

Just Ordinary Nazi Stuff Killing Russian Women

(Editor's note: In the following dispatch, written exclusively for the United Press, Ilya Ehrenburg, the well-known Russian author and correspondent, describes four witnesses at the Kharkov atrocity trials.)

By ILYA EHRENBURG
Written for the United Press
KHARKOV, Dec. 21. — (U.P.)—

There are four nazis—four nazis under the kleig lights of a courtroom—three as prisoners charged with their war crimes, the fourth as a witness. They are only ordinary nazis, typical, standard Hitlerites. That is the awful thing. There is nothing special here, no psychological obscurities, nothing pathological. Just four representatives telling about a state system whose purpose is to annihilate other nations.

There are the four: Captain Langheld is a precise German. Before the war he served in the city administration of Frankfurt-on-the-Main. In appearance he could be a seagoing lawyer or a trader in brassiers. When he shows with what kind of club he flogged the women of Kharkov, he seems to be praising goods at the counter. He has slain in the same precise, businesslike manner with which he would roast sausages.

When he is questioned, he says "If you please." He wears three medals and says he received them for the eastern campaign. "This man has tortured unfortunate people unspcakably; he has shot war prisoners; he has slain peasant women. He liked order in everything. On one occasion he was to turn over six women to the command-

ant to be shot but he had clubbed them and one had died. "I turned over only five," he testified with a cough of self-depreciation.

When a five-year-old child clung to the body of his mother who had been flogged to death, the corporal could not carry the body away.

"The corporal didn't want any fuss so he shot the child," explained the precise captain. How many has he slain with his own hand? He hesitates to make a mistake, cautiously ventures: "About 100."

Of course, he condemns Hitler now and he wonders why nobody is interested in his political beliefs, only the women he killed, but he draws himself up stiffly and answers the questions, "Jawohl!"

S. S. Lt. Hans Ritz is only 24 but he is prematurely bald. He studied international law, but tortured innocent people, fabricated false accusations and light-heartedly shot peasant women. He is a musician and "adores pastorales." Why did he become a butcher? Perhaps it was his inquisitiveness. One day he went to see the place near Taganrog where inhabitants were shot. He went on invitation of Lt. Jakoby "to prove that you are a man and a soldier."

He did want to prove he was a man. He nurses his tiny mustache as he tells that. He seized a tommy gun and began to shoot down women.

Hans Ritz condemns Hitler, too. Corporal Retzlau is doltish but he knew how to make his career. At the beginning of the war he was in France, drank much wine and toured the bawdy houses. Then his friends began going to the eastern front. The corporal wanted something better so he got himself enrolled in a battalion of the secret field police (GFP). Aspiring executioners were lectured on how to arrest, search, interrogate, execute. One professor lectured on the necessity of exterminating the soviet people because they were hampering the new order.

Having finished with theory, Cpl. Retzlau passed on to practice. A superior officer showed him several arrested men and pointing to one said, "That one has a fine beard." Retzlau understood what he was to do, but he excused himself. "I only pulled out part of his beard." He appreciated the merits of



COMPOSER—Al Dexter, composer of "Fisiel Packin' Mama," presents Miss Niina Yeager with an autographed recording of his song. Miss Yeager purchased the largest amount of war bonds sold one day at a New York city theater.



TOYS FOR ENGLAND—Four-year-old Cherry Wheeler inspects some of the toys at the London depot of the British War Relief Society of America. The society announced that 115,000 British children will receive a toy and candy from America.

"gas wagons" and bundled doomed people into them. Like the rest, he condemns Hitler. "I am a non-party man," he explains. The fourth German speaks with authority. George Heinisch was a major general and commissar of the Melitopol district. He is squat, thickset. He thinks like the furrer and even talks like him in a dull, spasmodic bark. Heinisch explained the significance of the gas wagon where people crammed into them were

asphyxiated. "The civilian population had to be liquidated. . . Wholesale shootings would have been disorderly."

He is a German and adores "Ordnung." The gas cars saved

the situation and Heinisch testified that both Adolf Hitler and Heinrich Himmler of the gestapo approved this invention.

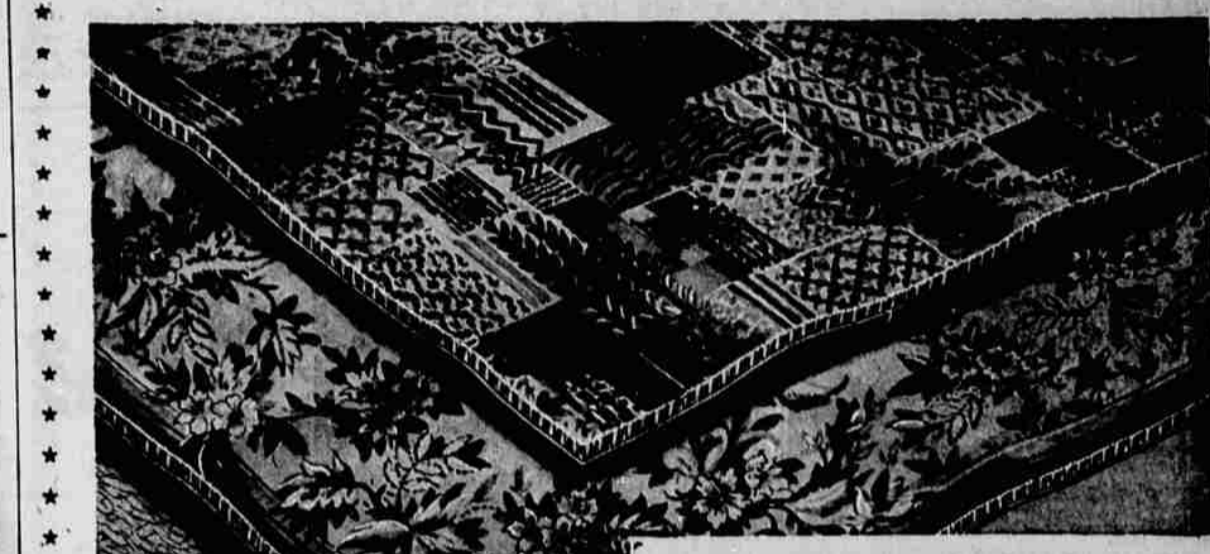
Heinisch spoke with admiration of the mtroer cars and special

huts where the doomed are killed by gases and of the latest technical marvel, a furnace in which 200 corpses can be incinerated simultaneously.

On some of the Pacific Islands, garrisoned by American troops, Army Engineers have had to drill down as far as 1800 feet to reach good drinking water, since none was available on the surface.

***** MONTGOMERY WARD *****

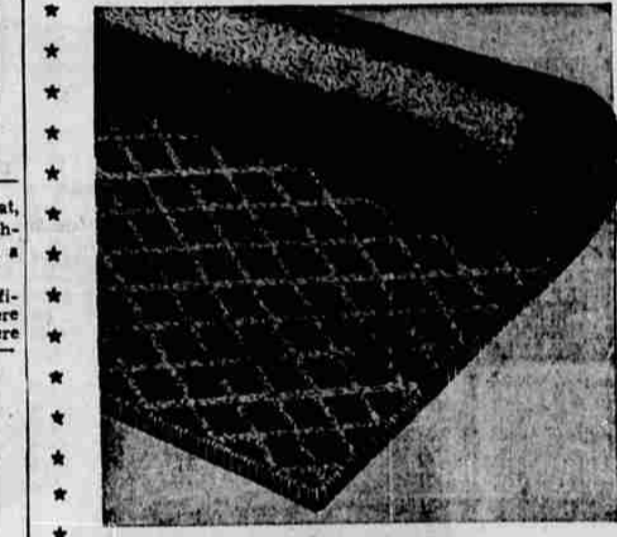
NOW MORE THAN EVER...IT'S SMART TO GIVE Gifts for the home



While They Last! In Colorful Patterns! 9 x 12 AXMINSTER RUGS

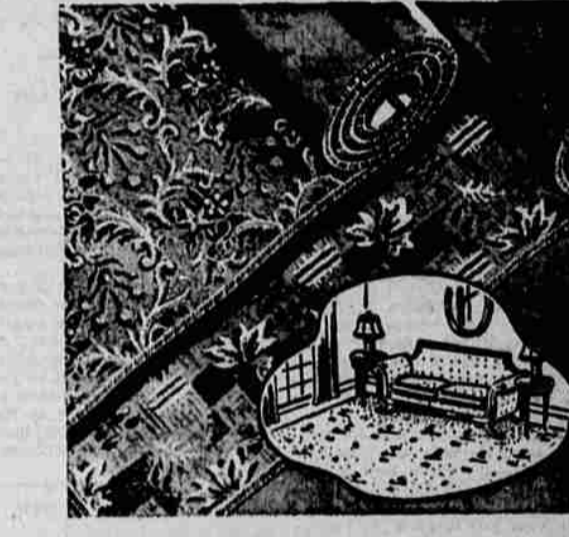
Perk up your floors with the colorful patterns of these style-right Axminster! The depth of their weave gives you clear distinctive designs in striking colors. And the deep resilient pile is soft and springy under foot. 8x12 36-oz. Rug Cushion 8.75

42⁹⁵



36-OUNCE WAFFLE-STYLE 9 AND 12 FT. RUG CUSHION ^{sq. yd.} 56c

Available by the yard for "room-sized" or "wall-to-wall" Broadloom. Special waffle construction adds extra thickness, comfort and wear to help you conserve your present rugs that may have to last you indefinitely. You should give them the best of care—and what will help to keep them new-looking but a rug cushion of this type?



ALL WOOL DEEP-PILE AXMINSTER BROADLOOM ^{sq. yd.} 3.89

For wall-to-wall or room-size rugs, you simply cannot excel the value in Ward's Axminster Broadloom. You'll like their clear pattern detail and rich, glowing colors. 9 and 12-foot widths. Come in today! Select just the pattern you need to go with the room style in your home. Ask about Ward's Payment Plan.



COTTON SHAGGY BATH MAT SET 3.79

A neat gift idea! 21x36-inch mat and lid cover in an assortment of fresh, clean colors. Deep, soft pile. Washable, of course. At this price, you'll want several sets! Get them now!



PASTEL COTTON SCATTER RUGS 6.45

These make fine gifts for living room, bedroom, or hallway! Deep soft texture, composed of extra heavy twisted loops of soft cotton yarns. Assorted pastels, washable.



MIRRORS . . . For An Impressive Gift 6.59 to 23.95

Choose from the best selection in town. Gracefully ornate or frameless modern mirrors . . . a flattering highlight for any room. Yet priced for Christmas budgets.



ATTRACTIVELY FRAMED PICTURES Only 1.49

Colorful subjects that give a "lift" to bare walls! You'll want to use in pairs . . . or in groups of 4 above a sofa. Big variety. Come early . . . and take your pick!

* Use your credit to buy anything carried in our store stocks or pictured in our catalogs

Montgomery Ward

A SONOTONE HEARING AID
is the
Perfect Gift for Christmas

An enduring gift, the beginning of a glorious future.

SONOTONE Hearing Center
285 Miner Bldg.
Phone 3628

MANHATTAN SHIRTS
are sure-fire gifts. A fine stock to choose from. 2.25 to 3.50.

DeNeff's 1022 Willamette

OPEN EVENINGS 'TILL 8:00 UNTIL CHRISTMAS

NEWBERRY'S

Assortment of CHRISTMAS GIFT MERCHANDISE

is still complete

SHOP AT

J. J. NEWBERRY CO.

5¢ - 10¢ - 25¢ STORE