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BERLIN

GERMAN SPLIT NOW COMPLETE - MANOEUVRES

Berlin's Communist Congress transforms itself into a "parliament" and chooses burly Wilhelm Pieck - Germany's Communist No. 1 - as President of the new East German state. That night, Berlin echoes again to the rhythm of jackboots, as, with all the trappings of the police state, East Zone Germans stage a so-called "spontaneous demonstration." On the Nazis old stamping ground - "Unter den Linden" - Berliners see a show that rivals Hitler's best.

Elsewhere in the city 60,000 West Zone Berliners mass at a rally to protest against the new Communist state, which includes Eastern Berlin as its capital. The split is now complete and anti-Communists demand the inclusion of Western Berlin in the Western State. In that Western State - the armies of the Atlantic Pact powers join in the biggest military exercises since the end of the war. In the villages in Westphalia, it's 1945 all over again. Tanks of the famed Seventh Armoured Division rumble down the same country lanes that their elder brothers traversed only four years ago. In a four-day long manoeuvre (termed Exercise Agility Two) 60,000 troops of the occupying powers prove the effectiveness of the Atlantic Pact.

General Lattre de Tassigny, with General Keightley (chief of Britain's Army on the Rhine) follows the progress of the battle in the field. For the purpose of the manoeuvres, the troops have been split into two forces - the familiar Blueland and Redland. The Blue boys stick to berets - their opponents think it's safer in tin hats. A few miles south of Paderborn, battle is joined. The infantry - the Worcesters and the Yorks and Lancs - go into the attack.

War Minister Shimwell joins the men of the 5th Royal Tank Regiment, as the armour of Redland and Blueland move up in support of the infantry.

To the War Minister come minute-by-minute reports of the battle. Moving across the wide open fields, Redland forces come under heavy fire. It's the armour that counts - and Blueland are on top there, with Centurion tanks spearheading their advance.

The first prisoners fall to Redland, whose headquarters are raided by men from the Second Parachute Battalion. Summing-up the lessons of the manoeuvres, General Tassigny calls for a common tactical doctrine. For in the Western powers preparedness and unity rests the world's hope for peace.