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FRANCE'S GIFT TO S.H.A.P.E.

On behalf of France, President Auriol visits Supreme Headquarters of the Atlantic Powers in Europe. To General Eisenhower, their commander-in-Chief, he comes to present the land on which headquarters stands as a gift from France which has known two invasions in a generation.

From this headquarters the North Atlantic Treaty Nations plan their security. When war ended they hoped the United Nations organisation meant the end of war. Events proved that only strength born of unity can give reasonable assurance. To that end they plan.

Building up that strength, Admiral Sherman, Chief of U.S. Naval Operations flew to discuss naval strength with the Allied Forces Commander in Southern Europe, Admiral Carney. Next day he was to fly back to Washington ... but when the next day came Admiral Sherman had answered a higher call. A brilliant sailor, with his carrier WASP he took planes to beleaguered Malta; and commanded her later in the Pacific, when she was sunk off the Solomon Islands. During the past six months Sherman spanned the globe, negotiating in Tokyo, Washington, Spain and London. We ask much of our great men and the irony of their fate is that to most of us they are unknown. The measure of their success is that it is not called to the proof. Peace is not spectacular and in its enjoyment we forget men like Admiral Sherman who work to ensure it.