

N.A.T.O. FLEET MANOEUVRES

To Naples, before the commencement of "Operation Grand Slam" (biggest peace-time exercise ever held in the Mediterranean) comes General Eisenhower and Admiral Carney, U.S.N. who will direct. In the Terminal Building allied officers await the chiefs. Carney is American Commander, East Atlantic and Mediterranean, Eisenhower supreme head of Western Defence. Now to the exercises, in which 200 British, American, French and Italian warships take part. The huge fleet is split into twenty small task forces each on a different operation. Our carrier force is to attack coast defences with naval support. From the U.S.S. Midway Panther jets take off by catapult.

That's the catapult attachment whizzing back along the deck for the next jet.

Close in, a token force represents the support fleet.

In the varied exercises over nine days ships are mixed up regardless of nationality. Here a French cruiser and an American destroyer refuel at the same time. They're on long-range anti-submarine patrol. Refuelling at sea makes much longer patrols possible.

Meantime, the jets have returned to Midway. We are building on co-operation for our strength and safety. These exercises are a practical test to make sure that we can co-operate.