

German military plans or intended operations elsewhere, subsequent developments have revealed no inclination on the part of Germany to take advantage of any consternation or concern in the Low Countries for launching a movement in some other direction. Nor does it appear that any political end has been served either in intimidating Holland or Belgium, or in inveigling them into unneutral acts, or into recourse to Allied help. While, therefore, the recent alarm may have been a subterfuge, no immediate consequences of use to Germany are visible.

8. The unpleasant fact remains, however, that German concentrations are reported to be still accumulating opposite Belgium and Holland, where according to some reports, nearly a million men, supported by complete mechanized units, are assembled along approximately an 85-mile front. Assuming that the Siegfried and Maginot lines are so impregnable as to frustrate any direct offensive on the Westwall, the presence of the main German army along the more vulnerable neutral frontiers is a matter of apprehension, notwithstanding the military as well as political difficulties of a German invasion which have repeatedly been emphasized in previous despatches.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

K.P. Kirkwood.

Chargé d'Affaires a.i.