

There had been nothing dishonourable in the Allied defeats in Malaya, Libya and Russia, although Allied officers there had had the benefit of the experience of the French campaign and a full knowledge of the new German strategy. If Russia surrendered three times the area of the whole of France in the same length of time that it took the Germans to advance from Sedan to Bordeaux it was, as in the case of the French defeat, only ^{because of} ~~due to~~ lack of military preparation.

Report on General Giraud's Views

Harold Callender, in an article published June 22, stated on the strength of interviews with friends of General Giraud in North Africa that a sudden purge of commissioned personnel in the French army was considered by his supporters to be unwise. An army of 400,000 (of which 300,000 are already enrolled) would be able to use all the officers available, especially those tested in Tunisia. Meanwhile there was no doubt that many of the younger men would like to have the posts now occupied by officers on de Gaulle's blacklist.

General Giraud himself issued a statement explaining that only 2 of 108 generals under his command were over 60 years of age. Twenty-three generals, with an average age of 52, had been appointed to the expeditionary corps which would fight beside the British and Americans in overseas operations.

A prominent supporter of General Giraud complained that the compromise agreement reached by the Committee of National Liberation was a miserable affair. 'We had thought to unify the army first - for that is most vital in wartime - and expected that unity in other fields would naturally follow. Now we have a form of political unity but no unified army.'

Report on Views of
the State Department

On June 27 something of a sensation was created by the publication of an article by Kirke Simpson, Washington