

U. S. to Build 'Arsenal' in Eritrea To Arm Allied Forces in Near East

By The Associated Press.

CAIRO, Egypt, Dec. 10 (Delayed) — The United States will virtually take over Eritrea for the duration of the war and convert it into an arsenal of the democracies in the Near East under an arrangement with Great Britain made known here today.

Title to this strip of land along the Red Sea, which was wrested from Italy by British forces, will remain with Britain, and its administration will continue to be British. But the United States will pour thousands of technicians and workmen into it to erect factories, assembly plants and other establishments.

It will be the powerhouse behind combat troops in this part of the world. Well out of enemy bomb-

ing range, airplanes, tanks and other equipment will be assembled there and minor manufacturing will be carried on. American materials will pour into Eritrea and come out as the implements of war, ready for the battlefield.

Other more extensive measures that cannot be disclosed now are also on the program.

Towns situated in regions enjoying salubrious climatic conditions will spring up, linked to the coast by new railroads.

The task of converting this land into an enormous supply base, although staggering, will be carried out with lightning speed. It is an undertaking unparalleled in world history. Plans include using available Italian labor in East Africa.