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FIVE POWER ARMY MASSES IN RHINELAND

The armies of the Atlantic Pact nations go on parade. In Westphalia - in the British zone of Germany - 60,000 troops mass for the biggest exercise since the end of the war. French, American, Norwegian and Belgian troops come under overall British command, as a giant parade - inspected by War Minister Shinwell and the Western Union Chief, General de Tassigny - sets off a five-day long manoeuvre. Observers from 27 nations, among them a Soviet military mission, watch the march-past, but are barred from looking-in at the actual exercise.

The parade ground - a natural military training area - lies among the pine forests of Westphalia. Frequently used by the German Army, it was here that Rundstedt's men toughened up for the Ardennes battle. Main purpose of today's march-past is to show the composition of a modern army division and to demonstrate the close military co-operation between the Atlantic Powers.

Last past the saluting base - the British contingent, led by the Black Watch! Then follow other units of those famed wartime Divisions - the 2nd Infantry and the 7th Armoured. Among them - the Norfolks and the Royal Welsh Fusiliers - the majority of them National Servicemen. The British Army on the Rhine - and its Allies - are on the alert, as "Exercise Agility" heralds a week of miniature war in Germany.