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ALGERIAN QUAKE KILLS 1000

Our cameraman was in the Algerian town of Orleansville only a few hours after an earthquake had destroyed nearly every building and had killed about a thousand people. Troops were rushed to the spot immediately the tragedy was known to begin the search for the hundreds still trapped beneath the rubble.

The Governor General of Algeria and a representative sent by M. Mendes-France toured the town as rescue work continued. The violent tremor which devastated Orleansville lasted only about twelve seconds. Burst gas pipes caught on fire at once, and flames reared through the town's centre adding to the fearful destruction. Eye-witnesses have since told of those twelve seconds - of buildings collapsing like packs of cards. It was, says a survivor, like a vision of hell.

This was the town's hospital.

The fifth century cathedral crashed into the market place. It was the oldest shrine in Africa.

Sheets knotted together show how some escaped to tell the disaster. Now comes the news that more tremors, each lasting several seconds, have been felt. As digging continues in the stricken town, the people pray that the nightmare of destruction be ended.