

Algeria-- Earthquake Disaster-

Sept 10th. '54.

N. Africa--- With a blast like an atom bomb- the earth suddenly opened in the heart of the sleeping town of Orléansville, and surrounding districts of Northern Algeria.

~~and~~ In twelve seconds, about one-fifth of the thriving French town was destroyed- ~~—~~ Nine-storey blocks of flats and great solid buildings folded up like a pack of cards.

Men, women and children rushed panic-stricken ~~intoxicated~~ from their beds, fighting to reach the safety of the open fields.

An air-lift was quickly organised to take the more seriously injured to Algiers, while thousands of soldiers were engaged in rescue operations

with 20.000 homeless. Over 1000 people are believed to have perished, / Meanwhile, further shocks continue, after the worst earthquake disaster ^{North} Africa has ever known