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THE CONGRESSIONAL FRONT
By Congressman Everett M. Dirkson
16th Illinois District

WORDS AND SWORDS

Remove one letter from "swords" and you have "words." Both are instruments of war. A few years ago, a young man examined the propaganda files of the first World War and wrote an engaging book called "Words That Won The War." It related entirely to posters, slogans, booklets, and other printed material used in this country to keep morale and ardor intact. Since then the use of words as weapons has increased enormously. This results from the perfection of radio and especially short-wave and medium wave transmission.

THOSE FANTASTIC AIR WAVES

Air combat involves something more than bomber and fighting planes. There is the battle of words. Today, those waves carry 6000 programs daily in 47 languages, coming from 360 transmitters in all parts of the world. Germany broadcasts propaganda 24 hours a day in 30 languages. Nearly 2000 persons are engaged in this business and programs are designed to reach Arabs, sailors, women, prisoners, and every other group of people. Japan has 47 programs daily covering the Asiatics residing in the lands which she has overrun. Russia transmits 25 news programs daily in 25 languages. Great Britain leads with 107 newscasts daily, designed in the main for European countries. Enemy programs are directed to all parts of the world. In a single day, 2½ million words in every language and dialect hurtle through thousands of miles of space to carry propaganda. It's the equivalent of 25 full-length books. They serve three broad purposes, namely as news, to bolster the morale of their own forces, and to impair enemy morale. Part of our business today is to monitor and listen to this war of words, select that which might have military value and send it to the proper authorities. Truly, words are swords that can be hurled through thousands of miles of space.