

return to Morris

SECRET

Copy No. 3

Report No. 6

II-4A

MORALE OF THE WEHRMACHT
Trends in German Prisoner Attitudes

M

JANOWITZ

SECRET

S U R V E Y S
Intelligence Section
Psychological Warfare Division

SUPREME HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED EXPEDITIONARY FORCE

August 7, 1944

done

~~SECRET~~

Code No. 3
Report No. 6

~~STUDY~~ M

~~REPORT OF THE MEXICAN~~
~~TELEGRAMS IN GERMAN PLANE AND AIRFIELD~~

~~SECRET~~

S U R V E Y S
Intelligence Section
Psychological Warfare Division

SPRING HARBORERS
ALLIED INFORMATION FORUM

April 7, 1945

M
MORALE OF THE GERMAN WEHRMACHT
JANOWITZ

Objective This study was undertaken to reveal directives for guidance in preparing leaflets, radio programs, and other types of psychological warfare intended for German troops and civilians.

Method Four batches of German prisoners-of-war, assembled in groups, at the Bourton cage were administered written questionnaires. The first group was interrogated July 9; the most recent August 3. Prisoners were asked to fill out answers to questions appearing on formal schedules, and were assured that their responses were strictly anonymous. Results obtained from these groups were compared not only with each other, but with earlier findings obtained from similar interrogation of prisoners in the Italian theatre.*

Conclusions and Recommendations:

- (1) 1. There has been a definite and precipitate lowering of German troop morale in terms of such measures as their willingness to continue fighting, their confidence in ultimate victory, and their trust in Hitler. Our propaganda should take advantage of these trends in every way possible.
- (1) 2. The decline is particularly notable since it occurs among the younger prisoners, hitherto the hard core of Nazi fanaticism, as well as among those over 30.
3. A significant observation is the fact that the support for the officers who attempted to kill Hitler was much higher among the most recent batch of prisoners. This group heard of the putsch before their capture, while the prisoners interviewed July 28, heard of it in captivity. This suggests that the effect of the plot on the soldiers in the line must have been very strong. It suggests also that the theme of the putsch should be kept alive and played up in psychological warfare in anticipation of further defections.
5. Despite the evidences of deteriorating morale on other factors, confidence in commanding officers and NCO's remains high. Attempts to drive a wedge between officers and men would appear to be doomed to failure, and probably should not be attempted at this stage.

* These procedures were first employed in Italy by Captain Martin F. Herz, PWB, 5th Army.

STIMONIAL M

THOMAS NEW HAMPSHIRE SENT TO LIAISON

Definitions
Definitions relating to certain terms used in this Act shall have the following meanings:

more regular and more continuous. The first period of development is characterized by a series of small, irregular, rounded, and somewhat irregularly arranged nodules, which are often confluent and form larger, more or less rounded, and somewhat irregular masses. These nodules are usually white or yellowish-white, and may be either solid or hollow, containing a fluid or a soft, gelatinous substance. They are often surrounded by a thin, transparent membrane, which may be easily ruptured, causing the release of a fluid or a soft, gelatinous substance. The second period of development is characterized by a series of larger, more regular, and more continuous nodules, which are usually white or yellowish-white, and may be either solid or hollow, containing a fluid or a soft, gelatinous substance. These nodules are often surrounded by a thin, transparent membrane, which may be easily ruptured, causing the release of a fluid or a soft, gelatinous substance.

Comments and
Contributions

as well as some fine over 30. longer periods between, and
most of them to one kind of bird or
group of birds. The first is the
most numerous and most varied.

enf flesqua ent fadit fent ent al nofjevredoo fneltingie A
enf gema gema feflign down ege heifit lliid of bejquofje ods aefcille
deafusq ent lo bused quodg ent . gnefesirg lo nofjev fncos fcam
-89 vist bewelvienjne fncosnent pliconien ent elius , enf feflign
ent lo foelle ent fadit afzegqua ent . gnfivijqdo ni fi lo bused
fi . gnoi fte rev head evan fcam ent lii ent ni exibition ent no fefiq
evlii feflign ed blisoda donjusq ent lo ement ent fadit cana afzegqua
-ni lo nofjevholfus ni exifinw fncosfodoo ni qu bejquofje
-enf deafeleb tent

... ja. Agin enamej a'OM has a'recille gribusmoo ni esnebilmo
meqqa bisow nem has a'recille neewted egbew a evib ej qas
befomejja ed ten blued yidaaq has ,emilist or bamech ed ej
.egyja sinj ja

MORALE OF GERMAN PRISONERS HAS DROPPED DECISIVELY* . . .

From July 28 to August 3, a marked drop in morale was found on several different issues:

	<u>July 28</u>	<u>Aug. 3</u>
Proportion believing that it is still possible to drive the Allies from France	45%	16%
Proportion who would have preferred to continue fighting when captured	39%	16%
Proportion on Hitler's side in the recent putsch	39%	16%
Proportion believing Germany will win the war . .	32%	6%
Total number of prisoners	100	165

Confidence in Hitler also fell off decidedly, as indicated in the figures below:

	<u>March**</u>	<u>July 9</u>	<u>July 21</u>	<u>Aug. 3</u>
Proportion placing "their trust in the Führer".	82%	67%	57%	36%
Total number of prisoners	311	363	155	165

THE DECLINE HAS BEEN PARTICULARLY GREAT AMONG THE YOUNGER PRISONERS*** . . .

The group 30 years and less was always higher in morale and is still higher than the older men. Nevertheless, it would appear that the gap between the age groups is rapidly narrowing.

	<u>30 and under</u>		<u>Over 30</u>	
	<u>July 28</u>	<u>Aug. 3</u>	<u>July 28</u>	<u>Aug. 3</u>
Proportion believing it is still possible to drive the Allies out of France	61%	25%	19%	1%
Proportion who would have preferred to continue fighting when captured	54%	22%	10%	9%
Proportion on Hitler's side in the recent putsch	53%	37%	19%	13%
Proportion believing Germany will win the war	48%	6%	6%	1%
Total number of prisoners	61	95	31	70

* See Appendix I for complete figures and questions asked.

** High point in morale based on interrogation in Italian theatre.

*** See Appendix II for complete figures and questions asked.

... «УДИВИТЕЛЬНОЕ СОЧЕТАНИЕ ГАН СИМСАРЧЕ СЕМЬЮН'Ю ВЛАДОМ

The following table gives the results of the experiments made at the Bureau of Fisheries, Seattle, Washington, during the period from January 1 to December 31, 1903.

1. 3000 85 VUL

125	100	1st Quarter of Dissemination	100	Dissemination of German wills in the U.S.
126	100	1st Quarter of Dissemination	100	Dissemination of German wills in the U.S.
127	100	1st Quarter of Dissemination	100	Dissemination of German wills in the U.S.
128	100	1st Quarter of Dissemination	100	Dissemination of German wills in the U.S.
129	100	1st Quarter of Dissemination	100	Dissemination of German wills in the U.S.

sewugit edj ni bezaobui es „libebissh tho lisei osis reishn ni eonebilne
twoedlne petho

..... "Talibat" nishtoq qayyim qayyim qayyim qayyim qayyim qayyim
..... "Talibat" nishtoq qayyim qayyim qayyim qayyim qayyim qayyim

** * * * * CHART THAT YOUNG PEOPLE PRINCIPALLY USE IN LEARNING HAS BEEN DRAWN

at has arisen in regard to some new uses for which it is now being applied. Many new uses have been found for the product.

July 28 AM 1936 Serial No. 30

RI	ROI	RCS	RCD	.....	sidisseq liite si fi gaivailed noijqoqoq sonar' lo jwo seilia enj evib of
RI	ROI	RSS	RSC	.....	of betzleloq evan blow oow noijqoqoq betzfqao new yunifqil sunfus
REI	ROI	RSE	RSC	.....	stnecst enj enj abis a Hifiz' no noijqoqoq noafuq
RI	RQ	RQ	RQA	.....	enj niv liiw qanavilid noijqoqoq maw
OI	IE	IE	IO	.....	siencsing lo redsun lajot

•beles enoīseup has sewzil eteīqmoz tol I xibneqqa ee2
•etseidt naliit ni noītagorietst no bessd eliom at ūnloq digil
•beles enoīseup has sewzil eteīqmoz tol II xibneqqa ee2

TRENDS ARE APPARENT EVEN IN CLOSELY MATCHED GROUPS . . .

It must be remembered that the groups of prisoners interrogated at different times usually differ in ways which may make dependence on the reliability of such differences tenuous. The July 28 and August 3 groups differed in the following ways:

1. Interval between capture and interrogation.
The July 28th group was questioned about 3 weeks after capture; the August 3rd group was interrogated about 1 week after capture.
2. Previous interrogation.
The July 28th group had been interrogated before; the August 3rd group had not been interviewed previously.
3. Proportion of N.C.O.'s.
The July 28th group was made up of approximately half N.C.O.'s; the August 3rd group was made up entirely of privates.
4. Fighting units.
The July 28th group was made up of 66% combatant troops; the August 3rd group was 87% combatant troops.
5. Proportion of Reichsdeutsche.
The July 28th group included 69% Reichsdeutsche, and 16% whose origin was unknown; the August 3rd group was composed entirely of Reichsdeutsche.

In view of these differences, steps were taken to verify the drop in morale in fairly comparable groups. It was possible to match 46 cases on the basis of age, type of unit, and place of origin. Although the groups are small, figures are shown in percentages for comparison purposes. It is significant that the downward trend in morale is almost as striking in these matched cases as in the unmatched comparisons.

	Matched groups	
	July 28	Aug. 3
Proportion believing that it is still possible to drive the Allies from France	63%	26%
Proportion who would have preferred to continue fighting when captured	57%	22%
Proportion on Hitler's side in the recent putsch . . .	57%	35%
Proportion believing Germany will win the war . . .	43%	9%
Total number of prisoners	46	46

90% of 46 means 4.2
people
hardly a "result"

. . . TURNED ARE VARIOUS PLANS IN CROSSING MOUNTAIN GROUPS . . .

turner's to be adopted in crossing the range of mountains is that of the mountainous part of the country. It is the highest point of the range, and the most difficult to pass through. The mountainous part of the range is the most difficult to pass through, and the most difficult to cross.

1. Interlacy between roads and intermountain passes.
The July 1869 report was submitted by Mr. W. H. Miller, who had been engaged in surveying the mountain range from the time of the first survey.

2. River crossings.
The July 1869 report had been submitted by Mr. W. H. Miller, who had been engaged in surveying the mountain range from the time of the first survey.

3. O.C.M. to Mountain passes.
The July 1869 report was submitted by Mr. W. H. Miller, who had been engaged in surveying the mountain range from the time of the first survey.

4. Mountain passes.
The July 1869 report was submitted by Mr. W. H. Miller, who had been engaged in surveying the mountain range from the time of the first survey.

5. Mountain passes.
The July 1869 report was submitted by Mr. W. H. Miller, who had been engaged in surveying the mountain range from the time of the first survey.

list of roads and paths of various kinds which lead to the mountainous parts of the country. It is the highest point of the range, and the most difficult to pass through. The mountainous part of the range is the most difficult to pass through, and the most difficult to cross.

Mountain passes.

July 1869

22	22	of old roads leading to the mountainous parts of the country.
22	22	of old roads leading to the mountainous parts of the country.
22	22	of old roads leading to the mountainous parts of the country.
22	22	of old roads leading to the mountainous parts of the country.
22	22	of old roads leading to the mountainous parts of the country.

BUT CONFIDENCE IN OFFICERS AND NCO'S REMAINS HIGH* . . .

With all the evidence pointing to lowered morale in the Wehrmacht, there are no signs that German prisoners are increasingly dissatisfied with their officers. Prisoners were asked:

"Was your former company leader the kind of man who risked his men's lives to hold a position or was he more inclined to lay down arms to spare lives?"

26% of the July 28 group, and only
18% of the Aug. 3 group, said that their commanding officer was inclined to risk lives to hold a position.

And the majority of men said that they agreed with their commanding officer's policy:

55% of the July 28th group, and
59% of the Aug. 3 group thought that their commanding officers had the right idea, regardless of which stand they thought he took.

Furthermore, 53 per cent of the second group said they had confidence in their immediate superior officers. And there were only small age differences in attitudes toward officers. Even the usually low-morale older men were quite favorably disposed toward their officers in the second group.

	Interviewed August 3	
	30 and under	Over 30
Proportion agreeing with commanding officer's policy toward risking or saving human lives	61%	57%
Proportion having full confidence in their immediate officers	59%	46%
Total number of prisoners . . .	95	70

Propaganda attempting to estrange men from officers is not likely to be successful when the general level of confidence in officers is so high throughout all age groups in the Wehrmacht. Furthermore, it has not dropped with the general drop in morale on other issues.

* See Appendix III for full figures and questions asked.

With the German blockade well set up, prisoners were sent in to reinforce the fortifications, and the garrison was increased to 10,000 men.

"...as we have been told by the author of the book of Leviticus, who says that the priest must wash his hands before offering sacrifice."

Yino has ,quora 28 yest edj te 28
-illo yathusmoo ziedt fadz bise ,quora 28 yest te 28
.neitiseq a bled of sevii kah et beniloni oot ame oot

And the majority of men have their best commanding officer's policies.

bas, quoit tigot edt lo ~~XX~~
gatibusmos uient tadt tigotis quoit ~~E~~, gat edt lo ~~XX~~
do haw lo aselbiger, sebi tigot edt bas specifie
, quoit edt tigotis veit banje

ni conoscenze basi per una guida buona ed è per noi, come è possibile, di utilizzare le stesse norme che sono state stabilite per la nostra città. Abbiamo quindi deciso di non far nulla per modificare le norme esistenti.

Eigentum bewohnter

12	12	... . . . . .	Проверка на наличие влаги в сенаже
12	12	... . . . . .	Проверка на наличие влаги в сенаже
10	10	... . . . . .	Проверка на наличие влаги в сенаже

Jon si atescitlo moti nem egastras et gaitqmetta abnagqset p
conchilios le level latenez ent nemw Lelaseccwa ed et yixi
-mew ent ni aqwez ega lis zwodzowin digid os si atescitlo ni
qrib Latenez ent djiw beqqotb Jon emd ti , tibosm
, nenzai oqjek no elietom ni

APPENDIX I

Trends in Morale of the Wehrmacht

Date of poll:	Nov. 1943 After Ger- man retreat up to Cassino (low point in Italian morale)	March 1944 Anzio and Cassino during at- trition war- fare (high point in Ital. morale)	July 9 Cherbourg	July 21 Carentan	July 28 American sector	August 3 St. Lo
			June 26-28	July 1 - 17	July 1 - 13	Date of capture July 27
Places his trust in the Führer	Yes No N.A.	57% 36 7	82% 12 6	67% 18 15	57% 27 16	--% -- --
Would have preferred to continue fighting	Yes No N.A.	42% 50 8	66% 25 9	24% 59 17	30% 67 3	39% 42 19
Believes Allies can be driven out of Italy (France)	Yes No N.A.	-- -- --	54% 33 13	42% 38 20	37% 49 14	45% 33 22
Believes in secret weapon (other secret weapons)	Yes No N.A.	42% 47 11	72% 19 9	37% 35 29	44% 37 19	-- -- --
Believes in German victory	Yes No N.A.	--% -- --	--% -- --	--% -- --	--% -- --	32% 14 54
Plot of the officers	for Hitler for plotters N.A.	--% -- --	--% -- --	--% -- --	--% -- --	39% 21 26
Agrees with company commander on degree of resistance	Agrees Disagrees N.A.	--% -- --	--% -- --	--% -- --	--% -- --	56% 12 32
Number of prisoners	Not ascertainable	311	363	155	100	165

ХІДИЯТ

triangular edge to a triangle in another

APPENDIX II

Trends in Morale in Different Age Groups

		30 and under		Over 30		Total	
		July 28	Aug. 3	July 28	Aug. 3	July 28	Aug. 3
1.	Do you believe that it is still possible to drive the Allies from France?	Yes	61%	25%	19%	1%	45% 16%
		No	23	59	55	70	33 63
		No answer	16	16	26	29	22 21
2.	When captured, would you have preferred to con- tinue fighting?	Yes	54%	22%	10%	9%	39% 16%
		No	28	70	77	86	42 77
		No answer	18	8	13	5	19 7
3.	Are you yourself for the officers who planned the attempt (on Hitler's life) or for Hitler?	Hitler	53%	37%	19%	13%	39% 27%
		Officers	13	38	39	49	21 42
		No answer	34	25	42	38	26 31
4.	Do you believe that Germany will win?	Yes	48%	6%	6%	1%	32% 4%
		Doubt	33	64	48	52	35 58
		No	8	21	26	30	14 26
		No answer	11	9	20	17	19 12
	Total number		61	95	31	70	100 165

II КІДИМЧА

equally interesting at elevations above

APPENDIX III

Attitude Toward Officers

	30 and under		Over 30		Total	
	July 28	Aug. 3	July 28	Aug. 3	July 28	Aug. 3
Was your former company leader a man who risked the lives of his men to hold a position or was he inclined to cease fighting in order to save human lives?	Risked lives	33%	21%	16%	13%	26% 18%
	Saved lives	36	68	55	64	39 67
	No answer	31	11	29	23	35 15
In your opinion, was he right?	Right	57%	61%	56%	57%	56% 59%
	Wrong	7	23	22	14	12 19
	No answer	36	16	22	29	32 21
Did you have confidence in your immediate superior? (not asked July 28)	Full confidence		59%		46%	53%
	Doubt		26		32	28
	No confidence		9		11	11
	No answer		6		11	8
Total number	61	95	31	70	100	165

III XIX

stocitiq bimb abutitka

EXPOSURE TO ALLIED LEAFLETS

Date of Capture	Place of Capture	Percent who saw leaflets	Total Number of PwI	Percent belie ving contents o f leaflets (Based on number who saw leaflets)
June 26 - 28	Cherbourg	77	363	
July 1 - 17	From Garenton to St. Lo	69 }	155	
July 26 - 27	St. Lo	64 } 76	165	76
Aug 1 - 10	From St. Malo to Le Mans	24	160	37
Sept	Western Front	50	634	45
Oct 15 - 19	Aachen	64	603	65
Early Nov	1st U.S. Army Front	80	515	
Dec 15 - 31	1, 3, 9, US Army Fronts	66	108	78
Jan 1-31	"	69	512	75
Feb 1 - 26	"	87	528	72
March 1 - 15	"	90	110	79

STANDARD CELLS OF HYDROGEN

Hydrogen cells
for compensation
of temperature
and pressure
variations

7001 Hydrogen
cells

Hydrogen and
gas insulation

Cells to contain

Cells to contain

25	225	11	Chromic acid	85 - 16
25	225	12 { 13	Iron carbide of 85, 10	11 - 12
25	225	13 { 14	85, 10	11 - 12
25	225	14 { 15	Iron carbide of 10, 90	11 - 12
25	225	15 { 16	1000 g. mass of the glass	10 - 11
25	225	16 { 17	Western House	9 - 10
25	225	17 { 18	"	8 - 9
25	225	18 { 19	Japan	600 12 - 13
25	225	19 { 20	U.S. Park Hotel	500 12 - 13
25	225	20 { 21	1000 g. mass of the glass	12 - 13
25	225	21 { 22	"	12 - 13
25	225	22 { 23	"	12 - 13
25	225	23 { 24	"	12 - 13
25	225	24 { 25	"	12 - 13
25	225	25 { 26	"	12 - 13
25	225	26 { 27	"	12 - 13
25	225	27 { 28	"	12 - 13
25	225	28 { 29	"	12 - 13
25	225	29 { 30	"	12 - 13
25	225	30 { 31	"	12 - 13
25	225	31 { 32	"	12 - 13
25	225	32 { 33	"	12 - 13
25	225	33 { 34	"	12 - 13
25	225	34 { 35	"	12 - 13
25	225	35 { 36	"	12 - 13
25	225	36 { 37	"	12 - 13
25	225	37 { 38	"	12 - 13
25	225	38 { 39	"	12 - 13
25	225	39 { 40	"	12 - 13