WMRMACHT MORATE.

M ANOWITZ (This report covers material received by PWD, S.H.A.E.F. during the period 28 July to 4 August 1944).

1. GUNERAL.

Reports dealing with prisoners taken up to the time of the recent breakthrough indicate that the previously reported level of pessimism (less than a quarter expect German victory) remains about constant. A minority persists in its attitude that the Allies have been allowed to walk into a trap in which they will be the victims of new weapons.

Paratroopers appear to have the best morale although they seem to be lower in physical standard than paratroopers taken in Italy and Sicily.

2. REACTION TO ATTEMPTED ASSASSINATION OF HITLER.

Almost all of the Ps/W captured after the attemption Mitler's life knew at least something about the effair. The bulk of Ps/W interrogated after the announcement of the attempted assassination of Hitler reveal that they learned of the matter through brief, formal statements from their officers who did not reveal the conflict between Mitler and the Army. Other Ps/W, especially those in forward positions, were told by their comrades; a minority was informed of the crisis through FWD leaflets.

In general, it appears that to date the announcement of the attempted assassination has not caused any significant lowering of German morale. majority of the Ps/W, either because of lack of specific information or became of general indifference towards political matters, express no strong reactions in either direction. They believe that the war would continue if Mitler were Successors named were both Goering and, to a lesser extent, Himmler. Many of the Ps/W who expressed such attitudes thought that the conspirators were malcontents or self-seekers. The minority of extreme defeatists and outspoken anti-Nazis expressed a genuine regret that the attempt had failed since they believed it might have ended the war. The minority of intensely Loyal Nazis were shocked and angry that Wehrmacht officers participate in such a conspiracy when fighting at the front was so critical. They bolieved that these officers had little following in the Army and that the efficient Himmler would root but dissenters very quickly.

The widespread feeling of alcofness towards the whole affair may be a ? of a lack of exact information as to what took place.

3. FEAR OF ILL TREATMENT AS P/W.

There is no indication of a growth of fear of ill treatment as a P/W. Howa Ps/ report more frequently that their officers are spreading stories that the mistreat Ps/W. Such statements are most frequently made to 33 and paratroop was In this connection interrogations continue to reveal stories that officers and m coms in certain sectors threaten to shoot soldiers who attempt to desert or proto join battle with the Allies. Threats of reprisals against relatives at also reported in some instances.

In general, deserters emphasize the great difficulty of desertion due risk of being shot either by Allied troops or by their own soldiers. In opinion of the Ps/W the most effective way to come over to the Allies is to stay in a foxhole or to hide in a barn while awaiting the arrival of a troops. The increasing fluidity of the front will assist the would-be



TIMOM . CARL terror A of all a to be mires out within -waste datager edd in oath od of on noted premount dilw talloss afrocala mail evel a mainiance in level betaccer plancivers end that administ a indeptr expect Corden victory) receive about constant. A shortag paratate in the athibus the the illian been allowed be welk into a trap in which . Enogace were to beisbir out of Live destroyment amount to have the best morals although they nown to be lower in significal atomics than perstrongers taken in Italy and stelly. In werd old a radial mosiquetta att ratio berutus the list in the second leget sorphism about the affile. The bolk of is/ interrogated after has defined up a fact feever refatt) to not finishes a bedieved and to incommon the of the catter through eriof, formal eletempts from bisir effects and catter of the confiled between ditlor and the Arry. Ther is a substitute between ditlor and the Arry. to derivered nearly new told by their concedes; a characty was inference of the critical through two loadlets. In general, it appears that to date the escoupensate of the stammind or an example. multinest morde on acordat product labilities chrowd compatible foreign M come realists at mentione after age old does would enter the addition and illied. Exceedance mared were both coering and, to a leader estadt, disaler: this of the last who expressed good attitudes the wist that the constitutions age elemberts or solf-escion. The circuity of extreme detootists and published bless lago givenotat to with his eff . now out bedge evad into it bevolted to continue of the control of the co .visions volv enterest. . work of expect information as to wint a to a There is no indication of a growth of four of ill treatment on a least the class of a contract that that the contract of a contract that the contract the contract that the contract the contract the contract that the contract the contract the contract that the contract that the contract the contract that the contract the contract that the contract the contract the contract that the contract the contract the contract that the contract that the contract the contract the contract that the contract the contract the contract the contract that the contract the contra to southeles their delines also transfer of reactions and the elitate and a . or om feat once at Dairoses ogla to concept, describe explantive the great off finalty of describe the visit of being shot wither by Allied troops or by their our soldiers. It couldn't the relation of the file of the soldier of the file of the soldier of the soldier of the soldier of the soldiers. The increasing fluidity of the iron will nested the sould-be two could-be the sould-be to the sould-be of the file of the iron file and file sould-be of the file of the sould-be of the s

4. ATTITUDE TOWARDS OFFICERS.

Frequent changes in Battalion and Regimental Commands are reported by many Ps/W. Likewise an absolute shortage of officers has appeared in certain sectors during recent weeks according to Ps/W. These two factors, when taken in conjunction with statements that many officers are shirking responsibility may indicate that officers are increasingly failing in the maintenance of troop morsle.

Enlisted men on the whole view the substitution of the Nazi for the traditional Wehrmacht salute as another Army order and did not ascribe to it any particular significance. However, many of the interrogated German officers expressed a distaste for giving the Hitler salute and felt that it was additional evidence that the SS and the Party were taking over control of the Army.

5. Indications of dissatisfaction among troops because of failure to be relieved have been reported. In many cases the soldiers blame their Commanding Officer for the failure to be relieved. An outstanding example of such a situation reported on 27 July, is the 17th SS Division where the troops claim that the Divisional Commander stated that their outfit would not be relieved since they had not been in the line long enough. They had already been in the line since the beginning of the invasion and had suffered losses up to 50%.

6. ATTITUDE TOWARDS NAZISM.

There has been an increase in attempts by Ps/W to disassociate themselves from Nazi policy and the Nazi party. There is likewise an increase in the tendency to state that they only joined the Party in order to keep their job. Although such expressions usually represent attempts by the Ps/W to ingratiate themselves with their captors, the present increase in this sentiment, if persistent, must be considered as manifestation of pessimism about the outcome of the wer, as well as a fear of Allied vangeance. Among many non-political derman soldiers the fear of being treated as Nazis by the Allies acts as a powerful deterrent to surrender.

7. It appears that faith in the secret weapon continues to decline. The statement that a secret weapon which is supposed to have a decisive military effect would not be called a Vergeltgungwaffe (a weapon of retaliation) has become quite widespread. "WENN DAS WIRKLICH LIND WIRKSAME WAFFE WARRE WEADON DIE SIE DOCH NICHT VERGELTUNGSWAFFE NEWNEN, DAS KLINGT DOCH SO KLEINLICH". (If that would be a decisive weapon they would not call it a weapon of retaliation. That sounds to petty).

LEASTER TOWNER OF THE ALL AND THE PARTY OF T

inequant charges an absolute and haghmental Casamda are reported by adopting that Information and contain about the fall. These two factors, when token according to Fall. These two factors, when token the continuous states are shirted responsibility in that of the states are increased to the maintenance of troop are less that of the maintenance of troop are less that of the maintenance of troop are less than the maintenance of troops are less than the maintenance of the maintenance of troops are less than the maintenance of the ma

the design was all the model of the selection and the selection of the sel

boyelier of of english to sement enough troops because of failure to semidantical to antident of the properties of semigraters the soldiers blams their chart constant of the properties of the failure to be relieved. As soldiers and the semigrater the failure to be trained the first the first the first the failure the failure the failure the failure the beginning in the first the failure the beginning in the first the failure the beginning in the failure the beginning in the failure the beginning in the failure the failure the beginning in the failure the beginning in the failure the failure the failure the beginning in the failure the failure the beginning in the failure the failur

. MITTAIN POSSESS SUPPRISON .

remained end the secretary of the secretary. There is likewise as increased and the read end of the secretary is the form. There is likewise as increased the foliar test to see the secretary to the foliar that the secretary is the secretary of the foliar that the secretary the secretary that the secretary the foliar that the secretary the foliar that the foliar that the foliar the fear the fea

-chate will .entions of neuralinoo morphs former and at distinct their encount it would be some a second and distinct a second a second as dealers to measure the second as the second a