

RELEASE.

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PROD. NO. 660

STORY: GENERAL MONTGOMERY VISITS CDN TROOPS.

DATE: 27.28.29. Feb. 1, 2 Mar. 1944

CAMERAMEN: LT. NOBLE SGT. ROOS.

LENGTH. 750 ft.

BACKGROUND

General Montgomery, recently visited his Canadian "second front" troops. For twenty minutes or so while the General is talking to the officers of the unit everything is stiff and formal according to good military practice. Then the General dons an informal Air Force jacket over his uniform, climbs to the microphone atop the hood of a jeep and says - "Now I want you to break ranks and gather round this jeep". The effect is instantaneous. Like a herd stampeding, thousands of well-polished army boots come charging at the jeep and for a split second, there is the moot point whether or not they will carry the jeep and the general away with them. There is no tenseness about these informal talks. Interseperated with jokes, the talk is a friendly ramble about themselves and the war. The talk over, the men reform their lines and Monty goes on to another unit to go through the same procedure all over again.

Ever since he arrived back in England the General has been touring the country in a private train which sets him down each night at one of the secret areas where his troops are assembled.

The train is used as a combined travelling hotel and headquarters. The General's office on board is connected by telephone to London. He has a suite of rooms for his staff of secretaries and A.D.C.'s and the generals who go with him.

Each morning around 9 o'clock a little fleet of staff cars is driven out of the luggage vans and the general sets off for the nearest village green where a parade is waiting for him.

Lt. General Kenneth Stuart, Acting Commander of the Canadian Army accompanied General Montgomery on his tour of Canadian units.