

3.12.43. No. 24

NORTH AFRICA COMMUNIQUE
No. 385

Allied Force Command Post,
Dec. 3rd, 1943.

Navy:- During the night of November 30/Dec. 1 Durazzo was bombarded by destroyers. A large fire was started and the return fire was ineffective.

Army:- On the Adriatic coast further progress was made towards San Vito. Castel Frontano was captured in the face of desperate enemy resistance from prepared positions and several counter-attacks.

On the 5th Army front advances were made in one area despite heavy machine-gun fire, mines and barbed wire. Enemy artillery was less active. Both armies have taken more prisoners. Numerous demolitions and mines are being encountered.

Air:- Submarine pens and shipping in Marseilles Harbour were attacked by heavy bombers of the North West African Air Forces, escorted by long-range fighters. Good coverage of the target was obtained. Escorted heavy bombers also attacked railway yards at Bolzano. The railway bridge at Chieti was attacked by medium bombers.

Formations of aircraft continued to co-operate with the army, attacking enemy positions and communications and destroying motor transport. Light bombers attacked shipping off the Yugoslav coast.

Last night Arezzo railway centre was attacked by night bombers.

Seventeen enemy aircraft were destroyed. Eight of ours are missing.

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