

MacARTHUR'S WELCOME

A British and American guard and civil V.I.Ps wait at Haneda airport, Tokyo, to honour the departure of General Douglas MacArthur. As the General prepares to leave his house, the Emperor Hirohito arrives to pay him a personal visit of farewell - an unparalleled honour, that cuts through all Japanese state etiquette, and a testimony to the man who came as a conqueror to rule over an emperor and his people And now the deposed Supreme Commander begins his journey home, through an avenue of 6,000 troops, 10,000 Japanese police and most of Tokyo.

As the General with Mrs. MacArthur and their son arrive there's a salute of 19 guns.

To Premier Yoshida and other Japanese leaders the General says goodbye. By the plane Mrs. MacArthur waits. This the end of a six years reign; with dismissal assuming the appearance of triumph. He came with Japan's surrender, he leaves on the eve of a peace treaty.

At San Francisco, cameras start turning as "BATAAN" touches down after her long trans-Pacific flight, and for the first time in 14 years America welcomes to her shores General of the Army, Douglas MacArthur.

Almost legendary in his own life-time, MacArthur finds a hero's welcome. Since the days of Bataan and the Philippines he has seemed to the man in the street a worker of miracles. They cheer a hero - perhaps all the more because he's under a cloud.

And now as half-a-million throng the streets and seated by the side of the Governor of California, MacArthur rides in triumph as San Francisco cheers.

In Washington he is to state his case and justify if he can the acts which led President Truman to depose him: but today in all the towns of America they think only of the hero. Later they will judge the man and in the weighing-up there will be much to be said for Douglas MacArthur.