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LIFE'S PICTURES

Robert Capa parachuted into Germany with the Americans on the first day of the big push across the Rhine. Two days later he was in Paris with the exciting pictures on pp. 27-37. Here, dressed in his parachute, he is shown at the secret airborne-troop base in France just before taking off. He holds an open Rolleiflex in his hands, has packed two Contax cameras in his knapsack and stuffed his pockets with film. Said he, describing the night after landing, "I went to bed in my parachute and dreamt that LIFE said this was a fine story and I could go back skiing."

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