

WHEN SICILY WAS LAST INVADED

What Garibaldi Did With A Thousand Men

SICILY has often been invaded in the past, by Phoenicians, by Greeks and Romans, by Carthaginians and Moors and Normans. It was invaded 83 years ago by Garibaldi and his thousand volunteers ready to risk prison and death to free Sicily from the misgovernment of a tyrannical king. If Sicily is again invaded by the United Nations fighting again in the cause of freedom it will be by forces, well armed, well prepared, and attacking according to plan. The story of the Garibaldi expedition emphasises the extent to which the last 83 years have revolutionised warfare. Here are some parts of the story of Garibaldi's expedition as it is told by G. M. Trevelyan in "Garibaldi and the Thousand."

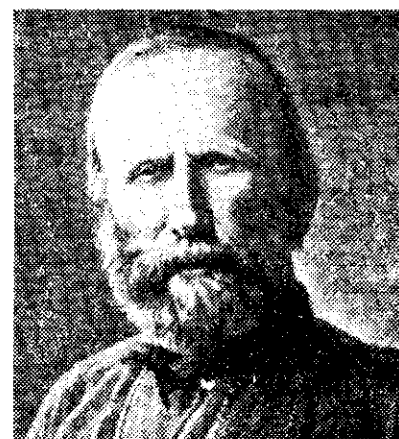
not be hidden from a world that watched his every move with eagerness or anxiety.

The Men With Him

Who were these thousand men of Garibaldi's who caused such alarm? They were all patriots, full of courage, full of high hopes, and prepared to die, but very poorly armed. Most came from North Italy, but 33, including Garibaldi himself, were officially classed as non-Italians. "A large proportion were university students, others came from all walks of life, 150 lawyers, 100 doctors (who used to fight till the battle was over and then tend the wounded), 100 merchants, 50 engineers, 20 chemists, 10 painters or sculptors, 3 ex-priests, one woman, besides men of private means, government employees, authors, professors, journalists, and small tradesmen. There was hardly a single peasant." In the early days of the expedition only about 50 wore the red shirts that later captured popular imagination, started a fashion for red blouses among English women of fashion, and perhaps were the

fore-runners of the black-shirt and brown-shirt fashions of more recent years.

The Enfield rifles that Garibaldi had hoped to get from the "Million Rifles Fund" had been denied him. Instead, he was supplied with smooth-bore muskets, rusty with age, which had been converted from flint-locks into percussion, and finally sold as obsolete by the military authorities. They were, he bitterly exclaimed, so much "old iron." Later he succeeded in acquiring 100 Enfield rifles, two bronze cannon cast in 1802, and an old culverin which had been out of date long before the era of Napoleon. "These three cannon, together with two more garrison pieces of like antiquarian interest found by Garibaldi in the old tower of Talamone, were taken to Sicily, mounted there on wooden carriages roughly put together, and occasionally fired as the field artillery of the thousand. The fame of these five veterans, transformed by Sicilian imagination into twice as many 'rifled cannon carrying four miles' made the Sicilian take courage and the Neapolitan soldiers



GARIBALDI
Somebody threw a stone at him

THE only respect in which it could be said that there was any similarity between modern warfare and Garibaldi's expedition was that Garibaldi unwittingly used Hitler's technique of a war of nerves. We say unwittingly because Garibaldi would probably have preferred to have sprung a complete surprise on the Neapolitan government. But the proposal to invade Sicily and rally the forces of rebellion was made again and again. Garibaldi's preparations in and near Genoa could

take thought and had no small moral influence on the result of the campaign."

On The Way

Equipped with little more than stout hearts the expedition sailed for the Sicilian coast with only opportunist plans
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Members of an N.Z.E.F. unit having a snack somewhere in the Middle East.—Official War Photo.

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