Welly Report

SUPREME HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED EXPEDITIONARY FORCE
Psychological Warfare Division

ANOUNCE

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WEEKLY INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY FOR PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE # 37

(Publication of this Summary will be suspended during the movement forward of this Headquarters. During this period consolidated Intelligence reports on special subjects will be produced whenever necessary. The next Summary will appear on 2 July 1945).

1. GERMAN SOLDIERS RETURN HOME

The demobilization of "disarmed" soldiers (those taken prisoner after V-E Day) and of certain other classes of Ps/w has already resulted in a steady flow of German men back to their homes. Many are carried by military transport back to their home Kreis, while others find it necessary to travel at least part of the way on foot. Everywhere M.G., through its German police officials, are taking steps to cope with the public safety problem created by these returning soldiers and to put them to work, especially the numerous farmers among them.

It is obviously impossible to predict the reactions of German soldiers to the conditions which they will find in their family circles and in their home town. But informal discussions with numbers of them, especially in the NUREIBERG-MUNICH area, as they trek homeward, show their utter defeatism and at least temporary preoccupation with personal problems to the exclusion of all other considerations. The overwhelming majority has been without mail for many weeks. The whereabouts and well-being of their families and the physical condition of their homes are, naturally, their paramount concern. The problems of employment and feeding for their family and themselves, although considered seriously, do not seem particularly worrisome because of the expectation that such problems will be solved reasonably soon by the Anglo-American authorities. Few expressed any hope that Germany would be more than a country occupied by several powers for many years to come.

The process and moment of demobilization seem to impress them greatly. For example, among one group of about 30 Ps/N, interrogated informally in small numbers, almost all were aware of Allied efforts to weed out extreme Nazis in the ranks of the Wehrmacht, and of the Allied directive about the retention of SS personnel. The final words given to them by what they call the "Entlassungs Kommission" remain fixed in the minds of those who were addressed just before demobilization. One group, moving north-west from NUREMBERG, told of a speech by an American Captain who warned them that the behavior of the returning soldier would determine in good measure how Germany would fare in the coming months. They were instructed to go home and to obey the laws of Military Government in order to prevent further and useless hardships; Germany was to be occupied for a long time; and the German people would have to work hard during the coming years in order to prevent starvation.

Their lack of optimism about the future of Germany in most cases did not prevent them from displaying strong emotion at the thought that they would soon be home, despite the destruction they expected to find in their communities or the loss of life in their families. Six years of war had not destroyed the desire for private and personal attachments, but seem rather to have re-enforced it. Many of these Ps/W had fought almost until V-E Day. They looked back at their military career without any moral reflections; they were unhappy and depressed merely because they

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now believe that they had fought "unsonst" (in vain), especially during the last months.

They complained that they were "belogen und betrogen" (lied to and betrayed), but not about the goals and aims of the war, nor about the atrocities of the Nazis, nor about the cruelties of the German occupation of Europe. They were largely oblivious of or indifferent to these facts. Their complaint that they had been "belogen und betrogen" referred mainly to the ineffectiveness of secret weapons, to the losses in the East, to the lack of reserves, and to the military uselessness of continued resistance. One of the few points of moral criticism encountered with any frequency was the Nazi policy of mobilizing soldiers in their early 'teens and men in their sixties.

They had much less contact than Comman civilians with Allied propaganda about atrocities. This was largely due to the lack of radios or contact with Allied newspapers in their prison camps. They were as reluctant as the civilian population to admit moral guilt. They claimed that same lack of knowledge as German civilians of atrocities committed within concentration camps in Cormany. On the other hand, they more frequently repeated stories of incidents which they had heard or actually seen of atrocities in occupied areas. As to these, they thought the German soldiers who perpetrated them were not responsible, urging that they had acted under superior command.

2. ESTIMATE OF "GOOD AND BAD" GERMANS BY FOREIGN WORKERS

Allied investigators are constantly faced with the problem of recognizing the techniques employed by German civilians to hide their former Nazi orientation and to obscure evidence of the benefits which they reaped under Nazi rule. Particularly in relation to the exploitation of foreign workers, the Germans have developed a variety of defensive verbal techniques : generally, the Germans take the offensive by charging foreign workers with all sorts of atrocious acts, thereby hoping to obviate Allied charges of German misconduct against the foreign workers; in the Saarland interrogators have noted a tendency among Germans to refer rather cozily to foreign workers as "unsere Immigranten" (our immigrants). A recent survey among foreign workers of various nationalities offers some independent evidence about what the other half thinks. They were questioned as to what percentage of the entire German population they consider free of misconduct against foreign workers and are therefore to be considered as "good Germans" in this respect. Since foreign workers obviously represent an extreme point of view and, when they condemn, might be expected to condemn all Germans indiscriminately, the distinctions they make are particularly interesting.

The following table sets forth the results of a survey conducted recently in D/P camps located at DARLDTADT, FRANKFURT, FULDA and WETZLAR. They were asked whether they witnessed maltreatment of foreign workers and whether they had personally experienced maltreatment, particularly physical maltreatment (kicking, beating, etc.). They were also asked to estimate the percentage of the German population whom they had considered as "good Germans". The Russians were the most critical of the Germans. The high percentage of Italians who testify to maltreatment may be explained in part by their desire to please the interrogator, or by the fact that they refer to maltreatment of groups other than Italians.

The following table deals with their claims of maltreatment:

ood er 0%

a number of instance	Number interviewed	Percentage having witnessed maltreatment	Percentage having personally exper- ienced maltreatment
Italians Males	this citizens. This considers the constant of	99.	72
Russians Males Females	void	96 96	60 62
Poles Males Males Females	colde elergy. The co	95 78	75 35

Estimates of numbers of good Germans encountered were :

E -L american Profession			
madde i Altrat, m indication of To through so at their	Percentage believing that there are NO good Germans	Percentage estimating that good Germans number 5 % or less	Percentage estimating go Germans number between 10-30
Italians Males	30	40	30
Russians Maleś Females	43 54	51 28	6* 18
Poles Males Females	54 50	11 22	35 28
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* Not a single Russian male estimates that there are over 10% good Germans.

3. THE ANTI-NAZI GROUP IN LEIPZIG

When American troops entered LEIPZIG on 18 April, they found that a well-organized anti-Nazi organization called National Komitee Freies Deutschland (NKFD) had already placarded the city with surrender instructions and anti-Nazi slogans, had seized a number of Nazi leaders, was guarding food stores against pillaging, and was eager to cooperate with M.G. in the swift purging of Nazi institutions in LEIPZIG. Claiming 6,000 adherents, distributed among 38 local committees, NKFD was active during the first days of occupation in rounding up Nazis, requisitioning food, and continuing the publication of leaflets (said to have begun in the underground nearly three years ago).

Within a few days after the establishment of American military rule, NKFD was compelled, under the terms of the general ban on political activity, to suspend its overt political work. M.G. has prohibited the recruiting of membership, the wearing of distinctive insignia, the holding of meetings of more than 5 persons and the further publication of leaflets. Despite these restrictions members of NKFD, as individuals, have continued to assist M.G. and C.I.C. in the seizure of persons in the arrest category; have located caches of Nazi arms; continue their "inventory" of Nazi-controlled property, as well as the surveillance of Nazis who are still at large.

Because of its militant attitude as well as a number of instances of overzealous requisitioning of property, NKFD has been labelled as extremist by some of LEIPZIG's staid citizens. This charge is, however, countered by another account, according to which NKFD was established in the latter part of 1942 by the fusion of small anti-Nazi groups of every political shading, Centrist, Social Democratic and Communist included. Although the von SEYDLITZ Committee provided the necessary psychological impulse for the formation of NKFD, this version claims the latter was in no way a subsidiary of the von SEYDLITZ organization. As evidence, it is claimed that among the leaders of NKFD are representatives of the Protestant and Catholic clergy. The extent of this representation is unclear, but it is clear that Leftist elements play a very strong hand in the leadership of the NKFD.

Several claims are put forward by the NKFD as to what they did against the Nazis during the war. To check these claims by internal corroboration will inevitably take some time. In the meantime, however, it is worth recording these unevaluated claims for two reasons: first, as an indication of what requires checking, and second, as an indication of what the German people will be asked to believe by the NKFD through whatever propaganda means, including word of mouth, may be at their disposal.

The main work of the organization, between 1942 and April 1945, is said to have been the publication of clandestine leaflets which were distributed in LEIPZIG factories and sometimes found their way to DRESDEN, CHEMNITZ, BERLIN and Thuringia. These leaflets stressed the need to end the war as the only means toward the eventual regeneration of the German people. NKFD also claims to have aided escaped Ps/1 and concentration camp inmates, and to have performed some acts of sabotage in the factories of LEIPZIG. The first leaders of the organization included a Professor MENZEL, a milk dealer named ENGERT, a Herr ZIPPERER and a Dr GIETZEL. A heavy blow came in August 1944 when 13 leading members of the NKFD were apprehended and condemned to death. In January of this year, 11 other members received prison and concentration camp terms.

As Germany's military position deteriorated, NKFD claims to have increased the tempo of propaganda against the crumbling regime: on 14 April - 4 days before the appearance of American troops - NKFD plastered the walls of LEIPZIG with an "Order of the Day to All Enemies of Nazism". The proclamation called upon the populace to hoist white flags, prevent the Nazis from escaping, and to fight the so-called Werewolf. On the following day, another leaflet told the people to protect food stores in accordance with General EISEMHOLER's broadcast instructions, and not to report to the Volkssturm. On 16 April, NKFD addressed an open letter to the Oberbuergermeister and Chief of Police demanding that they carry out the unconditional surrender of the city.

When American troops penetrated the city they met no resistance in the western districts, where NKFD was strongest; they also found a number of Nazis already under arrest. On 19 April, NKFD addressed this message to the people of LEIPZIG:

"The German people can only atome for their inactivity and blindness by proving their readiness for active reconstruction. Our watchword is 'Fight against all remnants of the Nazis - for Peace, Freedom, Bread'."

On 19 April it posted notices against looting; on 20 April it covered LEIPZIG's walls with 20,000 copies of a leaflet exposing SS and Gestapo atrocities. The events of April have been confirmed.

With all public notices an M.G. function for the present; NKFD conceives its future in these terms, according to one of its spokesmen:

to make an end with National Socialism in all fields of everyday life so that a decent tone again becomes the rule in the relations of men to one another ... What today occupies the minds of all thinking people more than anything else is that those who are at all incriminated by National Socialism must by all means be kept out of public life. These convictions exist among the honest people of all classes."

Critics of NKFD point to the unauthorized requisitioning of former Nazi homes and their occupation by NKFD members; to the seizure of a coal mine; the intrusion into a meeting of the Chamber of Commerce with a demand for representation, as proof of the extremist character of the organization. That certain excesses have occurred is admitted by NKFD leaders. One of them offers this explanation:

"I can see where we have been a little foolish, but I guess we were carried away, after these 12 years of oppression, Gestapo and concentration camps. We should have known better, but we Saxons have always been temperamental in politics."

Overshadowing all other concerns in the minds of LETPZIG's population is the prospect of Soviet occupation which, in turn, would probably have a great effect upon the future role of NKFD. It is perhaps significant that among NKFD leaders one found least of the usual anxieties and fears regarding the Russians.

4. INFORMATION MEDIA IN FRANKFURT A/M

The weekly Frankfurter Presse, the city's main source of news, is eagerly read and favorably referred to, but "discerning" Germans feel that it is propaganda. It is felt that a licensed paper put out by carefully-selected Germans would more effectively convey democratic ideas.

Many radios have been adjusted to receive only the Frankfurt Radio, but it has not yet been ascertained how well STUTTGART will come in. Many radios are said to have been requisitioned by the Americans. Those with sets powerful enough to receive LUXEMBOURG generally speak favorably of it.

The Municipal Theaters, including the Opernhaus, Schauspielhaus, and Kleine Haus, are all owned and operated by the city. Though all are at present unusable because of bomb damage, the Schauspielhaus could readily be repaired and used. Artistic and business management are in the hands of the Generalintendant, who is responsible to the mayor and his secretary for Culture. The present appointee, Robert GEORGE, not a Party member, has not yet been confirmed. A petition signed by the employees has been submitted protesting this appointment on the ground that he is too old (he is 65), as well as on artistic and personal grounds. The petition points out the undemocratic nature of the appointment, since GEORGE completely lacks the confidence of all his subordinates. It urges, further, that the quick recovery of the theater in the Russian area is also possible and desirable in FRANKFURT.

There is a director (LEITER) for both the artistic and business phases, and each theater has its own director as well. In the past the large deficits were made up by the city budget. In 1944, for example, expenses were RM 5,483,770 and income RM 2,378,310, leaving a deficit of

RM 3,107,890. The deficit would have been reduced to about RM 2,500,000 if the theaters had not been closed down in September 1944. RM 600,000 of the expenses included pension payments and city administrative expenses.

A contract for collective bargaining was signed in 1933 between the Genossenschaft deutscher Buehnenangehoeriger (Association of German Stage Members) for the employees and the Deutscher Buehnenverein (German Stage Society) for the employers. The latter represents State and Municipal Theaters as well as private theater owners. This contract is still considered valid, although both organizations were combined into the Nazi Reichstheaterkammer (Reich Theater Chamber). All controversy had to be settled by submission to the Buehnenschiedsgericht(Stage Court of Arbitration) or the Buehnenoberschiedsgericht (Supreme Court of Arbitration for the Stage) in BERLIN.

A list of 31 former members of the Municipal Theater who had been dismissed for political unreliability or because they were full or part Jews has been submitted. One of them committed suicide, but nearly all the rest have died or emigrated. The NSDAP employees have been dismissed, but the return of some of them has been requested by other employees.

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In addition to repair of the Opera House, the use of small stages throughout the city has been suggested for the production of less pretentious works and operettas. Such productions would also have the advantage of being able to play in the smaller towns. Concerts and ballet could also be given on these small stages. Church concerts have already been given.

5. RADIO STUTTGART GOES ON THE AIR

On 3 June Radio Stuttgart went on the air under American administration. The director presented the aims of the station. For many years, he said, the station had been in the service of lies, misrepresentation and distortion of the truth. Hereafter the station of the Military Government would broadcast the whole truth in news, facts, announcements and instructions to the German people. New courage and new hope for a greater France and a union of nations will be brought to the French Allies in place of the earlier deliberate lies and poison purveyed under Nazi inspiration and by treacherous Frenchmen. The station will also be the friend and counsellor of hundreds of thousands of deportees, will be a connecting link with their homeland, will give them news, music and advice, will raise their morale, while M.G. will use every means to return them home. Radio Stuttgart will try to serve all those who tune in on it and to efface the memory of its previous false role.

6. BOOKS AND PUBLISHING

STUTTGART: Only 10 publishing houses survived the bombings of STUTTGART, fifth largest publishing city in Germany. Of the more than 100 book stores, only 16 have thus far been reported in operating condition. There are few books in the city at present. Certain publishers are capable of producing books within a short time, but there is uncertainty as to which army they will have to deal with finally. Lists of publishers still capable of operating are available.

KASSEL: The complete devastation of the business center of KASSEL has left almost every publishing house or book store, as well as libraries, either partially damaged or completely destroyed. Of the 36 printers listed in the 1942 Addressbuch des deutschen Buchhandels,

only 9 have filed with M.G. for permission to reopen. Of more than 50 book stores, only 12 have applied. Most of the printers have applied for job work and all book stores wish to sell out their small remaining stocks. Two printers were refused permission to operate because 6871st DISCC Press Team has requisitioned essential equipment. Remaining printers will be allowed to reopen for job work on receipt of clearance from higher Headquarters.

Damage is so great that only job work can be done. The sole exception is Baerenreiter Verlag, owned by Karl VOETTERLE, which escaped damage because it was on the outskirts of the city. Electricity is still lacking there. This firm specialized in musical and clerical publishing and possesses ample paper and ink stocks. The plant is available for color printing. Printing at the Wehrmacht Kommando could be resumed after a month of repair work. One book-binding plant and photography laboratory, owned by HENSCHEL & Son, located about 30 km. from ASSEL, is available for use. Book-binding lots of 3,000 - 5,000 can be produced immediately and even more is possible with increased personnel.

HEIDELBERG: Some disinclination for political or economic books is reported from HEIDELBERG. Preference has been expressed for volumes on history, the arts, religion and historical novels. This undamaged university town contains 10 book stores and lending libraries, whose business is limited only by the shortage of books. Few Party-sponsored books were found in the shops, for it appears that the only Party requirement for a book here was a Foreword signed by a member of the Education board and a swastika. Most of the books are classical, scientific, pre-1932 works, or heavily romantic novels. Only two of the publishers are capable of large-scale printing. Winter Verlag, at present without owner, is a noted publisher of university text books, and has a stock of 50,000 books, mostly pre-1932, scientific texts or reprints. Though there are personnel shortages, the plant is now capable of producing lots of 5,000 books with the present personnel of 50. Gutenberg Druckerei can produce a greater variety of printed matter more .easily, if personnel deficiencies are made up. Some of the printing houses had been reduced or pushed out by Party pressure.

BROADCASTS OF OUR RUSSIAN ALLIES TO AND ABOUT GERMANY

THE MAIN THEMES

Material used in the output to Germany by Radio Moscow and Radio Berlin has adopted a strong political reorientation note, concentrating on discrediting Nazi leadership and its backing, and on the fact that only hard work, eradication of Nazism and collaboration with the occupying forces can lead to rehabilitation of Germany. Topics on reconstruction continued to dominate (practically identical with our line). The Soviet slogan "All that matters is work and reconstruction" gives the newly-announced compulsory labor service its "raison d'etre".

Within the political re-education campaign, German farmers were given special attention and addressed in several talks as HITLER's "most wronged victims". These talks, describing his hardships under the Nazis, emphasize that the farmer now gladly does his share in reconstruction and welcomes the abolition of Nazi restrictions. Although "national requirements" impose surrender of certain amount of produce, the farmer may, at least, once more sell his surplus on the open market and be master of his own house.

Another step toward organizing the anti-Nazi elements among the Germans was the rally that took place in BERLIN's Concert Hall of the Funkhaus for the benefit of all victims of Nazism. The rally included a concert and speeches by Dr WERNER, Oberbuergermeister of BERLIN; Ottomar GESCHKE, head of the Department for Social Velfare; and liberated political prisoners. The rally expressed the will of all present to take an active part in the reconstruction of BERLIN and to secure for the German people a happy future by eradicating all traces of Nazism and Prussian militarism.

The war criminal theme continued to be played, with stress on the guilt of armament industriclists and bankers. Nazi leaders are being accused of having worked hand in hand with the plutocrats — whom they were supposedly fighting in order to enrich themselves at the cost of the German people. Industrial magnates "regarded the war as a profitable undertaking", the profits of which went into the pockets of captains of industry and Nazi chiefs.

The Berlin Radio, in a talk analyzing "the complete enslavement of the workers by the HITLER plutocrats", said:

"In order to disguise their own reactionary gangsterism, the HITLER Fascists accused Britain and the U.S.A. of having a plutocratic regime. But in Britain and U.S.A. there exists elementary democratic freedom; workers and employees have trade unions; there are workers' parties and there is a parliament, while in Germany under the HITLER regime all these were destroyed."

CULTURAL ACTIVITY AND ENTERTAINMENT IN BERLIN

According to Soviet Radio, the Soviet Military Commandant's offices in BERLIN, besides directing expanding economic activity and the restoration of municipal life, are also organizing cultural activity. It is being stressed that the main organizing initiatives come, in fact, from the Soviet Commandant's offices. Since the first conference of BERLIN artists on 14 May (see Summary # 34), another meeting of producers, actors, composers, musicians and artists has taken place. As yet, there have been no announcements concerning the vetting of such personnel.

Compiling news-items of the Moscow and Berlin Radios on the restoration and progress of cultural activity and entertainment, one comes to the conclusion that quite a lot has been accomplished in the weeks since BERLIN's occupation. More than 60 cinemas have been reopened, of which 36 alone are in CHARLOTTENBURG, a better-class residential and luxury shopping district comparable to LONDON's West End, and 19 in the Berlin Mitte (City) district. Among the films shown, we find the following:

VOLGA, VOLGA
RAINBOU!
LENIN IN OCTOBER
FOUR HEARTS
THE CIRCUS

ZOYA
PROFESSOR MANLOCK
GORKI
MY UNIVERSITIES
HURRICANE

SUNSHINE SERENADE

For the moment only Soviet and some U.S. films are being played, but it is being announced that German films approved by the authorities will be shortly released. Specific movie-houses listed as recently reopened are the "Schloss-Kino" with a scating capacity of 1,500 and the "Germania Lichtspiele" with 600 scats. Movie houses have reputedly been reopened in STETTIN, DRESDEN, ERESLAU, EBERSWAIDE and other towns.

Among the theaters, spared by the war, the Schiller Theater and the Operetta Theater are mentioned. The first BERLIN Music Hall opened in "Oberon Saal" at the Reichskanzlerplatz on Whit-Sunday. The director-manager of the Oberon Hall is the ex-film comedian PATASCHON of Pat and Pataschon, a slap-stick comedy team whose fame in Germany paralleled that of Charlie CHAPLIN or Harold LLOYD.

Personalities: The "Kabarett der Komiker" is to open under its old director Willi SCHAFFERS. The stage is being provisionally repaired and the roof was uncovered at some points so that sunlight may supplant the missing electric spotlighting.

Victor de KOVA, an actor and in pre-Hitler days a director of satirical, sophisticated avant guard revues, is working hard again on the production of a revue which is to have its first night shortly (de KOWA has been consistently reported as being anti-Nazi).

The orchestra of the Charlottenburg Opera has been playing to capacity in the concert hall of the "Funkhaus" (Radio building) am Kaiserdam (seating capacity 1,500). Leopold LUDWIG conducted. On the program were TCHAIKOVSKY, BORODIN and STRAUSS. At the concert for victims of Fascism on 3 June, Leopold LUDWIG conducted the "Grosses Berliner Rundfunkorchester, playing HANDEL, BACH, BEETHOWN, MOZART and VERDI.

Jazz: A woman singer who had been banned by the Nazis, when interviewed on the Berlin Radio, explained that the decree banning her from the German stage condemned particularly her leanings toward the "Anglo-U.S. style". After this introduction she sang to modern jazz music. SACCI, the "master Hawaiian-guitar player", now performing in a BERLIN cabaret show, played a selection of swing tunes.

Newspapers: The Taegliche Rundschau (see Summary π^2 36) had in its opening stages an edition exceeding 80,000 copies. As of 21 May, another paper is reported to have begun publication in BERLIN under the name of Berliner Zeitung.

Radio: Berlin Radio made a fresh appeal for Nazi-banned books, gramophone records and sheet music to be used in the programming of the station. The appeal for literature included the following Russian authors: TOLSTOY, DOSTOEVSKI, PUSHKIN, GOGOL, LERMONTOV, TURGENIEV, GORKI, DYNOV, ARCHIPENKO, etc. As to the German authors, works of: Heinrich and Thomas MANN, Kurt TUCHOLSKY, NEUMANN, Leonhard and Bruno FRANK, Carl von OSSIETZKY and Werner FINK were asked. Sheet music by MENDELSSOHN-BARTHOLDY, MEYERBEER, MOSZKOOSKY, OFFENBACH, Leo FALL, HEIMANN, ABRAHAM and other hitherto boycotted composers was needed.

ROBERT A. McCLURE, Brigadier General, G.S.C.,

Chief, Psycholo ical warfare Division

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