

DE GAULLE BEATS SIRENS

With the tempo in the fight for Europe's heart quickening, Verdun welcomes General De Gaulle - the soldier with a plan for Europe's future. As French fears are stirred at the rebirth of a German Government in the Western zone the man who predicted world war two, returns to Verdun (scene of France's greatest military triumph over the Germans) to speed his campaign for a new French Constitution. In this city - 32 years ago, De Gaulle (then an infantry Captain) was wounded in the battle that turned the tide in the first world war. Today, he comes as a General and leader of France's powerful anti-Communist Party. Within sight of the great War Memorial, De Gaulle declares himself ready to form a new French Government. Calling on the people to defend themselves against Communist propaganda attacks, his words are drowned by sirens set off by his political enemies.

While the General remains calm and waits patiently, his followers - quick to respond - sing the Marseillaise.

His opponents' ruse defeated, the General continues his appeal to France.

With De Gaulle and the Communists interlocked in battle, Europe's ideological struggle grows daily more bitter.

## THE GAULLE AT VERDUN

2-PSH-501 A  
22/6/48

June 20 th. 1948

On the occasion of the 32rd. anniversary of the victory of Verdun, General de Gaulle went to this martyr city, as a military representative.

After a cordial reception by the huge crowd who attended this ceremony, the General goes down the steps of the war dead memorial to reach the tribune where he is going to speak to the crowd.

At the end of his first sentence, the alarm began to whistle with the intention of disturbing the meeting. De Gaulle ceased to speak and remained very calm, waiting patiently the end of the disturbance. The crowd quite naturally and by itself began singing the "Marseillaise".

After 20 minutes, the alarm ceased to whistle and the General could resume his speech. Once his discourse terminated the General left for the Saire de Douaumont, the place where in 1916, the Gaulle then captain of the infantry has been injured.

This is the last ceremony where the General De Gaulle acted officially as a military chief, the National Assembly having decided that from now on, de Gaulle will be considered as a party chief only.

After the honours rendered to all his men, to all his war comrades, resting in the earth of the Meuse Department, the General ended the ceremony.