

Exercise FOR'ARD ON.

The use in war of atomic weapons presents problems that are to the fore in the minds of the Services to-day. Field-Marshal Sir John Harding, Chief of the Imperial General Staff, is holding Exercise FOR'ARD ON at the Staff College, Camberley, in August at which some of these problems will be studied.

The exercise will be attended by Cs-in-C, of Home and Overseas Commands, senior officers of the Royal Navy and Royal Air Force, senior officers of the Commonwealth countries and scientists. In addition, General Gruenther, Supreme Allied Commander Europe, Field-Marshal Montgomery, Deputy Supreme Allied Commander Europe, and staff officers from SHAPE have been invited to attend.

The following have received invitations to attend:-

Field-Marshal Rt. Hon. Earl Alexander of Tunis, Minister of Defence (will attend if in U.K. at time of the exercise); Vice Admiral J.A.S. Eccles, Flag Officer Air (Home) Representing First Sea Lord; Rt. Hon. A. H. Head, M.P., Secretary of State for War; Sir George W. Turner, Permanent Under-Secretary of State, War Office; Field-Marshal Viscount Montgomery, Deputy Supreme Commander, SHAPE; Major-General W.H.A. Bishop, Principal Staff Officer, Commonwealth Relations; Group Captain K.J. Mellor, Chief of Target Analysis Division, J.I.B; Brigadier R.W. Ewbank, Secretary, Chiefs of Staff Committee; Major-General V.D. Thomas, Chief of Amphibious Warfare; Major-General G.W. Lathbury, Commandant, Staff College; Sir Harold Himsworth, Secretary, Medical Research Council; Dr. E.T. Paris, Chief Scientific Adviser, Home Office; Major-General P.N. White, Assistant Chief of Staff, (Org & Trg Div), SHAPE.

COMMONWEALTH COUNTRIESCANADA

Lt.-General G.G. Simonds, CGS, Canadian Army; Major-General S.F. Clark, QMG, Canadian Army.

AUSTRALIA

Major-General E.L. Sheehan, Australian Def Rep, London; Brigadier A.G. Wilson, Australian Army.

NEW ZEALAND

Major-General G. W. Gentry, CGS, New Zealand Army; Brigadier L.W. Thornton, Australian Army Liaison Officer.

SOUTH AFRICA

Commodore F.J. Dean, South African Mil Adviser London.

INDIA

Gen. Maharaj Shri Rajendra Sinhji, C-in-C Indian Army; Major-General J.N. Chaudhuri, Rep Indian Army.

PAKISTAN

General Mohd Ayub Khan, C-in-C, Pakistan Army.

CEYLON

Brigadier S.F. Reid, Ceylon Army Commander; Lt.-Colonel H.W.G. Wijeyekoon, Officer Commanding 1 C.L.I.

S. RHODESIA

Colonel R.E.B. Long, Chief of Staff, Rhodesian Forces.

EXERCISE FOR'ARD ON  
PHOTOGRAPH  
FRONT ROW SEATING PLAN

Seat No.

1. Lt-Gen Sir Harold Redman
2. Gen Sir Richard N. Gale
3. Gen Sir Charles F. Keightley
4. Sir John D. Cockcroft
5. Col R.E.B. Long
6. Gen Rajendra Sinhji
7. Gen Sir Ouvry L. Roberts
8. Cdre F.J. Dean
9. ACM Sir Robert M. Foster
10. Sir Harold Parker
11. Lt-Gen G.G. Simonds
12. F-M Rt.Hon. Earl Alexander of Tunis
13. F-M Sir John Harding  
*Rt. Hon. R. H. Head*
14. Gen A.M. Gruenther
15. Maj-Gen E.L..Sheehan
16. F-M The Viscount Montgomery of Alamein
17. V-Adm Sir John Eccles
18. Maj-Gen G.W. Gentry
19. Gen Sir Frank Simpson  
*Lt-Gen Sir Gordon MacMillan*
20. Gen Mohd Ayub Khan
21. Brig S.F. Reid
22. Gen Sir Kenneth N. Crawford
23. Gen Sir Cameron G.G. Nicholson
24. Sir Frederick Brundrett
25. Lt-Gen Sir Dudley Ward

Y. 5. 8. 53  
Times

## USE OF ATOMIC WEAPONS

### THREE-DAY EXERCISE AT CAMBERLEY

BY OUR MILITARY CORRESPONDENT

Field-Marshal Sir John Harding, Chief of the Imperial General Staff, is to hold an exercise at the Staff College, Camberley, during the first three days of next week to study the use of atomic weapons in modern warfare. Its code name is "For'ard On."

Among those expected to be present are General Gruenther, Supreme Allied Commander, Europe; Field-Marshal Viscount Montgomery, this deputy; the Minister of Defence, Field-Marshal Earl Alexander of Tunis, and the Secretary of State for War, Mr. Head; Sir John Cockcroft, chairman of the Defence Research Policy Committee; Air Marshal Sir John Baker, Vice-Chief of the Air Staff; and Lieutenant-General Sir Frederick Morgan, Controller of Atomic Energy, Ministry of Supply.

The importance of the exercise is reflected in the presence of the Chiefs of the General Staffs of Canada (Lieutenant-General G. G. Simonds) and New Zealand (Major-General G. W. Gentry), and the Commanders-in-Chief of the Indian and Pakistan armies (General Maharaj Shri Rajendra Sinhji and General Mohd Ayub Khan).

#### OVER FIFTY GENERALS

In addition to senior officers and scientists from the Royal Navy and the R.A.F., Australia, South Africa, Ceylon, and Southern Rhodesia, the Ministries of Defence and Supply, and the Imperial Defence College, the C.I.G.S. is bringing home for the exercise nearly every high British Army commander overseas from as far afield as Hongkong and West Africa, in addition to all available senior officers serving in the United Kingdom. He will in fact have over 50 generals in his audience of more than a hundred.

These annual exercises at Camberley, whatever the subject under discussion, provide the C.I.G.S. of the day with the opportunity of sharing ideas with the best brains of the three Services and the Ministries that work most closely with them. This year's session will be more than usually a Commonwealth occasion, and the presence of General Gruenther will give it a special significance. It is significant that Dr. E. T. Paris, chief scientific adviser at the Home Office, will also be present.

The past 12 months have seen the explosion of the first British atomic bomb, at Monte Bello last October, and the firing of the first atomic shell by the United States Army on the Nevada proving ground last May.

#### A DIFFICULTY

It was recently announced in Washington that several United States artillery battalions armed with the new atomic cannon will be serving in Europe by the end of this year. Unless fresh legislation about the sharing of atomic secrets is introduced, it is difficult to see how Marshal Juin, commander-in-chief of the central sector, who has at present no special access to atomic information, will be able to use them to best advantage, if at all.

The American Army has been deploying troops in close proximity to atomic explosions for nearly two years, but the British Army has, for obvious reasons, had no real practical experience of atomic weapons in the field. It is not known whether any decision has yet been taken to provide the British Army with atomic cannon of its own.

Certainly exercise "For'ard On" will stimulate some earnest discussion next week, particularly among the artillerymen present, who will no doubt be wondering about the future of their arm. Now that responsibility for anti-aircraft guided missiles has passed to the R.A.F., the gunners have every reason to wonder whether their work will not greatly decrease within the next decade. There is more than one opinion on this matter.

The exercise will be held in private, but the C.I.G.S. is expected to make an announcement to the newspapers at its conclusion a week to-day.