Huntingdonshire: A mission of remembrance begins at Upwood R.A.F. Station, as five Lincoln bombers are loaded with sacks of deffodilm heads and thousands of leaflets - bearing messages of goodwill.

The target area is The Hague and the mission commemorates the dropping, in 1945, of nearly seven thousand tons of much-needed food to the apeople of Holland, during the final days of the occupation.

To-day, as The Netherlands celebrate the tenth anniversary of their liberation - the blooms bridge a friendship proved in war and peace.

Yes, ten long years have passed since the Forces of Liberation unshackled an enslaved Europe - and crossed into Germany, to carry their freedom—message into the very heart of the Third Reich.

Remember how the greatest airborne aimy of all time bridged the Rhine. I joyous day for the of Arnhem. Yet one that was tempered with sorrow, for they still mourned the "Red Devils," the paratroopers who had tried so desperately to hold this same Rhine crossing, the previous Autumn - and so speed up the liberation of Holland.

The advance continued, into an alien Germany that was to reveal human suffering and degradation on a scale that sickened the rear hands.

suffering and degradation on a scale that sickened the war-handened soldiers.

The horror camps of Belsen and Buckenwald - and this rotting legacy of Nazi power was filmed for all the world to see.

Yet, to many Germans, who for years had lived in daily fear of the concentration camp - the coming of British troops brought new hope. And they rejoiced when the horror camps were burned - for in the cleansing flames - they saw absolution for their kind of Germany.

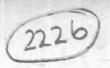
Then came the victory link-up between the forces of East and West - the defeat attack.

extension of a united front that spelt the final toom of Commany.

Then, early in May, on Luneburg Heath, Field Marshal Viscount Montgomery received the unconditional surrender of more than a million German troops.

And around Britain's shores - the lunking peck of U-boats - Surfaced and surrendered.

Hitler was beyong the reach of human justice: but Goering, Doenitz and other Nazi leaders, later stood trial at Nuremberg - for their crimes



Britain - the capital, that for so long had been the rellying point for freedom, celebrated V.E. Day. The War had been won - the cost had yet to be counted.

unconditional surrender signal of Field-Marshal was Keitel.

The German reign of tyranny were Europe was over. In Denmark - a grateful people paid joyous tribute for their deliverance.

Norway - a brave and sous ally throughout the darkest days rejoiced her in their hard-won liberty.

And in Holland - complete liberation followed the ten days of "Operation Manna" - the R.A.F. Food-Dropping Mission that is commemorated to-day The Netherlands still hold grateful memories of Britain's timely hand of friendship in her kex hour of need. And as we celebrate this memorable may the memories of the past inspire our hopes for the future