

ADVANCE TO SYRIA

With the Free French (Exclusive)

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Title:

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Units of General De Gaulle's army arrived in force at Suez when the Allies decided to occupy Syria. Despite Vichy denials it was known that Germans - aircraft as well as "tourists" - had been allowed by General Dentz to enter the country. The Free French position is delicate, but they do not shrink from duty. Syria is French-mandated territory, and in joining the campaign De Gaulle's troops faced the possibility that they might have to fight their own countrymen. Motor-coaches took the soldiers to their Palestine base camp. Only newsreel with a cameraman accredited to the Free French armies, Paramount obtained exclusive pictures of the historic beginning of the campaign against Syria.

(THREE SCENES WITHOUT VOICE)

(GV Camp) The stay in camp was no longer than was necessary to assemble the whole force. De Gaulle's troops are now veterans of the present war. Since their own country's tragic defeat they have fought in Equatorial Africa and Eritrea. Armoured and mechanised they looked a formidable army as they put Palestine behind them and headed for the Syrian border.

(THREE SCENES WITHOUT VOICE)

(Travel Shot) On to Damascus ! Britain applauds the Free French who do not shrink from opposing Vichy Frenchmen in the fight for Freedom.