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ATTLEE HANDS OVER CARRIER

At Portsmouth the lowering of the White Ensign aboard the British aircraft carrier Colossus opens the ceremony of handing the ship over from her British crew to the French Navy represented by the men of the battleship Richelieu. Launched in September 1943, Colossus saw service in the Far East. She was formally handed over by Mr. Attlee, and will sail under French colours from her new base at Toulon.

In his speech, the Prime Minister paid tribute to British and French comradeship in arms.

SPEECH

5-98510

MR. ATTLEE'S SPEECH

45/64

"Twice in my lifetime men and fighting men of our two nations have been charged with the duty of saving civilization. I knew that in the future we shall be found fighting side by side wherever it is necessary to defend Freedom, Justice and Right against the aggressor.

I pay tribute to the great 'French Navy.'