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VICHY MEN LEAVE SYRIA .

Masses of Vichy troops assembl.e at the port of Beyrouth for repatriation as the end of the Petain chapter of Syria's history is reached. In the armistice signed at Acre, clause five said "Full honours of war will be granted to the Vichy French Forces". That is why officers and men board their three fifteen thousand ton liners still in possession of their weapons.

An Australian contingent including a military band is on the quay, to honour the departure of the men compelled to fight against their former allies at the order of the Vichy puppets. General de Verdillac who signed the Armistice witnesses the embarkation of his men as the vessels prepare to leave.

The unescorted convoy sets sail, ~~after route~~ after route, time and place of departure had been made known to the Axis by the pro-Nazi French; A poor guarantee of safety. Meanwhile the safety of Syria is in the hands of honourable men.