

KALTENBORN SAYS:

Enemies Stalemated After 6 Months Because Defense Outshines Offense

By H. V. KALTENBORN
Noted Radio Commentator.

AT THE end of the first six months of war we find that the major belligerents have not yet begun to fight, while the major neutral powers have begun to fight for peace. Small wonder that the late Senator Borah called this a "phoney" war.

Only in Finland is there a major military effort and mighty Soviet Russia does not even admit that she has gone to war against little Finland. When the war began no one expected Soviet Russia to participate in military operations and no one expected Finland to be invaded. On the other hand, everyone expected an immediate air-raid by hundreds of bombing-planes on the capitals of Europe, and for weeks the headlines spoke of the coming big offensives on the Maginot and Siegfried lines. Neither the raids nor the offensives developed during the first half-year of fighting. Why?

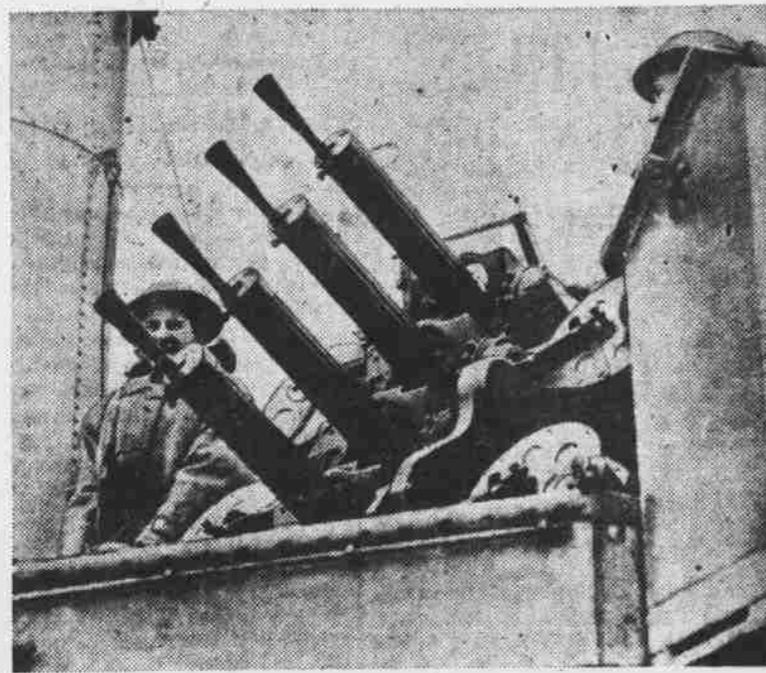
Defense Is Major Factor.

The primary reason is that in modern war, defense is stronger than offense. The war in Spain showed the world that air attack on large cities is tremendously destructive, but it also showed that it is not likely to be decisive. The expense in planes, fuel, bombs and aviators who do not return is apt to offset the military advantages gained in any mass bombing flight. And the effect on neutral opinion of the killing of thousands of women and children, together with the destruction of historic monuments in cities far away from any actual fighting zone, might well be disastrous.

The fear of such wholesale air-raids led France and Britain to surrender at Munich. Now, after a year and a half of additional intensive preparation for air-defense, they no longer fear German attack. They are prepared to meet it and could make it so costly that it would probably not be repeated. The successful defense of the Mannerheim line against the most highly concentrated Soviet military effort showed the strength of defense fortifications in modern war.

Why Poland Was Weak.

The two great surprises of this war so far have been Poland's weakness and Finland's strength. Poland's weakness arose from a lack of national unity and domination of the illiterate masses by an aristocratic caste. In the larger sense, the government of Poland was nei-



BRITAIN GUARDS THE SEA—Somewhere in the north sea a multiple anti-aircraft gun aboard a British mine sweeper watches for enemy raiders.

santly, directly on the fighting lines or indirectly through the air-waves. Nazi leaders are apprehensive about casualties in the propaganda battle. They impose severe punishment on anyone who listens to a foreign broadcast. The British and French, on the other hand, have enough confidence in their people to permit them to listen to whatever Dr. Goebbels orders said.

More Activity on Sea.

At sea, a war of movement has been possible. This is why there has been much more activity at sea than on land. Britain's control of the sea has again demonstrated its importance. The German fleet is bottled up. Except for submarines, the German navy and the German Merchant Marine have been swept from the seas.

The Near Eastern Franco-British army of half a million men under the leadership of General Weygand is now waiting in Syria, ready for instant action against Russia or Germany in any part of the Balkans. This army may yet prove the decisive military factor in this war. Allied victories in Palestine and Turkey presaged the collapse of the Central Powers in 1918.

Germany's commerce-raiders were swept from the seas much more quickly than during the World War. The Graf Spee lies wrecked in Montevideo harbor after being put out of action by the combined

far less successful in destroying shipping than mines. The new magnetic mine sown by the Germans proved very destructive for the first few weeks in which it was used. Then more effective mine-sweeping methods and the establishment of narrow ship-channels which were carefully patrolled reduced the successes of Germany's mine-laying airplanes.

British Also Unsuccessful.

On the other hand, the British have been no more successful in their raids against the German navy. Both German and British submarines have destroyed an occasional warship, but these forays have been costly to the submarines attempting them. The British and French claim to have sunk between 40 and 50 German submarines since the beginning of the war. The Germans admit the loss of less than half this number. Yet whenever a submarine is lost, the entire crew is lost with it, and it takes five years to train men to handle a submarine under war conditions.

Talk about the Germans building one submarine a day is nothing more than talk. It is more likely that the Germans are completing anywhere from six to ten U-boats a month, which is just about the rate at which they are being destroyed.

Already Planning for Peace.

There is, then, nothing decisive in action at sea or in the air. Defense is stronger than attack. But what about the economic front? That is probably the most important front of all and the one that will be dominant long after the war has ended. Already Secretary of State Hull is negotiating with the neutral powers to work out a plan of economic reconstruction. The plan must be ready for instant application on the day of the armistice if Europe is not to sink in to chaos when the fighting ends.

Every country in Europe, neutral and belligerent alike, has mortgaged its future. Only if the New World remains out of the war and stands ready to lend its resources for European reconstruction is there any hope of true peace. Europe was ready for revolution before the war came and will be much more ready for it when the war is done.

What After Collapse?

France and Britain count on economic pressure to bring about the collapse of Germany, but one wonders whether they have asked themselves, what then? Will they march into Germany at the head of a victorious army, establish a new Kaiser and a new Junker government? Or will they stand aside while Germany's underground Communist movement re-asserts itself and calls out for assistance to the Red brethren in Moscow?

There is the third possibility of organizing those liberal forces that have either been driven out of Germany or driven under cover within Germany, and helping them to re-establish constitutional government by granting them a generous peace. That would be the hardest task.

Rumania Under Pressure.

Meanwhile, there is more pressure behind the economic than behind the military war. Members of the Rumanian government are being bribed, bulldozed, flattered and cajoled by both sides. Both are seeking to purchase Rumania's oil and Rumania's grain. Each wants it so that the other cannot have it. The French and British offer gold, the Germans threaten war. So far, King Carol has kept a precarious balance; Britain and France continue to guarantee his frontiers and King Carol remembers the Blitzkrieg against Poland. Poland had been given the same guarantees.

On the diplomatic front, the Allied powers won their greatest victory in winning Turkey to their cause. This gives them control of the Dardanelles and the Black Sea, in case of war with Russia. It also assures France and Britain complete dominance of the Mediterranean thereby discouraging Italy from siding with Germany.

(Released by Western Newspaper Union.)

Gneiss

By MRS. F. E. MASHBURN

On February 19 W. A. Keener gave a birthday dinner for his father, Jim Keener. Mr. Keener was very hale and hearty on this his 90th birthday.

On February 17 Miss Virginia Keener and Mrs. Amy Leopold were celebrating their birthdays together.

Mrs. Henry Stiwinter is on the sick list, we are sorry to report. Rev. Frank Holland preached at the Walnut Creek school house Sunday afternoon.

Lee Keener and Alley Peek are home from New York.

The storm was very hard here on February 17 and 18.

Buck Creek

By BEE SHOOK

The cold and snowy weather here has delayed the farmers about getting ready for their crops.

We are glad to say that Mrs. Callie Rogers is improving after a month's illness.

Mr. and Mrs. Herman Rogers have been visiting friends and relatives in the Mountain Grove section.

Kermit Rogers and family have returned to Ellijay after spending three weeks with his parents. He is now improving after a severe illness.

Mrs. A. S. Shook and some friends have quilted 14 quilts this winter at her home.

We are glad to say that Fred Moss is improving.

Bennett Barnes and Corbin Hawkins are putting up a new store building for Mrs. Eunice Tilton. This will be a great help to the community.

Mrs. Lutehr Rogers is able to be up again after an illness with influenza.

Bob Russell and family have moved to the Cullasaja section. They will be greatly missed from this community.

Maupin Gives Hints To Turkey Growers

Successful turkey production depends upon saving and growing to maturity a large number of poults from each brood started, according to C. J. Maupin, extension poultryman at State college.

Since good management and strict sanitation are highly important in turkey production, most successful turkey growers use artificial incubation and brooding methods, because sanitation can be more easily controlled.

Most of the turkey crop is produced between February and June, the normal season. In general farm flocks, an average of 10 to 15 mature birds may be secured from each turkey hen used in the spring breeding pen. When special care and attention are employed, it may be possible to grow 20 to 25 turkeys from each hen.

Whether eggs are set under hens or in an incubator, the first requirement for successful hatching is fresh eggs. If hens are confined to a small yard or range, and this is a good turkey practice, the eggs should be gathered twice daily. They should be stored in a well-ventilated room or cellar with a preferred temperature of 50 to 60 degrees. If they are to be kept longer than a week, they should be turned gently once daily. For best hatching results, the eggs

should not be kept more than 10 days.

Where hovers are used in the brooding house, the temperature should be kept around 90 to 95 degrees at the hover edge for several days, or the general house temperature should be at least 70 to 75 degrees near the floor. The exact temperature is of minor importance if the poults are kept comfortable and good ventilation maintained. Feeding the poults may be much the same as for baby chicks.

Two Injured In Automobile Accident

Alley Peek, 25, was taken to Angel hospital Saturday afternoon suffering from severe lacerations on the head and face and a concussion of the brain as a result of an automobile accident at 2:30 o'clock on highway No. 28, between Franklin and Highlands.

The coupe, in which Mr. Peek was riding, overturned on the highway at a point one mile east of Franklin.

Mr. Peek's younger brother suffered minor lacerations on the head and face.

Ninety Yancey county farmers have placed applications for 204,750 forest tree seedlings to be planted this spring, according to R. H. Crouse, farm agent of the State college extension service.

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Advancing another step in its poultry improvement program, the Farmers Federation Hatchery qualifies this year for the official classification of "N. C.-U. S. Certified Hatchery." In fact, it is the only Certified hatchery in North Carolina and the Southeast hatching four or more breeds.

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Farmers Federation Warehouses

THE AUTHOR—

H. V. Kaltenborn attained outstanding eminence in the radio news field during the European crisis last autumn, when his frequent and accurate reports over the Columbia network were awaited each day by millions of listeners. A native of Wisconsin, he worked many years on the Brooklyn Eagle before entering the radio news field as a sideline in 1922. For more than 30 years he has been a keen student of international politics, a background which makes his extemporaneous analyses over CBS among the most accurate heard by the American audience today. His famous broadcast from a haystack in Spain is the first radio description of actual warfare on record. During last autumn's crisis he literally lived at the CBS studios in New York, prepared to go on the air at a moment's notice.



ther popular nor efficient. The Finnish people are literate, sturdy and possess a strong sense of social and political independence.

Just as the failure of Poland's defense plan undermined morale, the success of Finland's well-organized plan of defense has given tremendous encouragement to the army, the people and the government. But the success of the German blitzkrieg against Poland and the failure of Russia's blitzkrieg against Finland depended primarily on the difference between the attacking armies. The German army was well organized, well equipped, well directed. The Russian army is poorly organized, poorly equipped and suffers from bad generalship.

Western Lines Invulnerable.

Already Finland's Mannerheim line has withstood an overwhelming Russian assault for more than three months. It is apparent, therefore, that the much more completely organized and much deeper Maginot and Siegfried lines would be similarly invulnerable to attack. And whereas Russia has a superiority of something like 20 to 1 against Finland, the forces lined up on both sides of the French frontier are practically equal in fighting strength.

In considering the progress of this war, we are too much inclined to dwell on military factors. Yet during this first half-year the military front has been less important than the diplomatic front and the economic front. There has even been a more continuous exchange of ammunition on the propaganda front than between the fighting armies themselves.

Radio and loudspeaker systems have made it possible for belligerents to talk to one another incessantly.

efforts of three small British cruisers. The Deutschland, her sister pocket-battleship, thought it best to return to a safe German harbor.

Nazis Stress U-Boat Warfare.

But raiding with surface ships is a minor factor in Germany's sea warfare against Britain and France. The Germans remembered how close they came to forcing a decision with their submarines during the World War. They had from 60 to 75 submarines ready when the war began. For the first few weeks of the war, they used these to excellent advantage.

Then the protective measures which Britain developed during the World War and since became effective. The larger ships were sent out in convoy; airplane patrols were created; minefields against submarines were established and all the resources of the British navy were mobilized against the U-boats.

On the whole, they have proved effective. In six months, the British have lost 550,000 tons of merchant ships. At the same time, the French lost 75,000 tons and the neutrals 350,000 tons. This makes a total of a little over 1,000,000 tons.

Losses Not Important.

But nothing in these losses produced by mines and submarines even suggests the possibility of a decisive result. The British merchant marine alone totals 21,000,000 tons. The British claim that deducting from their losses purchases and new construction, their net loss in six months of warfare has been less than 200,000 tons. It is also probable that the losses will decrease rather than increase, since at sea as well as on land defense is proving itself stronger than attack.

Already submarine torpedoes are



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