BOASTS OF RUNNERS IN THE RIFFIAN ARMY: Peace Delegate Says He Has Ten ... New York Times (1923-); May 2, 1926; ProQuest Historical Newspapers: The New York Times with Index pg. 14

## BOASTS OF RUNNERS IN THE RIFFIAN ARMY

## Peace Delegate Says He Has Ten Who Could Beat Stenroos's Olympic Record.

OUDJA, Morocco, May 1 (P).—Caid Haman Cheddi, the second Riffian delegate to the peace conference here, is only 28 years of age. He is an athlete and a lover of all outdoor sports. He is a close follower of track and field events.

Today he professed great admiration for Paavo Nurmi, Charlie Hoff, Bob Le Gendre and De Hart Hubbard, but on the other hand he belittled the achievement of Stenroos of Finland in winning the last Olympic marathon.

"I have at least ten men among my soldiers who with a little coaching from a good American trainer could beat Stenroos's record," Cheddi declared. "I have three men who can do and have done the marathon distance in less than three hours. They did not do this over the fine roads around Paris or Antwerp, but upon mountain trails or sandy deserts.

"These performances were not sporting events, but were carried out in the grim war duty of taking dispatches from one unit to another."

A dispatch from Oudja on Thursday told how Hammouch Ben Hadge, a 67-year-old Riffian, had run from Athas to Oudja, a distance of nearly seventy miles. He made the trip from sunset to sunrise over the wild Moroccan roads, bearing a dispatch from Abd-el-Krim, the Riffian leader, to the Riffian peace delegates.