

TROOPS LEAVE PORT SAID.

7/12/56.

Soldiers being taken out from the quay to board the troopships Dilwara were the vanguard of the British forces returning home ^{FROM EGYPT} after handing over to the Emergency Force of the United Nations. The first withdrawals from Port Said totalled some two thousand men; Royal Fusiliers, R.A.E.S.C., R.A.M.C. and ~~units~~ of Engineers.

Happy faces showed that --- needless to say --- they were glad ~~not~~ to be going home for Christmas. It is expected that the complete evacuation of British troops from ~~E~~ Egypt will take about three weeks. In their place, the United Nations hope to leave a force of some ~~six~~ thousand, though that number has not yet been reached.

Egypt --- and Suez --- and all that has happened in the latter part of 1956, has written one of the most confusing and unhappy chapters in Britain's recent history. But one dazzling fact shines like a ^{BEACON} ~~light~~ on a gloomy winter's night. Through it all, the British soldier, sailor and airman has done his job superbly well. In circumstances bristling with difficulties --- he has never put a foot wrong. So --- welcome home! And --- well done!