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SERIES, NO. 11 MARCH 15, 1943

MORALE-BUILDING ACTIVITIES IN FOREIGN ARMIES

PUBLISHED BY

MILITARY INTELLIGENCE SERVICE

FOR

SPECIAL SERVICE DIVISION

WAR DEPARTMENT

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Section I. INTRODUCTION

The expressions "esprit de corps," "morale," "spirited outfit," "crack unit," and "elite troops" all bear witness to the fact that there is more to an armed force than organization, equipment, and tactics. A good outfit possesses this additional, though intangible, asset. All armies make great attempts to develop it.

For the attainment of this quality in an army, good leadership is known to be an essential factor, but it is not enough. All modern armies, in varying degrees, recognize this fact by using definite policies to inculcate good morale. The following sections set out some of the detailed methods employed for this purpose in the armies of Great Britain, Russia, Japan, Italy, and Germany. These methods can be treated topically, rather than by countries, for though there are many factors that contribute to army morale, certain elements stand out and are stressed in all efforts to deal with the problem. No attempt has been made, however, to evaluate the actual state of morale in the various armies discussed, or the efficacy of the methods used to promote it.

For the methods used in the U. S. Army, reference should be made to Mobilization Regulations No. 1-10, "Morale" (June 12, 1942), and Technical Manual 21-205, "Special Service Officer" (May 12, 1942).

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Section II. ADMINISTRATIVE FACTORS

1. OFFICER-MEN RELATIONSHIP

a. Germany

The modern German Army, in contrast to the German Army of World War I, places great emphasis upon morale and comradeship. There is no fraternization between officers and men while on duty. However, off-duty fraternization exists, and friendly relations between officers and men are encouraged. The Training Manual states that an officer should be both the "superior" and the "comrade" of his men, and should aim to be their counsellor when they encounter personal difficulties, such as bereavement, financial embarrassments, legal complexities, etc.

Innovations now contributing to good officer-men relationships are:

(1) *The weakening of caste distinctions.*—Since all soldiers, officers and men alike, pass through the same training (including common experience in Party formations like the Labor Service) regardless of social origin or Party position, a soldier can no longer have the unpleasant experience of finding himself under an officer who has slipped into his position because of his higher social standing and despite one year's less actual military training. There is now no formal educational requirement for an individual over 18 years of age who plans to enter officer training. Rank distinctions or privileges, expressed in differences in pay, leave, and allowances in

food, tobacco, clothing, alcohol, and other rations have been greatly reduced, compared with the last war.

(2) *The democratization of the salute.*—The salute is now a required greeting, not only between inferiors and superiors, but between equals as well. Privates exchange salutes, and all salutes are referred to in the Training Manual as "mutual comradely greetings."

b. Japan

When conscripts first enter the barracks, they are introduced to their officers and told that these men will act as their older brothers. In general, the soldier is well treated by his superiors, and the feeling between officers and men is good. A soldier may tell his troubles to his superior officer; Nipponese men and officers may compete against each other in bayonet-fighting, fencing, and wrestling; and officers are always on the alert to serve as good examples to their men. On maneuvers and in action the officer always undergoes the same privations and discomforts as his men. The Japanese noncommissioned officer has considerable authority and wields it with a rather heavy hand.

c. Italy

Relations between officers and men are on a familiar footing. This is attributed in part to the fact that all men alike pass through the pre-military organizations prior to entering the army or going to officers' schools. They have, therefore, a fund of experience in common.

d. Russia

In the course of its development the Red Army has shifted from an overwhelming stress on officer-men

". . . Nipponese men and officers may compete against each other in bayonet-fighting, fencing, and wrestling . . . "

equality, which was carried so far that except in actual military operations officers and men were placed on as nearly equal a social plane as possible. This camaraderie even permitted the private who might be chairman of a unit of the Communist Party to criticize his commanding officer for laxity in party affairs.

Now there is absolute distinction of rank, embodied in higher pay, better quarters for officers, compulsory saluting of superiors, and other distinctions which exist in other armies. At the present time, the officers are completely set apart from the men, although they may participate with them in dramatic presentations, song fests, and similar activities. At the same time, the unusual youth of the officers, their prevalent "proletarian" origin, the bond of Party membership for many officers and men, the training principle that an officer must be able to demonstrate to the men what they are to do and must not demand a performance that he himself cannot equal, the stress on advancement from the ranks, and the semi-paternalism of the political administration—all these things tend to produce amicable relations.

e. Great Britain

In the past the British Army selected its officers almost exclusively from the upper classes, because it was generally believed that upper-class education was the best training for leadership. Early in this war, however, it became apparent that officers so selected often lacked the technical skill and specialized mechanical training essential to leaders fighting with mechanized equipment. After several false starts, the War Office accepted this

idea and began to reorganize its selection of personnel. Today only 26 percent of the cadets in the British officers' training camps are graduates of upper-class British schools, and officer training, which is constantly being revised, lays increasing emphasis on quick thinking combined with technical skill.

In spite of the democratization of officer personnel, considerable formality is still preserved in the relations between officers and men, and fraternization is frowned upon. The following lines of action in handling men are suggested to officers by official manuals: (1) give the men a sense of unity; (2) put the men's interests first; (3) explain things to them; (4) do things with them; (5) be their champion; (6) know their names; (7) make the salute a greeting between comrades; (8) be friendly without being familiar. The fact that the noncommissioned personnel in the British Army is generally of a high type actually relieves the officers of much of their responsibility in dealing with their men.

2. SELECTION AND PROMOTION OF MILITARY PERSONNEL

a. Germany

Great care is exercised in securing and allocating personnel, with the Army Personnel Office facilitating the process of selection. Formal psychological tests play a role in actual selection, classification, and promotion. Army psychologists regard the formal tests as supplements to, rather than substitutes for, intuitive judgment of "the whole man." Judgment by officers or military umpires (in war games) assumes more and more importance as

the soldier's field experience increases. "Testing" is deemed to be more important at the early stages of classification than at the later stage of promotion.

Formal tests are used more in measuring special qualities and aptitudes (such as sensitivity to sound, or speed-of-eye reaction) than in trying to estimate the complex abilities that must be possessed by a good military leader. Care is used in grouping various types of men in combat units. Initially, World War I veterans were distributed among the new recruits. Age differences of 10 to 12 years were normal within a fighting unit. Now, veterans of the present war are sprinkled throughout new units.

Company commanders aim to sort out their men in terms of native ability of various kinds, giving weight to these differences in the assignment of tasks. While the handling of these personnel matters is primarily the job of the unit commander, he may be aided by the work of the welfare officer.

b. Japan

After a few months' training of ordinary conscripts, volunteers for noncommissioned officer training are asked for. Of those who volunteer, a limited number are chosen for special training, which involves a second year in the service. At the end of this period the men become corporals.

Among officers, once the initial examinations are passed, advancement may be comparatively rapid for those men who show special ability, except that an officer must attend the Army War College if he expects to rise above the rank of captain. Rise from rank to rank depends

partly on seniority and partly on the opinion of one's senior officer.

c. Italy

The Italian practice which comes nearest to a systematic method of classifying soldiers according to their talents and inclinations has been, since 1936, based on a personal booklet which is issued to each person in premilitary organizations. This booklet is used for registering the evaluation of a soldier, covering his physical qualifications and military preparation, and serves the purpose of determining his status both as a citizen and as a soldier. The registrations made by officers in the booklet cover: (1) general health; (2) aptitude and service performance; (3) inclinations; (4) deportment in specific military activities.

d. Russia

The placement of conscripts is based primarily on their aptitude and skills for assignment to a particular branch, and secondarily on their educational and other experience. Recruits who have completed secondary education and have had special experience are likely to be assigned to an appropriate branch of the service and given special opportunities for technical training which will ultimately enable them to become officers.

The assignment of men to the various branches is made according to the man's capabilities by a board of officers. The state police, which supports the Communist Party, has first choice, and the technical branches second choice. Men coming from regions violently anti-Soviet are not allowed to serve in their own military district.

The expansion of the Red Army in 1940 and the drafting

of men for the present emergency have been extensive. The qualifications for recruitment have been revised drastically downward, less emphasis being placed on political conceptions and more on those qualities which might make the recruits better riflemen or more intrepid guerrillas. A general policy creating officers from the noncommissioned ranks has been followed. Political reliability is a consideration for such promotion. The possibility of advancement to the commissioned ranks is stressed in order to induce and persuade men to make the army their profession.

e. Great Britain

Selection tests are now given to recruits at the time of their civil medical examination. Further selection tests are given when they join their training units, in order to assist the commanding officer in selecting men for training as potential specialists and as officer candidates. In both cases, the tests are followed by an interview before a definite recommendation is made to the final Selection Board. The present tests are compiled by the Directorate of Personnel Selection in the War Office, with the aid of an advisory committee composed of eminent psychologists. Their principal interest is in determining the recruit's health, general intelligence, special aptitudes, and standard of attainment. So far, it has been impossible to devise a practical test to assess personality. In assigning personnel to units, the needs of the army in terms of the recruit's aptitudes are given priority over his personal preference.

The army maintains extensive arrangements for technical training open to men who, after examination, seem

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to be qualified for such training. Space is provided for about 5,000 trainees in engineering and allied trades in military establishments, and for nearly 20,000 more in technical colleges, Ministry of Labor and National Service training centers, and private establishments.

Promotions to the rank of noncommissioned officer may be authorized by either the commanding officers of units (down to battalions in some cases), or the officers in charge of records (similar to U. S. adjutants).

3. REWARDS AND PUNISHMENT

a. Complaints

(1) *Germany.*—The German Training Manual states: "It is advisable to secure the counsel of an older comrade before entering a complaint, and to consider whether or not the alleged injury was intentional." Complaints may be written or oral and can be made only during the period commencing 1 day after the supposed injustice and ending 7 days later. Complaints by privates and noncommissioned officers are made to their immediate superiors, or, in the event that the immediate superior is himself the object of the complaint, to the next higher commander, who renders the decision. If the complaint is judged to lack foundation, there is no penalty, provided the plaintiff has acted with good intentions and in accordance with the regulations.

Captain Ellenbeck, of the German Army, a writer on military matters, states that while complaints are to be regarded as exceptional, and to be made only about matters of importance, it would be a great mistake for any company commander to let the impression become estab-

lished that complaints should *never* be made. Despite possible unpleasantness, both for the soldier who enters the complaint and for his superior who must listen to it, failure to ask for redress, arising from a false sentiment of decorum can, he states, lead only to a lowering of organizational efficiency.

(2) *Japan.*—There are traditional provisions for the resolution of complaints made by the Japanese soldier. The basis for taking care of a soldier who feels himself aggrieved is the paternal relationship which exists among Japanese soldiers. A Japanese superior officer will usually try to see that his subordinates understand the reason for every rule. Most complaints, however, are settled by the noncommissioned officers.

(3) *Russia.*—Despite the severe discipline in the Red Army, the soldier has full opportunity to ask for consideration of complaints through the chain of command. The soldier appeals directly to his superior officer, who must keep an exact record of the complaint, and of his disposition of it, for his own superior's inspection.

(4) *Great Britain.*—Complaints are handled through channels, the soldier making any complaint to his next highest superior. If the superior is being complained of, he must agree to the transmittal of the complaint to the next highest officer. There are very few complaints, in spite of the fact that privates are encouraged to bring their troubles freely to junior officers.

b. Penalties

(1) *Germany.*—Minor breaches of duty, such as tardiness in reporting, are punished by disciplinary measures.

Major offenses, such as cowardice, desertion, etc., are punished by court-martial. Disciplinary measures range from reprimand to 10 days' arrest, and can be carried out only on the day following the offense and after the accused has had an opportunity to contest the charge.

A soldier is always punished in private, since it is felt that the public humiliation of a soldier, whether before comrades or civilians, tends to undermine respect for the military establishment in general.

(2) *Japan.*—Corporal punishment is seldom employed by the Japanese military, though on occasion a Japanese officer may strike one of his men. Noncommissioned officers have no hesitancy in administering punishment on the spot for minor offenses, though the power to punish rests generally with the unit commander. Arrest and confinement may range within limits of from 1 to 30 days.

Court-martial is provided for more serious cases, including that of an officer being taken prisoner. Court-martial cases are rare, and convictions still more rare. Every effort is made to see that the punishment is fair, and great concern is shown for the man's mental attitude. It is assumed that the punishment will be valueless unless he understands that it is justified.

(3) *Italy.*—All offenses are divided into two classes: disciplinary offenses and so-called "penal" offenses. Broadly speaking, the former are dealt with summarily or by disciplinary commissions and disciplinary councils, whereas the latter are tried by courts-martial and military tribunals.

Summary punishments of officers range from simple reprimands to removal from grade, and of privates from sim-

ple reprimands to assignments in disciplinary companies. Court-martial punishment ranges from imprisonment to death by shooting.

(4) *Russia.*—Penalties for violations of good discipline in the Red Army vary from menial chores within the offender's unit to trial by court-martial, depending on the seriousness of the offense.

(5) *Great Britain.*—Minor punishment, consisting of confinement to barracks for as much as 14 days, extra guard duty, fatigue duty, or admonition, may be inflicted by commanding officers without resort to court-martial. More severe punishments, such as detention not exceeding 28 days, fines not exceeding 40 shillings (about $10), pay deductions, and field punishment not exceeding 28 days or forfeiture of all ordinary pay, may be inflicted by commanding officers, subject to the soldier's right to elect a court-martial. Serious offenses requiring heavier penalties must be tried by a court-martial.

The British point of view is generally to admonish for the first minor offense and to give a more severe punishment if the offense is repeated. Frequent fatigue duty is generally frowned upon as unnecessary baiting of the soldier, confinement to barracks being the more common penalty.

c. Awards and Decorations

(1) *General.*—Recognition of extraordinary service is a universal method of rewarding a soldier. In most armies this is done by award of a medal or decoration. In some armies, actual annuities or additions in pay are given. In the Russian Army, for example, the highest awards may include exemptions from taxes, the right to ride free on

streetcars, and other similar privileges. Awards are freely given, particularly in Germany and Russia.

(2) *Germany.*—Faithful and outstanding performance of duty in the German Army is rewarded by promotion, medals, and special privileges such as extra leave or assignment to cherished responsibilities. The total number of awards has run well into the millions.

Medals and orders are granted for distinguished service, and announcements of these awards, as well as promotions, are featured in the daily press. By far the most important award is the Iron Cross, of which there are several classes.

The Iron Cross is generally given for conspicuous bravery in the face of the enemy or for outstanding services in leadership. The Iron Cross, Class II, is given to almost any one who has shown a good performance in action, and it is believed that over one million awards have been made of this decoration to date. The Iron Cross, Class I, is given for particular distinction in action, and several hundred thousand such awards may have been made. The Knight's Cross of the Iron Cross is given for outstanding merit in action, and some two thousand have been awarded. The Oak Leaves to the Knight's Cross of the Iron Cross is given for distinguished service over an extended period; about 160 of these have been awarded. The Oak Leaves with Swords to the Knight's Cross of the Iron Cross is the next higher award and has been given only to about 12 individuals. Above this are the Oak Leaves with Swords and Diamonds to the Knight's Cross of the Iron Cross, which has been given only to 3 or 4, and the Grand Cross of the Iron Cross, which has been given only to Marshal Goering.

The War Order of the German Cross was established in

1941 and is awarded only to a few for unusual service. The officer receiving it must already possess the Iron Cross, Class I, or the War Merit Cross, Class I.

The War Merit Cross was inaugurated in October 1939 for special services which are not performed in active combat. It may be awarded to personnel in the service of supply and in garrisons, and also to male civilians. The decoration is given in four classes.

The Service Medal is awarded to all soldiers who have served in the Army for 4 years or more. Four classes exist: for 24, 18, 12, and 4 years' service, respectively.

Certain special awards or insignia exist, such as the Infantry Assault Badge, the Tank Badge, and the Assault Badge.

The Infantry Assault Badge may be awarded to officers, noncommissioned officers, and privates of the rifle companies in infantry regiments and of the mountain rifle companies who have (1) taken part in three assault operations on three different days, (2) been in the foremost line, (3) penetrated the enemy line, weapon in hand. Successful armed reconnaissance, as well as counterattacks, may count as assault operations provided they led to close fighting.

The Tank Badge may be awarded to officers, noncommissioned officers, and privates of units who have served as tank commanders, gunners, drivers, or radio-telegraph operators in at least three engagements on three different days, and to personnel of motorized infantry regiments and motorcycle battalions in armored divisions, and of armored car units.

The Assault Badge is for all other arms of the service, and may be awarded to officers, noncommissioned officers,

and privates of all other arms of the service which cooperate closely with the infantry or tanks: for example, to close-support artillery, or to individual members of other arms who fulfill the conditions by which the Infantry Assault Badge would be awarded to infantrymen.

In addition, a Wound Badge is awarded in three classes: (1) for those wounded more than four times, (2) for those wounded three or four times, (3) for those wounded once or twice.

Awards, promotions, citations, etc., are usually given in a suitable ceremony promptly after the engagement in which they were earned.

(3) *Japan.*—Medals and decorations are given rather freely to Japanese soldiers. There are eight kinds of decorations, each with a number of grades: some are open to civilians, and some carry annuities. In 1937 it was estimated that over one and one-half million decorations had been awarded, most of them in the lower grades. Special awards for enlisted men consist of good conduct medals, prizes for marksmanship, letters of felicitation, promotions in rank and allowances, special leave, and the following medals for service: the War Medal, for foreign service only; the Badge of Honor, A and B, for wounds, also signifying special loyalty and a sense of duty to the Emperor and the country; the Order of the Golden Kite, in seven classes, carrying annuities to recipients from 150 to 1,500 yen (about $40 to $400). It seems that the majority of the Golden Kite awards are posthumous.

(4) *Italy.*—Some 50 types of awards and medals are used in Italy, and of these a few carry the award of an annuity to the recipient. The total number of recipients is very large.

So-called "Medals for Valor" are popular awards in Italy. The Gold Medal corresponds to the U. S. Medal of Honor—the Silver Medal corresponds roughly to the U. S. Distinguished Service Cross—and the Bronze Medal corresponds roughly to the U. S. Silver Star citation. Holders of these decorations receive annual pensions as follows: Gold Metal, 1,500 lire (about $75); Silver Medal, 750 lire (about $38); Bronze Medal, 300 lire (about $15). The Gold Medal is usually awarded posthumously.

Medals are freely given, and the wearing of decorations on appropriate occasions is encouraged. The mothers and widows of officers and soldiers who were killed in action or died as a result of wounds are allowed to wear the decorations won by their sons or husbands, with the addition of a small mourning ribbon.

A great effort is thus made to honor men wounded or decorated in war, and their surviving relatives. Military sentinels must salute persons in civilian clothes who have been decorated for valor or wounded in action, as well as mothers and widows of persons wearing decorations of dead soldiers. Officers and soldiers who have not been decorated for valor or distinction in war must salute those men of the same grade who have these distinctions.

(5) *Russia.*—A rather elaborate system of Soviet military decorations is in effect, ranging from medals for marksmanship to the most coveted decoration of all—"Hero of the Soviet Union," which is given only for deeds of great valor (though not necessarily in battle).

Many of these decorations carry special privileges, such as monthly cash awards, free passage on streetcars and busses, rights to purchase at special stores, special consideration at vacation resorts, and, above all,

"A recently inaugurated method used by the Russians for recognizing distinction in action is to designate, for outstanding performance, whole divisions and regiments as 'Guards' divisions or regiments."

a favored position in civil life after release or retirement from the army.

A recently inaugurated method used by the Russians for recognizing distinction in action is to designate, for outstanding performance, whole divisions and regiments as "Guards" divisions or regiments. Men and officers in these units receive substantial bonuses in pay. The esprit de corps of these units is uniformly excellent.

(6) *Great Britain.*—There are six major decorations awarded to the company-grade officers and enlisted men of the British Army. Generally, there are corresponding but separate awards for officers and enlisted men.

The Victoria Cross, established in 1856, is the highest honor. To date it has been awarded to 1,101 persons for "performing in the presence of the enemy some signal act of valour or devotion to the Country."

The George Cross, established in 1940, is awarded to men and women in all walks of life. The military division of the GC permits its award to members of the fighting services who have performed acts coming within the terms of the warrant.

The Distinguished Service Order is awarded only to an officer who has been specially mentioned in dispatches for meritorious or distinguished service in the field or before the enemy. The DSO is the next most important decoration after the George Cross.

The Military Cross is awarded only to army officers of, or below, the rank of captain, including warrant officers, class I, for acts of distinction or gallantry in the field.

The Distinguished Conduct Medal ranks alongside the Distinguished Service Order, and is its counterpart

for enlisted men of the army. It is awarded for gallantry in action, on the recommendation of the commander in chief, and carries a small pension or gratuity.

The Military Medal is awarded to enlisted men of the army for individual or group acts of bravery brought to notice by the recommendation of the commander in chief in the field.

Superior performance of duties in the field which are not of sufficient merit to justify any of the above awards is commended by "mention in dispatches." This involves the publication of the recipient's name.

Long-service and good-conduct medals are awarded to enlisted men for long and exemplary service, this form of recognition having been instituted in 1830. Chevrons for good conduct are worn point-up on the lower left sleeve of the coat, as follows: 1 for 2 years, 2 for 5, 3 for 12, 4 for 16, and 5 for 21.

No provision exists for granting recognition to wounded men because of their wounds. Thus the British have no counterpart to U. S. wound stripes.

4. FURLOUGHS

a. Germany

Married men are encouraged to take a 2-week furlough four times a year when combat or service conditions permit. Unmarried men get only half as much time off. To facilitate readjustment to combat conditions, members of the German Air Force are required to spend the second half of their leaves at specified recreation centers. Leave is considered a privilege rather than a right of the soldier, and it is usually canceled during large-scale operations.

Opportunity is given for "recuperation leave" at Europe's most prized resorts, many of which are now under Nazi control. Extra leave is given for faithful and outstanding performances of duty.

b. Japan

Short furloughs are granted during the summer and the New Year's holiday, and vary in length with a man's rank.

c. Italy

Usual furloughs are allowed. Special furloughs are often granted at harvest time.

d. Russia

During peacetime, the Red soldier receives about the same privileges of furlough as are customary in most European conscript armies. His major absences from the army, however, usually coincide with the harvest or planting so as to enable him to return to the village to help. Various rest camps and sanitariums are maintained for his benefit. He goes to them as reward for soldierly effort or in order to recuperate from illness. Wartime leaves depend on the exigencies of the situation.

e. Great Britain

Regular army leave is on a percentage basis which normally works out at four periods each of 7 days' leave, and four periods of leave on a short pass, during the year. Compassionate leaves are granted to men whose families have been bombed, or in cases of illness or accident. Pay, including a messing allowance, is issued to men in cash before they leave camp.

Section III. SPECIAL PROCEDURES

5. ORIENTATION

a. General

All belligerent countries use methods to educate their armed forces as to the meaning of the war and the reason for fighting it. These methods include varied proportions of propaganda and information, and involve almost all the known devices normally used for the dissemination of news and opinion.

b. Germany

In addition to the general cultural information distributed by the Propaganda Ministry, the German soldier is exposed to regular controls by which the meaning and progress of the war are explained to him. These influences are the daily army newspaper, the daily radio programs designed for the front-line soldiers, movies, and the general political instruction which is given by the soldiers' superior officers.

Regarding the role of the German company commander, one authority states: "In giving attention to the intellectual life of the men of his company, the commander must realize to what extent the fighting spirit of his men will be influenced if they know what is at stake in this war. . . . The daily newspaper and military news publications at the front, radio and books, and soldier's theatricals and other performances are among the agencies suited to keeping the mind active.

"But far more effective is the instruction given by the commanding officer in person. He will make use in that connection of whatever material happens to be available to him, translating this material into the language of the soldier and bringing it closer to the minds of his men. In doing so, one must be careful to reduce the political facts to their simplest common denominator. The thing that a soldier most needs to know is that this war is a people's war in which his own existence is at stake and that of the entire nation—no less than the future of his children and his children's children. Once he has got hold of this idea thoroughly, he will be able to appreciate also the value of his own personal effort and contribution. Mental training for the soldier is mobilization of head and heart.

"At the close of each lesson—and the lessons must not be too long—the soldier must feel that he can now see it all very clearly, and he must leave in high spirits when the meeting is disbanded."

Confidential weekly news bulletins are distributed, ostensibly prepared by each German corps area command. They are used by those officers charged with the instruction of troops in political and military matters. This series appears to have started about February 1938, shortly after the drastic "purge" of the officers' corps when the waning independence of the Reichswehr received a further setback at the hands of the Nazi Party. The information contained in these bulletins appears to be treated as in the newspapers and in the radio talks directed to the civilian population. These bulletins are logically consistent and full of detail.

All the important political speeches, especially Hitler's, reach the soldiers by radio and newspapers. Also, the Germans incorporate in may of their training manuals information of a political and patriotic nature. One training manual devotes the first 27 pages to a chapter entitled "Patriotic Section, A Sketch of German History," in which the aim is apparently to provide a dynamic philosophy of history in order to imbue the soldier's every act with dramatic and "fateful" significance. Many German soldiers are provided with combination reference books and diaries which usually incorporate complete descriptions of important German leaders, and reprints of patriotic speeches. For example, one of these pocket manuals, *Der Soldatenfreund* ("The Soldier's Friend"), published in 1937, in addition to the wealth of material usually found in combination diaries and almanacs, contains 83 pages devoted to the relationship between the armed forces and the people.

c. Japan

Just as the Japanese Government relies on talks as the principal means for disseminating news and propaganda to the people, so lectures by officers are the chief method by which the meaning and objectives of the war are explained to the Japanese soldier. Important matters are dealt with by high-ranking officers, since the words of a person of prestige usually carry more weight than those of an ordinary speaker. All the numerous national holidays serve as pretexts for some formal talk. Because the army places more emphasis on lectures than on the printed page, no special army newspapers are published.

d. Italy

The Italian Army endeavors, through talks by officers, to have in the army some active Fascist influences which will bridge the political gap between the pre-military and the post-military training in each Italian soldier's life.

The following order, issued to the commanders of the First, Second, and Third Volunteer Divisions in Spain, illustrates how the army seeks to remind its soldiers of the virtues and accomplishments of Fascism. The commanders were ordered to "maintain them (the Blackshirts) in the highest state of exaltation in order to ask and to obtain of them the maximum effort. This will be easy if they are talked to frequently without ever omitting, on any subject, a political allusion, and always evoking in the memory of the soldiers the Duce; the Duce who works for the greatness of the nation; the Duce who is combatting and fighting for the extermination of communism; the Duce who wants this fight and is following their doings in this fight with particular attention."

The Italians make use of radios for broadcasting current events to the army in the field. In addition, other special broadcasts are directed to the soldiers.

e. Russia

Important channels of propaganda to the Red Soldier are the three newspapers which circulate throughout the Soviet Union, the army included. These are *Pravda* (Truth), *Izvestia* (News), and *Kraznaya-Zvesda* (Red Star). *Pravda* is the Party organ, *Izvestia* emphasizes the point of view of the Government, and *Kraznaya-Zvesda* is the army paper. Usually one or two find their way into

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each company, where they are read aloud at impromptu gatherings or at mealtime.

Many public address systems and radios have been manufactured in the USSR, and every military unit as large as a company would probably have a portable receiver and a loud-speaker set. Central radio stations from behind the lines broadcast, continuously, entertainment and propaganda in equal parts. The propaganda always adheres to the Party lines of the moment. "Pep" talks exhort the men to fight to the death, and lectures describe the necessity of fighting for the homeland. The larger units (or divisions or brigades at the front when they are operating as task forces) usually carry along portable public-address systems.

Before the present war, when the nation was from time to time in the throes of internal political stress, Military Commissars specially trained in all roles of publicity and propaganda, as well as envoys of the Propaganda and Agitation Organization of the Party, were sent into the army to insure the political integrity of the Soviet's fighting arm. They were also charged with emphasizing the basic ideas of Soviet ideology. The principal officer now charged with the duty of creating and maintaining morale is a political instructor called the Assistant Commander for Political Affairs.

In barracks, the "Lenin Corners" are the tangible reminders of the soldiers' responsibilities to the state. These Corners are primarily places of instruction, study, and meditation. Equipment such as radio, motion pictures, newspapers, and writing materials is provided when possible. All press, movie, and radio themes, however, are directed toward political objectives.

The larger units (or divisions or brigades at the front when they are operating as task forces) almost always carry along portable printing plants which are used to turn out "wall newspapers," containing "pep" talks and morale-building stories.

The Party members in the unit, officers and often privates, make frequent speeches to the men, interpreting the news and the political broadcasts from Moscow, explaining articles in the newspapers, and discussing the causes of the war and the aims of the enemy.

f. Great Britain

In order to encourage the soldier's interest in current affairs as well as in the tactics and strategy of current campaigns, the War Office set up the ABCA (Army Bureau of Current Affairs) in October 1941. This bureau publishes two fortnightly series of booklets, which are written in simple terms by well-known authorities. One series is called *War*, and the other *Current Affairs*. These booklets are designed to provide British officers with texts for compulsory weekly lectures to their men. Each officer is left free to utilize the material as he sees fit, making his talks as long as he likes. Typical questions which officers are supposed to ask themselves in preparing their lectures are: What do my men know about the organization and equipment of the German Army and the men they are up against? What do my men know about how we came to be at war? What are Germany's war aims? How would a German victory affect the man in the street? Why did France fall? What is the general strategic situation?

The ABCA also provides lectures by outside speakers, short current-affairs courses for officers, unit reference libraries, information films, etc., in an effort to cultivate among the troops "knowledge and concern about the world they live in."

Stress is laid on the officers' responsibility to impart information to the troops under their immediate command, and through such means to affect both their thinking and their morale.

6. HOME TIES

a. General

All armies attempt to relieve their members of anxieties which are caused by absence from home and family. The principal methods are: (1) caring for a soldier's family, and (2) maintaining an efficient postal service between the army and the home front.

b. Care of the Family at Home

(1) *Germany.*—One of the main contributions of the Nazi Party to the war effort is safeguarding the social welfare of the soldier's kin while he is in the service. Food supply, income, health, education, housing, etc., are all supposedly taken care of by special Party offices, among which the National Socialist People's Welfare Organization is the most important.

The government has made an effort to maintain the normal German birth rate, and in this it was largely successful until early in 1942, when the prolonged absence of the men in Russia began to make itself felt. Whenever possible, married men are given special con-

cessions regarding furloughs. In this manner, attempts are made to keep alive the soldiers' family sentiments and to provide stronger ties with civilian life. Wives of conscripts are granted special allowances ranging from 30 to 40 percent of the soldier's income in civilian life. Also, in order to enable officers and enlisted men to care for their children, children's allowances are paid for each child under 21 years of age. The monthly allowance is 10 reichsmarks (approximately $4) for one child, 20 for two, 25 for three or four children, and 30 for more than four.

(2) *Japan.*—The solemn ceremony and attention bestowed on each Japanese soldier "when he goes off to war" gives him a deep feeling of importance and value to his village, as well as his country. His feeling of security in regard to affairs at home is strengthened by the cooperative work of neighbors in helping his family to carry on farm labor. The various patriotic societies of women, veterans, etc., also help to look after a soldier's family while he is away.

(3) *Italy.*—A report from the General Budget Commission to the Italian Chamber in 1940 emphasizes that propaganda and "moral assistance" are extended to soldiers in the mobilized units by their regimental commanders. When possible, this "moral assistance" takes the form of visits to soldiers' homes by superior officers or by other soldiers expressly delegated to perform the function. Visits to soldiers' homes by officers in wartime, however, are not known to occur. In 1941, the per diem allowance for wives was raised from 6 to 8 lire

(30 to 40 cents), and for each child from 2 to 3 lire (10 to 15 cents). But there are instances when these allowances have been as low as one-half lire (about 3 cents) a day or have been withdrawn altogether.

(4) *Russia.*—In the Red Army one of the specific duties of the political instructor is to prevent a recruit from becoming uneasy about his family. The instructor may even act as an agent to bring about intervention in the home community to resolve conflicts or remove injustices affecting a soldier's family. The assignment of a man to a particular branch of the service takes into account his dependents, and provides a monthly allowance for their maintenance.

(5) *Great Britain.*—In Great Britain, war conditions, especially bombing of civilians, create frequent economic and legal crises in the lives of many British soldiers. In such cases the commanding officer is expected to help the men communicate with their families, and to solicit outside aid from the Citizen's Advice Bureau, the local government authorities, army welfare offices, or voluntary organizations. Where such aid is not available, the officer is expected to give what advice he can himself, and under no circumstances to show lack of sympathy and understanding.

c. Mail

(1) *Axis powers.*—All the enemy armies make some provision for special handling of soldiers' mail. In Germany the sending of mail, including packages, to the front-line soldier is guaranteed by the Nazi Party local office (*Ortsgruppe*) having jurisdiction over the area which includes the soldier's home. Old newspapers and maga-

"The British Army makes every effort to get mail to and from men in the theaters of war."

zines are collected by the Block Leader (*Blockleiter*) and sent to the front; in addition, the writing of letters to soldiers is encouraged. Owing to transport difficulties, however, the sending of packages, and in some cases of letters, has had to be curtailed at different times.

The Japanese write home frequently, generally using postcards.

Italian soldiers are encouraged to write home, and provisions are made to aid them. Italian soldiers are also allowed to send messages (about a sentence in length) to and from home by radio. In the Italian Army, civilian postal employees are assigned to handle soldier mail. These employees are, however, considered as combatants and treated as prisoners of war if captured.

In all of the enemy armies, censorship is exercised on mail, especially when it comes from the theater of operations.

(2) *Russia.*—While the Russian Army seems to maintain a deliberate policy of assigning men to units operating at a considerable distance from home, communication with home by mail is facilitated. Both incoming and outgoing letters are read by the political instructor in order to check on the recruit's feelings and political attitudes, and to discover sources of tension at home, which can then be dealt with so as to produce or maintain a satisfactory condition among the men. The hardships of the family are kept from the soldiers by the strict censorship.

(3) *Great Britain.*—The British Army makes every effort to get mail to and from men in the theaters of war. Overseas mail is sent in small film rolls, and special postal, telegraph, and cable rates are provided for both soldiers and

soldiers' families. A noncommissioned officer is appointed in each unit to deliver letters and packages personally and to redirect mail to men who have left the unit.

7. LEISURE ACTIVITIES

a. General

To a greater or lesser degree, all armies seek to direct the soldier's leisure activities. Attempts are made to use recreational hours in developing morale.

b. Art

Conscript armies always include men who have interest or skill in such arts as painting, drawing, sketching, or photography. German soldiers who are artistically inclined are allowed to bring art kits and cameras into the theater of operations. Photography is encouraged and, whenever possible, any potential artistic talent is developed in spare hours.

The Japanese are notably artistic, and their soldiers often spend their free time sketching. They are particularly fond of cartoons.

The Italians have been raised in an artistic tradition of which they are proud, and little effort is necessary to maintain this interest among the soldiers.

Artistic endeavor by Russian soldiers is stimulated through special courses and by visits to museums, which are arranged for the soldiers located in the vicinity of the institutions having the available facilities.

If British soldiers show sufficient interest in art, the Army Welfare and Education Department arranges courses or lectures for them in cooperation with local educational authorities.

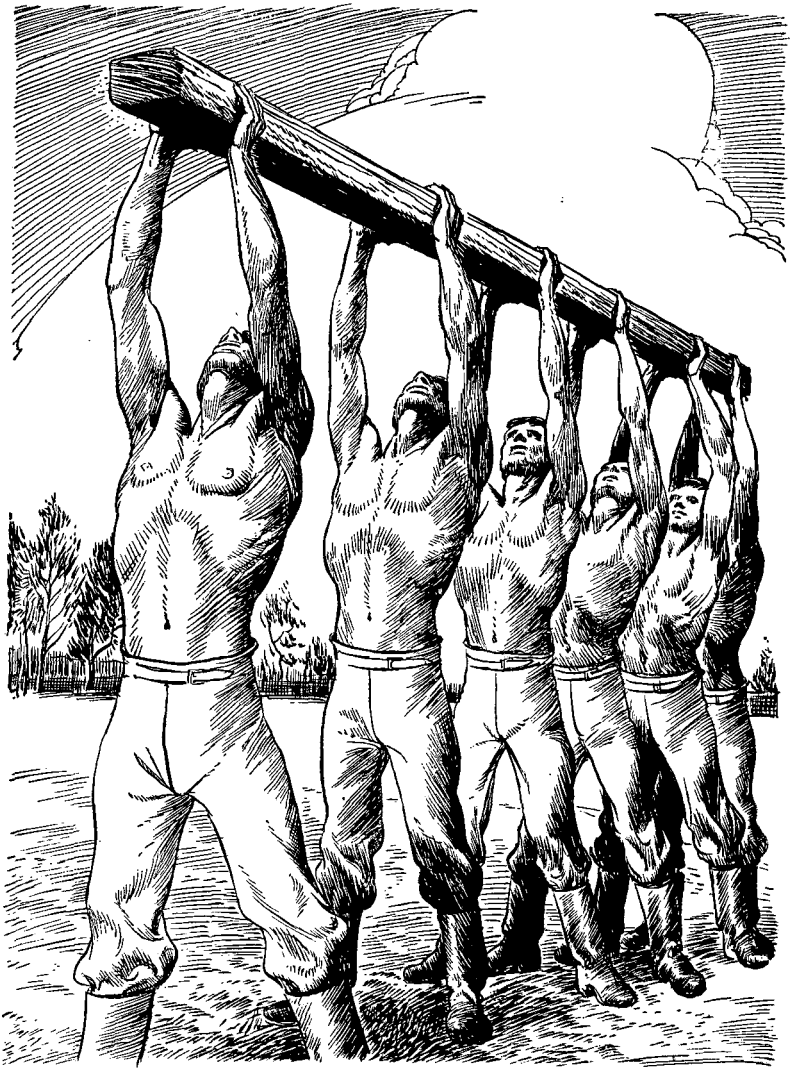
"German soldiers who are artistically inclined are allowed to bring art kits and cameras into the theater of operations."

c. Athletics

(1) *Germany.*—Athletics are considered as part of basic character training rather than as a matter of pleasure, and are naturally given more importance in training areas than in the theater of operations. Interunit or branch competitions are not emphasized and frequently are not even permitted, in order to avoid jealousy. Cooperation of all arms and units is the watchword, rather than competition. Noncompetitive massed exercises and sports such as handball, swimming, horseback riding, and running are encouraged by the German Army.

(2) *Japan.*—Many of the forms of recreation are directly related to military training. Fencing and wrestling (*judo*), the two favorite forms of recreation, are of a military nature: fencing trains the eye while *judo* trains the body, and both forms of recreation stress ability in individual combat. During fencing practice with bamboo poles, the fencer attempts to lower his opponent's morale by letting out blood-curdling yells as he attempts to hit him. Men and officers frequently fence together, and if a man wins over an officer, it does not affect discipline, but rather appears to strengthen good feeling between officers and men. Bayonet fighting also is popular, and it too involves blood-curdling yells. In time of peace, intercompany bayonet competitions are held twice a year. Competitions between regiments or battalions are discouraged, since they might lead to rivalry between units, a condition regarded as unhealthy.

(3) *Italy.*—Owing to a restricted budget, the amount of athletic equipment available to the troops is limited; hence, stress is laid on calisthenics and group games.



"Noncompetitive massed exercises and sports such as handball, swimming, horseback riding, and running are encouraged by the German Army."

The carrying out of the physical training program is the direct responsibility of unit commanders, and is consistently given each day in much the same manner as that received by plebes at West Point. Physical drill, consisting of setting-up exercises, broad jump, long horse, rings, and hurdles, forms a part of each day's work for all units of the Italian Army. This drill is held usually about 1600, and is seldom omitted even on days when the unit maneuvers, no matter how tired the troops may be. A central physical training school for officers and noncommissioned officers has existed since 1928 in Rome.

(4) *Russia.*—The Red Army's conception of athletics differs from our own. The Russian soldier exercises to perfect his athletic technique rather than to engage in friendly rivalry or combat. Gymnastics, swimming, skating, skiing, and calisthenics predominate. More and more, however, competitive sports are gaining in popularity. As a spectacle, the Russians like soccer football best.

(5) *Great Britain.*—In direct contrast to the German policy, competitive sports are encouraged in the British Army as an important means of building good morale. Officers are urged to join in the games with their men, and, by example, to emphasize the importance of fair play and team spirit. Team sports, such as rugger, cricket, soccer, and volley ball are all popular; less so are sports which involve individual play, such as gymnastics, handball, and boxing.

Athletic equipment is provided by the Army Welfare and Education Department. Local welfare officers assigned to each unit arrange for the loan of local football or

cricket fields, organize matches between units, and try to keep the men's interest in sports alive.

d. Books and Libraries

(1) *Germany.*—German troop libraries are of two sorts: one for officers and one for enlisted men. Officers' libraries contain mostly scientific and professional books, whereas soldiers' libraries are intended primarily for entertainment and diversion during leisure, and secondarily for self-education, both civilian and military.

Goebbels announced in 1941 that 3 million of the "best German books" had been specially reprinted for army distribution. Also, the Party collected, through its book-collecting program, 6,700,000 books from private sources, and these books were sent to 60,000 army libraries. Convenient-sized soldiers' (front) editions of some familiar authors, such as Goethe, have been published. Such books are intended not simply to provide recreation, but to remind the soldier of his ties with the homeland and its superior culture.

(2) *Japan.*—Periods of ordinary leisure in the Japanese Army are supposed to be spent by the common soldier in studying training manuals. Magazines and similar general reading matter are discouraged, and any political reading is prohibited. Great emphasis is placed on the circulation and understanding of Imperial Rescripts.[1]

(3) *Italy.*—In 1940 the National Institute of Soldiers Libraries distributed large numbers of books and newspapers to the Italian armed forces in garrisons and in the

[1] Imperial Rescripts may be likened to a combination of U. S. Presidential proclamations and some types of U. S. Army regulations.

field. At corps and divisional headquarters there are usually libraries containing books and periodicals.

(4) *Russia.*—An effort is made to provide the "Lenin Corners" with books and newspapers. As previously described, these Corners are essentially centers of propaganda effort, being under the control of the Assistant Commander for Political Affairs of the unit.

(5) *Great Britain.*—The Army Welfare and Education Department collects and distributes books and magazines for the use of the British soldiers. No effort is made to restrict the reading matter to nonpolitical subjects.

e. Liquor and Cigarettes

Beer and cigarettes are reported to be available for German soldiers. Cigarette rations are said to be increased when troops are in stationary positions behind the lines. The soldier is cautioned against excessive use of alcohol.

Japanese canteens sell tobacco but no liquor. However, Japanese soldiers and officers drink freely when off duty.

Vodka (potato or wheat whiskey) and red wine are occasionally issued as a ration for the Russian soldier. Most Soviet soldiers smoke. Cigarette papers and *mahorka* (one of the more violent weeds of the tobacco family) are issued to the troops. Frequently, machine-made cigarettes (American style) are issued by company commanders one or two to a soldier at a time. On rare occasions the *paparosi*, or cigarettes with a tube affixed for a mouthpiece (called "Russian cigarettes" throughout the world), are passed out after the main meal of the day. Cigarettes are sold to soldiers at greatly reduced prices.

In Great Britain cigarettes and beer are sold at canteens. Liquor may be served at messes of officers and of warrant officers and sergeants.

f. Motion Pictures

(1) *Germany.*—Every German soldier organization sees the weekly newsreel as well as the current propaganda films, educational pictures, and features of all kinds. No pictures are shown which might create doubt or homesickness. Through the efforts of the Party film offices in 1940, 2,876 prints of features and 13,500 prints of newsreels were shown to soliders. Also, the film office of the Ministry of Education distributed 63,512 prints of educational charts. Attendance figures for the year are reported to have totaled 20,000,000.

(2) *Japan.*—Motion pictures are used mainly by the Japanese for morale and educational purposes. Soldiers may receive permission to visit commercial movie houses. Official documentary films are freely used in the army for education and morale building. Many such films were captured in the Philippines by our forces.

(3) *Italy.*—The Italian Army does not have a regular policy of furnishing soldiers with spectacles and entertainment; the soldiers, furthermore, do not seem to expect them. However, in 1940, special efforts were made to present a very large number of talking motion pictures to the armed forces.

(4) *Russia.*—Movies are used extensively in the Russian Army for propaganda purposes. Projectors are available in most barracks and in the larger units, such as brigades. They are under the control of the Assistant Commander for Political Affairs (formerly called "Military Commissar").

Service and propaganda films predominate. Occasionally straight film entertainment is presented. The Russian likes his own brand of movies, but he does sometimes see foreign pictures. For example, Charlie Chaplin's "City Lights" was one of the most popular films ever shown to the Red Army, and the Russian soldier likes Mickey Mouse.

(5) *Great Britain.*—Motion pictures are supplied to the British Tommy by the entertainment officers appointed at the headquarters of home commands and areas, and of overseas divisions. They arrange the showing of both recreational and training films. Admission is free, and only the military are admitted.

g. Musical and Theatrical Entertainment

(1) *Germany.*—According to Goebbels, Germans donated more than 2,250,000 phonograph records and 47,568 phonographs for soldiers on the Russian front during the winter of 1941–42.

The best operatic, theatrical, and musical talent make frequent visits to the German troops. Every organization develops musical or theatrical clubs. Soldiers who are musically inclined are allowed to take their instruments into the theater of operations. Theatrical entertainment is also provided by the activities of the Hitler Youth, the Strength through Joy Organization, and sometimes by the Propaganda Companies (*Propagandakompanie*), which arrange for troop entertainment as well as provide the home front with news of army life. Group singing is frequent, especially on the march.

(2) *Japan.*—Amateur dramatics and other forms of recreation requiring organization by the men themselves

are notably absent. On certain military holidays or after some military exhibition for visiting officers, a kind of play-acting is indulged in with each company performing some stunt, often with elaborate props. Once a year, a play about the 47 Ronin is put on (this being a story based on Japanese history, involving loyalty and self-sacrifice for one's superior).

There are bugles, but no regimental bands. Special military songs may be sung when on the march, songs which are usually stereotyped forms extolling deeds of courage and loyalty. Sometimes there is group singing before fencing parties. Soldiers' songs are many. Among articles captured on Bataan were songbooks containing 38 soldier songs, all illustrated.

(3) *Italy.*—A specific Fascist unit organization furnishes music and entertainment for soldiers. Singing is probably the most popular diversion for Italians in camp or on the march. Both individual and group singing is encouraged and stimulated by the army. In an official handbook on "Life in the Garrison" (*Norme della vita di caserne*), it is stated that "Songs and patriotic hymns should form an important element in the soldier's life." Another official publication, "Rules of Instruction" (*Regolamento d'instruzione*), includes a statement that the "Italian soldier, in addition to fighting, eats and sings."

(4) *Russia.*—Mobile recreational and propaganda units accompany troops. Sometimes the equipment of the "Lenin Corner" consists of little more than a Soviet flag, photographs of Stalin and Voroshilov, and a few books on Marx, but a musical instrument of some sort, and such simple games as checkers, are sometimes available. The Russian soldier is a gregarious man, and enough

"Singing is probably the most popular diversion for Italians in camp or on the march."

Russians are really musical by nature so that home talent can put on a good impromptu entertainment whenever opportunity offers. The Russian soldier is passionately fond of the theater and any form of pageantry. The army administration does its best to keep talent from Moscow working at top speed not far behind the front lines of battle.

(5) *Great Britain.*—The Entertainers National Service Association (ENSA) is the main organization which provides professional entertainment for the Army. ENSA is financed out of the proceeds of the Navy, Army and Air Force Institutes (NAAFI), which is called the Expeditionary Force Institutes (EFI) abroad, and by additional grants from the War Office, the Admiralty, and the Air Ministry. It provides artists of all sorts for large-scale reviews and plays, small reviews suitable for small audiences in outlying defense posts, and minstrels and individual entertainers. In most cases these shows are free.

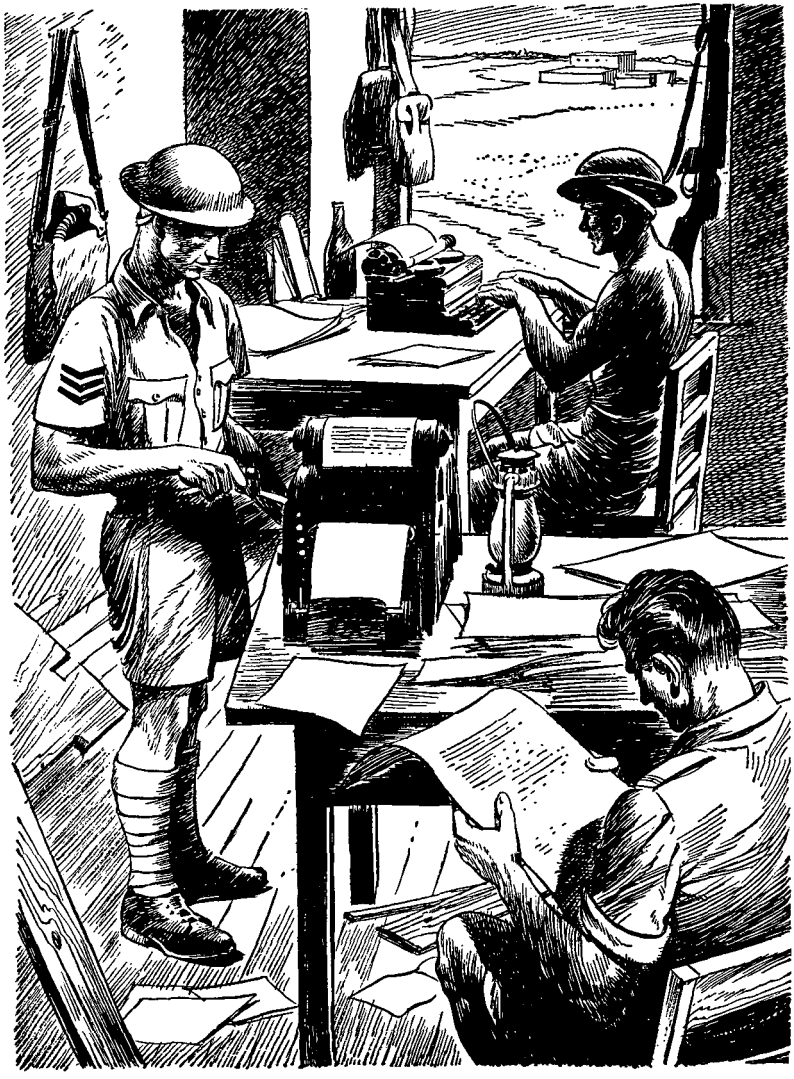
h. Newspapers

(1) *Germany.*—Newspapers are furnished from home, and the various headquarters have small newspapers for distribution to their own troops. The news given to the troops is, like that given to the German public, subjected to the slant which the Propaganda Ministry deems appropriate.

(2) *Japan.*—No newspapers are used or allowed, as general reading matter is discouraged and political reading is prohibited.

(3) *Italy.*—See paragraph d (3), above.

(4) *Russia.*—The Red Army political sections are highly



"When presses are available, many British units print their own local newspapers."

skilled in all phases of indoctrination and propaganda. Up to now the pictorial approach (by vividly colored posters) and the printed word have been the most potent forces used by the Party for the dissemination of its political line of the moment. The posters are printed in so-called "typographic centers." Print shops are located near all large troop concentrations, and mobile printing plants travel with the troops on the move. When possible, there is printed a daily wall newspaper, which consists mostly of inspirational material, the recounting of deeds of valor, etc., and which also sets forth the political point of view of the leaders of the Party and Government. News from the outside world is carefully sifted to eliminate any discordant notes, and a side-line appeal to the worker and peasant is also included. The Party and Government organs, *Pravda* (Truth), *Izvestia* (News), and the army's own paper, *Kraznaya-Zvesda* (Red Star), are eagerly sought, and one soldier (the political instructor or an assistant) frequently reads the news aloud to a large group of men.

(5) *Great Britain.*—The mail service of the British Army distributes current daily papers to troops on active duty, wherever possible. When presses are available, many British units print their own local newspapers. Other units use bulletin boards for keeping the men informed of important world developments.

i. Radio

(1) *Germany.*—In the theaters of operations the German Army provides every organization with radio-receiving sets and an extension loud-speaker system. Frequent talks on combat experiences are offered by

"In the theaters of operations the German Army provides every organization with radio-receiving sets . . ."

officers and men. For a long period during the war a special request program, with music and witty stories of soldier life, was broadcast every Sunday.

(2) *Japan.*—Special radio entertainment comparable to ours is broadcast by units in the field, and by the Government-owned stations at home. A special daily broadcast from Tokyo is designed for soldier reception.

(3) *Italy.*—In 1940, Fascist auxiliary groups organized a great many radio broadcasts for the troops, including patriotic speeches and lectures. Reports indicate that loudspeaker radios are distributed on a basis of at least one for each division, and also to regiments and battalions stationed apart from divisions.

(4) *Russia.*—The individual soldier practically never owns an individual radio. However, soldiers are rarely out of earshot of a loudspeaker. Radios are found in "Lenin Corners," barracks, encampments, railroad stations, city streets, etc. They are invariably of the public-address-system type, and are generally operated by a representative of the Assistant Commander for Political Affairs (formerly called "Military Commisar") who thereby has positive control over this channel of propaganda.

(5) *Great Britain.*—The distribution of radios to the troops is under the Army Welfare and Education Department. This department tries to provide each unit with at least one radio, but such provision is not always possible.

The British Broadcasting Company puts out a daily series of programs for the armed forces, in addition to the regular civilian programs. The military programs include music, both popular and classical, talks, news reviews, and dramas of army life.

8. SEXUAL FACTORS

a. General

The venereal rate is one of the recognized indices of morale. Training manuals of foreign armies contain information on the dangers of venereal diseases. In some few instances, controlled houses of prostitution have been set up with the approval, tacit or otherwise, of the military.

b. Germany

Soldiers are specifically warned in the Training Manual against contact with commercial prostitutes, the prime consideration being the maintenance of health. Space is devoted to the dangers of venereal disease, with symptoms described in detail and explicit directions given for treatment. Unmarried soldiers on furloughs are provided with protective devices.

It has been reported that, in Poland, houses of prostitution are provided under the direct control of the military. The general plan followed is to provide girls who are young and attractive, and are volunteers. One of these houses has been described as follows: the lower floor is the quarters of the guard; the second floor is a soldier's canteen and reading room; the third floor is fixed up for the girls, who are encouraged to provide an attractive, homelike atmosphere. They are on duty between 1600 and 2200 and keep all of their fee of 5 reichsmarks (about $2). Before a soldier goes to the third floor, he is given a medical examination. He must not be under the influence of liquor in any degree, nor are the girls permitted to drink or to have liquor in their rooms. The girl initials the

soldier's service record, and the guard makes an appropriate entry for control purposes.

c. Japan

Among the officers there are infrequent occasions for *geisha* parties which may be followed by a night spent with the *geisha*. The conscripts, having but little money, cannot afford this, and so must be content with the prostitutes of some cheap brothel in the locality. The physical aspects of sex are thus provided for, but romanticism is discouraged. Soldiers are not allowed to have pictures of pretty girls in the barracks, as such pictures, it is thought, might distract from military duties.

d. Italy

An Italian military manual devotes two pages to a factual discussion of venereal diseases and prophylaxis. No effort is made in the manual to consider the "moral" aspect of the matter, or to intimidate the soldiers.

The following is reported in connection with the Ethiopian Campaign. Describing Asmara, headquarters of the northern Italian Army in Eritrea, which included 200,000 men, 1 eyewitness says: "A house of prostitution with 26 inmates was provided. Regulations provided for its use by enlisted men during the forenoon, price 10 lire (about 50 cents); noncommissioned officers during the afternoon, 20 lire (about $1); officers during the evening and night, 30 lire (about $1.50)."

e. Russia

The location of most army barracks in or near cities rather than at points isolated from the civilian population means that the men in the army have opportunities for

feminine companionship usually available to civilians in the USSR. Further specific information is not available.

f. Great Britain

The task of settling the men's sexual problems is turned over to the commanding officer of each unit. Suggestions in the army manuals to officers handling sex behavior are: (1) set a good example; (2) encourage men to keep in touch with their wives and families (married men in camps near their homes are provided with "sleeping out" passes whenever possible); (3) make sure that the men know the location of the prophylactic treatment room, and understand how to use it; (4) see that your men's evenings are filled with plenty of healthy interests and amusements. Men are required to report for physical inspection not later than the morning following their return from leave. Cases of venereal diseases are immediately segregated and sent to base hospitals for treatment.

Section IV. RESPONSIBILITY

9. GENERAL

In all foreign armies the commanding officer is responsible for maintaining good morale among his men. He is, however, assisted by any other officers he may select or assign to this work. In certain armies, specialized personnel are utilized in connection with the activities related to this problem.

10. GERMANY

Special units do not exist for handling indoctrination procedures in the German Army, the company commander being charged with this function. (See sec. I, par. 1.) Propaganda Companies (*Propagandakompanie*) are attached to a field army or an independent task force. These are not political indoctrination companies, but they are charged primarily with collecting pictures and information concerning life in the field, and sending this material back to the General Staff for study, training, and historical purposes. The motion pictures are also used in the composition of the weekly newsreels. The still pictures are published in newspapers and magazines. In their slack time the personnel of these propaganda companies assist in entertaining the men. Each propaganda company consists of three platoons: a motion-picture platoon, a still-picture platoon, and a press platoon (which includes radio commentators and writers of news articles dealing with front-line and other military

activities). All commanders, especially company and platoon, are charged with the responsibility of maintaining the morale of their men.

11. JAPAN

Apparently Japanese special service units do not exist. Each officer is expected to inculcate, through example and precept, the Japanese martial ideals of bravery and perseverance. More than 60 pamphlets on *seishin* ("morale" or "spirit") are issued to assist officers in this aspect of their work.

12. ITALY

Troop morale in the Italian Army is the direct responsibility of unit commanders. Dissemination of propaganda within the army is the responsibility of the Ministry of War.

13. RUSSIA

The former Political Commissar organization having been altered by a decree in October 1942, the commanding officer is now assisted by the Assistant Commander for Political Affairs. The Assistant Commander for Political Affairs, besides his other duties, aids his commander in maintaining and developing esprit de corps.

14. GREAT BRITAIN

The commanding officer of each unit has final responsibility for maintaining high spirit among his men. He is assisted in this work by the Army Welfare and Education Department set up by the War Office in 1940. The welfare officers are unpaid voluntary appointments. An

honorary command welfare officer is stationed at each command, assisted by voluntary county and local welfare officers. The welfare officers assist the commanding officers by providing sports gear; by arranging for the use of local playing fields; by cooperating with local education authorities to provide classes, lectures, and study groups for the soldiers; by obtaining gifts or loans of pianos and radios; by collecting and distributing reading matter; and by helping the commanding officers solve the men's private and domestic problems.

Section V. SUMMARY

15. GERMANY

The German armed forces are the most active part of a military "front" which includes the entire nation. The whole policy of the Nazi Revolution has aimed to prepare the nation for war, militarily, economically, and psychologically. Army morale therefore emerges from the broader matrix of civilian morale.

In the career of the individual soldier, indoctrination procedures begin long before the period of compulsory military service. The state, the military, and the Party schools combine with the Nazi youth organizations to prepare the young recruit for his eventual soldierly role. After he is in the army, a host of Nazi Party organizations contribute directly or indirectly to his well-being. A relentlessly enforced penal code suppresses all subversive activity. The "soldier" tradition existed in Germany before the Nazi Party came into existence, and the Nazi Party has encouraged this spirit.

Within the armed forces, morale problems are handled with much greater skill than in the last war. Men are sorted out and promoted according to their abilities; officers and men, having shared, in many instances, the same premilitary as well as military training, respect each other as proved comrades; informal social control mechanisms reinforce the basic soldier's code; fine equipment, thorough training, and welfare services foster confidence and good will; the daily regimen is lightened by judicious dosages of entertainment; feelings of unity with

the home front and vice versa are kept alive by active party officials; and the soldiers' minds are permeated by a persistent propaganda which makes the war seem at the same time inevitable, humane, and heroic.

16. JAPAN

The fighting spirit in the Japanese armed forces is high. This may be attributed to the strong social solidarity of the Japanese nation, the emphasis on male bravery in Japanese schools, and a persistent belief in the superiority of Japanese over all other peoples. During training periods in the army, much attention is paid to what is called spiritual training, that is, training of conscripts in the attitudes considered proper to a Japanese warrior.

Training is conducted with swordsmanship, the bayonet, and other Japanese military exercises which provide for body-contact competition. The contemplation of life, death, and the fact of killing, all essential points in the Japanese spiritual training, are brought into connection with this training.

The Japanese believed in, and used, indoctrination procedures even before Hitler. The word *seishin* in Japanese is used to denote "morale" or "spirit," but it really means more than our words can suggest, having more of a religious meaning than we place in our definitions.

17. ITALY

As far as is known, the Italian Army does not provide special troops for indoctrination work within the armed forces. The development of troop spirit is directly under unit commanders (divisional and regimental) and under

the general direction of the corps area commanders. The cabinet of the Ministry of War, however, receives and examines reports made on troop morale by the corps and army commanders. The dissemination of propaganda within the army is the responsibility of that ministry. It is obligatory for all officers to attend lectures given by the Fascist Party organizations. It is expressly stated that military life is to form a bridge between premilitary and postmilitary activity. Just as premilitary education is the responsibility of Young Fascist organizations, so postmilitary political activity is the responsibility of well-organized auxiliary Fascist organizations.

The Italian soldier is a tough, hardy individual, generally a survival of adverse living conditions. He does not participate in mass games and similar controlled recreation, and he does not witness many motion pictures. For him, being off duty is the main recreation. Calisthenics and hard physical labor have kept him from getting soft, and lack of military success by the Italian Army cannot be attributed to the poor physical condition of its soldiers.

18. RUSSIA

Political check and countercheck is a fundamental procedure in all phases of civil and military life in the Soviet Union. In the Red Army an organization of political instructors exists, formerly called "Military Commissars" but now called "Assistant Commanders for Political Affairs," whose duties include the creation and maintenance of morale. These assistant commanders and other political workers have the same title and ranks as all other Red Army officers of equivalent ranks and are responsible

to (1) the political administration of the Commissariat of Defense and (2) the Propaganda Administration.

19. GREAT BRITAIN

The British Army runs on the theory that esprit de corps is best created by a spirit of teamwork and "playing the game." In this system, the commanding officer of each unit represents the team captain, and, as such, is personally responsible for the maintenance of team spirit among his men. In return for his leadership, the men are expected to obey his orders and stand by his decisions with unwavering loyalty. Training in teamwork begins on the playing fields of the British schools. It is carried on in the army through competitive athletics. The commanding officer is assisted in his morale work by the Army Welfare and Education Department, which has charge of the recreational and educational activities of the men. Mass political indoctrination and educational propaganda, both of which are alien to the British democratic idea, have been avoided almost entirely.

In connection with army morale, an outstanding characteristic of the British is the freedom with which they criticize themselves. Before the war, and even up until the fall of France, esprit de corps was not considered a problem requiring study and action. Instead, courageous military spirit and high morale were taken for granted as the fundamental attributes of their armed forces. After the Battle of France, however, and even more after the fall of Singapore, extensive criticism of military conduct arose both within and without the Army and might have had serious consequences on morale. Instead of suppressing such criticism, the British High Command accepted it,

and set out to rejuvenate its policies. The first steps were to set up an investigation of "dead wood" in positions of high command, to increase emphasis on individual ability and technical training in the selection of officers, and to step up the process of mechanization throughout the entire army. These changes have resulted in a more aggressive attitude, higher morale, and improved combat efficiency throughout the British Army.

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