land, Giraud will come to Gibraltar by sub then be flown to Algiers, arriving about D plus one, next Monday. The delay in his arrival will be circumvented by dispatch of a message to the French North Africans from him, or allegedly from him.

One bit of disconcerting news comes in today. The swells in the Casablanca area are reaching a monthly peak. On Sunday, the day of attack, they will be from eight to ten feet high--too severe for small boat landings. Forecasts show that the first day that a landing can be made will be November 12! A decision on what to do with the Western Task Force probably will have to be made. Regarding this area, a group of French officers has approached American consular officials and indicated they are "ready to confer." TORCH planners are a bit wary. They are convinced the Casablanca force probably won't play along but that the French at the Mediterranean ports will. It appears certain the French navy and coastal batteries will resist. Admiral Cunningham reports that the British Navy is set to crush this opposition in the Mediterranean. General Clark comments that the French navy will soon realize that "it has no place to go but out and no place in North Africa to return to once the battle starts." Neutralization of the coastal batteries will have a priority status. If necessary, the navy will bombard them.

The submarine situation is still "extraordinarily good" reports Admiral Cunningham but KMF2 is now being shadowed and the phenomenal luck of not a ship lost might not hold.

Shift of the Allied command headquarters to Algiers is brought up. General Eisenhower announces that General Clark will go in as soon as possible "because I must have someone who can act for me without having to confer with me or get my opinions...This shows the extraordinary importance of having a deputy. I've just had to have him." General Clark probably will fly to Oran first to find out firsthand the shape of American paratroops so he can report at Algiers, later in

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the day whether the paratroopers are ready to move forward. General Eisenhower will remain at Gibraltar "for some days" since it will be the point to which all commanders will report.

General Anderson then brings up the question of moving anti-aircraft equipment to Algiers and Bizerte. The British equipment that was to have been flown up is not ready. General Clark says that about 24 50 caliber machine guns can be sent up from Oran. Anderson, who reports that the Germans have put more bombers on Sardinia recently, looks relieved. Later, he becomes embroiled with Admiral Cunningham concerning the speed of his movement eastward to Bone and Algiers. Cunningham says he doesn't think it is going to be too difficult "since I'll give you a hand from the sea at Bone if you need it."

So that the commanders of the task forces may have full comprehension of the scope of political developments regarding Giraud and Mast, a pouch is to be delivered on shipboard tonight to General Fredendall as his convoy gets through the Straits. The same material will be radioed in code to Generals Ryder and Patton.

The Commander-in-Chief's conference is to be held daily at Government House. It is to be patterned after the Norfolk house tri-weekly conference at which general problems will be discussed. Upon his return to the office in the Rock, General Clark confers with Air Marshal Welsh concerning his air movement to Algiers. The general would like to move up on D-day and wants to be prepared to do so, taking a small staff with him. Welsh believes it will be impossible. There will be two Flying Fortresses and Air Marshall Welsh says that the British are furnishing two Hudson bombers to transport up the staffs of Welsh and General Anderson. The four planes, possibly augmented by a flying boat, will have a cover of fighter planes.

The sixth Flying Fortress, which failed to make the flight from England yesterday, arrives late this afternoon. It had quite a flight. Thirty miles off the northwest corner of Spain it was attacked by three German J-188s. Each of the planes, apparently at the end of a patrol and running short of gas, attacks the big plane once. The co-pilot is shot in the shoulder. Another machine gun bullet goes through the glassed-in nose, narrowly missing Mr. Mack. The third shot is through the tail. The plane, among others, included Generals Lemnitzer and Doolittle. The reason it didn't get away yesterday was that its hydraulic braking system failed.

The following cable is sent to the Combined Chiefs of Staff in Washington, summarizing the day's work:

"To date plan has developed according to schedule. Principal preoccupation of moment is detailed plan for transporting Kingpin (Giraud) to Africa in time for him to assume French leadership in advance of H-hour and issue proclamation tending to reduce probability of General resistance. Assuming that Kingpin is now aboard submarine, am planning tentatively to transfer him to seaplane on Saturday with later transfer to land plane at Gibraltar which will take him to Algiers or some other spot of his selection. In view of tremendous value of minutes and in order to prevent interminable conferences here revolving around inconsequential details I am writing letter to Kingpin which will be delivered to him here by General Clark. Letter purports to come from London where I am presumed to be held by bad weather. The letter merely reiterates Presidential promises and urges immediate

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departure of Kingpin to North Africa with aid of Americans. Letter has concurrence of senior British and American assistants. Plan is necessarily dependent upon good weather and upon concurrence of Kingpin when he has been contacted.

"Today I was shown information by Governor of Gibraltar which bears directly upon attitude of Spain, and particularly concern of that country as to any foreign intervention in French Morocco. At my request he undertook to see that this message was transmitted to combined chiefs of staff.

"Weather today generally favorable throughout region except that swells on western coast continue to be difficult. However, we have received some intimation that we will be welcomed in small ports, excluding Casablanca and Iyautey, and may expect some assistance from individual French officers and units in cutting off and surrounding main ports.

"For the next few days consider it of vital importance that channels of signal communication between London and this headquarters work at maximum effectiveness...(We might need) instant communication...

"I intend sending Clark by air with a very small nucleus staff to Oran and then to Algiers on D-day if possible so that urgent operational decisions may be given on the ground and thus I hope to avoid any delay in prosecuting the advance eastwards."

Word is received late today that the French have "definite information... that two heavily laden escorted large convoys have left Gibraltar." The second convoy sneaks through the Straits tonight. Still no enemy action against any of the convoys!

Attempts are made tonight to communicate with Captain Wright's submarine but there is only silence. Apparently General Giraud has not yet been taken aboard. That, however, does not account for the sub's silence since it surfaces at night. Removal of Giraud is the only detail of TORCH that is not going according to plan. And, at this crucial hour, when political considerations are paramount, Giraud's cooperation is of great importance.

This is the text of the proposed text of Giraud's message to the French in North Africa:

"Officers, non-commissioned officers and soldiers of the Army of Africa: For 2 years you have scrupulously applied the conditions of the armistice notwithstanding the repeated violations committed by our adversaries.

"Today Germany and Italy wish to occupy North Africa. America anticipates them and assures you of its loyal and disinterested support. We are prohibited from neglecting this un hoped for opportunity of recovery.

"I resume my place of combat among you.

"I ask your confidence and you have mine. We have only one devotion--France, one aim--victory. Remember that the Army of Africa holds in its hands the destiny of France."

Whether it will be dispatched depends on developments in the movement of Giraud.

When TORCH opens*it is likely that certain sources will maintain that opening of the North African front does not solve the problem of helping Russia; that it does not constitute the promised Second Front. Along this line, reports come in that the Germans have moved 70 planes from the Russian front, including 10 from Leningrad; 30 from Norway and 30 from the Western Front. They are being moved to Sicily.

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GIBRALTAR, NOVEMBER 7, 1942—One of our combat-loaded vessels—the Thomas Stone, carrying a combat team plus some field artillery units—has been torpedoed about 300 miles east of Gibraltar! The vessel, taking 1390 men and 520 officers to Algiers for the H-hour assault, has had her propellor and steering gear torn away. She is badly crippled and the troops will be unable to join in the assault. Since they will lie helpless until tugs can arrive, she will be at the mercy of enemy bombers and submarines. Vessels are ordered to her assistance but the remainder of the convoy must continue on. Her fate is uncertain.

Loss of the combat team is serious but it will not affect the decision to attack as scheduled. General Clark impatiently awaits further reports on damage to the Thomas Stone.

The second disquieting piece of news of the day before the attack is that no word has been received from the P-219. What has happened to the submarine and whether or not Giraud has been successfully embarked from Unoccupied France is unknown.

These are the two major developments as the day starts. More naval vessels are missing from Gibraltar harbor when dawn comes. They have joined the second convoy that passed through the Straits last night. Gibraltar airdrome is literally bulging with planes. The only open space is the runway.

The Giraud and torpedoed ship developments occupy General Clark during the early morning. Then, at 11 o'clock he goes to Government House for the Commander-in-Chief's conference. The same two problems occupy most of the discussion. General Eisenhower points out that torpedoing of the Thomas Stone has meant the loss of landing craft, as well as the use of the combat team.

Another attempt to contact the submarine scheduled to pick up Giraud is to be made this afternoon at 2 o'clock. Whether a message is received will determine what action is to be taken regarding Giraud's proclamation to the North African French. If Giraud doesn't show up, the responsibility of French cooperation will rest on Mast. Discussion centers on whether Mast should say he is acting in the name of Giraud. This is discarded as a poor idea since, if Giraud is still in France, he will probably be executed as a traitor. General Clark tells the group that Mast promised he would "act on his own" if anything slipped concerning Giraud's arrival. Some of the high-ranking officers doubt if, in view of developments, Mast will be willing to carry through. Says Admiral Cunningham: "He must. He's gone too far to draw back." If Giraud gets out, General Eisenhower says that a cable can be sent to Mast instructing him that "Giraud requests you to say and do as follows." General Eisenhower believes if the operation goes off successfully without Giraud, he'll be chafing at the bit to get over and into the show and he'll be easier to handle than though he was in on TORCH at H-hour. General Clark says he will await the hoped-for 2 PM contact with the submarine before cabling Murphy how to proceed with Mast.

The question of communicating with the three Task Forces prior to H-hour is brought up. General Eisenhower wants to check with them but Admiral Cunningham says any communication will be caught by detectors "and their positions will become known." Instructions are that the Task Forces are to inform headquarters by 3:30 PM if anything has gone askew and they can't proceed with their tasks. If anything has happened that headquarters knows of that will delay the attack, this is to be communicated to the forces afloat by 4:30 PM. No news will be good

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news. Whether or not the paratroops are to take off from England for the Oran landing must be indicated this afternoon. If they are to land at H-hour, they must take off around 5:30 PM; if they are to go in at dawn, they will take off about 10:30 or 11 PM.

One cruiser with the Algiers force is now heading eastward as fast as possible. Late today it is to send out a message in which it will report itself as a French freighter. The report will be that it has sighted heavy Allied forces. In this way, it is hoped to divert Axis air and naval units to the east end of the Mediterranean.

General Anderson tells the conference that he feels he must get to Algiers as soon as possible so he can "sense the possibilities of making a quick move to Bone. General Clark points out that he has made all arrangements for Anderson, Air Marshal Welsh and himself, and their small staffs, to leave here by plane at noon tomorrow if Algiers is secured. "The entire plan will be worked out by this afternoon," says General Clark.

Brigadier Mockler-Ferryman reports that intelligence data indicates the French "don't know yet what is going to happen." The ships in the Mediterranean have been interpreted as Malta convoys. Admiral Cunningham says later reports are that the French and the Axis believe the ships are going to attack Sicily or the Italian mainland. General Eisenhower says he is surprised that there have been no bombing raids on Gibraltar because of the concentration of shipping and aircraft. The air officers explain it is because of Gibraltar's extreme range from Axis bases. The final report is that the French navy apparently is not alarmed and is making no unusual moves. General Eisenhower closes the conference, to meet again tomorrow "if there is time," by reporting on the Allied attack in the Middle East. It is going splendidly. General Alexander is advancing, has captured 20,000 Axis prisoners and 350 tanks. The advance is going even better than expected.

Returning to his office under the Rock of Gibraltar, General Clark finds a cable from the Naval Commander of the Eastern Task Force. It says: "If I am to carry any success in operation TORCH, must leave U.S.S. Thomas Stone in 37 north 0001 west at 1200Z. Am giving her anti-submarine protection only. Ship is in no danger of sinking. Request immediate instructions." The staff is elated. The troops, unless they are bombed, should be safe. The Naval Commander is told to proceed.

At 2:25 PM a baffling message is received from Captain ^{General}Wright's submarine. It says: "Task gone. Radio failing." It is believed that the confusion results from garbled transmission of the "g;" that it should read: "Task done..." If so, that means Giraud is aboard the P-219! There is nothing to do but wait and hope that that assumption is correct. In less than an hour another message is received. Giraud has been picked up from the submarine by a flying boat. He is proceeding to Gibraltar! There will be no way in which he can reach Africa tonight so Generals Clark and Eisenhower will confer with him in their tunnel office and try and convince him to issue a statement which will be sent to London for broadcast to North Africa.

General Giraud, a tall, unshaven, hollow-cheeked man in civilian clothes, arrives at headquarters at 4:03 PM and is taken immediately to the office that the Commander and his Deputy share. Captain Wright, bearded but grinning, is with Giraud.

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Generals Clark and Eisenhower, with Colonel Holmes for an interpreter, begin their conference. The red light bulb above their door flashes on, signifying no one is to enter. A guard is placed outside the door. General Clark dashes off from time to time to get documents. An urgent cable has gone to Washington informing the Combined Chiefs of Staff that the all-important conference is underway. At 6:42 PM another message is sent from the rock-hewn room where the three generals and the interpreter are conferring. It says: "Conference with Kingpin, Eisenhower and Clark still in progress. Kingpin will not broadcast statement until after he reaches North Africa. Details for transporting him there not yet completed." Whenever General Clark comes briefly out of the office, he shakes his head and mops his forehead. Long argument is also being consumed concerning the command relationship.

While the conference is going on the "warning order" that TORCH is going on as scheduled is issued at 5:21 PM! No word has been received from the Task Forces to declare that a landing looks inadvisable. Similarly, nothing to delay TORCH has cropped up here. The order reads: "Warning order. H-hour confirmed November 8. For East and Center 0100 hours, GMT, for West about 0430 hours. Acknowledge. Urgent. From Eisenhower for ABFOR. (London)" Orders regarding release of the first TORCH communique come out. The communique will be released in Washington at 9 PM, Eastern War Time. The instructions continue: "Release communique number one in London and begin TORCH broadcasts in accordance with (instructions). Acknowledge. Urgent."

With all three men looking haggard, the conference between Generals Giraud, Eisenhower and Clark ends at 7:06 PM. It has lasted just over three hours! Giraud, who met General Mason-Macfarlane just as the meeting was starting, goes to the Governor's house for dinner. Generals Clark and Eisenhower, who have had their bed rolls and personal kits moved into their tunnel headquarters so they can spend the night there, go to Vice Admiral Stewart-Browne's for a quick dinner. Headquarters is tremendously busy. The cables are flowing in at a terrific rate.

One cable that has just come in carries exceptionally good news. The surf in the Casablanca area has dropped. The cable says: "Observations 7 November show moderate sea, but no definite swell. Ten foot waves from east out of Strait appear to have nullified swell. Believe Mehedia and Fedala (where Western Task Force landings will come) will have choppy sea with swell four to six feet high. This condition predicted from 10 PM 7 November until 8:00 AM 9 November. Protected area at Fedala should show three foot waves." If this is true, the Patton force will be able to go in on schedule!

Following dinner, and the reason Generals Clark and Eisenhower ate elsewhere than Government House was because General Macfarlane ran into a matter of protocol on deciding whether to seat General Giraud or General Eisenhower on his right. Rather than bring an embarrassing moment since relations with Giraud are decidedly strained after the conference, the two American generals eat elsewhere. General Clark returns to the office with General Eisenhower at 9:50 PM and the conference is resumed. Things go from bad to worse. Giraud wants top command. He intimates he has been double-crossed, that he didn't know TORCH was so imminent. An aide, going briefly into the conference room hears General Clark tell Colonel Holmes to interpret the following to the French General: "We would like the Honorable General to know that the time of his usefulness to the Americans for the restoration of the glory that was once France is NOW. We do not need you after tonight!" That is all he catches before leaving the room again.

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The second conference between Giraud and the two American generals last another hour and then breaks up. It has not gone well. Giraud, apparently, is not going to go along. The Frenchman returns to Government House for the night. He probably will do a lot of thinking before he goes to sleep. He will know that tonight French North Africa is being attacked. With developments, a return to France for him probably would mean trial as a traitor and death. But he still feels that he should have command; that he should lead an effort planned and executed by Americans and British. Apparently he is putting his personal ambitions and interests above those of the France he professes to want to liberate from the Axis. As he leaves, General Clark tells Colonel Holmes to interpret: "If you don't go along, General Giraud, you're going to be out in the snow on your ass!"

The text of the communique being released at 1 AM (from now on the time in this diary will be Greenwich Time) is as follows: "United States Army, Navy and Air Forces started landing operations during the hours of darkness this morning at numerous points on the shores of French North Africa. The operation was made necessary by the increasing Axis menace to this territory. Steps have been taken to give the French people, by radio and leaflets, early information of the landings. There combined operations of United States forces were supported by units of the Royal Navy and RAF, and followed by parties of British troops.

"Lieutenant General Dwight D. Eisenhower of the United States Army is Commander-in-Chief of the Allied Forces."

Reports are coming in from agents in North Africa. The road between Bone and Bougie has been mined. The S.S. Janine has been "bombed" in the Eastern Mediterranean. This is probably the fake French ship; the British cruiser is reporting on to divert the Axis. Or, it could be that the Axis has made a mistake, bombing a French ship that it thought was allied since the attack came just before dusk. The Eastern Task Force is informed that guides are set to be on the beaches. The combat team aboard the torpedoes Thomas Stone was a battalion from the 39th R.C.T.

The "tunnel" headquarters is throbbing with activity as midnight approaches. By now, the assault forces have gone over the sides of their ships and are moving toward the shore in the darkness. General Clark begins to circulate around the hall. He explains further what happened with Giraud. The Frenchman wanted to assume complete command within 48 hours. General Clark continues:

"We both told him that he didn't have the means to assume the command. I told him repeatedly that he had not contributed a thing to the initial success of the operation yet we were willing to bring him into it. Ike and I batted back and forth. I'd argue with him for some time. And then, weary, I'd nod to Ike and he'd start working on him. Giraud remained adamant. 'What about the prestige of Giraud?' the Frenchman would ask. 'What would the French people think of me; what about my family.' I told him it shouldn't make much difference whether he was governor of North Africa or general of the armies. After all, he made none of the preparations. After hours of talking it was obvious that it was useless, that we were getting nowhere. I think Giraud is waiting to see how things come out. He's going to sit tight and if we are successful he'll come around in 48 hours or so and say that he'll go into North Africa. He was very solicitous to me. He told me he would make me a Deputy Commander! We offered to make him a virtual king in North Africa, offered him money to build up his defenses and strengthen his army. He demurred. To hell with him!"

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GIBRALTAR, NOVEMBER 8 (D-Day), 1942--The 39th R.C.T., its ship torpedoed as it proceeded toward Algiers for the assault, has started to shore--150 miles--in its motor driven landing craft! This is reported shortly after midnight by the tugs that went to the Thomas Stone to give it assistance. The decision was made by the regimental commander. Apparently the American troops were not content to sit on the crippled ship. They preferred to go ashore. They won't know exactly where they are landing but they are going in! General Clark grins at their pluck.

Generals Clark and Eisenhower labor perfecting the draft of a cable to the Combined Chiefs of Staff in Washington outlining what occurred in the conference with Giraud. Then, they sit down to listen to a shortwave broadcast of the President's message on a special radio that has been rigged up in the office of the two generals. General Gruenther briefs the four newspapermen attached to headquarters on last-minute developments. In all probability, no reports will come back from the assault forces until about dawn.

This is the message that Generals Eisenhower and Clark cooperatively draft for the Combined Chiefs of Staff in Washington:

"Six hour conference between American Eagle, (Clark), Kingpin (Giraud) and the Allied Commander-in-Chief has just terminated. At beginning of conference, Kingpin refused to issue any statement that could be broadcast tonight either from here or from London or Washington. He stated that he has already authorized General Mast to make a statement in his name from Algiers tomorrow morning some hours after the landing and that no other word from him was desirable or necessary. He specifically insisted that no radios emanating from either national capital or from Allied Headquarters should connect his name in any way with this operation.

"At end of conference Kingpin flatly declined to participate in operation except as Allied Supreme Commander in a position in which he would be completely independent to carry out his own strategic and tactical conceptions. Moreover, he insisted that this position must be given to him at once. He stated categorically that by November 10th all forces then ashore must come under his control and that thereafter all forces in North Africa would have to come under his command upon debarkation. He stated that the present Allied Commander-in-Chief could retain control of base and administrative arrangements near the ports and take care of arrival of reinforcements, including supplies, but that he (Kingpin) would make all decisions respecting the tactical and strategical employment of the troops. It was explained to him over and over again that the Allies hope to turn over command of this region to the French at the earliest possible moment and that in the meantime every effort would be made to assist him in organizing and equipping his forces. But it was pointed out that until the Allied Force can be well established in North Africa, there is no possibility of the two governments disrupting the present present command and staff arrangements that have been so laboriously developed for the control of large Ground, Air and Naval formations. It was further explained that since the plan was already in the process of execution there were measures now going forward, including movement of convoys, the landing of troops and the assignment of tactical objectives, that could not be changed over night without the creation of great confusion and uncertainty. These circumstances prevent immediate change in command and staff. In response to questions, he was assured that he would be recognized promptly as Military and Civil head of all French affairs in North Africa and that the Allies would assist him in developing forces that he could employ as he saw fit, even to re-entering France from the South and engaging the Germans in battle there. He is obsessed

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with the idea of moving immediately into France and implied that if he were made Commander, he would promptly use the entire Air Force coming into North Africa in neutralizing Sardinia and in transporting troops into Southern France and transfer the fighter and bomber units to airfields in Southern France. Both the Eagle and I urged him to go along with us temporarily on the basis previously outlined and under all the assurances that the President has made respecting French sovereignty and territorial integrity. We pointed out that eventual command has already been promised him but that as a soldier he would realize that the establishment of secure bases and development of land and sea communications would require several weeks at least. To all this he was completely deaf; nothing matters to him except personal command and he would not accept any promises of close collaboration and consultation in the ordering of tactical and strategical enterprises. He even indicated that as Commander-in-Chief he could not be responsible to the Combined Chiefs of Staff but that it would be my responsibility to deal with them, particularly in obtaining necessary reinforcements and supplies from the Allied governments, after which he alone would direct their employment--whether in North Africa, in Sardinia, in Sicily or in France. Although it was laboriously pointed out that the Allied Commander-in-Chief did not possess authority to create an echelon of command that would be superior to himself and that any such arrangement would have to be previously approved by the two governments, Kingpin stated that he could not accept the delay involved.

"Kingpin said that there was no possibility of his guaranteeing non-resistance in our attacks tonight, and would not make any attempt to do so. He seems to assume however, that we will get ashore and that thereafter he would appear in Algiers in the uniform of a French general and take command.

"He was told that in our view the first great service he could render the Allied cause was to insure that we would encounter no opposition in landing so that all forces and supplies would be available for use against the common enemy rather than against Frenchmen. It was suggested also that his next great service would be the organizing of the Army, Navy and Air Force in North Africa in such a way as to make it a formidable fighting machine for assistance in freeing France.

"During hour's recess in the conference, I conferred with principal subordinates, particularly Cunningham, concerning Kingpin's demands. Admiral Cunningham labelled them as preposterous and unreasonable in current circumstances. In my anxiety to keep Kingpin with us, even though it is too late for him to assist us in the role in which we especially desired him. I conceded every point he made except that only I must remain directly responsible to the Combined Chiefs of Staff for operation of the Allied Force until different arrangements could be made with the consent of the two governments. I even went so far as to state that I would support his ambition to command the forces here as quickly as he had completed the great Civil and Military organizational task in North Africa and he could place in the field an organized French force of any respectable size. He replied that his organizational task would be completed in two days repeat two days during which time he would devote himself to the civil and military population and local leaders. He would, therefore, assume command at that time as he had already planned. I carefully explained that his proposal would make me responsible to him on the one hand and on the other to the two governments, which are providing all the resources and dictating the major strategy. He seemed totally unable to grasp the point that I could not be responsible to two entirely separate agencies, whose views, respecting immediate and primary objectives in the theater, do not remotely agree.

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"As a final word, he stated that he would be a spectator in the affair. He would not interfere with our plans or operations but would not take part in them and would not authorize the use of his name in any way in connection therewith.

"This is the way the matter stands and we are proceeding with the execution of plans.

"My impression, shared by the Eagle and Cunningham, is that Kingpin is playing for time. Knowing that there will be some French resistance and that he is determined not to lay himself open to the charge of being in any way responsible for the shedding of French blood, he realizes that he can do nothing with respect to the landing itself and can gain no credit from it, no matter how successful. Consequently he is choosing to wait to see what happens. His method of gaining time is to insist upon a point which as a soldier he is well aware the Allies cannot accept at this moment. If we are generally successful tonight we will not be surprised to find him more conciliatory tomorrow morning since it must be obvious to him that in every way we are trying to make him the big man in the region and give him a definite personal influence and leadership in winning the war. Incidentally, he categorically denies any knowledge of the ten million francs request upon which we sent that amount to Colonel Schow. But he says that Beaufort is an honest man and will spend the money toward fighting Germany.

"Eagle and I are bitterly disappointed, principally because of the help Kingpin could have rendered except for his intense personal ambition and ego and because we knew that the Combined Chiefs of Staff and the two governments were counting strongly on him for constructive assistance.

"Latest news that we have been able to gather from North Africa indicates that we may expect considerable resistance which, if true, shows that Mast, operating in the name of Kingpin, has not been very effective. The Chief of Staff of the Oran division has just reported, through Eddy, that their plans have been discovered and that an intense alert is being conducted."

FLASH: 0238. The Eastern Task Force reports in. Their assault has been successful. Landings have been made on the three beaches! All the brief message says is: "Tomboy ABC."

Flash: 0319. The Western Task Force reports that Sidi Fer uch has been captured.

Generals Clark and Eisenhower are elated. Everything is going fine.

Flash: 0322. The Center Task Force reports that landings at two beaches, known in operations as "Y" and "Z", were successful, "the latter unopposed. "No news yet from X. No firing yet Sea smooth. Condition ideal."

Flash: 0332. Landing "X" beach successful. Ships proceeding in shore, (From Center Task Force) for unloading."

One garbled message is received from the Oran Force (Center). It says: "Landings unopposed. Broken x x x shooting began. Do not start a fight unless you have to x x x."

General Clark is hopping in and out of his office, moving up and down the hall from office to office. "Well," he grins, "she looks pretty good!"

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The generals, who have already sent a cable to Washington reporting on the fine reports from Algiers, send the following cable to Washington regarding Oran: "Landings on all three beaches effected without opposition. Ships proceeding toward shore to complete unloading. No word yet from Western Task Force which is scheduled to begin landing in about five minutes."

Comments General Clark as he waits for the Royal Navy to deliver more bulletins: "This is kind of like waiting for ~~retirement~~ to come as in on election night." Admiral Cunningham is the colorful character in the rock-hewn tunnel. He has taken off his coat with so much gold braid and so many decorations. He is wearing a white turtle-necked sweater and rubber boots in which his dark navy trousers are tucked.

An air raid alarm sounds at Gibraltar at 4:32. Soon the guns start firing and the 500 yard long tunnel is filled with people, some in nightclothes. It is reported that three enemy planes are over the peninsula. The din of the anti-aircraft guns is terrific. The all-clear comes at 5:09. No bombs have been dropped on Gibraltar. General Mason-Macfarlane comes to visit the two generals and they discuss the Giraud conferences. Then the two generals take off their shoes and lie down in the common office on canvas cots.

At 5:45, General Fredendall radios that the "landing continues unopposed." Algiers is silent. There is still nothing from the Patton force. The generals continue to catnap.

First contact with the Western Task Force comes at 556 when Admiral Hewitt, commanding the naval effort there, radios that the "operation is proceeding on schedule. A report comes in on the 39 paratroop planes that left England about 11 PM. Two of them have made forced landings, presumably in Spain. A third one is at Gibraltar airdrome. The Paris radio makes no mention of the North African attack in its early morning broadcast. Later, Vichy announces that Darlan and Juin are directing the Navy and Army. The Vichy radio claims heavy bombardment of Oran and Algiers with attempted landing in Algiers harbor. The French say that all have been repulsed. It is announced that Petain will reply to President Roosevelt later in the day. At 0642 a radio comes in reporting that the force attacking Oran harbor is facing fire from batteries. The Royal Navy reports an "unknown" vessel 12 miles away at Oran. The French navy has lain quiet during the night but there might be naval fireworks today. There is no word on the paratroops but six Spitfires with American markings were sent up from Gibraltar to escort the jumpers into Oran.

FLASH: 0745—The Algiers force, under General Ryder, reports that Maison Blanche airport has been captured. This was a prime goal. Ryder also reports that air reconnaissance also shows that all bridges are intact in his area.

From the Naval Center Task Force comes a report at 7:45 that the Brilliant has sunk an enemy vessel (the type was not given). Still no really definite word from the Western Task Force but Admiral Hewitt's message about two hours ago indicated the troops were going ashore. General Clark, whose code name in Gibraltar has been his first name so he is called "General Mark," sifts through the handwritten messages that are cascading faster and faster over his desk. General Fredendall reports that both Ranger landings in Oran were "unopposed." However, there is "heavy fighting for Tufton hill battery. Maracaibos beached but unloading

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not started yet. Considerable opposition in Bluff (Oran) harbor. Our naval inshore patrols engaged by shore batteries." All indications are that the heavy going is at Oran with General Fredendall's Center Task Force facing the heaviest opposition. He reports a little later that his forces have captured Cupton battery.

The first direct word concerning the Western Task Force is received just before 0800. It says "Plan A" being carried out. This was one of the three landing plans in the Rabat-Sale region. At 0815 the commander of the naval unit at Oran reports: "Have intercepted French S.S. Jamaïque escaping from Oran. Appears to be full of troops. Am escorting her into Arzeu." Another report comes in that the Oran airport is on fire; extent of damage, either to buildings or runways, is not known. At 0939, General Ryder reports in that he is, with Masts help, moving to capture Darlan, currently in Algiers, and take the Frenchman "into protective custody." The only word from the paratroopers comes via the navy at Oran. The paratroopers' observation plane is circling in the vicinity. What effect the airdrome fire will have on the plan to land in the planes so a quick takeoff to the east could be effected is not yet known.

At 0930, the Vichy radio announced that Petain, in reply to President Roosevelt's message regarding reason for the North African attack, said: "There is no justification in this attack. We will defend the Empire against any aggressor. ..That is the order I give you...Maintain discipline and calm."

The crack British battleship Rodney radios: "Intend to engage target P. 0950." This means the Rodney is moving up to fire her 16 inch guns at coastal batteries defending Algiers. At 10:17, General Fredendall reports that his Maracaibos were discharged by 0800. The X-force is in contact with the French at Loumel.

At 1013 General Eisenhower sends the following cable to the Combined Chiefs of Staff in Washington: "Am making one more effort to draw Kingpin into fold. ~~From~~ I intend to repeat my readiness to recognize and support Kingpin as leader of the French effort to save North Africa and restore France, to recognize him further as the senior Allied officer in the region with all honors due to him in such position, to consult him constantly in all strategical matters and to cooperate with him to fullest extent. Also to do my best to help equip his troops. The only point on which I cannot give way is that the Combined Chiefs of Staff are my immediate command superior and that any agreement between him and me must omit the stipulations that he can issue operational orders to me."

After dispatch of the cable, Generals Clark and Eisenhower leave their tunnel headquarters for the first time since last evening. They go to Government House where they will confer with Giraud. Meanwhile, this message is dispatched to General Fredendall at Oran:

"Clark with small group will leave Gibraltar by air tomorrow or as soon thereafter as practicable for Algiers where he will establish advance AFHQ. Brief stop will be made at Oran for conference with you at airport. Accompanying will be Commanding General, British First Army, each with small group staff officers. Party will travel in three B-17s and 3 Hudsons with fighter escort. Essential that as soon as a suitable airfield in your area is under control you specify its location and time when landing can be effected."

A naval scrap in developing in the Mediterranean between British and French forces. The British report heavy damage to three French destroyers while one of

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the British ships has a hit in the shellroom, which if flooded. The naval commander reports he expects to get the damage under control.

By mid-morning it appears that everything is going about as anticipated in TORCH. French naval units and navy-manned batteries are resisting and from second-hand information it appears that Patton may be having some trouble on air fields. Information from the Task Forces is meager but no questions are being asked of force commanders because of not wanting to worry them at this stage by demanding reports. We do know that we are fairly solidly ashore at Algiers and Oran and that the Western Task Force began as scheduled. At Algiers we had to sink a French destroyer attempted to escape and captured a French ship attempting to leave Oran.

The Oran airport that is burning is Leach Senia. General Fredendall reports "hangar at Leach Senia hit and burning, numerous aircraft in air and ground destroyed." This is followed by a report stating that light anti-aircraft as well as heavy at both La Senia and Tafara aerodromes. The prime objective at Oran was the taking of ~~La~~ Tafara. The report continues: "Our paratroops aircraft observed flying over Grande Sebkra. About 20. x x x Others seen landing at 0820. No military traffic observed on roads north south of Grande Sebkra.

At 1057 General Ryder, at Algiers, is asked to "rush situation report. Are conditions suitable arrival Anderson." A few seconds later, the intelligence section intercepts two messages from the French Air Force Signal. The first, sent from Safi at 0930 says: "75 mm and 155 mm have been captured. Aerodrome perimeter being defended by three tanks." The guns are our caliber. Apparently, they are ours. The second message, sent at 0952, says: "Maison Blanche and Blida aerodromes have been captured by the enemy." Looks like the Algiers force is really going strong! The Safi report shows that General Patton's force--or at least part of it--has landed!

A short while later Admiral Bennett reports that the French warship Casablanca "sortied and attacked our force." What happened during the attack is not communicated. The following message is received from General Ryder: "Admiral Darlan now in Algiers. An American detachment will report to Flagpole (Mast) at dawn or shortly thereafter. They have been instructed to take Darlan into protective custody with utmost diplomacy. Request your active cooperation."

It is revealed today that General Giraud, upon arrival at the tunnel headquarters, asked the American generals to transmit a message for him to Mast. This was done immediately. In it, he told Mast he had arrived in Gibraltar and asked him to "take steps to broadcast my order of the day for all French North Africa." After the ill-starred conference, the French general was reminded that the message had been dispatched six hours previously. General Eisenhower asked him if he wanted to recall it. Giraud then dictated another message to Mast: "If proclamation has not yet gone out do not publish it." However, this message could not be sent because the receiving station was not on the air. At 0300 today, two hours after the assault, contact still hadn't be established! Giraud's proclamation must have gone through!

A report is received that the ship the Brilliant sunk was the French escort vessel, La Surprise. The Eastern Naval Task Force sends in the first long report since the operation started 11 hours ago. It reads: "Friendly reception at Sidi

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Ferruch. Landings on Apples, Beer, Charlie (the code names for the three beaches where Ryder's forces assaulted) sectors. Progressing with delay. Landing mechanical transports at Beer due to defect in HMS Ennerdale. Weather calm. Local fog. Shipping close inshore at all sectors. No enemy air attack yet. Carrier aircraft operating. Purpose not completed. HMS Broka (destroyer in special harbor assault) in harbor at 0615. Landed troops, encountered resistance, no scuttled. (meaning none of the ships moored in Algiers harbor were scuttled). One French submarine left harbor dived in bay. Aircraft attacked. No hits. No bombardment called for. Own casualties: HMS Malcolm boiler hit, can steam 14 knots closed. No enemy mines found. Maison Blanche (airport) captured."

Communication with the Algiers force is good. One radio reports: "Damage South Mati negligible. Our troops cannot enter North. Can bombing support be given on West Mati time required 1300 hours. Confirm."

Giraud has come around! He is going to cooperate and go into French North Africa!! This results from the two hour conference Generals Eisenhower and Clark had with him at Government House from 1030 to 1230. The following cable is dispatched to Murphy: "After conversations here with Kingpin, we are in complete agreement. Desire that French aircraft previously requested be sent to Gibraltar without delay to take him to Algiers. Advise time of arrival and type of plane." It looks as though General Clark doped it out right. Giraud was stalling for time to see how successful the attack last night was going to be.

The following situation report has just been received from the Eastern Task Force. It is now exactly 12 hours since TORCH began. "11th Brigade have Fouka, Kolea and Castiglione. Advanced troops on Kolea-Blida road. Maison Blanche aerodrome captured. Matefor battery negotiating truce. No further news of Beer landing."

The following cable is sent to the Combined Chiefs of Staff in Washington regarding Giraud. "Have just concluded gentlemen's agreement with Kingpin that is entirely acceptable to me and is fully compatible with my direct subordination to the Combined Chiefs of Staff. The basis of the agreement is exactly what I offered Kingpin throughout the long conference of yesterday. I recognize him as the leader of the effort to prevent Axis aggression in North Africa, the Commander in Chief of all French forces in the region and the governor of the area. As Commander-in-Chief of the Allied American British forces I will cooperate with him to the fullest possible extent and will work in closest collaboration with him.

"No later than tomorrow Kingpin will leave for Africa to do his utmost to stop all resistance to us and to begin organizing the French forces for employment against the Axis. While there will undoubtedly be future difficulties because of personality I am confident that this agreement represents a great step in advancing our interests here and am truly delighted that we were able to bring it about.

"Present at the final conference were General Clark, Admiral Cunningham, General MacFarlane and the Commander-in-Chief."

Following are the notes General Clark made during the successful Giraud conference at Government House: "Nothing to do with Fighting French...Represents man who defends French North Africa...Does not want to command in Libya...Set up small U.S.-French-British general headquarters...Wants place for quick victory--no unity of command, but by cooperation...Set up Giraud as C-in-C N.A. and Gov. and Ike as C-in-C A. Force to come to support him in his great effort, etc., will cooperate but not under his command...Would not press joint control early--48 hours--8 days, etc--it's principle only striving for...Commander of forces in

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battle should be man on ground who has greatest means (general statement), however in great battle for defense of NA although U.S. troops are bulk, would not insist on U.S. command, but would work on basis of cooperation...Kingpin wants to know how this cooperation would be obtained, by what staff procedure...Repeat, small battle—one command; grand battle—cooperative command...Lots of grief lies ahead—same as a half interest in a wife. Ike will run out on me and leave me sleeping with this big Frog...All in agreement—some minor adjustments to make—mentioned his similar set-up—Kingpin and government in Belgium; look at results!...Leader of effort to free Africa and save France. We help by cooperation." unity
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At 1445, General Clark returns to Government House to rest. Since General Clark gave up his room to General Giraud, he has no bed. He's going to trade off with General Eisenhower in using General Ike's bed. The general will take the night trick in the tunnel if nothing unforeseen happens. Another review of situation goes out to the Combined Chiefs of Staff. It deals primarily with the lack of news from the Western Task Force. Only two reports have been received. The latest is that the landing at Fedala was proceeding with little resistance and that batteries on Chirqui Point has been silenced. Tafaraoui airfield, the important base near Oran, has just been captured. Twenty four Spitfires are dispatched, with American pilots, for the airdrome. Gibraltar airport is thinning out somewhat as planes, piloted for the most part by Americans, clear out for the three attacked areas. The weather is bad, rainy with a little fog and a low ceiling.

The Oran force sends in a sparkling report at 1500. It reads: "16 CT (combat team) has reached La Macta on East and holds Flelrus on South, little opposition. 18 CT approaching St. Cloud. French fighting delaying action. 26 CT has captured Ain-el-Turk. Armored combat commander B has captured and reduced Tafaraoui Airfield. The cooperation and support furnished by Commodore Troubridge and Royal Navy has been splendid. The U.S. Army and the Royal Navy are going to town."

At 1642 this report comes from the Eastern Force: "Friendly reception Apple Beer beaches particularly such opposition mostly naval. Part sixth Commandos landed near Admiralty by mistake two landing craft destroyed attempting to reach proper beach. Casualties not known. They are now containing Pear. Broka got through (harbor) boom to dock but Malcolm was severely damaged by coast defenses casualties U.S. troops one officer 10 men dead. Thirteen seriously injured. Mati batteries subjected to naval bombardment. Nord bombed but has not surrendered. Pear-Emir-Arca continues to resist. Third btn 39 meeting resistance at Fort De Lbeau. Three tanks encountered damaging some of our trucks. Air reports negative on damage to roads and bridges. Petrol dump at La Chiffa appears OK. One Vichy plane shot down at Blida early but later reception friendly. Blida and Maison Blanche captured and ready for planes."

The battalion of the 39th that was aboard the torpedoed Thomas Stone and which decided to try and go 130 miles to shore and land as best they could, has landed! They were accompanied by one destroyer. The daredevil combat team got wet and a couple of boats capsized but they came through to effect a successful landing some distance west of Algiers. There are no details.

The Western Task Force finally makes a fairly complete report. It follows: "All assault waves succeeded in landing. Safi port and town captured by assault. Heavy artillery fired from shore batteries against covering force particularly after daylight. Again, landing forces overcame (the batteries). Batteries Fedala silenced. Naval sortie searching from 2 cruisers destroyers and 8/M's. Heavy naval engagement still in progress. Hostile AA fire has ceased at Fedala. All assault troops ashore at Lyautey..."

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General Clark returns to his Under-the-Rock headquarters at 2025. He has slept four hours and plunges back into his work with zest. The situation has become quieter since dark and fewer cables are coming in. At 2110 American and British newspapermen assigned to Allied Force Headquarters troop into the general's office. They are news hungry so General Clark has agreed to tell them that the advance headquarters is moving up to Algiers tomorrow. Then he explains the inclusion of Giraud in the North African plans and promises that a communique concerning Giraud will be released tomorrow. Major Phillips then prevails on the general to tell the story of his North African escapade via plan-submarine-falbot and flying boat. While the newsmen chuckle, and General Clark laughs too as he tells it, the story of the Mast conversations is pieced together. It will be released at a later date, probably soon after the Giraud story comes out. In the midst of the press conference, General Clark's phone rings. After talking for a few moments, he tells the newsmen the biggest news of TORCH to date.

1 off record

Algiers has surrendered!

This is the text of General Ryder's message: "French authorities ceased firing at conclusion of conference. We occupied city starting 1900Z 8th. All firing must cease our side. We will occupy all fortifications in harbor starting dawn tomorrow."

The news is flashed to the United States and the rest of the world by the three news agencies--AP, UP and INS. The conference ends when General Mason-MacFarlane sticks his head in the door.

General Clark had asked the Governor of Gibraltar to have a heart-to-heart talk with his guest--General Giraud--tonight after dinner and Mason-MacFarlane has come to report. General Clark probably will confer in Algiers tomorrow with Admiral Darlan. He wanted to have Giraud sounded out on what would be his attitude if Darlan were brought into the picture in exchange for turning over the French fleet. Mason-MacFarlane says that Giraud grudgingly said a place might be found for Darlan if such a prize as the fleet could be obtained but that he (Giraud) hasn't much faith or a great deal of regard for Darlan. After this conference, General Clark, who probably will take off about 0900 tomorrow for Algiers, via Oran, goes back to Government House for the night.

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GIBRALTAR-ALGIERS, NOVEMBER 9, 1942--The situation has developed satisfactorily--even better than anticipated--and General Clark is tremendously pleased when he returns at 0800 to his office hewn in the limestone interior of Gibraltar. The Western Task Force has reported that "all waves succeeded in landing." The American Navy is still fighting the French Navy off Algiers and appears to be doing excellently. In the center, at Oran, the three combat teams of the 1st Division are driving forward steadily and the prime goal of Tafaraoui airfield has been reached and taken.. There is still no word from the paratroops at Oran but air observation shows 30 planes grounded on the shore of a dry lake about 20 miles west of Oran. There is no activity about the planes but tracks leading away suggest the paratroops have been picked up by transportation of one of our combat teams. The situation at Algiers is excellent with the only heavy opposition coming from the coastal batteries in Algiers bay. We hold the high ground immediately west of Algiers. There has been sporadic street fighting. General Clark has good cause to be satisfied. His politico-military trip to Algiers has paid rich dividends--resistance has been light.

General Giraud has taken off this morning for Algiers. General Clark will

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continue the conferences with the French general at the Algerian capital. After going through the early morning reports and holding a final conference with General Eisenhower, General Clark goes to Government House and packs. Following a quick trip back to the tunnel for documents, the general drives to Gibraltar airdrome, arriving there at 1058. Before the two planes that are taking the Americans of the advance headquarters to Algiers are loaded, the weather has closed in. An immediate takeoff is impossible so, after photographs of the general have been taken beside the "Red Gremlin," the party goes to an R.A.F. Nissen hut for lunch. The weather is still nasty but it is decided to take off to assure reaching Algiers before dark.

The "Red Gremlin," with General Clark, Commodore Dick, Colonel Holmes, Major Meacham, Lieutenants Beardwood and Merrill, and Staff Sergeant Chaney as passengers, takes off from Gibraltar at 1239. It is followed by the "Boomerang" and several Spitfires. Over the Mediterranean, the two Flying Fortresses and their 13 escorting fighters rendezvous and start for Algiers. The group flies from 500 to 700 feet, with eight Spits on the Africa side and five on the north flank. The Boomerang is so close we can see the pilots and gunners. General Clark opens the panel top over the radio room and, in goggles and helmet, sticks his head out to watch the flight. We are bucking a strong headwind, the sea is choppy and we are flying through broken clouds.

At 1519 Africa is sighted on the starboard front quarter. We are soon over a range of brown, barren hills. A coastal fog sweeps in and the two bombers and 13 fighters skim over the cumulus. At 1542, all of the Spits but one fall away to look for landing places. They are running short on gas. Algiers, a mass of white buildings huddled along a crescent-shaped bay, is sighted at 1605. The fog has disappeared. At 1614 we are over Maison Blanche airport. The Spits are landing so the two bombers, with hours of gas left, circle the large, plane-filled field. At 1652 we start in for our landing, the "Boomerang" still circling so it can follow us in. Just as we are gliding in we are informed that German planes are in the vicinity and that as soon as the ship stops rolling we are to get out and find cover--leave the baggage and personal equipment.

The passengers and crew quit the "Red Gremlin" quickly. Overhead, flying in echelon, are 12 planes--German Junkers 88s. Instead of running to cover we walk across the field, heads tipped back, watching the planes which have already crossed the field at about 6,000 feet. We can hear the pom poms thump-thumping from the ships in the harbor. As we flew over we noted how crowded the harbor was with naval and commercial craft. Soon the ack ack is puffing black balls around the German planes. They break formation and start diving for the harbor. Two appear to have been hit. Next comes the dull pum of bombs. General Clark and his party are still standing in the open watching. The ack ack is still going up as the party gets into British Bren gun carriers to start the trip into Algiers. Meanwhile, Spitfires have been roaring off Maison Blanche in pursuit of the Germans. Just as the Bren gun carriers are about to start, General Clark standing up in the front of the first carrier, one of the Junkers, apparently crippled by flak, is just south of the airdrome with two Spits on its tail. The Americans and British on the ground are cheering and shouting as the lead Spit closes the gap between itself and the German plane. Soon it is firing, first from directly behind the Junkers' tail and then coming up under its belly. The plane's motors begin smoking. Meanwhile, all the ground guns have opened up on the German. The air is full of flak and tracer bullets. The Junkers is through. The Spits fall away and go in search of other prey. But the fire from the ground

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continues. The Junkers is circling the field. Apparently it is going to try and land on Maison Blanche! Because of the intensity of ground fire it can't. It crashes about half a mile from the field, sending up great columns of dust. The caravan headed by General Clark heads for Algiers. German planes are still bombing the harbor. A solid wall of ack-ack fire is being put up. The orange balls of fire look like strings of decorative lights. General Clark and his party have plunged from a quiet routine flight into the thick of enemy action. Guns are bombing on all sides and occasionally there is the thumping of bombs landing. Just as the caravan is going alongside the airdrome, a stick of three bombs falls on the field, one of them 100 feet from the "Red Gremlin's" tail!

About halfway into Algiers, a German plane directly over the heads of General Clark's convoy is hit by flak. It begins to burn, showing a dull glow in the fast-darkening sky. It plunges down from about 4,000 feet. The Junkers is headed directly toward our line of five Bren gun carriers. Legs are already over the side of the carriers and eyes are looking for cover when the Junkers explodes at about 1,000 feet. It puffs into pieces with a blinding flash. The rear half of the fuselage twists grotesquely down, burning brightly. The rest of it plunges straight down. None of the Germans has escaped. The wreckage lands about a quarter of a mile from the Clark convoy. The General orders the carriers to proceed and the convoy moves on through flocks of Arabs who are fleeing Algiers with a few belongings on their backs. The party goes to the Hotel St. George.

The minute the general gets into the lobby of the big hotel overlooking the harbor he finds that all is not well in Algiers. The armistice is on and Algiers is more or less peaceful but the old question of command and the rivalry between Giraud and Darlan, who is in Algiers, has come up. The Frenchmen have been clamoring for promises. General Ryder has stalled them off as best he could pending General Clark's arrival. Ryder, haggard and grim, turns the tremendous task over to General Clark. Before eating a very late dinner, the Deputy Commander-in-Chief holds a conference at which the current situation is sketched for him. He then arranges a conference with Admiral Darlan, General Juin, Admiral Fennard and other French officers tomorrow. They refuse to have Giraud present. The situation is extremely complicated and filled with potential dynamite.

General Clark's only comment when he returns to his room is:

"What a mess! Why soldiers have to get in things like this when there are wars to be fought--God it's awful!!"

Because of the tense situation, Colonel Slocum holds a secret meeting with the officers comprising headquarters and instructs them to remain in the hotel and keep their things packed for rapid movement until further orders. No one is to go out unarmed. Later, Lieutenant Beardwood returns to Maison Blanche airport for baggage and learns that the Junkers that crashed near the field did not catch fire and that all four members of the crew were taken prisoner. One suffered a broken leg. The plane came here from Sicily to bomb shipping in the port of ~~Algiers~~ Algiers.

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ALGIERS, NOVEMBER 10, 1942--General Clark's current job is almost entirely political. Americans troops, and some British, are consolidating themselves in the Algiers region. Although there has been no armistice at Oran, the fighting has virutally ceased. At Rabat-Sale-Lyautey, however, General Patton's force is still meeting some resistance but they control the situation. General Clark's aim

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is to end--through agreement with the French--all fighting in French Morocco and Algeria so that British and American troops can push east to get into Tunisia and, eventually, comes to grips with the Boche.

With this in mind, the lanky American general, more grim-faced than ever, gets out of his battle dress and into his best dress to meet Darlan and his confidants. The meeting is held in a small room off the foyer of the St. George hotel. For effect, General Clark has over a platoon of infantrymen outside the hotel. The room looks out on a peaceful garden, filled with flowers and palm trees. The conference room is in direct contrast. There is a strained feeling. General Clark sits at the head of the table. On his left is Admiral Darlan; on his right, General Juin. Also present are Mr. Murphy, who is to act as interpreter; Colonel Holmes, Captain Wright, Commodore Dick, Lieutenant Beardwood and the following French officers in addition to Darlan: Navy--Vice Admiral d'Escadre Moreau, maritime commander of the 4th region; Vice Admiral Fenard, secretary-general of the North African government; Rear Admiral Battet, chief of cabinet to Darlan; Rear Admiral Reboul Hector Berlioz, chief of staff of the 4th maritime region; Army--General Juin, commander-in-chief of forces in North Africa; General Koeltz, commander of the 19th Military region; General de Brigade Sevez, Chief of Staff to General Juin; Air--General Mendigal, superior Commandant of Air in North Africa. The French have a small guard of honor in the courtyard. The meeting starts at 0855. Darlan is a stubby, partly-bald man with light, watery-looking eyes. His manner is friendly. All the conferees, including the Deputy Commander-in-Chief, are taut. General Clark turns to Mr. Murphy.

- Clark : Explain to Admiral Darlan the necessity of coming immediately to the point. We have work to do to meet the common enemy. Is he ready to sign the terms of the armistice? It will cover all French North Africa. It is essential that we stop this waste of time and blood.
- Darlan : I sent a resume of the armistice terms to Vichy. Laval was absent from Vichy. There will be no reply until the Council of Ministers meets this afternoon.
- Clark : Do you understand that diplomatic relations between France and the United States have been broken off within the past 24 hours.
- Darlan : There is no official statement or confirmation of this rupture but I want to see hostilities stopped as soon as possible. I have been given strict orders to enter into no negotiations until I have received orders from Petain or the Council of Ministers. All my associates and I feel hostilities are fruitless.
- Clark : I am negotiating with you as commander of the troops on the ground. I am not prepared nor do I propose to await any further word from Vichy.
- Darlan : I want to make it clear that I am not here in a capacity of the French government. I can simply obey the orders of Petain.
- Clark : Then I will have to break off negotiations and deal with someone who can act.

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DARLAN: It is up to you to take whatever means necessary. It is regrettable. You have the guarantee of security here in Algiers.

CLARK: The problem is bigger than that. Will the French troops east of Algiers resist as we pass through to meet our common enemy?

DARLAN: I have asked Vichy to give me an answer to your terms as soon as possible.

CLARK: What you propose is not possible. I will end this conference in thirty minutes.

DARLAN: I understand what this means and I want to tell my government of what has happened.

CLARK: This is impossible. It will be necessary to retain you in protected custody. I hope you understand. We must move east. I proposed to negotiate with someone who can issue orders to the troops. Can you not take the same steps as you have taken here without the approval of Vichy? Why can't you do the same thing in other parts of North Africa.

DARLAN: The situation is different.

CLARK: What answer do you expect to get from Vichy in view of the severance of relations?

DARLAN: I am giving Petain my opinion that it is stupid to continue hostilities here. I urged acceptance of the terms. I am confident that Petain will agree.

CLARK: That is fine, but do you understand that we cannot sit here while governments agree and ministers debate? If the Admiral will not issue instructions for the cessation of hostilities, I will go to General Giraud. He will sign the terms and issue the necessary orders.

DARLAN: I am not certain the troops will obey. This will only mean the loss of more time and there will be more fighting.

CLARK: Are you so sure of the decision from Vichy? Petain has already informed President Roosevelt that he considers our landings aggression. If you think Petain will agree with you that hostilities must cease why can't you issue that order now?

DARLAN: I can't assume the responsibility for such an order. It would result in the immediate occupation of Southern France by the Germans.

CLARK: We all agree concerning the great danger of the occupation of Southern France, but it will not be because of this order. What you are doing now means more killing of French and Americans. I presume you know that Oran is already in our hands. This all boils down to one question. Are you going to play with the Vichy government or go

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with us?? (When this question was put to Murphy for interpretation, General Clark told him to "be abrupt.")

DARLAN: I am simply bound by an oath of fidelity to the Marshal to obey his orders. I can't take the responsibility of giving an order to cease hostilities.

CLARK: This is the time when lean on our inclinations and not on our orders. You are under domination. Here is an opportunity for all Frenchmen to rally and win the war. Here is your last chance.

DARLAN: I am willing to send an urgent message to Marshal Petain, recommending an armistice for Algiers and Morocco.

CLARK: You have already done that.

DARLAN: I have not done so in specific terms.

CLARK: We haven't time. I am going to stand firm. All Frenchmen and all Americans have the same interests at heart and here we are fighting among ourselves, wasting time. I know that the Admiral wants--deep down in his heart--to stop this fighting between our troops. We all want to do the same thing and we must get an order for cessation of hostilities this morning. We have the means. We have 150,000 American and British troops in French North Africa. We have the means of equipping the French army and making this the base from which we can go into France. ~~Isn't it my duty~~ How anybody can fail to join us in an operation that can mean the liberation of France is against my understanding.

DARLAN: I am completely in accord with your point of view, but I still can't act until I hear from Petain.

CLARK: Giraud will sign the terms of the armistice.

DARLAN: Giraud has no authority in Morocco where Nogues is in charge or in Algeria where Barres is in charge. I would like to send a message to Vichy.

CLARK: We can't put up with delay. We have seen what delay has meant before. This cannot go on. I will have to take you into protective custody without communication. We will have to do business with the commanders on the ground.

DARLAN: The army is still with me.

CLARK: We will make it as easy as possible for you.

DARLAN: I would like five minutes with my staff, for discussion.

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CLARK: You understand that no one is to leave here or communication with anyone outside.

(At this point General Ryder came in to report that at a certain barracks a captain has gone to the colonel commanding and told him that unless the armistice is signed the barracks will be bombed. General Clark sent Ryder and a French general to discuss this with both the French and American commander. {While Admiral Darlan and his staff were conferring General Clark paced up and down the lobby of the St George Hotel. The other American officers loitered about in the courtyard to make sure that none of the Frenchmen went out through the windows.} At 9:51 AM the American-French conference resumed.)

DARLAN: Will you accept this order?(He laid down a copy of it on the table. In substance it said that the Americans will not take his refusal to declare an immediate armistice, that further battle will be fruitless and that blood will flow. He wants to tell Marshal Petain that as a result of fighting they would probably lose Africa. He wants to cease hostilities and take an attitude of complete neutrality.)

CLARK: What I want is orders to the troops.

DARLAN: Then I will pass an order to Juin, Noguez, Barres, the Airforce, and the Navy. (Darlan then begins writing the message asking questions of General Clark as he did so.)

CLARK: Under our instructions each commander will decide the terms of the armistice. These officers will negotiate with the French commanders concerned. General Patton will meet with General Noguez and offer terms to him. When they cease firing they will enter into terms for the whole territory.

DARLAN: What about Tunisia? There will be no hostilities to Americans there?

CLARK: That is right.

DARLAN: Then the question of the status of Giraud comes up. (General Clark answered that this would be disposed of after the fighting had been stopped.)

CLARK: What Giraud wants is to help France in this big set up and there is room for everyone. Right now I am trying to stop the fighting.

DARLAN: Noguez may hesitate on the validity of this order if it is radioed to him. What are we going to do about that?

CLARK: Let me see the order first. (The order gives all land, sea, and air forces in North Africa orders to cease firing against American troops upon receipt of the order and to return to their bases and observe strict neutrality. Darlan says that he takes the responsibility for North Africa in the name of the Marshal, that the present military commanders retain command, and that political and administrative authorities will remain unchanged. No change can be made with Darlan's order for the present. The order will go to Juin, Noguez, Madregal, and the

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Admirals commanding in the three areas.

CLARK: This will stand unless otherwise changed by the Allied Commander-in-Chief. It may be necessary later to make changes and for that reason I have asked you to insert "for the present." You understand that there are some British troops, but that all of them are under American supreme command.

DARLAN: Then I will change it to American troops or their Allies.

CLARK: All right.

DARLAN: What disposition will be made of the French generals who disobeyed orders. I mean Mast and two others. I think they should be given no French military command.

CLARK: That is one of the things I want to discuss with Admiral Darlan.

DARLAN: I don't want to treat with those men. It is in your own interest to agree that I can't tolerate these men not obeying my orders. The other officers don't want them to have anything to do with French command.

CLARK: I think I can handle this soon and investigate. As I understand it, you do not want these men under your command?

DARLAN: Yes!

MENDIGAL: You had better put them in some safe place. They are bitterly resented.

CLARK: I don't understand. They help us so much. However, I do understand your resentment against their not obeying orders. ~~_____~~ ~~_____~~ We must see that these orders to cease hostilities are carried out. The order is not worth the paper it is written on unless carried out.

DARLAN: What about the question of transmitting orders.

CLARK: They will go by our plane with one of your officers and one of ours. In addition, we can communicate that the order is coming and that in the meantime hostilities are to be ceased, pending receipt of them. The French are shooting down our planes everytime they take off in Morocco.

MENDIGAL: I am surprised. We are in accord with this method of transmission. What about the French prisoners you have taken?

CLARK: We will give them all back. We don't want any French prisoners.

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(During this discussion Admiral Darlan had finish the text of the order message. It had been amended so that the dispositions of arms in the hands of French troops would be up to local American commanders.)

(General Ryder returned and said that a Captain of the 168th Infantry went to the colonel in the barracks before mentioned and told him that if the terms of the armistice were not agreed to he probably would have to bomb. The French colonel apparently misunderstood. Two other similar incidents had occurred and General Ryder went out to settle them. The final draft of the order message was gone over and General Clark approved it. It is to be put into final form and dispatched immediately. All the conferees left the conference room with the exception of Admiral Darlan, General Clark, and Mr. Murphy, the interpreter.

In the private conference with Admiral Darlan, General Clark questions the Frenchman concerning the fleet he controls. Darlan is vague and will make no hints or commitments. He informs General Clark, however, that he has personally issued orders to the French fleet to be prepared to move on short notice should the Germans enter unoccupied France. He states emphatically that "under no circumstances will the fleet fall into German hands.

Following is the translation of Darlan's order to Generals Juin, Nogues, Barre (Tunisia), General Mendigal, and Admirals Michelieu, Moreau and Derieu, commanding Morocco, Casablanca and Tunisia, respectively:

"1--Engagements having been fulfilled and the bloody battle becoming useless, order is given to all the land, sea and air forces in North Africa to cease the fight against forces of America and their Allies as from receipt of this order and to return to their barracks and bases and to observe strictest neutrality.

"2--In Algeria and Morocco Commander-in-Chief will put themselves in liaison with local American Commanders on the subject of terms for the suspension of hostilities.

"3--I assume authority over North Africa in the name of the Marshal. The present senior officers retain their commands and the political and administrative organizations remain in force. No change will be made without a fresh order from me.

"4--All prisoners on each side will be exchanged."

To expedite the armistices in the Oran and Algiers regions, the order is radioed. It will be delivered to the affected commanders tomorrow by couriers so that the authenticity won't be in doubt.

Following this conference which takes the entire morning, General Clark sends the following cable: ("Just concluded lengthy conference with Darlan and his cohorts. He repeatedly refused to accept terms of armistice reason lack of authority from Vichy. I demanded he sign them to include all North Africa and stated he would be taken into custody if he refused and further negotiations would be with Giraud.

"He finally agreed to issue me an order to all the ground, air and naval forces in North Africa, including Morocco and Tunisia to discontinue hostilities immediately. I have his signed order to each commander and it is being dispatched by our airplanes with French Staff Officers today. French

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commanders who could be reached by telephone who have been communicated with including those in Tunis.

"Later arranged conference by Anderson with French commanders to facilitate his unopposed movement by sea tonight to Bone, Bougie and Djidjelli. Darlan obviously playing for power. Last night I conferred with Giraud and again this morning. Giraud requested Darlan to confer with him. The latter refused but I have arranged for the two to confer with me at 1500 today. Darlan at St. George where I am. He is not in our custody but he has given me his word not to leave.

"Believe in view of his order to stop resistance he should not be physically restrained at present. I later discussed alone with Darlan the question of the fleet. x x x You can evaluate this better than I. You can see that I now have two Kingpins but hope to wiggle out of it somehow. I deemed it of utmost importance to do anything to secure an order which would be obeyed to cease hostilities everywhere. Have not announced this (Darlan's order) over the radio so as not to tip our hand to the Germans."

Akin to the General's conference with Admiral Darlan, Commodore Dick, British Naval liaison to Allied headquarters, sends the following message to Admiral Cunningham: "Clark asks me to give you my impressions. First round has been gained but situation will obviously not be satisfactory till whole hearted cooperation obtained. Large number of French already out to help but Darlan clique will need watching. This is in hand. Darlan still hostile to us (British) and in lesser degree to Americans but consider he sees position gone in France and wishes to control from North Africa. I think he is genuine that he will not let French fleet fall into German hands but will move them only in last emergency. It is intended to continue working on this as also question of Alexandria squadron. Clark was magnificent. Our prisoners neglected locally but now released. x x x Air defense most inspiring."

Another sensational development occurs in the afternoon. Marshal Petain has fired Admiral Darlan as head of the French armed forces and has appointed General Nogues, the military governor of French Morocco, as his successor. General Clark goes to see Admiral Darlan and finds him "looking like a dejected little pig." Darlan reports that Petain has also rejected the North Africa armistice terms. General Clark tells Darlan that "Petain is the mouthpiece of Hitler." Darlan replies that there is nothing he can do but revoke the order he signed this morning and which has been dispatched to the forces. Replies General Clark: "You're not going to revoke any order!" Says Darlan: "Then, I must be taken prisoner." Colonel Slocum later places two platoons around the home of Admiral Benard, where Admiral Darlan will stay. The last thing General Clark tells Admiral Darlan: "Now's your chance to get the French fleet!" Replies Admiral Darlan dejectedly: "It's not my fleet; I've been relieved." He adds that Petain "has told all the commanders to fight." After this conference and before going to one with Generals Giraud, Juin, Koeltz and Medigal, General Clark checks up and finds that the French commanders have obeyed Darlan's command and have sought armistices!

The conference with the French generals is held at Juin's headquarters. The other Allied officers beside General Clark are Captain Wright, Commodore Dick, Colonel Holmes and Mr. Murphy. The firing of Darlan is discussed. The Generals report they have just received information that the Germans are about to invade Unoccupied France. Says Giraud, sadly: "We are at the end of our rope. What an appalling situation. It is time for the French to get together and it is

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is our responsibility to get together and save North Africa!" General Clark then suggests that Giraud and Darlan get together. "This is a French matter," says the Deputy Commander-in-Chief, "and you must work out your own cooperation." [It is taking the invasion of Unoccupied France to draw Darlan and Giraud together.] The general sends the following cable to General Eisenhower:

"Since my (last cable) the diplomatic jockeying for position has changed many times. Conferences with Kingpin and gang this afternoon indicated his great displeasure in permitting Darlan to order cessation of hostilities. Kingpin insisted that he be set up immediately and announced as Commander-in-Chief of all French forces in North Africa or any place in the French Empire.

"If this were done at this time it probably would have caused Darlan to revoke his order. Went with Kingpin and Murphy to Darlan's residence to attempt to adjust their claims to power. Darlan had just received word that he had been fired by Petain. He was greatly dejected and told me that he would have to revoke his order for cessation of hostilities. Juin was present. I replied to Darlan that I would not permit him to issue such an order. He then stated that under those conditions he must become a prisoner. I told him that was highly acceptable to me and immediately took steps to place a guard around the house to prevent him leaving. He also gave his word of honor that he would remain there and would not revoke the order. This changed situation brought new life to Kingpin who immediately started asking Juin if he would play along with him. I pled with Darlan to order the French fleet here.

"He replied that his order would no longer have effect. I therefore asked him to make a plea to the French fleet. He replied that he could not. I left the meeting with Juin and Kingpin attempting to work out their situation. About an hour later Admiral Fenard, friend of Darlan, called Murphy to state that word had just been received that the Germans were about to occupy unoccupied France. Darlan stated that if this were true and he received verification he would ignore Marshal Petain's order firing him and would feel relieved of further moral responsibility. He has asked that I come to his house again tonight to discuss matters including disposition of the fleet. When I see him I shall lean on my naval experts, Dick and Wright. Have just returned from 1800 conference with Kingpin, Juin, Koeltz and Mendigal, the latter three being strong Darlan supporters.

"When they heard of the possible Germany entry into Southern France their differences began to melt. I told them that I was to see Admiral Darlan with a possibility that he would request the fleet to come and suggested that I have no more discussions with them until tomorrow. Kingpin was greatly moved by word of the German move, ~~Kingpin was greatly moved~~ and answered dramatically (that it is time for Frenchmen to get together and defend North Africa). This was the best news I had today. Squeeze your left one until my next report.]

"Mendigal asked me for a conference today in hope of working out details should French Air Units come here from France upon occupation. I am badly in need of an American Air Officer. (General Clark then requested the services of several men) Seized Algiers Radio today. Under our control. Also radio station at Eucalyptus which will permit my rapid communication with you commencing tomorrow noon, I hope. Everything quiet here tonight. Scattered enemy air activity of short duration with negative results..."

Later, General Clark confers again with Darlan concerning the urgent question of the French fleet. According to Darlan, the fleet is now outside Toulon awaiting orders. He says he will direct the fleet to sail to "join the Allies" as soon as the Germans enter Unoccupied France but not before. General Clark suggests the

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fleet go to Gibraltar to refuel because of the congestion in North African ports and the political threat from uncertain elements in the French fleet if they enter French colonial ports. The general suggests the fleet proceed to the United States so negotiations concerning its use could be carried on. The French are very anti-British and Darlan balks at having the fleet go into Gibraltar. The big question mark concerning the French fleet is whether it will obey Darlan's orders.

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The general receives tonight the copy of a cable from General Marshall to General Eisenhower. It says: "The Chief of Staff approves the awarding of the distinguished service medal to Clark and the Legion of Merit to the officers accompanying him. The award to Clark will be held up until the situation can be written more specifically..." This is the text of the award: "Major General Mark W. Clark, O-5309, Army of the United States, has been the Deputy Commander-in-Chief of the Allied Forces since its inception. The organizing and planning phase of this operation is now successfully concluded. During this important period he was largely responsible for important work that was being carried on. As a related part of this activity he successfully performed a most important and highly secret mission. This mission, together with the organizing and planning of the major portion of the operations, was of great importance to the United States. This was a position of great responsibility, and the manner of carrying out the assignment was of the highest order. It is recommended that the Distinguished Service Medal be awarded to Major General Mark W. Clark with the following citation: Major General Mark W. Clark, O-5309, Army of the United States, for distinguished service to the United States Army in a position of great responsibility as Deputy Commander-in-Chief of the Allied force during its period of organization and development. He assured this office in the summer of 1942, and through his outstanding ability in organizing and planning the operations of this force, he successfully prepared this organization for the important mission to which it has been assigned. As part of the duties of the Deputy Commander of this group he performed a highly secret and most important mission. Through his conspicuous leadership and outstanding ability this was successfully completed. He organized and administered the necessary program to bring the troops of that organization to a high state of training and combat efficiency, and has been largely responsible for forming the tactical plans for the use of these troops against the enemies of the United States. His outstanding ability has made him of inestimable value to the service."

The two cables are received at a time when General Clark can only give them a quick glance. He's in the vortex of a highly-confused political situation and it is a tough spot for a man who is military. He is alternately disgusted, then mad. But at all times he keeps one objective: the French must show by deed, not by word alone, that they want to be helpful, and, at all costs, the drive to the east, for Tunisia where the Germans are reported moving in, must be expedited.)

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