

2065

Colonel Carne home with the "Glorious Gloucesters"

16th Oct. 53

From the troopship "Empire Orwell" they boarded a dock tender bound for Southampton. 150 former Korean prisoners - among them, Colonel Carne - and 76 of his men - "The Gloucesters" who found undying fame on the Imjin river. Then degradation and suffering in Communist prison camps / SOUND - And the Colonel told what had helped ~~him~~ him ~~during~~ during 19 months of solitary confinement / SOUND

But ~~the~~ Korean memories were blotted out when the men ^{SAW} ~~those~~ those welcoming faces on the quayside. For long months of captivity, those ~~their~~ faces had meant home and freedom. Now the great day had come / A moment of recognition, followed by an anxious gesture that surely means "Will I look all-right?"

The bump as the tender hit the dock-side re-assured them - proved that it wasn't just a dream. That it was true - they were home.

No moment for doubting now - only tears and smiles - the joyous moment of re-union. Each had so much to say - to tell to wives, mothers and sweethearts. Yet, this moment found them strangely tongue-tied.

Sgt-Major Gallagher, ^{OF TIPTON-STAFFORDSHIRE} ~~(reunited with his wife)~~ could only say / SOUND.

~~Once reported killed in action~~, Captain Morris of Cheltenham ~~returned to his home~~. **WAS ONCE REPORTED KILLED IN ACTION - AND HERE'S**

While another Gloucester, Sgt-Major Ridlington of ~~the~~ Colchester is also ~~too happy to speak~~ / SOUND. **IT WAS A GREAT YES - WELCOME HOME TO**

Then, the journey home - through an England, that was enriched by Autumn gold and the return of ^{THE MEN} ~~those~~ who are ^{RIGHTLY} ~~properly~~ called "The Glorious Gloucesters!"

ag.