

that there were tendencies developing in important circles that were seeking to stage a war -- now, you remember the Finnish events; why did Russia go into Finland? The main reason I think is clear now; it was to block Germany's march in Europe; the same reason that developments took place in other countries.

BY MR. McKINNON:

Q. That was kind of tough on the Finns, wasn't it?

A. Yes and the Finns, unfortunately, were not masters -- at least the Finnish people were not masters of their own destiny. If you recall, Russia proposed to change the frontiers and offered to give Finland far more territory than they asked in order to protect their second largest city in the country, Leningrad, which was in a geographical position where it could be shelled by artillery fire; and certainly every country would seek to protect its main industries from shell-fire; and it appeared to them apparently that Finland was going to be used as a base by Germany for an attack against Russia, which it was.

BY MR. MacINNIS:

Q. Do you take it that every large power would be justified in invading every other country if it deems that necessary to protect its own interests?

A. No, I do not. But I think in the case of a war and an international situation that is full of surprises -- one cannot stand at some point ashore and wait for the enemy to come, it is necessary to take steps, even steps that would otherwise not be justified in order to defend your country and your shores. I think the lessons of this war have proven that to be very very important. I do not justify any invasion or attack against any country on the part of another country.

BY MR. SLAGHT:

Q. I do not want to disturb the witness in his historical vein as to how the war started in Europe, or even the difficulty