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SUEZ EMERGENCY.

Bound for the troubled Mediterranean - just in case - is the aircraft carrier *Theseus*. In Portsmouth Harbour, she takes aboard the vehicles of the 16th Independent Parachute Brigade Group. In a few hours, the Red Devils themselves will be joining her.

The Suez crisis has meant cancelled leave for many units. Equipment is checked at the Life Guards' Windsor depot, while men who had hoped for an August holiday at home hurry back to barracks. The quiet routine of peacetime changes suddenly to an emergency footing - and everything must be ready down to the last spanner. That goes for the Navy, too. At Llanelly Docks, tank landing craft of the mothball fleet are prepared for sea. Stripped of their protective coccons, the ships and their armament are gone over thoroughly and are ready for service in a matter of hours.

Meanwhile the paratroops are arriving at Portsmouth to board H.M.S. *Theseus*. The R.S.M. says goodbye to his family, and with all the farewells over, the 16th Independent Parachute Brigade Group makes it way to the docks.

This is Navy Day in Portsmouth, and for any visitors who care to brave the rainy weather, the Army provides an unexpected item on the programme. The Red Devils go aboard the giant carrier, and from the flight deck, wave to the sightseers on the quayside as *Theseus* pulls away.

Here's wishing them a pleasant journey - a peaceful end to the crisis - and a speedy return home!