

FUNERAL OF A MARSHAL

From Notre Dame Cathedral, Paris, the body of General de Lattre de Tassigny, one of the greatest of France's soldiers, leaves for the Invalides (where Napoleon rests) for France's last highest honour. In the space of months, his wife mourns a son who died in Indo-China and now a husband. For two years General Eisenhower knew him as Commander-in-Chief of Western Union Ground Forces under Field Marshal Montgomery. Then as High Commissioner in Indo-China he stemmed the tide of Red onslaught, but lost his son in battle.

At the Arc de Triomphe, where lies the Unknown Soldier of France, President Auriol confers France's last and highest honour. In death, General Jean de Lattre de Tassigny becomes a Marshal of France. It is a symbol to his widow that France mourns a great son whose services she can ill spare.