

## PSYCHOLOGY

# Why Germans Surrender

German psychologist, writing in military journal just before the war, called "conversion" to enemy cause true reason for being taken prisoner.

➤ SOLDIERS give up and let themselves be made prisoners because they come to regard the enemy as being right and themselves and their commanders as wrong: such is the doctrine on the psychology of surrender put forth by Dr. Leonhard Fritzsching of Munich only a few months before the outbreak of the war. He termed this mental shift under stress of battle as a 180-degree "change of consciousness," which he of course regarded as a "perversion."

Writing in 1938, in the military journal *Soldatentum*, Dr. Fritzsching described the process at some length. Not only "softies" and cowards, but even apparently solid soldiers, he said, are susceptible to the spiritual attrition that makes men drop their weapons and raise their hands. Here, according to this view, is what happens:

"The soldier goes to war and enters battle with a definite concept of foe and friend. Rearing, experience, observation and his judgment have given him a picture of his task and that of the army, as well as of the destiny of his country.

"Now physical experiences of a negative kind storm upon him, which make him acutely uncomfortable. Who doesn't know the feeling after forced marches, after sleepless nights, reinforced by uncertainty and the always-encroaching dread of death?"

"To be sure, these are still for the most part purely physical events, manifesting themselves through stimulation of the solar plexus as digestive disturbances and the well-known 'nervous cough.'

"But now the forces of psychological defense are brought up. They try to explain the cause of the discomfort and thereby to eliminate it. But logical thought does not precede, and form a content of consciousness. Quite the contrary: the consciousness that something is amiss is already there, and a logical basis suggests itself for everything disagreeable, for every disillusionment and every failure.

"If the enemy shows himself superior, the cause is sought in the inadequacy of his own army, its equipment and armament, its organization and leadership. To

no one does this feeling of inferiority come so immediately and painfully as the soldier in the front lines.

"And now out of the depths of the unconscious arises the primitive idea: some one must answer for this failure; the luckless one is—guilty! And this "guilt": where can it be except with ourselves, with the leaders, with the high command, with the national government? Since the enemy prospers, as his superiority in weapons, organization and tactics plainly indicate, then he must be nearer right than we are."

Thus, Dr. Fritzsching explains, the poor bedeviled wretch under fire finally "agrees" with his adversary—becomes a kind of convert to the enemy.

His recommendations of what to do under such circumstances are thoroughly hard-boiled and ruthless: If you have fresh reserves, start a new front somewhere else, or establish new defensive lines. Leave the "spoiled" troops where they are—give no further thought to their fate. Never under any circumstances let "uninfected" troops mingle with them

—not even tanks and artillery. This advice seems to have been heeded by the Axis high command, so far as the final phases of the North African campaign are concerned.

A few of the opening sentences in Dr. Fritzsching's essay must make grim reading in Germany today, if anybody is troubling himself to turn back to them:

"To lose troops as prisoners to the enemy is the worst defeat a fighting army can suffer. For with them goes its chief treasure, the trained soldier, and also his weapons, ammunition and equipment.

"The sight of numerous prisoners raises the morale of the enemy, even of the civil population. Through observation and listening to prisoners valuable secrets may be discovered. They are useful also as labor manpower, and become important pawns in negotiations.

"In one's own camp, if the loss of prisoners is repeated and great, oppressive and dangerous feelings arise. The command loses the confidence of the armed forces."

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## PSYCHOLOGY

## Cure for Gun-Shyness In Dogs Is Sought

➤ CURE FOR gun-shyness in dogs is being sought at Cornell University's psychophysiology field station or Behavior Farm. Results of this search will later be applied, it is hoped, to relieving shell-



**GUN-SHY**—This dog is one of thirteen animals afraid of loud noises that are being studied at Cornell in an effort to find a cure for this fault in hunting dogs and dogs of war.

shock and other war neuroses in humans.

Thirteen gun-shy dogs have been contributed by sympathetic sportsmen. Ordinarily, gun-shy dogs are not kept, because the trouble has been considered incurable and the animals, therefore, worthless. The research is being conducted by Drs. O. D. Anderson and Arthur V. Jensen of Cornell's psychology department.

Gun-shyness is taken to mean intense nervousness and fear, not only of the sound of guns, but also of other loud

noises, such as the banging of a door, backfire of an auto, or the roll of thunder. It may extend to extreme fear of strangers or of other dogs.

The psychologists believe the basic pattern in both gun-shyness and war neurosis is one of lost nervous and emotional control. Investigations are pointed toward a study of the endocrine glands, particularly the adrenal and thyroid, for the scientists think they have an important role in the nervous and emotional life of an individual.

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#### MEDICINE

## More Than 97% Recover

Best medical care and equipment ever supplied an army makes possible this U. S. record for recovery of war wounded. Mobile outfits important.

➤ MORE THAN 97% of Navy and Marine wounded have recovered; incomplete data on the Army show that there has been a like recovery of wounded soldiers.

Of all the Navy and Marine men wounded up to the first of April, only 2½% died; 53% returned to active duty.

This record is due to the best medical care and equipment ever supplied an army, declares the official OWI report.

A first-aid packet strapped to the soldier's belt is the first treatment available. If the wounded soldier is conscious he begins to take sulfa tablets as soon as he is hurt, and dusts sulfa powder into the wound. If he is unconscious, his comrades may give him this first wound treatment.

Soon a Hospital Corpsman with a larger kit of supplies comes along and quickly ministers to the wounded man. An injection stops pain almost instantly. To his belt he ties a tag, telling what treatment was given, marks the spot for the litter-bearers, and goes on.

Litter-bearers take him to the battalion aid station, which can be compared to the emergency room of an ordinary hospital.

If severely wounded, he will eventually reach the great general or base hospitals. Some cases are flown all the way back to the United States.

Flexibility is what makes the system successful; mobility is the keynote.

One of the newest mobile units is the traveling optical laboratory. When a soldier who wears glasses has them broken, an optician is right at hand. The soldier

is back on duty in a few hours.

The mobile bacteriological laboratory is a miniature Health Department on wheels. Laboratory tests show whether water is fit to drink, reveal the nature of any disease which breaks out, and checks the purity of food products.

There are also mobile X-ray machines—the best in the world. Composed of compact sections easily taken apart, an outfit can be fitted into three small trunks.

Extensive research is developing new Army and Navy medical equipment. Folding litters and folding arm and leg splints have been invented. A jungle kit contains apparatus for treating snakebite, various kinds of drugs from aspirin to atabrine, salt tablets to prevent heat cramps and an insect repellent.

The kit developed for our Arctic fighters contains material for preventing and curing frostbite, and multi-vitamins to help maintain fighting strength even on limited rations.

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#### GEOGRAPHY

## Italian Geographical Names Not Difficult to Pronounce

➤ WITH TUNISIA clipped from the Nazidom, the next major operation may be on Sicily and Sardinia and the Italian boot. The well-informed American will be required to learn a lot of new geographical names.

Recent bombing objectives include Palermo, Trapani, Marsala, Messina and Catania in Sicily; Cagliari and Terra-

nova in Sardinia; Naples and Bari in southern Italy. These are now all familiar to the eye, but not to the ear.

Palermo, which has received such heavy bombing from American warplanes because of its location on the Sicilian northwest coast and its good harbor for boats and airfield for planes, is a three-syllable word with the accent on the middle syllable. It is pronounced Pah-lér-mo.

Trapani has the accent on the first syllable, Tráh-pah-nee. Marsala has the accent on the second syllable and all three "a"s are like the "a" in arm—Mar-sá-la. Messina is Me-seé-na, with the first "e" like the "e" in ebb, the second as in eve and the final letter as the "a" in ask.

Catania is Ka-táhn-ya; Cagliari is Kal-yáhr-ee. Terranova is pronounced just about as we would do it in this country. Bari is Báh-ree.

Many Italian geographical names are Anglicized in England and America. Native Italians would not recognize them. Often a different word is used. Naples at home is Napoli, pronounced Náhp-lee, and Rome is Roma, a two-syllable word with the accent on the first syllable. Venice is Venezia, pronounced Vay-náy-tsia.

A few simple Italian pronunciations—what we are apt to call "foreign peculiarities"—will illustrate the proper way to pronounce Sicilian and Italian geographical names.

"C" is like "ch" in chin before "e" and "i"; otherwise like "k". "Cc" is also like "ch" in chin before "e" and "i" but with a distinct "t" before it: Lecce is pronounced Lét-cha.

"G" is like "j" before "e" and "i", otherwise hard. "Gg" is a prolonged "j", or "dj", before "e" and "i"; thus Reggio is Rédj-jo. "Gli", when final or before a vowel, is like "lli" in million. "Gn" is like "ni" in union. "Gu" is like our "gw".

"H", as in French and Spanish, is either mute or barely audible. "Qu" is like "kw". "S" is pronounced as "z" when it is between two vowels. "Sc", before "e" and "i", is like "sh", and like "sk" otherwise; "sch" is like "sk".

"T" and "d" are more dental (pronounced forcefully, against the teeth) than in English. "Zz" is a prolonged "ts" or "dz", while a single "z" is a forceful "ts". Thus Abruzzi is A-broót-se and Spezia is Spét-sya.

Double consonants in Italian are usually both pronounced, not Ann-a but Án-na, not Múss-o-lini but Mús-so-lini.

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