

FAREWELL TO HOME GUARD

More than 7,000 men, representative of the gallant two million, marched through the West End on the Sunday assigned ~~by His Majesty~~ for the Home Guard to Stand Down. They came from every quarter of ~~Great Britain and Northern Ireland~~, from Belfast and the Orkneys, to Dover and Penzance.

The Royal Standard flew at Stanhope Gate, where the King and Queen were received by the War Minister, Sir James Grigg.

Pens → The famous French General Koenig ^{Fin} ~~was~~ at the saluting base ~~was~~ and the first Lord of the Admiralty, A.V. Alexander, ~~was~~ ~~also there~~. ~~General Dile~~ ^{The} G.O.C. Anti Aircraft, ~~was~~ *Gen Pele*, *has* particularly happy memories of the Home Guard.

~~For nearly an hour the Royal Party watched the seven thousand swing past.~~

c/u
12/20/46
Mixed with satisfaction that approaching German defeat makes possible the Home Guard stand-down, were many regrets, that this was the end of a ~~chapter~~ ^{chapter} memorable ~~in our~~ ^{in our} military history. ~~The two million volunteers~~ ~~whom~~ ~~German invasion was almost hourly expected.~~ Without ~~arms they undertook to fight the most heavily armed force in Europe.~~ ~~That very determination may have been one reason why the invasion never came.~~ The Home Guard ~~depart~~ ^{depart} ~~leave~~ the military scene; their place in the proud affections of King and people will for ever remain.