

Verbundkatalog Kalliope

Black Out.

Mann, Klaus

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Black Out

..... Pretty exciting to listen
to you... Besides, this gives me
a chance, at last, to learn
something about your adventures
and impressions....

For, we see each other but
seldom. (Mt's not my fault:
she wishes around like
mad....) — So I have to
be satisfied with occasional
public conversations....

Don't mind it, on the whole.

M But I must admit: I felt
a trifle ashamed, at
certain moments, that

11

I did not go along
with you to England ...
(I couldn't do it, for
impractical technical reasons.
Panopticon ... too depressing
a subject ...)

Yet, one cannot help feeling
slightly embarrassed when
a girl whom one has
known for so many years,
ventures on so daring
an extension — ~~and~~
while one has to stay
(or rather, is allowed to
stay) in the safety of
this great and familiar
country ...

My position is apt to
remind me of that young
English poet whom his
friends asked, why he
did not join the ranks.

↑: "I am an essential
part of that famous
civilization they are
defending. —"

which sounds rather
indefensible, indeed ...

X By the way, I have a certain
right to say that I actually
did join the ranks; my draft —
number came out ... a
New Year's lot was drawn before ...

Now - as to that British poem...
~~Y~~, there is, perhaps,
something in that ~~sweet~~
~~proposing~~ wise - crack -
something worth of our
serious consideration

That ~~to~~ complacent
Young genius was entirely
wrong, of course, if
he meant to say that
he — being so unusually
gifted (according to his
own opinion, at least ...) —
had any moral right
to remain aloof from

the present struggle.

But perhaps, this ~~unimportant~~
~~remark was not~~ ~~important~~

~~that way~~ — What he
tried to say was, maybe,
rather this:

That there is no chance
of remaining a loop
from the present struggle
— no chance, indeed,

for anyone who is really

alive; that all of us are in
trouble; that each of
us has his vital
function in this tremendous
struggle.

who ever we are;
where ever we are;
what ever we are doing.
 —: And this goes for the
intellectuals, writers, and
artists too — as a
matter of fact: that
 it seems to me that
we intellectuals have, or
could assume, a most
 significant function in
 this crisis — which
 is also — on —
 a broad all — a crisis
of thoughts, of
ideas, of beliefs.

All of us feel and know VII
that there is more at
stake in the present war
than political systems or
imperialist interests.

The crisis through which
we are passing, is more
crucial and more profound
than any event on the
purely political plane
could possibly be.

Ideas and values of
supreme magnitude are
involved — conceptions
are threatened that form
the very basis of our

VII a

In a world, where all
values are being
transvalued, there
is an abundance
of new questions to
be asked and old
answers to be recon-
sidered.

A time of change
is always a time
of confusion.

The vast problems,
inherent in the present
world situation, are
such, that they leave

many a mind needing
craving to understand.
Ancient traditions
must be reaffirmed;
hollow slogans swept out;
"sacred principles"
hitherto accepted
without question,
disarmed and re-examined.

Social programs, the
great tenets of other
philosophy, ethics
and aesthetics, the
aims and the practice
of ~~the~~ pedagogy —

all these must be
re-analyzed and
tested in the light of
recent events and coming
developments.

— Fascism — the
Totalitarian State
in all its forms
means ^{cultural} death ~~the~~
~~all ^{cultural} death~~ — the
end of creativity
thinking.

— The Defense of
Democracy should —
not only have and
guarantee the indepen-
dence

of the creative spirit, ~~but~~
but should ^{carefully} when
intensely ^{the} process
of cultural activities.
— Indeed, the Defense
of Democracy is not
only compatible with
a cultural maintenance
the cultural maintenance
may prove an essential
part of our Defense
Program.

This is a war of ideas.

The totalitarian challenge
demands a total mobilization
— including the
mobilization of our thoughts.

civilization.

What we are witnessing
is nothing more nor less
than the decisive struggle
over the spiritual destiny
of the planet.

The ferocious assault of
totalitarian barbarism
is not ^{only} solely, nor
even mainly, directed
against racial minorities
or political groups. It
is directed against
culture itself.

It may be correct to
say that this is not
so much a War - but a
Revolution. --- The word

"Revolutions", however -
(meaning an "improvement
of social conditions by
the means of force") -
has a certain progressive,
if not humanitarian,
impact that completely
lacks in the Totalitarian
aggression.

~~Best~~ designation for this
The most appropriate alarming phenomenon
Revolution of Nihilism.

You may object :
Britain's War Aims

still unknown — whereas
Hitler offers " new
order."

— Britain has to survive
— as one of her leaders
has recently put it ... The
very nature of British people
and leaders guarantees that
that country, in close
collaboration with the

U. S., will seek a solution
in keeping with reasonable
principles of Christian morality
~~Democracy~~ ~~civilization~~
and modern development.

- A, to Hitler's much-
vaunted "New Order"
- it would mean the ghastly
- ~~invasion of the~~ ^{place of} a graveyard, ~~if it could be now established.~~
Ask the people in Holland,
C.S.R. ^{Now} Poland ...
what it means - that

"New Order" ...
But now this "New Order"
is not of a "New Order"
He will not bring about
His own "dynamic" nature
as well as the jealousy of
his so-called allies prevents
him from doing so
forces him to go on ...

~~My venture to say~~
~~Hitler can't win~~

XII

England's defeat would
not mean Hitler victory
— but permanent war.

His movement — the movement
of National-Socialism —
is entirely based on the
notion and father of WAR
— both economically and
psychologically.

— Besides, the jealousy
of his so-called allies
— who are really his enemies —
would not allow the
establishment of that
"New Order." — Who is going
to determine where Hitler's

"Sphere of Influence" XIII
to ends — where Murphy's
begins? — The same is
true if it comes to
the Lebensraum (living
space) of Russia —
Germany i Russia —
Japan There would
be an inevitable
and trundown struggle
for the booty among
those gangsters

Stalin — Hitler —
L Micado.

Since the commencement of the war we going to surpass
the merely military, and
even the purely political
sphere, — it seems only
logical that this war
is to be fought on

the many
different fronts.

What happens on the
Military Front
~~almost~~ seems only a spectacular
foreground-action.

XV

Yet, it would be most preposterous
to underestimate the ~~signal~~
significance of these ~~reports~~ on
military activity and to con-
sider them mere lessons in
geography, forced upon the world
public.

Of course, they ~~are~~ have,
among other limitations,
the function of genome
lessons in geography + apt
to remind all of us of
the complicated structure
and manifold material
conditions of the European
continent. How familiar

all of us became with XV
the names of rivers,
mountains, towns and villages
of Cyatho-Slovakia, Poland,
Lithuania, Finland, Norway,
Holland, Belgium etc.

And, at present, we have
to recall what we
used to learn in school
as to the hills and
harbours of Greece...

We may remember, incidentally,
what we were taught about
the Greeks defeating the
mighty Persians... It is
always the same great
epic story:

the ideal of European
liberty — challenged
by ~~the~~ Asiatic ~~Revolution~~
~~tyrants~~ ~~for~~ ~~the~~
Asiatic tyranny — in its
now-changing and yet monotonous
forms. ~~Angered by the Persian King~~
XERXES, ordered his
slaves to ~~beat~~ whip the
ocean — which Mammon's
slaves, angered by the
power of the Greek, accused
storm and vain and making them
responsible for their lack in
military meas. (One of
the few features reminding
of last war: Italians always
run away and accused the weather
Communiqués = Weather reports.)

A, to the going-on on the XIV
Diplomatic Front —

every thing I should in
mystery What is Madame
Laplace going to do? —
What are the intrigues How
soon Pagan is brooding on,
just? My, how tea soon R. Abbot
going to meet Comrad
Molotov? — And Franco?
What he is he after? —
And does Monism Lawat
really believe that "Democracy
is dead" — as he recently
observed? — How did
le Maréchal Pétain —

who is so unreasonably a like
our old Hindenburg of
dreary memory — how
did he feel, really, when
he shook hand with Hitler?

→ And those many hunting-
parties: they have such
a bloody flavor, ... of
all quite confusing — and,
more confusing than anything
else, those regular fire side
chats between DUCÉ and
FÜHRE R ... They always
meet in rather secrecy,
and constantly during the
phase of their common
winding-songs: once in
Venice, the

next time in Rome, Munich, ~~AT~~
on the Brenner - Pass ...
like a couple of international
hotel thieves that try
to fool the police ...
Then ^{imitation} and people however,
who pretend to know,
that most of those mysterious
meetings are purely social
affairs: H. and N. in Florence.

X just a couple of
good fellows, breaking
bread and treaties
together.

Dready victory

III

Undernourished people.

Gloomy scepticism ...
" In the end, we'll be
beaten — once more ... "

— And then? — The
Revolution...

finally — a few all ...
There would hardly be
a great deal of resistance
from the Nazi party —
once the military front has
been broken. — And the
reaction of the German
people? — No right; rather
a feeling of relief ...

Mother Story

... THAT'S what they go
to say ...

More decisive, perhaps, ~~than~~
than the military ~~front~~
and diplomatic fronts
combined =

Home Front —

its spirit and morale.
You have watched in
in England.

- But how about Germany?
- According to all our infor-
mation: complete lack
of enthusiasm — but
also lack of any rebellion
spirit. Prevailing: fear,
ignorance, sinister fore-
boding...

And then, of course, TXIC
there is the

Home-Front in this country.

It's not a side-front —

NO; but a main
front of paramount
importance. It may turn
out to be the

decisive front

indeed. — That is why
the ^{great} ~~event~~ of last Tuesday
was ~~so~~ unanticipated and disconcerting
so eagerly that importance
Axis politicians are now
flagging in this show
not only hand
by us

and costly endeavors XXV
to corrupt and undermine
the public opinion in the
U. S.

My message, of course,
that that timely slogan
Fifth Column

is as ambiguous as most
slogans are. Above all,
we ~~must grasp the fact~~
should not allow the
justified fear of Fifth
Column to degenerate
into narrow-minded
national prejudice....
— into the mass hysteria of
witch-hunters.

The issue is of a primarily
moral, not of a
national nature. ^(are in this country)
I am sure there are many
men and women of
German or Italian descent
who do not deserve
our mistrust. On the other
hand, I am afraid
that there are quite a few
people calling themselves
"hundred-percent Americans"
— and very noisy, too —
but really, consciously
or unconsciously, working
in the cause of and in touch
with the Axis Powers.

Had my own little ~~XX~~
expression — : half —
got you, half — depending...
Listening to broadcasting,
with a friend who
just advised (which I
avoid, as
a rule...)
Speaking German

Scandal.

— I didn't know —
should I feel pleased
or angry ...
..... my any case, it made
me sort of reflective

What means 5. Col.

Who belong
— I wondered. —

to that ominous
organization?

EXVIII

— I certainly don't
— and yet, people may
be inclined to take me
for one of them — unless
they know ~~exactly who~~
~~I am~~ my background
and the record of my writings
and activities...

~~We should not~~ ~~show the slightest~~ ~~hesitation~~
~~not~~ ~~insist on~~ ~~that~~ ~~we~~ ~~should~~
~~examine~~ ~~our words~~ ~~and~~ ~~realize~~
~~precisely~~ ~~what~~ ~~we~~ ~~mean~~
~~when~~ ~~we~~ ~~accuse~~ ~~any one of~~
~~being~~ ~~a~~ ~~"Fifth Columnist."~~

And then, of course, ~~XXXX~~
it's not enough — NOT
to be a 5. Column.

— The contrary of an
atheist is a man who
believes in God — a
faithful man.

— The contrary of an
5. Columnist is a man
who believes in Democracy

— believes in it, actively
and strongly, as a way
of life, as task and a
goal. — — ~~then~~ Since the
5. Columnist

is the conception of man - the
conception - the paid or
not-paid agent of
international Farism -
his opposite has to be the
conception agent of Democracy
- the passionate fight w
for Democracy, and how
faithful love.

When those people sneered at
me, because they heard talking
me, German, my first reaction
was to think:

How silly! How absurd!!
- If they only knew
who I really am

My second thought, however, XXX
was somewhat different.

I asked myself if that
paradoxical mean was
so completely unjustified,
after all though not
quite in the ~~same~~ way
they had meant it

— Hours of doubt, despair
and scepticism — hours
of weariness and impure
lethargy — all of us

~~are~~ have experienced them
But they are already
the beginning of tragedy!

— Defeatism is a 5.
Column activity. TK.

The Bedford
118 EAST 40TH STREET
NEW YORK

YM
The boundary between
Delegation and
Tradition is in most
cases alarmingly
indistinct. To say -
for instance - that
Democracy is hated
take out - sails
which fairly
win the
war of the
lack of faith - or
is it a matter of
faith - in the
other
side

— My number how moved ~~xxx~~
My was — in Robert
Sherwood, film play
"There will be no Night"

— woman to man who
admits doubt;
Democracy may be doomed;
Hitler may win —

"But you are a
Christian, aren't you?
So you must believe."
~~~~~

We must believe that ~~XXXXIII~~  
there will be no night —:  
~~and~~ <sup>thus</sup> we will help to  
shorten the present  
blackout. —

There are many roots of  
search lights penetrating  
the present darkness:  
there are many roots  
of weapons to fight  
the abominable enemy.  
Guns are necessary,  
so are planes and  
rifles and uniforms.



For the most important  
part of the defense  
program we are responsible  
—: we the people —  
men and women, intellectuals,  
working men, peasants,  
poets, business men —:

Our vital contribution  
must be —: our  
realistic faith;  
our robust enthusiasm;  
our intelligence, our  
patience — our  
unshakable belief that  
the victory will be  
→ ours. ←  
+++