

AUSSIES AND NEWZEALANDERS FOR KOREA:

The First Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment, 1400 tough, trained soldiers, bound for Korea to join the Australian troops who have been fighting there since the very early stages of the war -- march through Sydney streets prior to embarkation. The men are led by mascot, Septimus. Sep -- you're out of step. Probably because he can't go to Korea, too. A big crowd lines the route as the men swing past the saluting base at the Town Hall where the Governor General, Sir William McKell takes the salute. In the march, and also bound for Korea, is a New Zealand contingent of 145 reinforcements for the New Zealand field artillery. To the strains of Soldiers of the Queen -- the Aussies march again.

At the wharf thousands of friends and relatives wait to see the troopship sail. It's a day of laughter and tears -- light-heartedness, some of it a little forced, contrasting with the sorrow of parting. Mothers from their sons, husbands from their wives and sweethearts unable to look to a normal future because war holds them apart. Only one of them knows what parting really means. Their average age is 21. Yes, the spirit of Anne still lives and young Australians and New Zealanders still carry high the burning torch of freedom.

Not for nearly 40 years has the Australian public witnessed a scene like this -- a ship crammed with eager, fit young soldiers bound for active service, while their women wave sadly from the shore. No silent, security-guarded sailing this, for the naval forces of the United Nations rule the seas. And so it's farewell -- and here's a threat for many. The story of countless centuries -- repeated in this modern, enlightened age -- Men must fight -- and women must wait.

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LENGTH: 275' - Fox Also covered.