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WELCOME HOME KEN

Pathe War Correspondent cameraman, Kenneth Gordon is back in England after service in Europe, during which he covered many great occasions. In this welcome to Ken Gordon, Pathe Gazette pays tribute to all newsreel men who brought back pictures from the battle fronts of the World.

KEN GORDON

Pictures that illustrate our triumphs after the break-out from Falaise Paris - where I had to take pictures while being chased by a couple of tanks and the French Commandant of Paris who thought my jeep was getting in the way of General de Gaulle's parade. At Notre Dame, fired at by friend and foe in a burst of street fighting, and with only a camera to hit back with.

After being shot up along the roads through France - the rush to Brussels. There to be overpowered with bottles of wine, flowers and kisses. Next day, while photographing our tanks as they came through, I was roughly pushed aside by a Belgian girl - and just in time - a crashing wall missed me by inches.

A moment I am proud of. Being on Nijmegen Bridge while Royal Engineers cleared away German explosives. Tanks were coming up to relieve our Airborne boys at Arnhem. Waves of American paratroops were dropped to help hold off the German counter-attack. The sight of hundreds of multi-coloured parachutes falling in orderly masses will always live in my mind.

In a Buffalo, with our fighting patrols, I took my first look at the Rhine alongside Colonel Howard Jones whom I met again when Monty decorated him with the D.S.O. and M.C. I crossed the river with this gallant officer before it was bridged. Here I am on the Rhine filming the first British bridge. From the West Bank I went on with the Infantry patrols - grand fellows who smashed through the Reichwand and the Siegfried Line. I beat an Official bar at Luneberg Heath just in time to film the German surrender. The great help Field Marshal Montgomery and his staff gave enabled me to take these pictures of the climax to a magnificent British victory.

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Next stopping place was Flessburg for the final clean-up, of the Doenitz puppet government. Highspot was the posed picture of the three big shots - Jodl, Doenitz and Speer, all obeying orders from a Pathe cameraman - (it makes you think)

I didn't get there in the last war but this time I made sure. General Lyne and the Desert Rats provided me with this picture as British armour rolled into Berlin. It was the end of a long journey - but I wouldn't have missed it for all the tea in China.

COMMENTATOR

Thanks a lot, Ken. And There's plenty of peace-time assignments just itching for that Ken Gordon touch.