

## OCCUPATION OF İZMİR AND ITS ECHOES AT CANADIAN PRESS

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### Abstract

Immediately after the Occupation of İzmir by the Greeks on May 15, 1919, it is understood that both the Greeks living in İzmir and the Greek occupation forces started to make physical and psychological violence to the Turks, regardless of civilian or military discrimination. This violence has been sustained through numerous methods of Greek authorities, such as misleading the world public opinion regarding the occupation, isolating the Turks in the international public opinion and pushing them into a defeated country psychology. In this study, it has been tried to reveal the details of the violence in the Canadian press, which is the subject of most of the news about the Occupation of İzmir. At the same time, the Canadian press, in which Greek, British and American diplomacy is highly influential, this study has also make some points on the content of the publication policy followed after the occupation of İzmir by the Greeks.

*Keywords: İzmir, Occupation, Canada, Press.*

### İZMİR'İN İŞGALİNİN KANADA BASININDAKİ YANKILARI

#### Öz

15 Mayıs 1919 tarihinde İzmir'in Yunanlılar tarafından işgal edilmesinden hemen sonra hem İzmir'de yaşayan Rumlar ve hem de Yunan işgal kuvvetleri tarafından, İzmir ve çevresinde sivil ya da asker ayrımı yapmaksızın, Türklere fiziksel ve psikolojik şiddetin başladığı anlaşılmaktadır. Söz konusu bu şiddet, Yunan yetkili makamlarının işgale ilişkin olarak dünya kamuoyunu yanıltmak, Türkleri uluslararası kamuoyunda yalnızlaştırmak, yenik bir ülke psikolojisine itmek gibi çok sayıda yöntemle sürdürülmüştür. Bu çalışmada, Kanada basınında İzmir'in işgalini konu edinen haberlerin hemen hemen çoğunda yer alan,

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söz konusu şiddetin ayrıntıları ortaya konulmaya çalışılmıştır. Aynı zamanda, Yunanistan, İngiltere ve Amerikan diplomasinin hayli etkili olduğu Kanada basınında, İzmir'in Yunanlılar tarafından işgal edilmesinden sonra takip edilen yayın politikasının içeriği üzerine de tespitlerde bulunulmuştur.

*Anahtar Kelimeler:* İzmir, İşgal, Kanada, Basın.

## Introduction

After the heavy defeat in the First World War, the Ottoman Empire had to sign the Armistice of Mudros, which expresses the beginning of its end, on 30 October 1918. The fifth article of the armistice concerns the confiscation of the Ottoman state's armies and weapons, and only a small number of troops left to protect the borders and ensure security. The seventh article contains the provision that the allies will have the right to occupy any military referral and administration point in case of a situation that threatens their safety. It is well known that both substances will open the door to difficult results to be compensated. As a matter of fact, minority groups who do not want to waste time in evaluating the opportunity provided by these articles are not delayed in revolting against the Ottoman Empire or taking actions that threaten public order<sup>1</sup>. Undoubtedly, the occupations made or permitted by European states also seemingly to protect the public order, but all of the features of an annexation. The process of occupation of İzmir begins with the pretext of the Mudros Armistice, the attitudes of the European states that take the opportunity to occupy the appetizing regions of the Ottoman country, and the public order problems created by the Greeks in and around İzmir<sup>2</sup>. In fact, right after the invasion, they will have a tendency to explain the reason of their patronage to Greece during the annexation of İzmir, as "the possibility of making peace with Turks in Asia Minor"<sup>3</sup>.

1 Hasan Mert, "İzmir'in Karagünü: 15 May 1919", *Kuva-yı Milliye'nin 90. Yılında İzmir ve Batı Anadolu- 1 Uluslararası Sempozyum Bildiriler*, 6-8 September 2009, İzmir, 2010, p. 51.

2 Necdet Koparan, *Türk Jandarma Teşkilâtı (1908-1923)*, Ankara Üniversitesi Türk İnkılâp Tarihi Enstitüsü, Ankara, 2007, p. 65-68; Zekeriya Türkmen, "İzmir'in İşgali Olayı ve Yunanlıların XVII. Kolordu Mensuplarına Yönelik Gasp ve Yağmalama Hareketi", *Sosyal Bilimler Enstitüsü Dergisi*, Issue 10, Year 2001, p.123. From the beginning of 1919, Greek gang membership activities in İzmir and its surrounding are increasing rapidly. Moreover, the İzmir Greek press accelerates the kind of broadcasting activities that will affect both Ottoman Greeks and the European public opinion. Mikail Kolutek, "İşgal Öncesi İzmir'de Asayiş Olayları ve Yerli Rumların Tutumlarına Dair Bir Değerlendirme", *Batman Üniversitesi Yaşam Bilimleri Dergisi*, Vol. 7, Issue 1/1, 2017, p. 111; Ömer Karakaş, *Lozan Tutanaklarına ve TBMM Zabıt Ceridelerine Göre Lozan'da Azınlıklar Meselesi*, T.C. Gazi Üniversitesi Sosyal Bilimler Enstitüsü Tarih Anabilim Dalı Türkiye Cumhuriyeti Tarihi Bilim Dalı, Ankara 2008, p. 54; Mustafa Turan, "İzmir'in İşgali Üzerine", *Atatürk Araştırma Merkezi Dergisi*, XII/ 36, November 1996, p. 740.

3 *The Daily Colonist*, 18 May 1919, p. 6.

In late 1918, Greek Prime Minister Venizelos gets closer to the British Prime Minister Lloyd George, demanding that the Western Anatolia region be given to them<sup>4</sup>. The Greek press does not remain idle and begins to focus on making publications claiming to be the heir of Byzantium. A similar method is applied in the British public. Venizelos' impact on a considerable part of the British press opens the door to the formation of a British public opinion that supports Greek theses. On the other hand, Lloyd George, thinks that this will be an opportunity to protect Middle Eastern Christianity and backs up to Greek theses. Moreover, with the acceptance of Greek requests, it is obvious that a possible Italian danger in the Mediterranean is prevented. In the beginning of November 1918, under the direction of Major Allan Dickson, who came to İzmir to protect allied powers interests and ensure public order, the English warship was welcomed with cheers by the Greeks, the hanging of the allied and Greek flags on the İzmir dock, streets and shops together indicates that how sincere the British-Greek cooperation was. At the end of the Paris Peace Conference meetings held in January 1919, because of the Britain's propaganda and initiatives, France, America and Britain have made a decision about giving İzmir to the Greece<sup>5</sup>. Patriotic Turks gathered in İzmir Müdafaa-i Hukuk-u Osmaniye Society Grand Congress in mid-March 1919 and started to work to prevent the region from leaving the Turks. Although this association was established just a few months after the Mudros Armistice, it started to publish and distribute brochures about the majority of the population in İzmir and has already embarked on efforts to protect the rights of the Muslim Turkish element of İzmir<sup>6</sup>. There is no doubt that

4 *The Daily Gleaner*, 16 May 1919, p. 1.

5 Zekeriya Türkmen, *op. cit.*, p. 122- 124. Gürhan Yellice, "Megali İdea Mı Mare Nostrum Mu? Mondros Mütarekesi'nden İzmir'in İşgaline İtalyan-Yunan İlişkileri Ve Propaganda Savaşları 1918-1919", *Tarih Okulu Dergisi (TOD)* 11/ XXXVI, 2018, pp.177-228 p. 193; Nuray Ertürk Keskin, "1919: İşgal Yönetimi Ve Kurtuluş Örgütlenmesi", *Açıklamalı Yönetim Zamanizini 1919 - 1928*, Ed. Nuray Ertürk Keskin, Ankara Üniversitesi Siyasal Bilgiler Fakültesi Yayın No: 604, Kamu Yönetimi Araştırma ve Uygulama Merkezi: 8 Türkiye Cumhuriyeti İdare Tarihi Araştırması (TİDATA), Ankara, 2012, p. 76- 77; The Lethbridge Daily Herald and The Charlottetown Guardian newspapers a few days after the invasion of İzmir and their news titled "Allied Forces Land at Smyrna", reminds the readers that the Paris Peace Conference delegation decided to occupy all castles and strategic points in İzmir due to administrative measures to protect the order. *The Lethbridge Daily Herald*, 17 May 1919, p. 11. *The Charlottetown Guardian*, 19 May 1919, p. 1. However, it is understood that Venizelos has a strong influence in the Canadian press. In the news of The Daily Gleaner newspaper titled "Ionia" dated 22 May 1919, it is stated that İzmir has been home to the Hellenic society since the 7th century BC, the city has not returned to its old days since the Ottoman Empire, and it will have its old days again thanks to Venizelos. Along with great emphasis on the importance of Venizelos in Greek history, the occupation was met with enthusiasm in Greece due to the thoughts of reviving the old Helen ideas, The fact that the Greek, which held only the Mount Olympus 7 years ago, extends from İzmir to Thessaloniki today and the Aegean reached the borders where a Greek lake was built, reveals that it was believed in the dream of a great Hellenic Empire in the Canadian press. *The Daily Gleaner*, 22 May 1919, p. 4.

6 Nuray Ertürk Keskin, *op. cit.* p. 76- 77.

the competition between Greece and Italian continues regarding the occupation of İzmir<sup>7</sup>. Italian troops occupying Kuşadası on May 13, 1919, just one day after the Paris Conference's decision on the Greek invasion of İzmir on May 12 and it should be considered as a result of this competition and the Italians' desire to prevent the Greeks who will occupy İzmir and proceeding towards the south<sup>8</sup>.

### Occupation of İzmir

In order to pave the way for İzmir to be occupied by the Greeks, the claims that the Turks were persecuting the Greeks immediately began to spread in the European public opinion. In addition, the signatures collected from Orthodox priests and local Greeks in Western Anatolia and Thrace are also sent to the Paris Peace Conference and an application is made to connect İzmir and its surroundings to Greece. Allied forces agree that the invasion of İzmir will be carried out by Admiral Calthorpe, and accordingly, it is decided that Greek troops cannot enter İzmir Bay before 14 May 1919 and that Turks will be informed about this situation 12 hours before<sup>9</sup>. On 14 May 1919, Admiral Calthorpe informs the Porte with a note that İzmir will be occupied by Greece on behalf of the Entente States, in accordance with Article 7 of the Armistice of Mudros. However, İzmir Governor İzzet Bey does not take any measures and attempts against the Greek occupation to be experienced. Despite this historical mistake of the governor of İzmir, the Muslims from İzmir who are excited gather in the Jewish cemetery against the upcoming death disaster and try to hold meetings with the participation of some patriots<sup>10</sup>. At the Maşatlık Meeting, which was held by the patriotic Turks in İzmir just one day before the occupation, it was decided that an invasion against the city of İzmir, the majority of which was Turks, was unfair and this injustice should be announced to all of Anatolia<sup>11</sup>. The principle of Anti-Annexation is accepted and in this context, it states that under the name of Wilson principles, the right of the Turks is usurped and that an overwhelming mass does not want İzmir to be given to Greece or that there is an overwhelming mass that does not want Greek domination in

7 The same report also described how Greek navies and Anatolian Greek organizations handed over and poisoned the Greeks of Ottoman subjects through propaganda. On the other hand, it was one of the other details in the report that these organizations not only affected the Greeks of İzmir spiritually, but also gave guns on the hands of the people they had influenced. The extent to which the Greek influence deepened in İzmir and its surroundings was revealed with the statement that "so much so that all police and gendarmerie officers and courthouse and officials were appointed from the people close to the Greeks at this time." The report also shared that no matter how much concessions and rights were given to the Ottoman Greeks, they would not fall behind from separatism. Mikail Kolutek, *op. cit.*, p. 114.

8 Nuray Ertürk Keskin, *op. cit.*, p. 94.

9 Zekeriya Türkmen, *op. cit.*, p.124.

10 Ali Çetinkaya'nın Millî Mücadele Dönemi Hatıraları, Atatürk Kültür, Dil ve Tarih Yüksek Kurumu Atatürk Araştırma Merkezi Press, Ankara, 1993, p. 9 ve 11.

11 Necmi Uyanık, "İzmir' in İşgaline Karşı Konya Yöresinden Gelen Tepkiler", *Uluslararası Sosyal Araştırmalar Dergisi*, 1/5, Fall 2008, p. 842.

İzmir<sup>12</sup>. However, the invasion is inevitable, and the next day, on May 15, 1919, Greek soldiers begin to take the İzmir dock<sup>13</sup>. The declarations printed in Turkish and Greek in the Amalthia printing house one day before the occupation and written by Zafirios are also distributed to the people. In these declarations, after the military occupation of İzmir and its surroundings by the Greeks, everyone is asked to deal with their power and rely on the decision of the states as a result of the negotiation<sup>14</sup>.

It is determined that clashes took place between the Turks and the Greeks during the Greek occupation, Greek forces started to attack Muslims of city without the distinction of soldiers and civilians with the help and contributions of the local Greek people, and that these attacks mostly developed as torture and sometimes deliberate killing<sup>15</sup>. Especially in some official reports of the period, it also contains annoying examples of some local Greek women in İzmir, along with Greek men with guns in the invasion of İzmir, in the torture and massacres against Turks. Moreover, the memoirs of a British officer watching the events confirm that Greek women tortured unimaginable tortures among the Turks<sup>16</sup>. Apart from the act of killing on the day of the occupation, the injured people who survived the massacre were treated randomly, and those who were severely injured were left in the confluence of that day. There are many abuse and rape incidents against Turks during the occupation of İzmir<sup>17</sup>. It is also known that

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- 12 Nuray Ertürk Keskin, op. cit., p. 125; The main objectives of the demonstrations were to show that the people of İzmir did not welcome the Greek occupation under the projectors of the Entente Navy anchored in the gulf. This crowd in confusion and astonishment, protested until morning. In the meeting with Damat Ferid Pasha on the morning of 14 May 1919, Admiral Webb, one of the representatives of the Entente States, asked for the delivery of the bases in İzmir and its surroundings to the allies. Upon this, the Grand Vizier, who telegraphed the governor of İzmir on the night of 14/15 May, advised to act in line with the demands of Admiral Calthorpe. Until these events, the Ottoman state chief thought that İzmir would be occupied by the allies. As can be understood from all this, Governor Izzet Bey was in a great inattention. Zekeriya Türkmen, op. cit., p. 126.
- 13 Salih Mercan, "Yunan Mezalimi ve Buna Dair Milletlere Çekilen Protesto", *Sosyal Bilimler Enstitüsü Dergisi*, Issue: 40, pp. 391-412, p. 397.
- 14 Bülent Çukurova, "15 May 1919, İzmir'de Yunan Mezalimi", *Atatürk Araştırma Merkezi Dergisi*, Vol. III, Issue: 8, Ankara, 1987, p. 461- 462.
- 15 Günver Güneş, "İzmir'in İşgali Ve Aydın'daki Yankıları", *Askeri Tarih Araştırmaları Dergisi*, Issue 9, Year 5, February 2007, p. 127. Hasan Mert, op. cit., p. 52.
- 16 Ali Çetinkaya'nın Millî Mücadele Dönemi Hatıraları, op. cit., p. 25; Zekeriya Türkmen, "İzmir'in İşgali Olayı ve Yunanlıların XVII. Kolordu Mensuplarına Yönelik Gasp ve Yağmalama Hareketi", op. cit., p. 127; *Askeri Tarih Belgeleri Dergisi*, Year 41, Issue 93, January 1992, General Staff Printing House, Ankara 1992, p. 12- 13; Talat Yalazan, *Türkiye'de Yunan Vahşet ve Soykırımı Girişimi (15 Mayıs 1919- 9 Eylül 1922)*, Vol. 1, General Staff Printing House, Ankara 1994, p. 8; *Belgelerle Yunan mezalimi (İşgal Sonrası Askeri Makamlardan Gönderilen Raporlar, Tahkik Heyeti Raporları, Uluslararası Tahkik Heyeti Raporu, İstanbul'da Yapılan Mitinglerin Bildiri Metinleri ve Yunan Mezalimine Dair Rapor ve Yazılar)*, op. cit., p. 81, 284.
- 17 Emin Elmacı, "İzmir Halkı'nın Yazdıklarıyla İzmir'de Yunan İşgali ve Mezalimi", *Kuva-yı Milliye'nin 90. Yılında İzmir ve Batı Anadolu- 1 Uluslararası Sempozyum Bildiriler*, 6-8 September 2009, İzmir, 2010, p. 75; Salim Gökçen, "Millî Mücadele'de Yunan İşgallerinin Genel Karakteri", *ÇTAD*, Year 12, Issue 23, (Bahar 2016), p. 89-111; Hasan Mert, op. cit., p. 52.



during the occupation of İzmir, Greek soldiers exhibited acts threatening the city's public security by looting, extortion and theft<sup>18</sup>.

### Occupation of İzmir at Canada Press

The occupation of İzmir by the Greeks also has a wide impact in the foreign press. The news published in the American press from mid-May 1919 until the end of the mentioned year includes many details on how the Greek occupation army, which set foot in İzmir, killed the Turks and looted İzmir. Another detail that is frequently mentioned in some media organs, especially the Washington Post, is how the Ottoman State will be shared after the occupation of İzmir by the Greeks. The aforementioned American newspaper also reports that Istanbul will be divided into two under the American and Greek mandate, An Armenian country would be established in the American mandate, Britain would take Southern Mesopotamia and Palestine to its mandate, some regions in Syria, Diyarbakır, Adana and Anadolu region will also become French mandate. It is mentioned in the American press that Italy will take the Antalya region and that the Turks will move their capital to Konya or Bursa as same news often found in the Canadian press. A much more remarkable approach of the American press shows itself in making news about the Greek occupation being welcomed not only by the Greeks but also by the Muslims, and that the news of the chaos and looting in İzmir was exaggerated. The fact that the American press included the news of how the Greeks killed the Turks in the invasion of İzmir, and sometimes the news that such events were exaggerated, reveals the fact that not only the American press is a contradiction in itself but also reveals the fact that Turks couldn't form an international public opinion that will be in their favor<sup>19</sup>.

In the British press, the news that Greeks have devoted to the security and security problems created by the city in relation to the occupation of İzmir are full of very strong clues that the big states are aware of the Greek atrocities and do not intervene. The fact that the headlines, "The Murders of Greeks in İzmir" or "Turks without Weapons were Robbed and Killed" in the British press immediately after the occupation, were replaced by news titled "Bloody Messes from İzmir" a few weeks after the occupation, which means nothing else to mislead the world public opinion. It is quite strategic for the British press to cover up the inhumane movements of the Greeks against the Turks in İzmir and its surroundings, such as cruelty, violence, murder, with news as if there was a mutual discomfort between the Greeks and Turks and a general disorganization in the city<sup>20</sup>. In

18 Zekeriya Türkmen, *Devlet Merkezine Gönderilen Raporlara Göre Batı Anadolu'da Yunan Mezalimi*, op. cit., p. 155; *Askeri Tarih Belgeleri Dergisi*, Year 41, Issue 93, January 1992, General Staff Printing House, Ankara 1992, p. 12- 13; Salim Gökçen, op. cit., p. 89-111.

19 Sezen Karabulut, *Amerikan Basınında İzmir Şehrinin Yunanistan Tarafından İşgali*, *Belgi*, Issue 11, Winter 2016/1, pp. 1-15.

20 Barış Borlat, "Milli Mücadele Sırasında Yunanlıların ve İtilaf Devletlerinin Çanakkale Bölgesinde Savaş Hukukuna Aykırı Davranışları Hakkında Kısa Notlar", *Çanakkale On Sekiz*

the Australian press, the news about the invasion of İzmir includes how Greek soldiers killed innocent and inoffensive Turks, violence and torture inflicted on many Turks<sup>21</sup>. However, a detailed examination of the foreign press in question creates the impression that the Australian newspapers are obliged to report the movements of the Greeks to the Turks up to the torture and massacre. Australian newspapers' comments that Turks have been practicing similar violence to Greeks and even Armenians and Jews for years are far from chronological order, and the re-publication of news that Greeks were killed by the Turks at different intervals means nothing more than slandering the Turkish image. Behind this approach of Australian newspapers is undoubtedly that they receive the news mostly from Greek propaganda Athens or London and of course being one of England's colonies, moreover, it is unthinkable for the Australian press to pursue a broadcasting policy contrary to the interests of the British state<sup>22</sup>.

In the Canadian press, it is possible to find both very detailed and striking news about the occupation of İzmir. The day after the invasion of İzmir, The Lethbridge Daily Herald newspaper's article titled "Greece to Administer the City of Smyrna", dated 16 May 1919, states that allies embarked on a large maritime operation in İzmir in connection with the decision of Greece to rule the city<sup>23</sup>. In the news of The Daily Gleaner newspaper titled "Greece Realizes Her Dream of Five Centuries by Taking Possession of the Smyrna District in Asia Minor" on the same date, one of the most important events in the history of modern Greek history is the occupation of İzmir and the five-century Greek dream has come true. In the news, it is stated that the entire area, from the center of İzmir, 160 km north to Ayvalık, and 64 km south to Urla, is under the control of Greek soldiers<sup>24</sup>. Canada's The Border Cities Star newspaper makes a similar report on the same date. However, misleading information has been spread between the lines of this news. The newspaper in question writes that in the news entitled "Dream, Five Centuries Old, Is True at Last; Greeks Hold Smyrna", almost all the population in the occupied areas is Greek. The news also states that the occupation of İzmir by the Greeks was done with a ceremony because it coincides with the Rose Day, which is known as one of the important holidays of Greece<sup>25</sup>.

The Daily Gleaner newspaper comments on the article titled "Early End of the Ottoman Empire" dated May 17, 1919, that the occupation of İzmir brought an end to the Ottoman Empire early. As mentioned in the American press of the

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Mart Üniversitesi Atatürk ve Çanakkale Savaşları Araştırma Merkezi Çanakkale Araştırmaları Türk Yılığ, Year 9, Issue 10-11, Spring- Autumn 2011, p. 114.

21 *The World's News*, 23 August 1919, p. 16.

22 İzel Çetinkaya, Avustralya Basınında İzmir'in İşgali, *İzmir Araştırmaları Dergisi*, Year 5, Issue 10, İzmir, 2019, pp. 69-92.

23 *The Lethbridge Daily Herald*, 16 May 1919, p. 1.

24 *The Daily Gleaner*, 16 May 1919, p. 1.

25 *The Border Cities Star*, 16 May 1919, p. 1.

period, the newspaper mentioned under the leadership of Thrace and Western Anatolia to Greece, Istanbul's international commission and American mandate, Armenia's American patronage, South Mesopotamia and Palestine to England, Syria, Diyarbakır, It conveys the news that Adana and some parts of Anatolia will be left to France, Antalya and its surroundings to Italy and that the new capital of the Ottoman will be moved to Bursa or Konya<sup>26</sup>. On May 18, 1919, The Daily Colonist newspaper published a news titled "Proclamation at Smyrna". In this article, it is stated that Colonel Nikolas Zafirios, the commander of the Greek troops who made landings in İzmir, was occupied in harmony with the allied states without waiting for the resolutions of the Paris Peace Conference in order to guarantee the security of the İzmir people<sup>27</sup>.

The occupation of İzmir by the Greeks attracts the attention of the entire European and Islamic world on this city. The Daily Colonist newspaper's article titled "Learning Geography Again" dated June 14, 1919 points out that İzmir and Anatolia became a matter of curiosity in the process that started with the occupation of İzmir. The news also says that, Turkey has a railway line on the map can't be underestimated, if the line is extended straight over North America, it is reported that it will reach a length of 3000 km from Rio Grande to Hudson Bay. If the Taurus tunnels are completed and connected to the Palestine - Egypt railway system, information is provided that it will be reached in 3 different train voyages by changing trains from Calais to Cape Town (15000 km) only in the Bosphorus and Sudan. It is also important to include the information that the origin of wheat is Mesopotamia, coffee is Arabia, and İzmir is a little bit larger than Washington or New Orleans as the surface area of İzmir and it shows the dimensions of the interest and curiosity in Canada regarding İzmir and Anatolia<sup>28</sup>.

In the copy of The Evening Telegram newspaper dated May 19, 1919, two separate news related to the occupation of İzmir are made. First news "Destiny of Turkey Settled" and in this news under the headline "The British and French forces will be withdrawn as soon as the authority of Greece as mandatory is established firmly. The occupation of Smyrna is preliminary to the establishment of mandatories throughout European and Asiatic Turkey, virtually terminating

26 *The Daily Gleaner*, 17 May 1919, p. 5; For a comparison of the news, please see. Sezen Karabulut, op. cit., pp. 1-15; The Daily Colonist newspaper, on the other hand, gives the same news under the headline "Predicts Ottoman Empire's Dissolution" on May 18, 1919. *The Daily Colonist*, 18 May 1919, p. 1. In general, the occupation of İzmir is seen as the beginning of the end for the Ottoman state in the Canadian public. In the Canadian press, headlines or news content about this trend is immediately evident. Charlottetown Guardian newspaper dated May 26, 1919 "Prospects of Peace with Turkey Lessen" in a report titled, focuses on is seen as the end of the Turkish empire in the world because of the Greek occupation of İzmir. It is stated that Greece, which occupied İzmir the most from the distribution of the empire, turned out to be profitable and that other states only deal with ports. *Charlottetown Guardian*, 26 May 1919, p. 1.

27 *The Daily Colonist*, 18 May 1919, p. 2.

28 *The Daily Colonist*, 14 June 1919, p. 8.



the existence of Turkey as an empire.” The news underlines that the empire’s invasion of İzmir, Turkey’s End also emphasized and Sultan will continue to rule in Bursa and its surroundings, but if the American Congress approves, many parts of the country will be under the patronage of the Council of Four<sup>29</sup>. The other news of the same newspaper about the occupation points to a highly controversial issue. This news has the title “Greeks and Turks Fight” and provides information that will open the door to the debate on whether the Greeks or Turks opened the first fire on the day of invasion. It is generally accepted information that when the Greek soldiers passed the İzmir Clock Tower and entered the Kemeraltı, few Turks, who were leading by Hasan Tahsin fired guns against the Greeks<sup>30</sup>. However, this is a subject of historical debate and there is a difference in information in the official reports about the period when the first shot was shot<sup>31</sup>. The Evening Telegram newspaper reported on May 19, 1919 that three hundred Turks and a hundred Greeks were killed in the clashes after the Greek troops landing at İzmir, and that the violence was violent due to heavy rifle fire against Greek forces from the regions where the Turks were intense<sup>32</sup>.

The Border Cities Star newspaper headlines on May 19, 1919 “Turkey Ceases Existence As World Empire”<sup>33</sup> and The Edmonton Bulletin newspaper entitled “Greeks and Turks Battle When Allied Forces Reach Smyrna” and both these news touches on the information that the since the occupation of İzmir, that political crises have been experienced in Istanbul and the news that the grand vizier resigned has spread<sup>34</sup>. The First Damat Mehmed Adil Ferid Pasha Cabinet was established on March 4, 1919. The fifth government, which was established after the Union and Progress Cabinet was removed from work,

29 *The Evening Telegram*, 19 May 1919, p. 3. Developments related to the news in question remain warm in the Canadian press for a while. In the report titled “Forces at Adalia” dated May 22, 1919, The Border Cities Star newspaper stated that the Turkish territory problem became important in the Paris Peace Conference due to the events that started with the occupation of İzmir, and many delegates tried to deal with the issue without turning it into a religious war. In the news, it is stated that only America can suppress conflicts of interest while administering Istanbul under the patronage, but that the American congress does not favor patronage because the borders of the agreements are not certain. The news, under the subtitle “If Sultan Out”, shares the information that the American patronage could take place if the Sultan was removed from Istanbul, however, because the Indian delegates oppose such a compulsion to the leader of the Muslim world, the British share information that the sultan can accommodate in Istanbul, provided that only have religious powers. *The Border Cities Star*, 22 May 1919, p. 1. Red Deer News on June 6, 1919 “May Dismember Turkey Without Religious War” in the article entitled, It is stated that the Indian delegates at the Paris Peace Conference were in the idea that the sultan, who made the caliphate of the Islamic world, should stay in Istanbul during the events that were ignited by the invasion of İzmir, and this was in line with the revision that the British wanted, so that the Sultan could only manage the Muslim world from Istanbul with religious powers. *Red Deer News*, 6 June 1919, p. 2.

30 Günver Güneş, *op. cit.*, p. 27. Salih Mercan, *op. cit.*, p. 395.

31 Hasan Mert, *op. cit.*, p. 51.

32 *The Evening Telegram*, 19 May 1919, p. 3.

33 *The Border Cities Star*, 19 May 1919, p. 8.

34 *The Edmonton Bulletin*, 19 May 1919, p. 1.

Izzet Pasha and the Tevfik Pasha cabinets, which were established on 14 October, are considered as transitional governments and cannot fully satisfy the British and the Freedom and Accord Party. Damat Ferid, in cooperation with the British, started a broad campaign against the Unionists and then the Anatolian operation, resigned after the occupation of İzmir and renewed his cabinet on 19 May<sup>35</sup>. The Canadian press pays particular attention to this issue. In the news of The Evening Telegram newspaper entitled "New Turkish Ministry" dated May 22, 1919, as a result of the resignation of the Turkish cabinet, which was provoked by the Allied invasion of İzmir, Ferid Pasha was given the task of establishing a new ministry and that Ferid Pasha would be both the grand vizier and the foreign minister<sup>36</sup>.

The Canadian press closely follows the occupation of İzmir by the Greeks and the subsequent international reactions or movements. The Lethbridge Daily Herald newspaper's article titled "Protest Italy's Action; Complicates Turk Problem" dated May 22, 1919 details the activities of the Italians in the region after this occupation. In the news, it is mentioned that the allied forces captured the city, although Greece had taken a significant Turkish resistance while occupying İzmir, and the contributions of the Italian forces in this occupation are reminded. The Italians previously sent small forces to Antalya, Bodrum, 155 km south of İzmir and Fethiye, and these landings were caused by a dispute among the allies, it has been discussed in these news for a long time that the Italians have had a desire to spread around Antalya, and therefore a note was given by England, France and America about why the Italians were expanding their occupation areas<sup>37</sup>. Another newspaper from the Canadian press deals with a similar content with the headline "Italians Complicated the Turkish Problem by Landing Troops on Asia Minor Coast". In this news, it is also shared that the areas occupied by the Italians outside of Antalya should be under Greek guardianship, and that a note was given by the allies and awaited explanation<sup>38</sup>.

The Daily Gleaner newspaper, on 27 May 1919, titled "The Italian Forces Have Landed in Asia Minor and Occupied Town of Söke", said that the Italians

35 Damat Ferid will establish his third cabinet on 21 July 1919. Although he resigned on September 30, 1919, he would establish his fourth cabinet on April 5, 1920 after the occupation of Istanbul, and the fifth and final cabinet on July 31, 1920. After the policy of forced extermination of the Anatolian movement failed again, he was resigned by the British on October 16, 1920 and was replaced by the government of Tevfik Pasha. Nuray Ertürk Keskin, op. cit., p. 74.

36 The Evening Telegram, 22 May 1919, p. 3. In the news of The Border Cities Star newspaper titled "U.S. Marines Land at Turkish Port " dated 24 May 1919, it was stated that the resignation of the Turkish cabinet could be a protest against the occupation of İzmir. *The Border Cities Star*, 24 May 1919, p. 8.

37 *The Lethbridge Daily Herald*, 22 May 1919, p. 1.

38 *The Daily Gleaner*, 22 May 1919, p. 1; In the news of St. John's Daily Star titled "Protested to Italy" on May 22, 1919, in addition to the information given to Italy like the previous news, it is also stated that the purpose of Italy's landing in Antalya or other regions is not known. *St. John's Daily Star*, 22 May 1919, p. 1.

invaded Söke, a small town 80 km southeast of İzmir, if they also occupy the port near the town, they are informed that they will compete with the İzmir port, which is a great danger for Greece<sup>39</sup>. Another newspaper of Canada, St. John's Daily Star, a similar content is published under the heading "Turks Protest Landing" on May 27, 1919. In the news, while the Turkish government has not yet been able to overcome the effects of the occupation of İzmir, it is stated that the Italians protested this attitude at the Paris Peace Conference because they made a landing to Söke just south of İzmir<sup>40</sup>. The occupation movements of the Italians in the southwest and Mediterranean regions of Anatolia continue to be the subject of criticism frequently in the Canadian press. The Border Cities Star newspaper dated May 27, 1919, "Carving Up Turkey" entitled news, due to the process that started with the Greek occupation of İzmir, the French in Syria, British in Palestine and Southern Mesopotamia and Americans will rule in Istanbul and Armenia, therefore, the news explains in detail that the Turks will get stuck in the center of a strong circle. It is criticized that it is not nice for Italy to landing at the shores like Antalya and Bodrum by oneself and that the same Italians, who had difficulties in holding even Tripoli a few years ago, were trying to enter a race with Greece, which occupied İzmir<sup>41</sup>.

In the Canadian press, the activities of Italians in Anatolia have brought such great criticisms that what has happened in the Italian public has been followed up to the finest detail. The Daily Gleaner newspaper's article titled "Italy in Asia Minor" dated May 28, 1919 first emphasizes that in October 1913, the Italian newspaper *Il Resto del Carlino* surprised Europe with the news that Italians should increase their influence in the south of İzmir. In the news, which also stated that the Italian government has agreed with an Italian union to build a railway line from Antalya to Burdur, the decisions taken during the occupation of İzmir against the influence zones of England, France and Germany and it is stated that the Italians intend to establish their own influence zone in a very central region on the Anatolian coast due to their attitudes. The newspaper reported that the Italians occupied Fethiye and Bodrum and posed a serious threat to İzmir-Aydın, and that their intention was to revive the Lycian province of the ancient Roman Empire in an area of approximately 500 km from Kos to Anamur Cape<sup>42</sup>.

The news of The Vanderhoof Herald newspaper dated 31 May 1919 titled "Turkish Problem Difficult", points to the need for radical changes at strategic points in order to prevent the danger of an impending holy war due to the deterioration of the situation, where more foreign soldiers are needed to maintain calmness in the İzmir region. These changes will be possible with more

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39 *The Daily Gleaner*, 27 May 1919, p. 1.

40 *St. John's Daily Star*, 27 May 1919, p. 2.

41 *The Border Cities Star*, 27 May 1919, p. 4.

42 *The Daily Gleaner*, 28 May 1919, p. 4.

foreign soldiers, a commission was established in Paris to examine the situation in Asia Minor, Council of Four consider a revision of the plan to divide Turkey, during the occupation of İzmir by the Greeks, the shares the information that the Muslims in Afghanistan, India and Egypt, along with the Turkish resistance, protested the invasion, pushed the British to revise the agreement<sup>43</sup>.

The Canadian press also criticizes the attitude of the Turkish government protesting the invasion of İzmir. In the news of The Daily Gleaner newspaper titled "The Turkish Delegates on Way to Paris" dated June 11, 1919, eight Turkish delegates set off towards Paris and the Turkish delegates will accept the claims and protection of the Council of Four over Armenia and other parts of Anatolia however, it is stated that the same delegation will object to the annexation of Greece, which occupies İzmir<sup>44</sup>. In the article of The Winnipeg Evening Tribune newspaper titled "Turks Try to Shift Blame of War Upon Bill" on June 18, 1919, it is shared that the Ottoman Grand Vizier, who made statements to the Council of Ten, the Ottoman Empire was put into war because of the old German Emperor, the Young Turks and the Russians, and that Greek should withdraw from İzmir for the benefit of the 300 million Muslim world. In the continuation of the news, the Turkish people were not guilty when a warship with a German crew agreed with the Young Turks and brought the Ottoman to war under the Ottoman flag and conveys the statement of the Grand Vizier that it is worrisome that Anatolia, especially İzmir, is being devastated by wars<sup>45</sup>. The Turkish delegation at the Paris Peace Conference, officially protesting the occupation of İzmir by Greece, becomes a subject that has been emphasized by the Canadian press<sup>46</sup>. In the news of The Edmonton Bulletin newspaper titled "Reinforcements Sent to Smyrna by Greece" dated 27 June 1919, it is stated that the reinforcement forces were sent from Macedonia to Greek forces that have faced intensive Turkish resistance since the day invasion of İzmir<sup>47</sup>.

In the article titled "Allies Refuse Turkish Claim for Undiminished Territory" dated 27 June 1919, The Winnipeg Telegram newspaper gives the full text of the speech of Damat Ferid Pasha on behalf of the Turkish people at the Paris Peace Conference. The statements of Damat Ferid Pasha regarding the fact that the Ottoman people were not fed by abnormal situations that are neither war nor peace, so they wanted to end the occupations in their lands rather than a ceasefire, the statements about the bad situations hoped that no longer occur, such as occupation of İzmir where the vulnerable Muslim population is harmed also can be found in the Canadian press<sup>48</sup>. The Lethbridge Daily Herald newspaper published on July 12, 1919 titled "Greeks Drive Turks", that the

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43 *The Vanderhoof Herald*, 31 May 1919, p. 5.

44 *The Daily Gleaner*, 11 June 1919, p. 1.

45 *The Winnipeg Evening Tribune* 18 June 1919, p. 3.

46 *The Daily Gleaner*, 20 June 1919, p. 7.

47 *The Edmonton Bulletin*, 27 June 1919, p. 3.

48 *The Winnipeg Telegram*, 27 June 1919, p. 3.

Greek forces expanding the invasion to the south of İzmir had repelled the Turks, the Turks have even fled and leaving their weapons behind, according to the news published by the Greek army headquarters, it also includes information that Turks injured about 80 Greek women and their children while they were fleeing<sup>49</sup>. While it has been two months since İzmir was occupied by the Greeks, the Canadian press does not lose its attention as there is still a lack of security in the region, and The Evening Telegram newspaper makes a report on this issue on 19 July 1919. According to this report, the British, French, Greek and Italian forces in Anatolia will be given to the command of the British General Allenby in order to avoid a war between the Greek and Italian forces in the process that started due to the invasion of İzmir, so that the troubled days in İzmir and the South Aegean will end<sup>50</sup>. In the international public, Greek assertions are so influential that the news that a new commission was made in Paris for a commission that will go to İzmir in July of 1919 and that it will be the duty of this commission to investigate the brutality allegations against the Greeks in İzmir, has been widely echoed in the Canadian press<sup>51</sup>. The Canadian press has turned its attention to the disorganization in İzmir and the preparations of the European powers to intervene in this situation during August 1919. The Lethbridge Daily Herald newspaper reported on August 9, 1919 that British army commander Lieutenant General Sir George Francis Milne was commissioned at the Paris Peace Conference to ensure the security of İzmir and Anatolia and to limit the Greek occupation site to İzmir and its surroundings<sup>52</sup>.

The Daily Colonist newspaper's article titled "Rebellious Pashas Work in Asia Minor" dated 14 August 1919 stands out as the first repercussions of Turkish national resistance in the Canadian press. The newspaper also reports that the Turkish government has made an arrest warrant against Mustafa Kemal and Rauf Bey for establishing armed gangs in İzmir and Erzurum and holding separatist congresses<sup>53</sup>.

The commission of allies commissioned for the events that started with the invasion of İzmir in mid-August 1919 was determined, Brigadier General Hare was appointed on behalf of the British, General Punozet on behalf of the French, General Dallolio on behalf of the Italians, and Brigadier Mark Bristol on behalf of the Americans<sup>54</sup>. While these developments are taking place, The Lethbridge Daily Herald newspaper publishes quite interesting news on August 15, 1919. In the news, it is stated that the occupation of İzmir was welcomed by the Muslims as well as the Greeks in the city. It is also stated that due to the occupation, the news of looting and flood in the city was exaggerated, while

49 *The Lethbridge Daily Herald*, 7 July 1919, p. 1.

50 *The Evening Telegram*, 19 July 1919, p. 3.

51 *The Daily Gleaner*, 26 July 1919, p. 1.

52 *The Lethbridge Daily Herald*, 9 August 1919, p. 5.

53 *The Daily Colonist*, 14 August 1919, p. 9.

54 *The Lethbridge Daily Herald*, 15 August 1919, p. 9.



only 2 Greek soldiers died on the day of the occupation, 8 soldiers were injured, whereas civilian casualties in the city were around 150<sup>55</sup>. However, in the copy of The Daily Gleaner newspaper dated August 25, 1919, the news titled “Turks Slain By Greek Soldiers” becomes a breaking point in the Canadian press. Because the quality of the news, which has been given as “mutual contention between Turkish and Greek groups and lack of public security” until this date, brings a different approach with this news published in late August of 1919. When analyzed in detail with the news given in this headline, it gives the impression that the Canadian press is obliged to give the news of the cruelty applied by the Greeks to the Turks. In the news in question, it was written that despite the shooting of a few Greek soldiers, a large number of Turks were brutally murdered, Turkish bodies were thrown into the sea even during the daytime so that the numbers of those who died were not clear, even some Turks whose surrendered with the hands up in the air are drowned in the same waters<sup>56</sup>. This news, which resonated in the Canadian press, is also supported by the lines of the period’s memoirs or official reports. On May 15- May 16, 1919, İzmir was subjected to all kinds of persecution, treachery, looting and marauding by the Greeks and hundreds of sinless Muslims were martyred. Many corpses are thrown on the streets or in the sea<sup>57</sup>.

This kind of brutality incidents that the Greeks gave to the Turks continued in the following weeks of the occupation. During the occupation of İzmir, it is possible to find many annoying details about the fact that some of the Muslim people were slaughtered and thrown into the sea from the report of the Gendarmerie Command dated June 4, 1919. According to the official report in question, the number of Muslims killed has reached two thousand, the identity of many of those who passed away is unknown<sup>58</sup>. The rumor that the Greeks drowned some helpless Turkish people in the marshes also creates an indignation in the region<sup>59</sup>. Although the entire Kordon, barracks and front of state house was filled with the corpses, the presence of those who were thrown into the sea by attaching iron to their feet and necks in a short time is enough to reveal the terrible dimension of the occupation. On the first day of the invasion, about 45 Muslims from İzmir Pasaport boatmen were drowned and they were martyred by tying a chain to their throats and thrown into the sea. These and the bodies of many people who are kept on the dock and thrown into the sea

55 *The Lethbridge Daily Herald*, 21 August 1919, p. 7.

56 *The Daily Gleaner*, 25 August 1919, p. 9.

57 *Ali Çetinkaya'nın Milli Mücadele Dönemi Hatıraları*, Atatürk Kültür, Dil ve Tarih Yüksek Kurumu Atatürk Araştırma Merkezi Press, Ankara, 1993, p. 9 and 11.

58 Hasan Mert, op. cit., p. 52; The number of officers killed and injured on the day of occupation was 57. The number of officers killed in and around İzmir was far above two thousand. Governor of Aydın stated that 5.284 people were killed on the day of the invasion to Labon, who conducted investigations in the region. Even Venizelos in his letter to Clemenceau states that: “There are 163 missing, 62 of them are civilian Greeks and soldiers, 78 of them are Turks, 1 Jewish and 22 from other nations are missing.” Salim Gökçen, op. cit., p. 89-111.

59 Hasan Mert, op. cit., p. 54.

begin to hit the coast by the sea every day<sup>60</sup>. In the news of The Daily Gleaner newspaper dated 25 August 1919, the report that the Greeks killed about 40 unidentified Turks on the day of their arrival in İzmir, on 15 May<sup>61</sup>, points out there was a good consistency between the Ottoman officials and the information obtained by the Canadian press.

The Canadian press also shares a very striking detail of the Greek treatment of the Turks on the Occupation day, and the information that “a fez was, a target for any soldier” is included<sup>62</sup>. During the invasion of İzmir, even after the Turkish people or soldiers surrender, under the pretext of being searched while being exposed to various insults and their calpaks and fez were taken, torn, chewed and some of them were attached to the bayonet, countless Turks, whose only crime was not to remove their fez and didn’t say “Long Live Venizelos”, were killed<sup>63</sup>.

While the Canadian press tends to demolish the entire responsibility of armed conflicts between Turks and Greeks in the city since mid-May 1919, it is surprising that this changed suddenly after August 1919. The Daily Gleaner newspaper’s article titled “Many Casualties in Smyrna Fight” dated May 20, 1919 contains the information that nearly 200 soldiers lost their allies because of the Turks who stubbornly defended the castles of the city, and it was understood that Turks were seen as responsible for all cases of unrest and death in the city<sup>64</sup>. The Daily Gleaner reported on August 25, 1919 that the British informed the Turkish government about the occupation the day before, and the Greeks accelerated the occupation by receiving this news, and the Greeks, who led the priest landing in Konak early in the next day and faced a resistance, continued to slaughter the Turks. Stating that the Greek soldiers had opened fire without regard to the target, the newspaper stated that the city’s governor and important rulers were carried out towards the pier with the hands up by force of armed soldiers and that the looting is accelerating. The newspaper delivers all of its future news in line with the content of the reports kept by the Ottoman officials of the period. It is also noted that in the news in question, clashes continued during the night, and in the morning, in the village adjacent to Prophetelia<sup>65</sup> all civilians, including boys, were equipped with rifles and bayonets, and conflicts were widespread. It is also mentioned that the looting events have shifted from Turkish houses towards kidnapping along with the daylight, that a Turkish tax officer has been kidnapped from his house, and the city bandits killed him outside. In the news, it is finally found that the American hospital, which is still

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60 Zekeriya Türkmen, *Devlet Merkezine Gönderilen Raporlara Göre Batı Anadolu’da Yunan Mezalimi*, op. cit., p. 147.

61 *The Daily Gleaner*, 25 August 1919, p. 9.

62 *The Daily Gleaner*, 25 August 1919, p. 9.

63 Emin Elmacı, op. cit., p. 75.

64 *The Daily Gleaner*, 20 May 1919, p. 1.

65 Today, around the Elijah Prophet Church on İzmir Yeşildere Road.

under construction in İzmir, has been hastily opened and started to take care of Turkish casualties and collect corpses<sup>66</sup>.

The Canadian press couldn't escape from factual journalism about five months after the invasion of İzmir. The news of The Edmonton Bulletin newspaper dated 29 October 1919 entitled "Commission Finds Greeks Responsible" also points out that the events in İzmir are too much to be manipulated. The news states that the investigations commissioned by the Paris Peace Conference for the purpose of investigating the excesses and disturbances caused by Greece in the city and its surroundings regarding the occupation of İzmir, which has been continuing since the middle of May, and that the commission blames Greece for the situation in the city. In the continuation of the news, for this reason, it also conveys information about the decision to remove the military occupation in the coming days without causing further brutality and problems in İzmir<sup>67</sup>. The same news is given by The Winnipeg Evening Tribune newspaper under the heading "Blame Greek Troops for Smyrna Disorder"<sup>68</sup>, and by the Daily Colonist newspaper with the headline "Commission Finds Greeks at Fault"<sup>69</sup>. By the end of 1919, the Canadian press began to carry Venizelos' difficult situation to the columns in the face of the terror and massacres that the Greeks exhibited in Turks in İzmir. In the news of The Winnipeg Evening Tribune, entitled "Venizelos Defends Action of Greeks in Occupying Smyrna", dated November 8, 1919, the news that Venizelos defended Greece's invasion of İzmir until the end and that the Greeks massacred the Turks were baseless and exaggerated and it is also stated that the Greeks were not sufficiently represented in the commission when deciding against Greece<sup>70</sup>.

## Conclusion

The occupation of İzmir by the Greeks on May 15, 1919, also expresses a different situation beyond the definitions such as "capturing a piece of land", "annexing", "adding to its territory". In the occupation of İzmir, we encounter with various dimensions such as physical and psychological violence against civil or military Turks, brutal massacres by the Greeks, misleading and influencing the world public opinion of the Greek authorities. Many methods can be determined through the Canadian press, such as the isolation of Turks in the international public, their imprisonment in a defeated country psychology, the invasion of İzmir, and the push of the Ottoman country to the future anxiety in the foreign press.

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66 *The Daily Gleaner*, 25 August 1919, p. 9.

67 *The Edmonton Bulletin*, 29 October 1919, p. 5.

68 *The Winnipeg Evening Tribune*, 29 October 1919, p. 3.

69 *The Daily Colonist*, 29 October 1919, p. 11.

70 *The Winnipeg Evening Tribune*, 8 November 1919, p. 8.

The headlines of news about the occupation of İzmir in the Canadian press are given with expressions that do not suit Turks' self-esteem and historical dignity. In the Canadian public, it is clear that Greece, Britain and American diplomacy are very effective. For this reason, while the Canadian press evaluated the results of the Greek occupation in İzmir, it focused on its publication policies against the Turkish sovereign power a few months after the occupation. In this process, the press tended to show the atrocities and massacres of the Greeks against the Turks in İzmir as a mutual conflict. There may be another very important reason for this trend. Canada joins World War I alongside England and loses about sixty thousand soldiers in this war, and three times as many soldiers are injured. Canadians' pride and fastest ship are also sunk by German submarines while carrying troops to Gallipoli in the same war. The trauma caused by such developments in the Canadian public does not allow Britain to request soldiers from Canada to send to the Gallipoli Campaign.

Undoubtedly, for a war that does not take place on its continent, it is highly probable that the Canadian public, who has suffered so much in cultural, psychological and sociological terms, started to reflect the tension and anti-war in the media with the consciousness it developed after the war. The news which was written by the Canadian press during the occupation of İzmir, both the ignoring the brutality of the Greek soldiers during the occupation days and the perception of İzmir as a Greek land for thousands of years can be seen as an attitude towards relieving the public conscience.

Understanding that the accusations against the Turks were unfounded after the investigations in the region, through the commission established by the European states to detect the security and security problem in the region after the invasion of İzmir, caused the Canadian press to change its content in an instant. In the Canadian press, after August 1919, Greece was held responsible for the unrest and lack of public security in İzmir and a public opinion began to emerge that questioned the Greeks during the excesses, massacres or other security incidents in İzmir.

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