

NAVY SHELL BARDIA FIRST PICTURES.

Issue No. 1031...14..1..1941.
Title: Fight.
Track: End Beau Geste.
Discs: 314.317.406.422, 343.
Lines: Stagg.
Voice: do.

One of the most brilliant examples of naval and military co-operation in British history culminated in the capture of Bardia. Our men-of-war placed themselves well within range and prepared for a relentless bombardment by day and night.

(BUGLE) Anti-aircraft was manned as a precaution, the big guns were loaded, all without the smallest interference by the Italian navy. Bardia was a sitting target.

(5 Scenes Without Voice)

All day the guns barked, and when night fell they were still firing.

Day came without interrupting the terrific bombardment. In one 90-minute spell more than 300 tons of shells were fired.

Every stroke on the board stood for a salvo. We pounded the enemy motor-transport, parked behind the cliffs. That's why the garrison couldn't get away.

One more for game

When the enemy ran up the white flag 42,000 prisoners swelled the army of 40,000 captured before Bardia fell. At the trivial cost of 600 casualties we gained one of the biggest victories of the war. In not other campaign in modern history have so many prisoners been taken with so little loss to the victors.

By rail the captives were brought back to Egypt, train-load after train-load. Since General Wavell took the offensive, incidentally against a far larger army, he has taken prisoner more than one third of the unhappy Graziani's entire force.

(LV MARCHING FROM TRUCKS) Apart from the fact that Egypt is a neutral country there would be many difficulties in keeping 80 thousand prisoners there; hence the decision to ship them to India. It may have been part of the Axis plan to conquer India, but they never thought we should take their army there for them Bardia to-day, Tobruk tomorrow, soon the whole of Libya will be ours.
