



THE CONQUEROR

Conqueror in the mud. The driver seems to face obliteration. Photographs: SOLDIER Cameraman ARTHUR BLUNDELL.

As the Conqueror sets out for trials in Germany, more facts about the new heavy-gun tank are released

BOLDLY, the Conqueror, big brother of the Centurion, has made its first appearance in front of a battery of press cameras, including SOLDIER's.

The occasion was the departure of the first batch of Conquerors to Rhine Army for troop trials. The tanks paraded at the Fighting Vehicle Research and Development Establishment on Chobham Common, Surrey. For the first time, it was permitted to publish pictures of the Conqueror taken from all angles and while the tank was on the move.

With this relaxation of security restrictions came more informa-

tion about the Conqueror. The great tank weighs 65 tons. Its hull is 25 feet nine inches long, and with the gun in the travelling position the length is extended to 39 feet. The tank is ten feet four inches high and 13 feet wide.

The Conqueror's Meteor en-

gine develops 800 horse-power at maximum speed and gives a top road speed of about 20 miles an hour. Suspension is of a new and improved design.

The four-man Conqueror, it had previously been announced, is to operate with the Centurion. It has been developed by the same team that was responsible for the earlier tank. They had to tackle many new problems in gun-control, suspension, power and transmission.

Conqueror from two angles. The one on the right has the gun in the travelling position.



IS GOING TO RHINE ARMY



Side-view of the Conqueror showing the distinctive turret.



Conqueror from the front. The tank is 13 feet wide.

AND HERE FOR COMPARISON, IS AMERICA'S HEAVY TANK

The five-man T-43, latest addition to the American armoured forces, weighs 60 tons and carries a 120-millimetre high-velocity gun. Powered steering is said to make it "easier to handle than a farm tractor."

