

MR. CHURCHILL ON VICTORY.

At the Lord Mayor's luncheon at the Mansion House, London, Mr. Churchill makes his first public reference to the great operations in the Mediterranean War Zone.

"We have victory - a remarkable and definite victory. The bright gleam has caught the helmets of our soldiers and warmed and cheered all our hearts. (CHEERS)

Rommel's army has been defeated. It has been routed. It has been very largely destroyed as a fighting force.

Now this is not the end. It is not even the beginning of the end. But it is perhaps, the end of the beginning. (LOUD CHEERS)

Remember those roads of France and Flanders, crowded, not with fighting men, but with helpless refugees - women and children - fleeing with their pitiful barrows and household goods, upon whom such merciless havoc was wreaked. I have, I trust, a humane disposition, but I must say I could not help feeling that what was happening, however grievous, was only justice grimly reclaiming her rights. (Cheers)

Very full accounts have been published of all that is happening in Morocco, Algeria and Tunisia. The President of the United States, who is Commander-in-Chief of the armed forces of America - the President is the author of this mighty undertaking and in all of it I have been his active and ardent lieutenant.

We now move forward in a great and gallant company. For our record we have nothing to fear, we have no need to make excuses or apologies. Our records plead for us and will gain gratitude in the breasts of free men and women in every part of the world. "

.....