

LA VANGUARDIA

BARCELONA

NOTAS GRAFICAS

Domingo 27 de Octubre de 1929

CUATRO PÁGINAS

LA EVACUACIÓN DE RENANIA POR LAS TROPAS INGLESES



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This is a picture that truly deserves a big splash on the front page. The headline of the story says "Evacuation of Renania by British troops", and the caption explains: "A British soldier bidding farewell to his German wife". Whatever the occasion, this is a moment in history masterly caught on film by a Keystone photographer.

But, is it a spontaneous picture or one stage managed? Is she really his wife or just a casual girlfriend? Does it matter? What happened afterwards? Did he return to live in Germany or did he take her with him back to Britain? Did they have children? Did they ever see this beautiful picture of themselves? One can almost

see their eyes wet, perhaps in tears, feel the sadness of the farewell, understand the hurried heart-beat in their chests, hear the teasing jokes of the fellow soldiers.

One fears the whistle of the train engine signalling the moment of the departure. One feels the little tragedy of seeing the train disappear in the distance, the emptiness of the station afterwards, the lonely nights ahead, the memories of the recent past and the hopes for the future. But now, looking at this scene almost 80 years later, an inescapable fact of life comes to mind: the intense emotions of that moment have long dissolved into nothingness, just like the lives of the anonymous couple.