

5-224001

PATHE GAZETTE: 44/65.

LIBERATION OF RENNES

One of the first things Frenchmen do after they have been liberated is to round up persons guilty of collaborating with the hated Germans, and here you see the citizens of Rennes settling accounts with their Fifth Columnists. These pictures tell their own story. It is not a pretty story; but for four long years ordinary decent French folk smarting under the swaggering invader, have had the double humiliation of seeing men and women of their own flesh and blood toadying to the Boche. Small wonder that feelings run high as the crowd watches the traitors being led to a waiting bus, ready to be packed off to jail.

But vengeance is not the only emotion of these citizens. A feeling of joy is in the air - of overwhelming relief and gratitude to the troops who, by their sudden lightning advance, have set free this key city of the Brittany Peninsula. To be under the invaders heel one day, with the guns of the liberating army out of earshot ... and the next day to be free! It is almost too wonderful to be grasped .. but it certainly feels good.

The French, it seems, must have a word for "King o' Roses".

At the rate they're altering the map of France, it looks as if these troops are going to have plenty of practice in the art of kissing happy Mademoiselles in the future.