

France Has Colonial Trouble in North Africa Too

By WARREN BENETT
 France like Britain is having colonial trouble in the Mediterranean.
 The French empire, not as large nor as far-flung as the British, is experiencing a similar upheaval. One hot spot, of course, is Indochina where outright war has been raging between the French and Communist-led guerrillas for nearly six years. But recently concern has been about colonies just across the Mediterranean.

Algeria, which lies between Morocco and Tunisia, is technically a part of France. It has three "departments" much like the departments of the homeland that vaguely resemble U.S. states. But there are local problems so the three "departments" unite to elect their own assembly. They are ruled by a Governor-General who also has jurisdiction over the huge Algerian

desert area which is not a part of the "departments."
 Nationalism is seething in Morocco and Tunisia. Last fall there were riots and bloodshed between nationalists and gendarmes in Casablanca. Last month Tunisia was torn by outbreaks in which 90 were killed and more than 400 injured. The French have had to reinforce their Tunisian garrisons. Nationalist leaders have been jailed.
 The natives are Moslems and support for their independence demands is coming from the Arab League, a group of Moslem states. Egypt has pressed the claims of Tunisia and Morocco before the United Nations.
 A bloc of Arab-Asian nations in-

formed the General Assembly in Paris that it felt "grave concern" over the Tunisian situation. The nations include Egypt, Syria, Iraq, Yemen, Iran, Lebanon, Saudi Arabia, Afghanistan, Burma, Thailand, Indonesia, India, Pakistan and the Philippines.
 The French maintain the disputes in Morocco and Tunisia are matters for national not international concern. France has offered more home rule to Moroccans and Tunisians plus the promise of eventual freedom. Independence will have to wait, France says, until the people show they can govern themselves.
 Tunisia is ruled by a French resident-general under direction of

the French foreign office. There is a Tunisian legislature but its powers are only advisory.
 Tunisia has a population of 3,300,000. Three million of these are Moslems. There are 300,000 foreigners living in Tunisia, about half of whom are French.
 Tunisian nationalists say they are willing to turn over control of foreign affairs and defense to the French but they want an all-Tunisian legislature and cabinet. The French foreign office says the 150,000 Frenchmen in Tunisia must have equal representation in the legislature and cabinet with the 3,000,000 native Moslems.
 The United States could be drawn into these struggles for freedom of subject peoples in the Mediterranean. America is making extensive improvements in Moroccan airbases. In one of the riots, an American-owned construction truck was stoned by mobs and the driver hurt.

Reserve Unit Rated High

A rating of excellent has been accorded the 369th Engineer Amphibious Support Regiment, Oregon reserve unit of which Company C is a Klamath Falls unit.
 The 369th is based at Fort Worden, Wash., and an annual training inspection recently was conducted by Maj. Gen. William B. Kean, Third Corps commander.

Historic Items Sold

NEW YORK (AP) — Relics of a one-time country lawyer sold for \$185,253 here Tuesday.
 The lawyer was Abraham Lincoln. The 392 relics were among 842 items in the famed Lincoln collection of the late Oliver R. Barrett of Chicago, on auction sale at Parke-Bernet Galleries.

The sales told the story of Lincoln the man, troubled by self-doubts, quick in wit, rich in prophesy.
 "How miserably things seem arranged in this world," he wrote. "If we have no friends, we have no pleasure; if we have them, we are soon to lose them."
 He wrote these words to his intimate friend, Joshua Fry Speed. For this letter and 13 others to Speed, the Barrett Lincoln Collection Fund paid \$35,000—the highest price ever paid for a collection of Lincoln letters. They will be given to the Illinois State Historical Library.
 Lincoln's own record of the Lincoln-Douglas debates went for \$24,000 to Alfred Whitall Stern of Chicago, second highest price of the day.
 Many of the items were intimate Lincolnian material: Lonely letters to his wife, an old text book, an old axe handle, a family Bible.

Company C was called into federal service October 15, 1950, for a period of 21 months. The period was extended to 24 months by Presidential proclamation, and reserve personnel now expect to be released from service next Oct. 15. Some Klamath Falls men have gone overseas or to other stations. Those still with the unit include 1st Lt. Fran W. Ohlund, M. Sgt. Julio V. Mora, Sgt. Maurice A. Boeticher, Sgt. James E. Dye, Sgt. Lloyd H. Mudder, Sgt. Clarence V. Rayson and Col. William Hotchkiss.

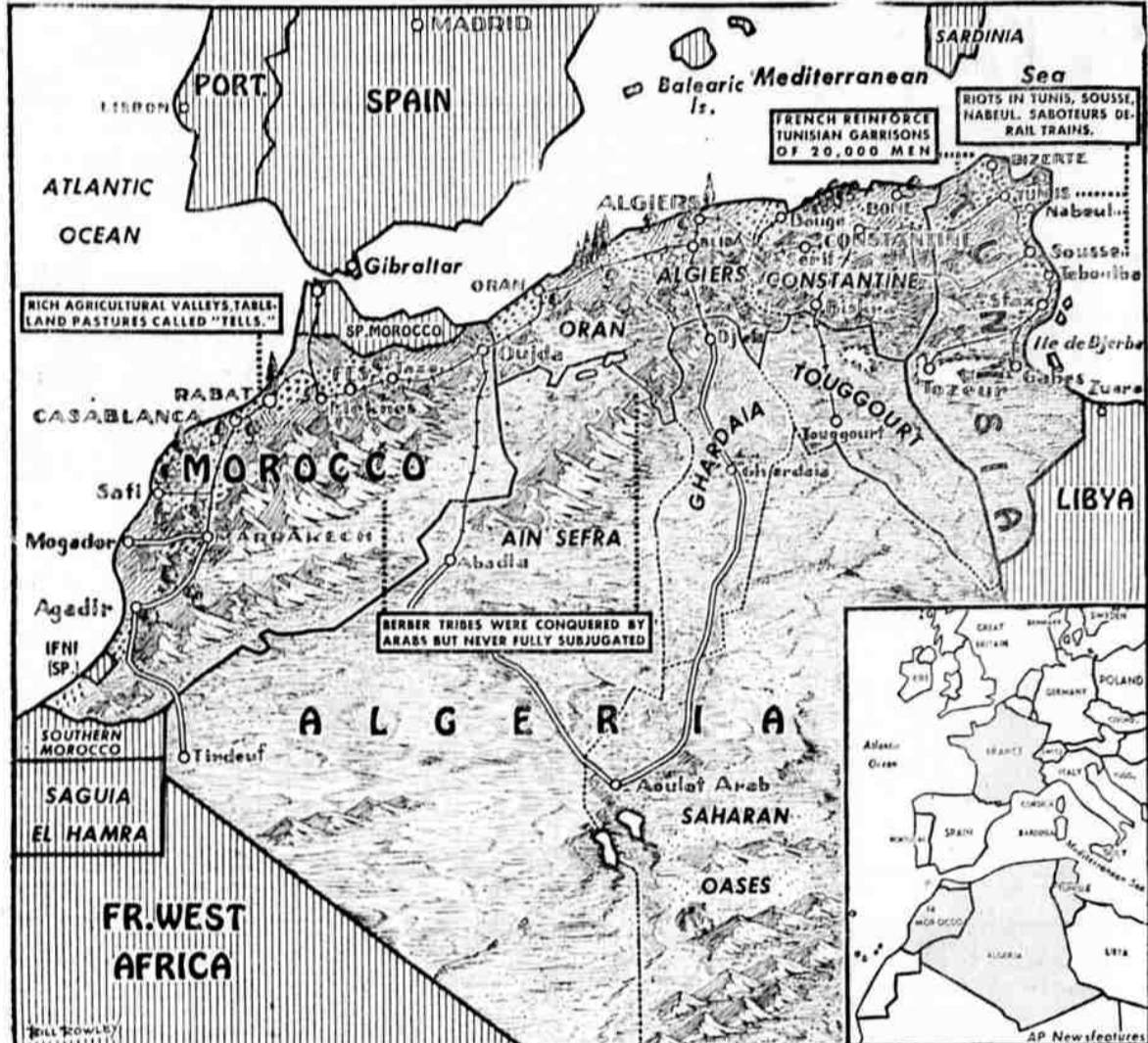


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Actually the French would like U.S. support for their position in North Africa. It is a strategic defense area. But the French fear American sympathy for native demands for independence. They have often accused Americans of encouraging it in the past.
 France depends heavily for agricultural products from its North African holdings. Rich, fertile belts of land, called "tells," border the Atlantic coastline in Morocco and the Mediterranean coast in Algeria and Tunisia. These tells are from 50 to 100 miles wide, protected from the hot Sahara Desert winds by the Atlas Mountains.
 Wheat, oats, barley, olives, are shipped across the Mediterranean to France. Morocco also has large phosphate deposits which are important as fertilizer in hungry Europe.
 These products play a major role in the French economy. The French say they help buttress the hard-pressed franc just as trade from the British colonies helps prop up the pound.
 The French feel trade relations with North Africa can continue with mutual benefit even when political changes occur—if they have to.

Backyard Fire At Truman's

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Truman went to a fire in his own backyard Tuesday.
 The blaze, cause undetermined, wrecked a storage shack on the White House grounds. The executive mansion was not endangered. The President walked the half block or so from his office to watch firemen quickly douse the flames.
 The shack was built by workmen remodeling the White House. The Trumans live across the street at Blair House pending completion of the five million dollar job.

PEACE TALKS
 TOKYO (AP) — Kyodo News Agency said Wednesday peace negotiations between Japan and India will begin next week. The negotiations are necessary because India refused to sign the Japanese Peace Treaty signed at San Francisco.

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