

REFLECTIONS OF WORLD WAR II OCCUPATION AND LIBERATION OF GREECE TO THE TURKISH PRESS*

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Abstract

Second World War was one of the greatest destructions seen on the earth. Turkey's neighbour, Greece, was also affected. Italy from Axis States; launched an attack against Greece in October 1940, but Italy had failed. Following this, the German attack began against Greece in April 1941, as a result of the difference in the balance of military power, Greece was under military occupation till October 1944. This occupation continued in some important islands and Crete until 1945. In our research, reflections of both of these events are in the media of Turkey, which was a neighbouring and a neutral country, that will be examined. Along with this, the Turkish-Greek relations within World History will be examined.

Key Words: *World War II, Turkish-Greece Relations, Greece, Turkey, 1941-1945, Crete.*

Yunanistan'ın II. Dünya Savaşı Esnasında İşgali ve Kurtuluşunun Türk Basınındaki Yansımaları

Özet

Dünyanın bugüne kadar görmüş olduğu en büyük yıkım olan İkinci Dünya Savaşı; Türkiye'nin komşusu Yunanistan'ı da etkilemiştir. Mihver Devletlerinden İtalya, Ekim 1940 tarihinde Yunanistan'a saldırmış fakat başarısız olmuştur. Bunun üzerine, Nisan 1941 tarihinde, Yunanistan üzerine Alman taarruzu başlamış ve askerî güçlerin farklılığı, sonucun Almanya lehine olmasını sağlamıştır. Yunanistan, Ekim

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1944 tarihine kadar işgal altında kalmıştır. Ana karanın haricinde Alman işgali, bazı önemli adalar ve Girit'te 1945 yılına kadar devam etmiştir. Bu çalışmada, tarafsız ve komşu bir ülke olan Türk basınında, Yunanistan'ın işgal ve kurtuluş dönemlerinin yansımaları incelenecek ve bunun yanı sıra, dünya tarihi içerisinde Türk-Yunan ilişkilerine değinilecektir.

Anahtar Kelimeler: *İkinci Dünya Savaşı, Türk-Yunan İlişkileri, Yunanistan, Türkiye, 1941-1945, Girit.*

FOREWORD

Human history is full of wars, immigrations, and natural disasters. It can be said, The Second World War made history, standing out amongst others in the list. One of the geographies occurring in this war, causing millions of deaths, injuries and migrations was Europe. The war, starting in Europe and then embracing nearly the whole continent, reached far points of the world, causing clashes from the Atlantic to the Pacific.

In this study, during the second World War, reflection of the invasion of Greece and the independence period to Turkish media will be investigated. Reaction of Turkish media is important since Greece is a neighbouring country, and it displayed an objective aspect at the war.

BREAKING AND SPREADING OF THE SECOND WORLD WAR

Versailles Peace Settlement which was signed after the First World War, got reaction from the first moment. As a result, new problems and depressions began to occur. Precautions taken to protect Versailles status could not prevent the opposites (Uçarol, 1995: 595). Especially after the 1929 economic crisis, important changes occurred in the world, and the crisis caused new political regimes to emerge (Sarica, 1982: 269). Thus, developments seen in power with the balance of Europe beginning from the 1930's was that of, political, economical and militaristic clashes which started between status quoit states and the parties against status quo (Uçarol, 1995: 595). For instance Hitler, alias Führer, ruling the government in Germany in 1934, started working to abolish the provisions of Versailles (Fuchs, 2006: 36). In the end, all these reasons caused the Second World War.

The Second World War, broke out after Germany attacked Poland on 1 September 1939 (Hart, 2000: 71). Germany invaded Poland, which they had a force of 52 divisions, and 30 divisions of foot soldiers, on 27 September 1939 when Warsaw fell (Armaoğlu, 2005: 362). While Germany-Poland war was

going on, Soviet Union's Minister of Foreign Relations Molotov, calling Polish ambassador on 17 September 1939, told that all the settlements of Soviet Union with this country were terminated, and that Poland was no more a state, and stated that Soviet forces entered Poland to protect lands of Ukraine (Burçak, 1983: 57). With the intervention of England and France soon, Poland fell in a short time although putting all its sources to fight (Üçok, 1987: 275).

In the beginning of 1939, November, the war went on spreading in different directions from Germany and the Soviet Union. In this period Soviet Union put its forces in Estonia, Latvia, and in Lithuania and declared war against Finland, who objected to this request, on 30 November 1939. German forces, arranging its forces in winter, invaded Norway and Denmark on 9 April 1940 *Ana Britannica*, (Vol.XI: 491). (1987).

Securing north and east lines, Germany exceeded the Belgium and Holland border with an attack on 10 May 1940 in which, Holland surrendered on 15 May, when Belgium surrendered on 27 May. German forces went on pushing south, and entered Paris on 14 June 1940. Italy joined the war on 10 June 1940 and declared war against France. France and Germany signed a truce and victory of Germany was registered with a diplomatic document (Armaoğlu, 2005: 368). Thoughts that the war would end after the fall of France blurred with Hitler's declaration that the war would have continued till England's surrender (Hart, 1996: 291).

Germany focused on Britain after France, but couldn't find the hopes. So Germany and Italy, focusing on raw material sources in Balkans, added a new front (Esmer – Sander, 1996: 138).

Italy attacked Greece on 28 November 1940, after invading Albania. This attack failed but concerned Turkey, the neighbour of Greece. Feeling compelled to take some measures to strengthen its status in the region, Turkey signed a joint notice with Bulgaria on 17 February 1941, guaranteeing that the two states would not attack each other Soysal, (1983) (Vol.I: 633). Bulgaria, failed to resist the Germans push any longer, and so joined the Tern Group on 1 March 1941 (Uçarol, 1995: 601).

After Italy's failure of an attack on Greece, Germany took the action to fulfil its plans in the region, and started an invasion of Greece on 6 April 1941 (www.wikipedia.org / *ikinci dunya savasinda yunanistan* -23.02.2011-) . Germany not only targeted continental Greece but also the Greek Islands and invaded one of the most important islands, Crete on 31 May 1941 (Ribard,

1983: 592). Since the invasion of Greece was followed closely by its neighbour Turkey, Hitler's letter to İnönü on 4 March 1941 declaring that Germany did not have the intention to attack Turkey relieved people (Soysal, 1993: 56).

Germany, making all the arrangements in Balkans, attacked Soviet Union on 22 June 1941 and expanded the war fronts (Kojinov, 2002: 11). Inclusion of Soviet Union changed the balance in the war so that, dominance of Germany slowly turned in reverse. After Pearl Harbor was bombed by Japan on 7 December 1941, the USA joined the war among its allies ([www.yale.edu / lawweb/avalon/wwii -24.02.2001-](http://www.yale.edu/lawweb/avalon/wwii-24.02.2001-)).

Germany, although displaying success against Soviet Union in the beginning, Stalingrad fights changed the loop of war after July 1942. Leaving over 1 million prisoners, Germany's position changed considerably (Shirer, 1992: 1170). In 1942, Japan suffered losses in Far Asia and the Pacific Ocean, while German submarines suffered losses in every region, compared to the recent years of war. German planes slowed down their activities in the mentioned year, and we must say that on the contrary, English and Americans bombed Germany from time to time (Armaoğlu, 2005: 385). In the end of 1942, cursor of victory turned towards allies from axis powers.

In the beginning of 1943, North Africa invaded by allies that accelerated the resolution of Italy, and this situation triggered national movements in the countries under invasion of Germany. In July 1943, Germans tried to attack Soviets but they failed, and Soviet Union almost reached its prewar borders in the spring of 1944. Allies, deciding to open a new front against Germany, started Normandy landings on 6 June 1944 (Artuç, 1999: 235). Germany resisted until August 1944 but withdrew after this date, and the allies in a short time took important capitals such as Paris, Brussel, and Amsterdam back. They even exceeded Rhine River on 25-26 September 1944 and entered Germany lands (Armaoğlu, 2005: 396).

Germany was defeated at all fronts in 1945 (Gürsan, 2006: 231). After Hitler's suicide on 30 April 1945, Germany was left without a leader (Langlois, 2000: 260). The big war ended when Germany surrendered unconditionally on 7 May 1945, and Japan on 14 August 1945.

GREECE IN THE SECOND WORLD WAR AND ITS REFLECTIONS ON TURKISH PRESS

Second World War, emerging in Eastern Europe spread through the western and northern part of Europe, followed by Balkans. Greece, strategically important among other Balkan countries, was a land that axis powers desired to take. For this reason, handling Albania issue, Italy started military operation in Greece on 28 November 1940.

As soon as Italy's attack on Greece started, this issue had wide media coverage. Since the main topic of this study is the attack of Germany on Greece, it would be enough to give some examples from that period till up to that time.

The paper 'Ulus' headlined the issue as Elen army defends itself against Italian attack. Under the headline says, "Faith of people is high", summarizing the approach of Greek people against the attack. The last part mentioned that Italians could not gain a clear success at Greece's operation till that time (31 November 1941), *Ulus* 1-3.

Italians failed to gain what they expected in Greece operation. Failing from the first days of attack, Italian forces were counteracted in a short time by Greece forces. On 8 January 1941, the news headlined that Italians gave up the attack and continued, "their last attack repelled with a great loss." With that Italians replied to this as "Nothing to lose at the Greek front." (8 January 1941). *Ulus*, 1. News about Greek-Italian war after this period generally mentioned Greece's success and Italy's loss. For instance, news headlined that Greek forces took new positions yesterday at Greek-Italian Fronts (18 January 1941), *Ulus*, 1. and every attack of Italians repelled (13 February 1941) *Cumhuriyet*, 1. dated 18 January 1941 were both of the same instance.

At the end of Italy's failure, Germany decides to handle the Greek issue by itself, and started military operation in 1941 April, targeting Athens. Although Germany's attack on Greece had a coverage in Turkish media since the first day, news especially increased after Germans exceeded Greek lines on 6 April. Before this date, official declarations were published about clashes and air fights of Greece with Italian forces in Turkish media from time to time: According to the news headlined Greece's official notice, Greece "captured many prisoners, one of which was a military officer. Automatic guns and howitzers captured." The notice continued: "Enemy aircrafts fired a couple of times towards villagers working on fields in Macedonia, but got no result." (5 April 1941). *Ulus*, 5.

When the possibility of Germany's attack increased, a considerable English force transferred to Greece, and this was published in Turkish media. The news headlined as, "200 thousand English soldiers landed in Greece, mentioned that England-affiliated Egyptian panzers and foot divisions landed Thessaloniki, and moved towards the Greece-Yugoslavian border." (4 April 1941). *Cumhuriyet*, 1.

The news headlined war finally broke out in Balkans, announcing to Turkish readers of the Germany-Greece war that started one day before 7 April 1941. The news continued; "as all the German radios announced German forces exceeded the Greek border in early morning." The news also published the note the German Foreign Ministry sent to Greek officers, and the declaration of war as well as the reply of Greek officers. According to the news, the Greek Prime Minister notified the German Ambassador, "Greece will defend its ancestor's lands that with such an attempt from the German forces they will be resisted with armed forces." The rest of the news mentioned that Greek people would defend their lands to the bitter end with big demonstrations in big cities such as Athens, and Thessaloniki (7 April 1941:). *Cumhuriyet*, 1-5.

Not only militant issues but also there were socio-psychological cases of Greek people also having coverage frequently in the Turkish media. The news headlined "Brave Greek people revolted again" and continued with "Greek people gathering around the King, are trying to save their lands from invasion," and then stated "Exciting demonstrations of Athens people went on all day. Workers and youth groups in the afternoon walked down the main streets with a band, and clapped with Elen and English officers in front of headquarters. Demonstrators were carrying English, Yugoslav, Turkish and American flags, and the band was playing national marches." (8 April 1941). *Cumhuriyet*, 1-5.

On 8 April 1941, the news of Greek Army Chief Commander General Papagos, along with a picture of himself, said, "Despite violent attacks of German forces, the Greek army protected its position." The news beside that was an official declaration of English government saying, "An army was sent to help with the defence forming of Britain, Australia and New Zealand troops." (8 April 1941). *Ulus*, 1.

It was interesting that the news headlined "Hero" to the Greek army who went on the defence, and yet repelled the German armored unit which entered Nifa passage, though it is still mentioned of the Greek army as being the hero.

The news continued saying civil people were evacuated and moved to safer regions from Macedonia and Thrace (9 April 1941). *Cumhuriyet*, 1.

Developments and phases of Germany-Greece war were followed closely by Turkey. Thessaloniki and Iskeçe's fall on 10 April 1941 were published with the headline "Greek cities Thessaloniki and Iskeçe invaded by Germany." The news continued as; "It was stated that Thessaloniki and Iskeçe invaded, and the Greek army surrendered in the eastern region of Thessaloniki." Another headline addressed Greek resistance and said on behalf of Germans that: "Militant officers admit Greek troops fight with a great courage." (10 April 1941). *Ulus*,1. On the same day another paper in Turkey published the news of Iskeçe and Thessaloniki's invasion with a headline, and published an updated map of the Balkan front. Greek defence was praised in this paper saying, "The Hero Greek army is fighting with a unique faith." (10 April 1941). *Cumhuriyet*, 1.

After the news mentioning the fall of Iskeçe and Thessaloniki as well as changing balance in favor of Greece, the situation turned in reverse on 11 April 1941. The news with the headline as Germany's progression stopped yesterday, along with a map displaying Germany-Greece war continued: "Greek resistance and English-Yugoslav air attacks harmed German forces considerably." On the column beside it, it said, "English-Greek armies settling down the line through Ohri Lake in the west of Thessaloniki." (11 April 1941). *Cumhuriyet*, 1.

The news headlined as War Status – Thessaloniki Ohrid Front was published in the *Cumhuriyet* paper on 12 April 1941. The news summarized events of the Greek front so far, and stated some predictions about possible developments. The same paper mentioned the military situation of Thessaloniki. A hand-drawn northern Greece map was published below the news, trying to give the readers a visual aspect of the war (12 April 1941). *Cumhuriyet*, 1-5.

The news in the *Ulus* paper, dated 13 April 1941 stated some views on the course of war, and the headline was "Florina battle in Greece." According to the news, this front would have effects on the German-Greek war, too. There is a hand-drawing of a map beside the news, showing the Balkan front (13 April 1941). *Ulus*, 1.

The news headlined of the Contacting of German forces in Greece, and the English forces who pushed German forces and continued with the subheading as, "The English-Elen line remains like a wall." Then mentioned

the defeat of the German army as well as tank clashes in northern Greece, and that Italy suffered many losses in the West (14 April 1941). *Ulus*, 1.

While the war was quickly going on, news from the front reflected on Turkish media. On 15 April 1941, the course of war was displayed by drawings in the paper *Ulus*, with statements like, “Troops of Adolf Hitler attacked.” According to this, Germany landed in Greek Ports and this attack was repelled, causing heavy loss (15 April 1941). *Ulus*, 1

The news headlined of the Greek front dated 16 April 1941 mentioned the success against German land and air attacks under the sub heading as “Defence line of allies from Aegean Sea to Adriatic Sea is held strongly.” (16 April 1941). *Cumhuriyet*, 1-5.

While bloody war was going on in Greece, news coming from the fronts were published every day in Turkish media. A Greek officials notice was published in the Greek Front-War which broke through with the line: “Attack of Italians at Albanian front was repelled. The enemy had considerable loss. Our units in west Macedonia retreated to new positions by an order. Our anti-aircraft batteries crashed 10 enemy aircraft.” (17 April 1941). *Cumhuriyet*, 1-5.

One of the front page news articles dated 19 April 1941 was headlined as “Friend Greek nation’s big loss – Prime Minister Korizis died yesterday.” According to the news of Athens radio on 18 April 1941, the Greece Prime Minister was dead. One of the most important points for our study is the note below Koziris’ picture on the paper saying, “Prime Minister Koziris, the loss of friend and hero to the Greek nation.” (19 April 1941), *Cumhuriyet*, 1.

The news on 20 April 1941 headlined as “Greek people defend themselves as heroic!” “German progress stopped” stated the last situation in clash with Italians in Albania, and continued on that Greek forces especially gained success in Macedonia against Germany. A Greece map showed the general situation, published on the bottom of the first pages (20 April 1941) *Ulus*, 1

On 20 April 1941, there was a contradiction about publishing Greece news. While there was news stating that the Greek King would have been the president of government, and the Governor of Athens would have formed the cabinet, holding the title of Vice Prime Minister; the paper *Ulus* published the name of Athens Governor as Koçyas (20 April 1941), *Ulus*, 1. and the *Cumhuriyet* paper published it as, Kondias (20 April 1941). *Cumhuriyet*, 1.

Forming the cabinet on 21 April 1941, the Greek King sent the message “We must defend our motherland to the end.” (21 April 1941). *Cumhuriyet*, 1.

The news, describing the motto of Greece was published with the headline “Fight till the end,” and continued “Greeks and English retreated to a narrow line.” Summarizing the latest situation. Despite all the resistance, German forces went on their attacks, breaking the allies resistance day by day (23 April 1941). *Ulus*, 1.

The *Cumhuriyet* paper announced the Greek King and government left Athens with the headline as “The Greek King and the government went to Crete,” based on the notification addressing the nation, sent by the Greek King. It doesn’t mean the Greek battle is over now just because the Greek King and the government left Athens. The Greek King especially mentions this point on the notification, and adds that the fight will go on till the end (24 April 1941:1). *Cumhuriyet*, 1.

Same day, the headline on the next column was “New English positions in Greece,” of which the explanation is such: “Notice of English headquarters last night: Fixing of the English empire forces line was completed without any intervention from the enemy. Enemy has been defeated at every point of contact. Enemy’s air attack went on severely, but English airforce and anti aircraft batteries caused a heavy loss of them. Athens radio last night sent the notice of Greek Security as stated below: “Today German aircrafts attacked numerously on Pire, Elbösis, Megera and Attika terrains. The bombs harmed some points. One bomb fell at an immigrant district of Athens, but no harm occurred. A German aircraft group bombed Ponikos hospital ship at Korent Bay, but again no harm occurred. Korent terrain was also bombed, but no harm occurred.” (24 April 1941). *Cumhuriyet*, 1.

The daily paper *Cumhuriyet* focused on the Greek front, where there was an article of Yunus Nadi on the front page, assessing the situation was headlined as “Depression at Greek front.” The assessment was as such: “With all our sincerity we guarantee that this heroism, exceeding its capacity, brought Greece independence, and a bright future. Information coming in so far was noticed that the Greek front was harmed by an important depression. Greek military troops, of whom their way was cut in east Macedonia and Epir had to suffer from surrendering to a strong and unfair enemy. I guess that since the last and strongest defence line, Termopili was forced, the Greek King and the government left Athens and went to Crete. King Majesty Jorj announced on the

notice that was published when he was carrying the state center to Crete that the fights would go on till the end.” (24 April 1941). *Cumhuriyet*, 1.

The headline that Germany entered Athens on 28 April 1941 makes most of the things clear. The news continued on with, “Corinth and Patras invaded too – According to yesterday’s German official notices, German troops arrived in Athens yesterday morning at 09:25, moreover, the day before German parachuters invaded the Corinth Channel and Corinth City. Another German group passed Patras Bay, and invaded Patras Harbor.” (28 April 1941). *Ulus*, 1.

In the rest of the news it was headlined “Brokenhearted Greece.” There was an article published in the Estia Paper after Athens was invaded by Germany: “It seems we have to write things we will not be able to write tomorrow. During the six-month-long fight, Greek papers were in close contact with the Greek army and the nation. Now, bitter days await the Greek nation. These days will be bitter not because of financial sufferings but because of the test on the spirits that will have to be bared.” (28 April 1941). *Cumhuriyet*, 1.

In another article headlined, “The war goes on,” there is the Greek government’s declaration after the loss of Athens: “For the sake of freedom, Crete is an example of fight and self devotion, and today’s last honored castle among free European nations. The fate chose two islands for his special mission: great English Island, and great Greek Island. Nations of these two islands are fighting with patience, courage, and resolution. The black flow coming from violent countries fell in on Europe. Humanity has seen such barbarian invasions in history. All the time the free man’s land won. Let’s do this superhuman fight for the sake of civilization of this land, for the sake of our brothers. The King stands with us, as the symbol of unity and resolution, gathering the thoughts, decisions and desires of our land within himself.” (29 April 1941). *Ulus*, 1-4.

As a result of the King and government members leaving to Crete, and then Athens invasion by Germany, a new Greek government was founded by Germany in Athens. This situation was reflected with the headline, “A New Government in Athens” and continued as “A new government was founded in Athens under German invasion. The new government was founded by Epir Army Commander, who surrendered Germany with his army. The new government, which is in an understanding that it was founded by the forcing of Germany, is declared to cooperate with Germans.” (1 May 1941). *Cumhuriyet* 1.

As the result of German victory in Northern Greece, news coming from the region did not decrease, on the contrary, various news was published about Greece everyday. For instance, news with such headlines, “Italians invaded two more islands,” “80 percent of English forces in Greece have been saved,” and “Italians invaded Kefalonya and Zanta Islands,” these were published the same day (2 May 1941.). *Cumhuriyet*, 1.

The news with the headline “There is not any militant English force in Greece” said, “General Blamey, Chief Commander of English forces in the Middle East noticed that evacuation of English and empire forces was over and added: Evacuated people is totaled at 43,000 thousand. I guess the people who died at sea was not more than 500. Including some Australians from English forces, it was a must to leave 3,000 thousand people, because their way was intercepted by Germans.” (3 May 1941). *Cumhuriyet*, 1.

After the continental invasion, Germans directed their operations on the Aegean Sea. News dated 4 May 1941 also went in this direction. The news was headlined as Germans started invading Lesbos and it was noticed that Germans started invading Lesbos after Semendre and Limni island’s in the Aegean Sea (4 May 1941). *Cumhuriyet*, 1.

As mentioned before, during the Second World War, there was news in Turkish media about the socio-psychological status of Greek people. The news headlined of the settlement of the Greece War continued as, “Greek people, although violently bombing and with destruction of German air forces on Greek cities, they kept their self possession complying with local officers instructions and eased the evacuation of English through blocking evacuation ways.” (5 May 1941). *Cumhuriyet*, 1.

On 6 May 1941, when the German-Greek war was going on, some points were made of the Aegean Sea. There was news published in the Turkish media about Turkish Foreign Affairs officers who stayed in Greece. The news, headlined as “Our Athens Embassy and Pire Consulate senior officers and their families are healthy,” was also stated that Turkish employees were all right according to the notice of German officers (6 May 1941) *Ulus*, 2.

The news headlined as “Ally armies in Crete said that English and Greek troops were United under one commander in order to arrange military order and ease, and that the commander was English General Freyberg.” (7 May 1941). *Ulus*, 1

In the meantime, some arrests happened regarding the period before enemy invasion, and this situation was reflected to the Turkish media as: “General Papagos was arrested, “Athens radio noticed that the former Chief commander Papagos and Foreign Affairs Counsellor Mavrudis and other counsellors were arrested.” The news continued with the hard life conditions mentioning: “Food is lacking day by day. The people are given 12 g. of bread a day, and 125 g. pasta every week.” (10 May 1941). *Cumhuriyet*, 1.

The news headlined “Two full divisions came to Crete Island,” with the subheading, “A free Elen government will fight till the end.” After the end of the war in northern Greece, it was noticed that 2 divisions from the rest of the army would have come to Crete to go on fighting (, 14 May 1941). *Ulus*, 1. As Crete got more messed up, a few days later news reflected to Turkish media about 5 of the axis aircrafts that crashed near the island (17 May 1941). *Ulus*, 1.

The 21 May 1941 was the day when Crete was attacked, started by Germany one day ago, and had coverage in the Turkish media. The paper *Cumhuriyet* was headlined as “Germans attacked Crete, 1,500 parachuters landed around Suda and Hanya. The paper informed about the front base and the information of it so far.” (21 May 1941). *Cumhuriyet*, 1-3.

The same day headline of the paper *Ulus* was said that Germans landed Crete aircrafts, soldiers and parachuters – clashes go on. The news also informed about the front. In order to make the subject clear, an embossed Crete map would have been given below the news to enlighten Turkish readers (21 May 1941). *Ulus*, 1. Below the front page of *Cumhuriyet*, of which the headline has been given above, retired General Erkilet’s article titled Crete’s attempt of invasion and its possible evolutions: As English Prime Minister Churchill declared at the house of commons, Germans first bombed Crete yesterday and then landed parachuters. Fifteen hundred German parachuters and some vehicles landed. These invaded some points and an airport. Thus, an attack could go on. Germans need Crete. Next move possibly would be Cyprus. Without these islands, Germany’s soldier transfer to Iraq and Syria would not be safe.” (21 May 1941). *Cumhuriyet*, 1.

Very violent clashes happened after German operation in Crete, and this had coverage in the Turkish media. The news dated 22 May 1941, headlined as “Very severe clash happened in Crete, Germans transferred 2 foot and 1 bombardier regiment, said that German parachuters were wearing New Zealand uniforms and there was not clear information about losses because of that.” (22

May 1941). *Cumhuriyet*, 1. In another paper of the same day, Crete's war news was published with "New attack on Suda bay, and it was noticed that most of the two thousand German parachuters were dead or imprisoned." (22 May 1941). *Ulus*, 1.

Crete war news continued the next day with such headlines, "Bloody clashes entered a more dangerous phase," and "English army controlled the situation – Germans despite heavy loss hold in Maleme and Kares." (23 May 1941). *Cumhuriyet*, 1.

Crete war, although took a short time was a front where severe clashes occurred. This situation would be understood when Turkish news is followed. Severe clashes go on in Crete "Except Malemo base, English control everywhere," are headlines from one paper, while another headline who's Situation is still suspicious, while English resist, Germans go on transferring new forces (24 May 1941). *Cumhuriyet*, 1.

The news headlined as the Greek King and the government went to Egypt and stated that the mentioned people decided as such not to prevent military operation, and that German aircrafts attacked various points in Crete (26 May 1941). *Ulus*, 1.

News from the front changes. While one day German forces' success is written, the day after the victory of allies stand out. On 28 May 1941, the news headlined "Big sea battle in front of Crete," informed about the latest loss. "England lost 4 destroyer and 2 battle cruisers. Two axis destroyers were crashed at the last operation. Two of them were damaged. The navy prevented Germans to land soldiers on Crete." (28 May 1941). *Cumhuriyet*, 1.

Despite the effortful resistance of Greek and English forces, in May 1941, they could not prevent a German attack on Crete. As days went by, Turkish media also reflected the feeling that Germans would have invaded the island. The news headlined the German attacks in Crete, it was stated that, "English troops retreated from Hanya." An Italian official notice was given with the rest saying, "Our troops were landed in Crete yesterday to unite German troops." According to the official German notice at the end of the news, "German soldiers reached 30,000 thousand." (30 May 1941). *Cumhuriyet*, 1.

The end of the Crete front in Second World War happened at the end of May in 1941. The news headlined as German notice says operation is over in Crete, saying, "Kandiye City is invaded by Germany too. English command noticed the lines have taken back" and then it says, "Germans noticed they

gained victory in Crete, and that Greek chief commander General Hirayon offered surrender. There is not any regular information from English sources. Italians declared their forces to go on working in Crete, and captured a couple of hundred prisoners.” (31 May 1941). *Cumhuriyet*, 1.

The Ulus paper dated 1 June 1941 published a news headlined as English approach the situation in suspect, and the news said that, “Some papers consider Crete’s loss.” (1 June 1941). *Ulus*, 1. Next day Crete’s issue got clear, and the defeat of Greece with its allies had coverage in the news saying After a 12-day-long bloody clash, English retreat from Crete (2 June 1941). *Ulus*, 1. Same day *Cumhuriyet* Newspaper headlined as Crete war is over – 15 thousand English soldiers headed to Egypt. The news stated that, “German notice announced that 10 thousand English and Greek soldiers were imprisoned. The notice of English Ministry of War: After a 12-day-long battle, that was obviously the most severe clash, it has been decided our troops leave Crete.” Retired General Erkilet went on commenting during Crete war, and said that the front was lost because of weakness (2 June 1941). *Cumhuriyet*, 1.

One of the most important Turkish journalists of the time, Falih Rıfki Atay wrote an article in the Paper *Ulus* on 3 June 1941, headlined “In Crete and Iraq, to evaluate latest developments. According to Atay: “Italian’s Rhodes Island and Crete Island which is about to be taken by Germans, make Aegean Sea an inland sea under the control of axis powers.” (3 June 1941). *Ulus*, 1.

After Crete was taken by Germans, Turkish media focused on possible operations by Germans, using Aegean Islands. The first indication of this was publication of the map on the 4th of June 1941 in the Paper *Ulus*, showing Rhodes Island to various countries (4 June 1941). *Ulus*,1.

Especillay economic difficulties arose as well as some political changes in country after the operation which had been started with 680.000 German and 565.000 Italian soldiers under the command of Marshal Wilhem List and Marshal Maximillian von Weichs finally achieved and Greece was subject to Germany ([www.militaryhistory.about.com/od/ worldwarii /p /battle-of-greece](http://www.militaryhistory.about.com/od/worldwarii/p/battle-of-greece), 16.12.2013) In Greece which was a agriculture country in that period owing to occupation because processing of agricultural areas disrupted both a decline was experienced in agricultural production and areas of use of the obtained product changed (Hionidou, 2006:71).

A serious famine emerged with the decline of agricultural production in Greece. As a result of inadequacy of local resources in the fight against this

famine, some foreign countries, primarily Turkey, sent food, medical supplies and similar benefits and tried to help Greek people (Clogg, 2007).

Familiar difficulties experienced in Greece in occupation years, in later stages of the war, the ally's occupation of Italy on Spring 1943, Germany that lost control in far front lines with the American victories in Pasific Ocean, took a decision to withdraw from Greece too.

Reflections on the Liberation of Greece and the Turkish press after the invasion of Greece's completion, the latest news about the Turkish press did not find way to this country. Continuous state of war, and later from Greece to limit the number of news sources, also declined compared to the past, the time when the subject has found its place in Turkish newspapers. Reduction in the power of the states in the war against the Axis and Allies, with the increase in attacks has been observed in Greece in the press in question. Especially taken back to Europe after the start of the stickers and the Germans in occupied lands, the order which came to the liberation of Greece thought and focused on the topic. On 3 September 1944 in the Journal of the nation came some last minute news, the Germans had begun to evacuate southern Greece, in which was the form of information, with articles written about the process of liberation of Greece (3 September 1944). *Ulus*, 1.

Germans, in Greece's news a few days after discharge in northern Greece have been published in the Greek-Turkish border with no knowledge that German soldiers are out of there (6 September 1944). *Cumhuriyet*, 1. Germans Islands empties headline news, provides information about the status of the war. Accordingly, "The Greek militia seized control of the island of Chios and Chios Island flights between Turkey and the engine started. One hundred and fifty-thousand German soldiers were in various parts of Greece, Crete and back roads that cut off, they did not know what to do in a panic. The Greek forces started to gather in the near vicinity of Thessaloniki." (11 September 1944). *Cumhuriyet*, 1.

The next day the news was written while the Germans began to evacuate Lesbos (, 12 September 1944). *Cumhuriyet*, 1. On 16 September 1941, the island of Crete in the Mediterranean's most important news told of the German troops who began to withdraw from the Turkish press which was found as last minute news (16 September 1944). *Ulus*,1. Meanwhile, some news about the war in Crete, while the Germans had continued to remind people to bring what was found in the information. Persecution and what the Germans are doing in

Crete, dated 20 September 1944 report titled, "Eight German soldiers were killed on the island of Crete, the Germans, in a village among those that had completely and partially burned of seven villages. Two hundred thousand workers have mobilized to work in Greece, forcing all the Germans," was the information received (20 September 1944). *Ulus*,1. Germans, defeated on all fronts, and the press began to drop one from the city every day, with one country surviving in the news, while the Turkish press on September 21, 1944, mentions that Crete, Rhodes and Kos had raids on the ship and allied planes with the title "here is information held in various operations." (21 September 1944). *Ulus*, 1. Athens, Greece, and the patriotic continents that are walking on the content of the news titled, "Walked over Greece in Athens news are patriots. The Greek capital is expected to fall within a few days," as the Greeks will be happy to formulate (24 September 1944). *Cumhuriyet*, 1.

The same day came news of another newspaper, Greek gangs were killed by German soldiers and 720 captured in various locations, in contrast, the Germans also shot hundreds of Greek people in Greece. Germany kills 720 and is given the title of "gangsters." (24 September 1944). *Ulus*, 3. September 27, 1944 on the first page of the newspaper of the Republic of Greece, was a Bulgaria article entitled at any land, "The Greek patriots took Serez," subtitles and continued successes of the Greek forces have been mentioned (27 September 1944). *Cumhuriyet*, 1. The same day, the Nations newspaper had an article entitled The Turkish-Greek relations, and the Greek government about the status of a statement made on two islands were published: "all issues between Greece and Turkey, in 1922, are resolved. Happy to see more and more into Turkey's side of the Allies." (27 September 1944). *Ulus*,1.

Meanwhile, in Greece, struggling for independence, leaders of various groups came together and organized a conference under the command of General Wilson, deciding to combine the struggle to maintain a more regular basis. This is the Turkish press, the Greek patriots, reflected by the title of the command of Allied (30 September 1944). *Cumhuriyet*, 1. On 1 October 1944, the Prime Minister of Greece and the Greek public, in the course of the war on the situation in the descriptions of M. Papandreou 's was a message with the title of the Greek Nation which has been in the Turkish press (1 October 1944). *Ulus*, 3.

Greece began to recover, and headline news for the theater was, "A British fleet to Piraeus of 6 holds the ball that sunk the German ship, also shot

down 16 aircraft, and sunk 6 submarines,” was the information that took place. Top news was of the Aegean Islands of Greece with a map showing the information given (3 October 1944). *Ulus*, 1. British operations in another newspaper, and a notice given to the title of the British and how they acted in Greece, “British forces in the Greek Island of three outputs, the navy has to attack on Piraeus,” was detailed. This news shows with a Greek map at the top adorned with various ships (3 October 1944). *Cumhuriyet*,1.

The liberation of the Turkish occupation of Crete in the public opinion is being followed with interest in the Turkish press. Removing the Greek Islands, and Crete was the other headline news, of October 4, 1944. The report also mentions Greek forces surrounding the information received and given in Ioannina (4 October 1944). *Cumhuriyet* 1. The same day, in the *Ulus* newspaper, the first page news almost entirely devoted to issues relating to Greece and the Allies Island of Crete under the banner Outcomes, “German troops were thrown in many Greek cities and islands” written with a subtitle given (4 October 1944). *Ulus*, 1. The next day, the German army began to evacuate the island of Rhodes was written in the bottom of the story titled “Gum Open, is coming to Ankara, a delegation from the island,” it was written and given a description of the Mayor of Chios: “...Originally the youngest mayor of Istanbul: the island of hunger reigns. There is few in British aid. Two days before the public float grams of various food items were distributed. These days, with delegation to Ankara, the Turkish government will ask for those high-minded.” (5 October 1944). *Cumhuriyet*, 1-3.

One of the important news pieces that will end the war in Greece at that point to the Allied troops went published in Greece on 6 October 1944, with title. With various maps and subheadings, supporting the news, of the latest situation in Greece were transferred (6 October 1944). *Ulus*,1. Together with the Allies to leave Greece, Greece and the Turkish press on behalf of the good news coming one after another began to find his place. If we give a few examples of them in chronological order: the Allies arrived in Greece, Corinth Canal (7 October 1944), *Cumhuriyet*,1. The German troops and Greek patriots fighting near Athens, the Government will come to Athens soon (8 October 1944), *Ulus*, 1. the Germans Athens and Piraeus evacuated, reportedly had been occupied by the Allies Corinth Canal (, 10 October 1944). *Cumhuriyet*, 1. Recovered the title in Athens and Piraeus, Greece yesterday was approaching the end of the war and the news published as follows on 14 October 1944 had a continuation of

good news, “The Allied armies had lost contact with the Germans and they were quickly shot” was the news written (14 October 1944). *Cumhuriyet*, 1. Two days prior to this, Bulgaria has already started to evacuate the Greek land, Bulgaria, Greek and Turkish media announced the title as the land began to evacuate the day before (12 October 1944). *Ulus*, 1.

After this date, the Turkish press, always had good news about the Second World War and published it in Greece. Dated 15 October 1944, Corfu Island, also rescued (15 October 1944), *Cumhuriyet* 1. dated 16 October 1944, British troops in Greece are moving rapidly (16 October 1944), *Cumhuriyet*,1. these are examples of this news. Aid to Greece article entitled, at the time the show has reached the Turkish-Greek relations have been added in this part of the study. In fact, this type of talent found throughout the war, with the spread of the issue to the text has not been as of yet.

Going back to the *Cumhuriyet* newspaper dated 18 October 1944, “Directed by Ankara and Istanbul, the two Mayors committee’s were formed to help” was subtitled in the news, as well as the food, clothing and health problems, and the assistance to Greece for the purpose of the work done to this country and the organization of the items that will be shipped (18 October 1944). *Cumhuriyet*, 1. *Ulus* newspaper also processed the same day to help Greece to Athens and Ankara, had the title of help as, “Recovered items will be sent to Elen capital along with food,” was the subtitle given (18 October 1944). *Ulus*, 1. The Greek government has come to Athens, titled the news for Turkish readers, in Greece, a sign that the war was no longer terminated (19 October 1944). *Cumhuriyet*, 1. The same day, in another newspaper was talk of the Turkish Foreign Minister, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Greece, and the Greek News Agency statement from the Declaration of newspapers were published with the headline. Turkish Minister, “Athens welcomes the rescued and learns a great pleasure. This feeling, shared by the entire Turkish nation,” was said (19 October 1944). *Ulus*,1. Nadir Nadi important journalists of the period, the head of Greece’s Liberation *Cumhuriyet* newspaper article dated 20 October 1944 to congratulate the people and have neighbors, but also considers the politics of the developing world (20 October 1944). *Cumhuriyet*, 1.

This study is part of the press, the *Cumhuriyet* and *Ulus* newspaper on 21 October 1944 it will terminate from the two news items. Says the first title in Athens, the Greek Prime Minister’s Speech in the news, business returned to us capitals of Greece and has survived, and also the Greek politicians (21 October

1944). *Cumhuriyet*, 1. Elen being on the flag again in the title that it was taken Akrapol does not even need to be interpreted. The news with the subtitle, “friendly country, there is an endless joy,” has shaped, and is important because it shows the point of view of Turkey to Greece (21 October 1944). *Ulus* 1.

Tim Worstall, Forbes magazine wrote an article in the last term, after the invasion of Greece to restructure the institutions of Greece's 108 billion Euros of the money spent stated that. These figures bring the occupation is one of the most important indicators of economic destruction ([www.forbes.com/sites/timworstall / 2013 / 04 / 09 / greek - claims - of - german – war - reparations](http://www.forbes.com/sites/timworstall/2013/04/09/greek-claims-of-german-war-reparations) - owed - not – very - convincing/ 16.12.2013).

The President of Turkey, İsmet İnönü made such talk when the war ended: “... Also left behind is a momentous event, the friendly and brotherly neighboring Greece, the Greeks suffered disaster and in the face of this disaster came an epic history of heroism and their gifts. In fact, it may be said that heroism was staked by the Axis between the armies, the Turkish borders has shown hesitation.” (PRA. F.030.01.01-Y.11.64.1.).

CONCLUSION

Results from the first day of the Second World War, with news about the wide range found its place in the Turkish press. Progress of the war, and Turkey were closer to the limits, the number of news, and the thrill of a real multiplier. In this period, the Turkish media, Turkey's confidence in itself and a possible war, have all the power for you to see the gold drawn. Greece is great to be involved with the war, the Turkish press has been following the Greek side with great interest. Usually on the first page, many times in the headlines it is on the news events in Greece, as the Turkish readers are presented. Some points are noteworthy news from Greece to examine the Turkish press. After the first World War and after it had fought over a period of not more time, although Greece, and the Turkish press has mentioned it constantly as a form of a friendly and brotherly country. For the other countries involved in war as this phrase is used very rarely. In the Turkish press, the Greek side is mentioned and how they did not give information about not only the military, or what has not been happening, but also the Greek people, and the social, psychological and economic situation closely involved. Militias who fought for the Greek

occupation, are given the term “The Greek patriots,” with the ongoing food shortages led by the Greek people, they were so exposed to ill treatment in various ways. Such situations are often emphasized. The burning and the destruction of Greek cities and islands, in the Turkish press, is sadly due to the war situation and has been mentioned, the warring families of Greek children frequently published articles. Always on the agenda has been the issue of collection and delivery of aid to Greece. The mainland and islands of Greece, including maps and a variety of war photos published in the Turkish press frequently filled newspaper columns. Chief articles of the period, and various experts in their own columns of journalists, issues of war and the procession of Greece. One of the most important issues to be dealt with, more fully before the end of war, is invasion, just the communication and transportation between Turkey and the Greek Islands of survivors must begin. The Turkish press, that the Greek warriors constantly named the “hero,” “patriotic,” “fighting for his country,” and “brave,” as has been nick named. The end of the war and save the land of the Greeks in Greece, the Turkish press welcomed a sincere love and happiness, to Greece to be done with the end of the war increased the requested assistance.

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