

HOME GUARD 'BATTLE' TESTS CITY DEFENCE

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Title: Wells Fargo.
Track: Ditto.
Lines: Stagg.
Voice: Mellor

The battle-scarred City of London looked as if the invasion had begun. The Third G.P.O. Battalion of the Home Guard defended the famous Square Mile against the enemy, represented by the 16th L.M.S. Battalion. Defenders wore forage caps, attackers steel helmets.

Blitz wreckage made a realistic background. Both sides used tactics actually employed in street fighting in the present war.

Home-made hand-grenades met the attackers. The Home Guard has practised this sort of thing for a year or more, and they're up to regular army standard.

As men in mock war often argue as to whether they're really dead or not there had to be an umpire; and to cope with the wounded some nurses lent the right atmosphere.

(OFFICER PAN TO MAN) The climax was a determined assault on the Guildhall. I say, I wonder where the wretched place is. Calling on its reserves the defence resolved to do or dispute the umpire's decision.

(Three Scenes Without Voice)

(LV) It's reassuring to see the Home Guard putting up a really professional show. The result of it all was that the defenders were judged the winners, and what's left of the Guildhall still stands.