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ON CLUB TAPES BEFORE 2330 B.S.T. ON SATURDAY,
DECEMBER 25.

NOT TO BE BROADCAST IN THE MIDNIGHT NEWS OF 25/26 December.
THIS EMBARGO SHOULD BE RESPECTED OVERSEAS BY PREFACING
ANY MESSAGES FILED WITH THE EMBARGO.

GENERAL MONTGOMERY'S XMAS MESSAGE TO THE EIGHTH ARMY

General Montgomery Commander of the Eighth Army issued
the following personal message to all ranks of the Eighth Army for
Xmas 1943:-

1. Once again the Eighth Army spends Christmas in the field.

This time last year we were in Tripolitania, having just broken
through the famous Agheila position; now, we are well north of an
east and west line through Rome.

And I would say to you, soldiers of the Eighth Army, that you have
every right to be very proud of what you have achieved during the past
year; every officer and man has done his duty in a manner that is
beyond all praise.

2. And so this Christmas, 1943, I send to every officer and man in
the great family of the Eighth Army, my best wishes and my hearty greetings.
And I send greetings from us all to your loved ones and friends in your
homelands; they are, indirectly, part of this great Army in that their
courage and fortitude is essential to the morale of the Army itself.

And I know you will wish me to send our greetings also to all the
workers on the home front; without their hard work in the factories and
mines, we could win no victories in the field.

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