A. OCCUPIED AREAS

The Problem of Dislocation

Nearly all the immediately pressing problems of administering the newly occupied areas are due directly to the fact that few places and people are where they were, or do what they did before the war. Everywhere in these areas the fact of dislocation dominates the surface of life. Its most obvious manifestations are the extent of physical destruction and number of displaced persons (an ambiguous phrase which includes both Germans displaced from their normal residence, and foreign workers of all nationalities).

Physical Destruction: No overall estimate of destruction in occupied Germany is yet available, but the general pattern is fairly clear. In most key cities the tentative official estimate of destruction is higher than 75%. (All such figures should be treated with caution unless the basis for the estimate is given). While the larger cities are almost completely destroyed, the smaller outlying communities are relatively intact. The city of SANKTREMIKEN, for example, is estimated to be over 90% destroyed; in the Landkreis surrounding the city, however, damage is very slight. The same is true of FRANKFURT and KIEL, in each of which destruction is estimated at 80% or more. Within the cities it is mainly the "Hausenstadt" which has been levelled, while some part of the outlying residential area usually remains. (This area is usually occupied by Allied troops). Since the metropolitan areas destroyed include not only the homes and shops, but also the main public services, there are very few cities in which any of the three main utilities - gas, water, electricity - are still functioning. Few cities have all three functioning everywhere at the same time.

Displaced Persons: There is a danger that the present condition of foreign workers in Germany may become a cause célèbre. The sheer numbers of foreign workers, and their apparently uncontrollable movement along every highway and byway of Germany, is staggering to the eye and may lead to indignation and criticism which is not entirely justified. From the long-range point of view, the displacement of German nationals may well turn out to be the more serious occupational problem. Several estimates place the number of foreign workers now absent in areas occupied by Allied troops at approximately 1 million. Until registration is completed there can be no certainty regarding exact numbers, which are rapidly changing in any case. However, in every city and town, and especially on the roads, foreign workers dominate the scene. Their living conditions are extremely bad for the most part, although there is some variation from one nationality to the other.

Allied authorities have not yet mastered the situation; they are barely keeping up with it. In a fast-moving tactical situation, such as that which has developed east of the Rhine, this is probably all that can be reasonably expected. There is no chaos, however, nor anywhere any visible prospect of chaos.

The Foreign Workers

Reporters in the field agree, almost without exception, that the tens of thousands of foreign workers liberated during recent weeks are hardly the lawless, revengeful mass one might have expected to find. A team of 9 U.S. Army interrogators concluded: "They are surprisingly cheerful, surprisingly orderly. Years of living in Germany and working"
under HITLER have left their impression even upon Europe's most unruly people. The French are docile, the Serbs are docile, the Russians are docile." A Russian major, War Correspondent for TASS, after lengthy conversations with displaced persons of various nationalities, summed up his impressions of their docility with "They are slaves. What have the Fritz done to their minds?"

It is not only the case that foreign workers continue to be docile toward their former German overlords, but, adding insult to injury, German civilians are frequently reported to act as if the liberation of the foreign workers had not taken place. Such Germans are either motivated by the fear of reprisals and therefore attempt to maintain some semblance of a superior position, or they still are not clear as to Allied intentions in regard to foreign workers. The incident between Germans and Russian workers in GIERSHEM provides an interesting case in point. Here a small group of Russian forced laborers were reported severely beaten and injured by German civilians. The outbreak of violence seems to have been caused by the distribution of a clothing ration to the Russian workers and not to the German population. The Russians had not been working for them since the Americans arrived and therefore they considered the distribution unjust.

The facts of the incident were made known to Allied authorities as the result of a Russian mass meeting. The Mayor of GIERSHEM was thereupon reminded that military government expects every German community to feed its foreign workers and to maintain law and order. In order to make this clear to the local population it was planned that a town crier be sent out to convince the people in the town hall, where the Mayor would explain the new status of the foreign workers.

At least one incident has been reported where German civilians are circulating rumors among foreign workers in order to keep them on German farms and assist in the spring planting. French FJ/W, while passing from NEمرة to ASWALD, report that they were continually told that Americans were gathering up all French FJ/W, assembling them in special centers such as GIERSHEM and FRANKFURT, giving them uniforms and equipment, and shipping them off immediately to the front. These French FJ/W report that they were told that they had better not be seen by the Americans because "you will be conscripted by the American Army at once, so stay on your farms and keep working."

In addition to the rumors they spread among the foreign workers, Germans have been trying to spread stories against the foreign workers among Allied officials. They tell wild tales, often exaggerated versions of second-hand rumors, about looting and violence by foreigners which often have no basis at all in fact. There is no question but that foreign workers have been doing a considerable amount of looting in Germany. This has invariably accompanied the joyous sense of holiday-making. The men head for the wine cellars, the waxen for the clothing shops, and both gather whatever food they can on the way. But the extent of looting can easily be exaggerated, however, for much of the loot attributed to foreigners is actually being carried on by the Germans themselves. In the destroyed areas of every city one sees German men and women carrying marketing bags filled with loot from the remains of other people's homes or shops.

Exaggerated indeed are the numerous tales being told by Germans of criminal acts against their compatriots committed by foreign workers on the loose. Every charge in the German "criminal code" from insincerity to multiple rape has been heard. There is little evidence to bear out these charges, except in such minor cases as that in FRANKFURT, where the Russians beat up a German assigned by the U.S. to guard a food warehouse. The surprising thing is not that the foreigners occasionally commit violence, but rather that the violence is so sporadic and limited. No case has yet been reported of a concerted outbreak by a large group of foreigners against
a German community — as might have been expected during the chaotic period in each town between the breakdown of German controls and the establishment of Allied controls.

The "Communications Vacuum"

The lack of reliable news is partly responsible for the spread of rumors and exaggerations among both the Germans and the foreigners. In most cities during the period just before and after the occupation there existed a serious "communications vacuum" during which people are entirely cut off from reliable news. During this period all sorts of stories get started, and to stop them requires considerable energy and ingenuity.

In every newly occupied area the Germans are news-hungry. Interrogators report, in fact, that the volume of requests for information is frequently greater than for any single material thing. It is clear why this should be so: for a large number of Germans there has been a complete blackout of news since the electric current was cut or the last edition of the local newspaper appeared. Information bureaus established by Allied authorities are usually delayed throughout their hours of business. People have been seen running two blocks to join a queue where Die Mittelungen was being distributed. The owner of a large industrial plant told one interrogator how his copy of Mittelungen was found by a chairwoman, who started it on a hand-to-hand circulation which covered the entire building.

The subjects which Germans are most interested in seem to differ comparatively little from town to town. Interrogators in FRANKFURT report that people are most concerned with news items in approximately the following order of importance:

(a) War news dealing strictly with the front in Germany itself and wherever the Wehrmacht is engaged
(b) Party news
(c) M.G. announcements and orders
(d) Local events
(e) News of former local Party leaders — how are they being dealt with?
(f) World events.

No great interest is manifested in domestic events in other parts of Germany; in Allied plans for occupation; and in social, cultural and technological questions.

Information Media At Work

In many of the new areas, and in most of the old, a real start has been made toward filling the "communications vacuum". Dissemination of news by sound trucks is at present proving helpful and is welcomed by the population. One factory head suggests that sound trucks should broadcast, from a hotel at the main street intersections and places where people stand in queues, and that instructions should be clear and in full detail with nothing left to the imagination of the listener.

Leaflets: The air raid of 16 March involved the dropping of large numbers of leaflets over FRANKFURT. These were avidly snapped up, even in the face of guards. Information in the leaflets with regard to the war situation filled a deep need, but perhaps the most dramatic effect was produced by the account of the shooting of the officers allegedly responsible for the failure of the demolition of the HEIDEN bridge over the Rhine. Most of the readers were pleased that Wehrmacht officers had the courage to acknowledge the futility of the situation, but were at the same time bitter at this indication of Nazi determination to carry on to the very end. Some others saw in this story another excuse for providing a myth to explain German defeats and the provision of yet another scapegoat. In general, the officers involved were regarded with admiration.
Radio: In FRANKFURT a/M a large proportion of the population seems to have listened to Allied stations. After the fall of STUTTGART listening has increased, especially among the upper middle-class. One interrogee offered the information that he has been listening to Soldier of the Free World since about that time. He is familiar with such personalities as Peter PIETZCHER, Peter ARNOLD and Erich HICKER on BBC, and a U.S. General speaking from Radio Luxembourg at 1900 hours. People are particularly interested in knowing specifically what towns have fallen, rather than over-all evaluations of the situation, since they are already well aware of its hopelessness. There is also much interest in the fate of the local Rosenberg and the history of their activities while they were in power. While there had been much suspicion about the corruption of these people concrete facts are now desired.

A sizeable number of people still listen to the German radio, partly out of sheer habit, partly because of the news vacuum which leads them to burn for any possible source, and partly because of the authoritative tone for which Germans appear to have a taste.

New Transmitters: Transmitters recently overrun include those for COLOGNE (actually situated at LONGENHEIM, some distance to the north-east of the city on the other side of the Rhine), STUTTGART (situated at MUEHLHEIM, half-way between STUTTGART and KARLSBAD), KOBLENZ, LEIPZIG, NUSSBAUM (situated at BREMEN, 10 miles to the north) and HANNOVER. Of these the STUTTGART and LEIPZIG once had fallen into Allied hands relatively intact. The same is true of KOBLENZ although the transmitter itself is only of low-power, some valuable accessories were found on the premises. The COLOGNE station, on the other hand, was completely demolished. Information about the condition of the NUSSBAUM and HANNOVER stations is not yet available.

The Revival of Free German Trade Unions

West of the Rhine, in areas which have been brought under control, interest in political and social problems of a more complex nature has increased to the fore. Under the mandate of General EISENHOWER's declaration that "the German workers will be allowed, as soon as conditions permit, to form democratic trade unions", 70 former German trade unionists in AACHEN and 100 in STUTTGART met recently to organize the first two branches of a new German trade union movement ("Freier Deutscher Gewerkschaftsbund").

On the basis of press reports in the Aachener Nachrichten and the Mittelbürger, it appears that organizational unity among all those who participated was set forth as a goal. In the STUTTGART meeting a note of "non culpa" was struck in the declaration that "the fate of the world against us is great, and for this we have the Nazis to thank!". However, "we will show the world that we are better than it thinks and that we want to aid in international understanding".

The AACHEN group issued a 12-point program which called for international trade union cooperation, re-education of the German youth, and continued "Battle against Prussian militarism and Fascism". More specifically, they pledged themselves to assist in the denazification of industry and government, the re-establishment of traditional trade union liberties and benefits (including a 46-hour work week and the re-establishment of 1 May as a holiday). Officials, members, and employees of the Nazi Party were specifically barred from leadership positions although the right to be members was granted them. The STUTTGART group demanded particularly that the destructive influence of the DAF be eliminated from German trade unionism.

It is interesting to note that in both meetings sensitivity over the use of forced labor in reconstruction was displayed. A resolution was passed by the AACHEN group which demanded that all officers and employees who were eliminated from public administration because of their Nazi
connections should not be allowed to remain idle, but should share in the reconstruction of the city of Aachen with pick-and-shovel. At the Storbund meeting, it was proposed that Nazis be made to work for the American army.

Similar activity is reported from Cologne. The leaders of the "Christliche Gewerkschaften" (Catholic), the "Sozial Demokratische Gewerkschaften" (Liberal), and the Communist Unions, are said to have met and decided to form a common front. A committee of 3 Germans approached the head of M.G. and submitted this plan, which was cordially received but rejected in view of the present ban on assemblies of more than 5 people. The committee was told that the time was not ripe for such an undertaking. The Social Democrats will abide by this decision, and the Catholic elements of the Zentrum are not dissatisfied because of their extremely strong representation in the administration. However, the Communists are not particularly pleased by this decision and remain active. In Lithuania, for instance, they have set up an administration of their own; have appointed a new Gauleiter, former Communist representative of the city of Cologne as Mayor; and have proceeded with the arrest of Nazi.

In general, the Social Democrats are concerned with the fact that Zentrum elements are occupying most of the official positions and are exerting pressure toward the inclusion of certain "Aussie Nazis" in the government as being "indispensable". A leader of this group states that many Nazis are trying to maintain close contact with the government, so that they may later be included in it by virtue of their knowledge of municipal affairs. The largely Zentrum administration is beginning to be accused by their political rivals of passing municipal offices with members of their Party and turning down the services of skilled non-Zentrum people. This is accomplished, they say, by the Nazi control of the administration. They charge that office, too, with responsibility for the labor shortage. Many people in possession of funds and food reserves refuse to accept manual work - because they can get along at present without working. It is felt that former Nazis, who are usually in the best position as Regards food and funds are particularly adept at avoiding work - with the passive acquiescence of their friends in the administration. The M.G. detachment in Cologne is aware of this problem and is planning adequate measures to solve it.

In the community of Nuremberg, the Communists produced a rather ingenious, if bold, device for providing labor. They obtained from the police chief of the 17th precinct a list of Nazis and then ordered them to work, filling craters in the fields, for which they were not paid. The Communists themselves pitch in to this work and although there was no legal justification for it, the Nazis did not dare quit.

B. EMPIRE AREA

Conditions in Berlin

A flood of reports from neutral correspondents gave a fairly vivid picture of conditions in Berlin as the Allies were approaching the Elbe and before the Russian offensive on the Oder had begun. Naturally, under these circumstances, the population were assuming that the British and Americans were likely to arrive first and the prospect was welcomed, not only by the middle-classes and intellectuals but even by some of the workers. Everyone, however, assumed that the Russians would have some share in the operation, even if they only entered to participate in the occupation. The alarm at this prospect was chiefly due to the widespread fear of deportation. It was suggested that the extent to which the workers would be prepared to adopt a pro-soviet attitude would depend entirely on how Russia behaved as an occupying power.

The building of barricades, which had been going forward slowly in the hands of grey-bearded Volkstum, was hurried up as the Americans
advanced and, when rumors arose of American tanks being in the western suburbs, the gaps left to allow traffic to pass the barriers were closed, huge tank obstacles and guns were brought up and the number of regular soldiers to be seen in the streets increased. The expressionless faces of the Volksturm were said by one correspondent to make any guess as to their fighting quality impossible. But the significance of this statement probably lay in its refusal to predict dogged resistance, since another correspondent reported Volksturm as saying that they would settle the Mass of the brown racists when the clock struck twelve. Several sources agree that the barriers round the city are guarded closely by soldiers who look at the papers of everyone passing in and out. Any soldier who cannot explain exactly what he is doing finds himself drafted on the spot to the front.

One result of this close control is that there has been little evacuation: the population is said only to have dropped from two and three quarters to two and a half million. The bulk of the staffs of Government Offices went away toward the end of March, their destination then being described as Thuringia and the Darm though what has happened to them since remains obscure. Foreign legations have also left for the south, while almost all foreign journalists returned home on 13 April (one explanation of the present flood of information). Only vehicles belonging to the Armed Forces and other operational organizations can be seen in the streets. The congestion on the remaining means of public transport is decreasing, thanks to the introduction of the permit system and thanks to the stoppage of electric current which has made it futile in many cases for workers to go to the factories.

"Will Berlin be defended?" is the question in everybody's mouth. The determination of the Party leaders to fight on is obvious and HIMMLER has declared that, in his capacity as Führer, he will stay to the end. But, to begin with, defence is hampered by the lack of food, munitions and coal. Moreover, it is patent that the bulk of the population have little heart for the fight. HIMMEL'S order that all towns must be defended to the last fills them with forbidding. In many individuals, there is a conflict between resistance to the last and the feeling "What is the use of it all now?"

For nobody now has any illusions as to how the war will end. Not even the most hardened Nazis believe in German victory or compromise peace and few even hope to postpone the debacle. The significance of the recent order by which military command in Germany was split in two is fully appreciated and the final decision is expected to be reached quickly. In these circumstances, a spirit of fatalism supervenes. People's chief object is to save what little property is left to them, their chief concern, what is to become of their dependents if they should be killed. Everyone is absorbed with his own personal worries. There is little thought for what is happening to Germany as a whole and none at all for the outside world.

Outwardly, people seem calm enough, but it is a calm concealing a nervous tension. Some people are afraid that the Germans have not yet drained the cup of suffering to the dregs. Others, who have defined their leaders for years with an almost religious fervour, are falling into the deepest despair. Others again, who have spared no effort hitherto to describe the leaders as infallible, are now saying that they have been deceived and betrayed and are trying to attach themselves to neutrals, Anglo-Saxons, foreign workers, Communists or Jews — anyone, in fact, whom they think will enable them to escape the general disaster. Finally, there are some who are perfectly calm and say that in all this one can clearly see the hand of fate. This view is said to be held particularly by intellectuals, who are convinced that "during the next few decades, the spiritual side of the German character will be as strongly in evidence as was the martial side from 1933-45". But the only part of the population who remains really unconcerned are the children.
Materially, everyone is making preparations for living in cellars while the battle rages over their heads. Stores are laid in, all available rations are bought up. Since the introduction of the new rationing system, which made it possible to vary arbitrarily the value of coupons, the offices issuing those coupons have been besieged by anxious housewives and have had to be provided with police protection. The general feeling of coming insecurity and the desire to lay in material goods has given a tremendous incentive to the black market. Not only are the prices of luxury goods fantastic (coffee costs $1.00 per kilo, butter 600) but competition is becoming for the ordinary needs of life; a man is said to have been seen bartering a gold watch for three loaves of bread. The city is catching the mentality of the myriad deserters who live a clandestine life among the ruins and who have become so numerous that the police have given up trying to control them. The struggle to maintain daily life calls for perpetual improvisation, and is governed by the laws of the jungle. Ethical principles are ceasing to be observed. It is even said that national morale is beginning to collapse.

A vivid illustration of the prevailing conditions is provided by the description of how many of the inhabitants, battling in their thirst for news with the lack of electricity which makes radio reception spasmodic, have posted in their "listening corner" a police map which allows them to interpret warning messages about air raids; the map is secret but is bartered by the police for 50 cigarettes to the mutual satisfaction of both parties, since life without cigarettes and without proper air raid news is alike considered unbearable. But intermittent radios and tabloid papers snatched from the hands of sellers as soon as they appear in the streets are wholly inadequate to restrain the rumors which the citizens, in their anxiety, easily swallow and propagate. Tanks in the western suburbs, tanks in the east, American air-borne troops on the southern outskirts, armistice negotiations on the point of conclusion. Such are the stories which spread and multiply.

A late report says that on the afternoon of 13 April severe unrest started in the city and red flags suddenly appeared on all the houses in certain working-class districts. Tanks and artillery brought into action were met with answering fire. But the speed with which a report of this kind passed the censorship to reach STOCKHOLM makes it suspect under present conditions and it should be accepted with reserve.

Heresy

Although most of the area within which the SS Heresy transmitter was originally located has been in Allied hands for over a week, the broadcasts have been maintained without interruption. (A possible explanation would be that the transmitter is inside the "Kero pocket"). On the whole, their character and its divergence from the normal lines of German official propaganda have continued to follow the trends described in the last two numbers of this Summary. The radical ruthless aspect of the movement is coming more and more into prominence.

"We are the fighters for a revolutionary idea which has been watered down by indolent "democratic" bourgeois circles."

The widespread fear among such "bourgeois circles" that the movement would only result in continuing trouble for them is not only admitted but even glorified in.

"We know these types and how frightened they were when they heard we had arisen to continue the struggle against the enemy. We have suffered too much to be frightened by reprisal."

SECRET
The present military disasters are ascribed to the "scourge of officers uniform" who failed to blow up the ARNHEIM bridge. The hesitation, apparent after the first annoucements of the movement, as to boasting over its unscrupulousness have disappeared.

"We have ceased to have scruples and will bring about a revolution of the people!"

"We reject compromise; we rise against cowards and traitors. We brush aside all inhibitions regarding the methods by which we wage our struggle!"

What is interesting, however, is that GÖBELS, the arch-priest of the official propaganda, in his latest DER REICH article, went quite a long way toward adopting the same standpoint:

"Our heart rejoices when we hear from the enemy himself how fathers, mothers and even children band together to resist the invaders... We are in a state of national self-defence and who, in such a state, will ask many questions about customs and usages?"

What makes this statement even more remarkable is that only an hour and a half earlier one of the routine broadcasts of Göring's own Propoganda Ministry had declared that

"In the operational zone every single person is a soldier and civilians must realize that from now on the laws and customs of war are valid."

It would seem either that German propaganda is in a state of considerable confusion (which would be hardly surprising) or that GÖBELS suddenly decided to change his line to correspond with that of HIMMLER. But whereas the Werewolves' glory in their character of a minority, GÖBELS appealed "to the entire German population, men and women, boys and girls" to rally for a peoples' war, showing that he was still conceiving resistance as a mass movement. It is also noteworthy that he did not explicitly mention either the Werewolves or the Volksturm.

Meanwhile, to prove that the Werewolves are not altogether a cautionary tale, interrogation reports are said to show that the organization numbers several hundreds, perhaps even a thousand persons, under leaders known for their ruthlessness and efficiency. The names of two schools have been revealed at which seven day courses were held during the second half of February; the first was attended by 60 trainees from the COLOGNE area and the second by 22 or 54 from the same district. Instruction was given in all the arts of sabotage and guerrilla warfare.

In WIESENHEIM a leaflet has been seized which deals with the supposed Allied plans for penalizing Germany and claims that the Allies are afraid of the resistance which they expect from German youth. It ends "Let them hate us only if they fear us! Werewolves, leap to the attack!"

Although it is clear that the bulk of the population of Germany disapprove of the movement, there is also unfortunately a fair amount of evidence that they are scared of it. For example, a 9 U.S. Army FW report from BAD SYRACUSE dated 13 April said:

"There is a tendency to shrug the whole thing off in intellectual circles, but the Germans are so used to being scared of the Gestapo that it is hard to break them of the habit."

A report from GOTHEN of 4 April said that a woman came up to a FW officer in front of the town hall and said: "Welcome! But you must bring more troops, quickly, masses of them to protect us from the Nazis". Similar reports come from COLOGN, HAMBURG and FRANKFURT.
German Propaganda and the Military Situation

The High Command communique and German home broadcasts have reported faithfully enough developments in the West, admitting on 15 April the elimination of the British pocket and describing the position of MANNESBURG and LENS as "decisive". The fall of MANNESBURG and "Charnel North" were announced on 20 April. Full, if unverified, credit was naturally taken for the Allied pause at the Rhine. The end of the fighting in VIENNA had been admitted on 16 April. But it is likely that the attention of the German public was largely distracted from this somber scene by the prominence given to events on the "fateful" front which is to the fore in all our considerations" ever since the flaring up of fighting on the Oder was announced, after having been prophesied for several days, on 15 April. HITLER'S Order of the Day on 17 April set the key for a propaganda picture of a united and a resistance alike cooperative, thus enabling the admission of Soviet advances to be qualified by the usual claim that they were slow and costly and involved no loss of heart by the defenders.

The chief interest of the broadcast in which GOEBBELS, on the eve of HITLER's birthday, exhorted him as a man worthy of leading Germany across "the region's edge", lay in the contribution to the Myth of National Socialist which is being built up for future generations. Europe, he said, had had a chance to choose between the German program of restoration which had proved its worth wherever it had had a chance, and the poverty, sorrow, chaos, devastation, unemployment and hunger brought by the Allies. He admitted that Europe had chosen the "side of anxiety" and prophesied that she would have to pay for it. He then called on the German people to make one final effort needed to prevent their own country following this example (thereby indicating his awareness that the overall condition of Europe were such as to doom from the start any suggestion of the need for a longer struggle). Another aspect of the Myth was supplied in a home front broadcast on 16 April which explained that, though Germany's position had been reduced to rubble and ashes, "this must not be regarded as a sign of the impotence of our idea and still less as it to be attributed to any fundamental error of our Government. It is solely a documentary evidence of the hatred of our enemies who were said to have started the war solely out of jealousy of Germany's economic achievements under conditions of peace. Thus a picture is being prepared which seeks to absolve the Nazi regime of all blame for either starting or losing the war, and to place responsibility for all pre- and post-war evils on the Allies.

General KORENOKOPOV's warning to the German people about the need for saving crops would be inconsistent with such a picture and so it has never been mentioned to them. Instead his remarks have been twisted into a warning to the Germans that they would starve next winter, and much has been made of this, backed up by stories of all foodstuffs and cattle found in Germany being confiscated for the benefit of Allied troops. "Hunger-death" is said to be spreading in the occupied areas, while one report alleged that Jews were to be placed exclusively in charge of all education. The korshchil station on 13 April appealed specifically for the sabotaging of re-education plans. "Every school-book printed by the enemy must be burned... Do not send your children to these foreign schools."

A front page article in the BERLIN Volksborisch Ressortscher on 29 March warned the public that the Allies were trying to produce panic "by means of every propaganda device but chiefly by broadcasts leaflets and rumors." Among "other methods of conducting a total war of nerves", mention was made of boundless exaggerations of their military successes, detailed and thus stunning explanations of their military operations (in which towns as far as possible from the fighting line were mentioned as Allied goals) and reports of imaginary escapes. It was suggested that awareness of the enemy's objects "would be enough to remove the last traces of irresolution and thoughtlessness from the mind of every German". The phrase "Have you heard?" was to be recognized as the visiting card of Allied agents.

The technical resources of the German propaganda machine are...
dwindling with the shrinkage of territory. This week four transmitters for the Forces went off the air, and from 18 April the chain of linked transmitters broadcasting the home service has been split into a northern and southern group whose programs for the most part differ. The Deutschlandender transmitter at BERLIN between COBURG and LEIPZIG must be almost, if not quite, in Russian hands.* This is a natural consequence of the administrative and military division of Germany into two parts, necessitated by operations. German newspapers have also been restricted to two pages on all days of the week; hitherto they could retain their previous four pages on Sundays.

*It has only been heard intermittently since 21 April.

**broadcasts of our Russian allies about Germany**

The main theme in the treatment of war news by Radio Moscow has been the surrender of KÖNIGSDORF and the capture of VIENNA. The latter event was accompanied by a statement emphasizing the fact that Austria was being liberated from the Germans. An interesting passage from the Soviet statement says:

"The Soviet Government does not pursue the aim of acquiring any part of Austrian territory or of modifying the social order in Austria. The Soviet Government sticks to the standpoint of the Moscow Declaration of the Allies concerning the independence of Austria. It will carry out this Declaration."

Some interesting light on Soviet policy toward the German people comes from a public controversy between Ilya EHRENBURG and G.P. ALEXANDROV, chief of the Propaganda Department of the C.P.S.U. Central Committee. EHRENBURG, who is frequently regarded as the Soviet voice to the West, was attacked on two main themes:

1. For identifying the German people with the Nazi clique
2. For his erroneous analysis of the disposition of German forces on the Western and Eastern fronts.

It is interesting to note that ALEXANDROV's rebuke to EHRENBURG appeared in Pravda and was given wide publicity on Radio Moscow. Regarding EHRENBURG's first point, that all Germans are part of a "single colossal gang", ALEXANDROV was blunt and to the point:

"It is necessary to say that Comrade EHRENBURG, in expressing such an opinion, does not reflect Soviet public opinion."

ALEXANDROV maintains on the contrary that EHRENBURG's analysis does not correspond with the facts. Further, to maintain such a thesis at the present time is to play into the hands of the Nazis who, in their present calls for unity, are trying to involve the whole German people in the guilt of the clique.

On the second point ALEXANDROV's position is less clear-cut. EHRENBURG had recently asserted that the stiffening of German resistance in the East, as compared with the lack of resistance in the West, was caused mainly by Nazi fear of Russian retribution:

"If the Fritzies in the East are still stubborn, it is because the cat knows whose meat she has eaten."

On the other hand, since the Germans have never made their presence felt on American soil, they apparently think that things would probably go easier for them as prisoners in the U.S. than in the devastated areas of Russia.
Countering this point of view ALEXANDROV, while admitting that ENNEMBURG has given a true picture of German crimes in Russia, nevertheless reproaches him for having drawn faulty conclusions. He asserts that it is naive to explain the present disposition of German forces on the basis of Hitlerite fears alone. If fear of retribution were the only motive, he says, the German would not continue to sink Anglo-U.S. shipping, attack London with V-weapons, and kill Allied P.A.W. The alleged transfer of 44 Divisions to the Eastern front, thereby leaving the Western front without adequate defence, is more probably a "military-political trick" – a manoeuvre to divide the Allies. ALEXANDROV does not explain the significance of this "trick" any further.

In connection with the first point, with its careful distinction between the Hitlerite clique and the masses of Germans, should be noted Marshal TOLBUNIN’s statement to the people of VIENNA (S.S.S. to Austria, 6 April):

"Rumors spread by the Hitlerites alleging that the Red Army exterminates all members of the National Socialist Party are lies. The National Socialist Party will be dissolved, but the rank and file members will not be touched if they show loyalty towards the Soviet troops ..."

The section of this report dealing with VEYBUCHT MERADE will not appear in future unless any fresh material of interest is received during the week preceding issue.

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Lt. Col. Mashay
Intelligence (3)
Plans & Directives (2)
Leaflets
Press
Publications
Radio
Film, Theater & Music
Control Section

P & FW, 6 A.G. (4)
P & FW, 12 A.G. (6)
P & FW, 21 A.G. (2)
G.S.I.(b) Branch, 21 A.G. (2)
Major O'Brien, F.W.D., Intelligence (Rear) for further distribution in London.

Political Officers, SHAEB (2)
AC of 5, 6-2, SHAEB (Air) G/A. Cranzoff (2)
G-2 Division, U.S. Group Control Council
Plans Group G (Lt. Col. Leonard)
C511st B L.I.S.C.C. (2)
P.O., Fwd., SHAEB
SHAEB Main, G-2 (2)
" " G-2 CIC, Security Section
" " G-2, Naval Intelligence Sub-Div.
" " G-3
" " G-5 (3)
" " Public Relations Div. (Gen. Allen)
M.I.S., G-2, War Dept., Washington, D.C. (4)
CSS, Dr. Schleidinger (3)
NSL, Paris (2)
Radio Luxembourg (3)