

Washington Digest

Nazi Influence Remains To Vex Allied Control

Indoctrination of Youth and Lethargy of Mass of People Obstacle to Efforts to Reconstitute Beaten Nation.



By **BAUKHAGE**

News Analyst and Commentator.

WNU Service, Union Trust Building, Washington, D. C.

(This is the first of two articles by Mr. Baukhage revealing how the results of Himmler's "planned terror" are making it hard for Americans to "run" Germany.)

The hearings of the Kilgore subcommittee on war mobilization concluded in the last weeks of congress and are to be resumed next September. Testimony before the committee has revealed certain "secret documents" showing plans on the part of various German industrialists to subsidize a Nazi underground party.

The purpose of the hearings, Senator Kilgore's associates tell me, is to prepare the United States against a future recrudescence of German militarism.

If such underground organizations exist and continue to exist it will be necessary to hunt them out of their hiding places if we can. This is going to be especially difficult since some of those hiding places undoubtedly will be on foreign territory and it may not be easy to reach across the frontiers of nations not too unfriendly to the Nazi - Fascist idea.

Meanwhile there is an immediate problem to be faced and that is the practical task of "running Germany," something which it is generally admitted is going to be harder than we thought.

There are many baffling factors of a purely physical aspect which enter into the scheme but I do not intend to deal with them here. I want to talk about the psychological problem which is recognized by trained observers on the scene but perhaps not as fully understood as it might be.

It may be recalled that some months ago there appeared in these columns an exposition of the organization and the indoctrination of the German people and the integration of all elements in Germany into a single unit, created for the purpose of waging total war. This dealt with the positive steps taken in the training of the youth and conversion or compulsion exerted over such of the older generation as were sufficiently pliable. In this and a succeeding article I propose to deal with what might be called a program of negation since its purpose was to destroy the quality of resistance to Nazism on the part of those too old or too stubborn: to accept, actively or passively, the Nazi regime. It is what I have alluded to as the program of "planned terror."

Nazification Extended To All Classes

First, it must be remembered that since the Nazis were in full power for about 12 years and the real indoctrination of the German youth began at about the age of 12, there might be presumed to remain a group of middle-aged Germans who escaped the full blight of Nazi indoctrination. Normally they would be the ones most likely to offer collaboration with the American or other officials and most amenable to an acceptance of democratic methods and beliefs.

Of course, there are some such. On the other hand, although this group who by age or inclination were less favorable to Nazification, the majority have not escaped the effects of Nazi rule. These men were brought up in a more or less normal 20th century atmosphere, regimented to some extent, it is true and with the long tradition of German militarism behind them, but at root a kindly, businesslike, churchgoing folk whose evils were environmental and not necessarily hereditary as they proved when they left home and settled on our shores.

They are the ones in Germany whom we blame for failing to arise and overthrow the Hitler regime, for accepting it and its inhumanities. We find them now, according to most of the persons who have visited Germany, befuddled, submissive, yet resentful, but honestly rejecting all personal, individual responsibility for war guilt of Germany and the atrocities of the Nazis. For the most part they have proved about as valuable in assisting in the governing of their country as a large piece of slightly rancid dough.

Kathleen Norris Says:

Many Wives Aid the Enemy

Bell Syndicate.—WNU Features.



"Mollie," she says, "is a perfectly good girl, but she has her friends at the house all the time, who are laughing and making candy and going to afternoon movies."

By **KATHLEEN NORRIS**

THINGS have just been running down at home since Ted and Larry went away to war," whined a woman to me in the market the other day. "You see," she went on, "Larry was making good money and he helped out a lot, and by this time I suppose Ted would have been a wage-earner, too. Now with just Betty and Dad at home, we are the most dismal group you can imagine, and the money trouble doesn't help to console us! I can't wait to have the boys get back, when we can get all straightened out, pay our debts and start over."

I looked at this woman in amazement. She loves her sons; she will grieve bitterly if either is taken by war. And yet she could stand there and tell me, with a sort of melancholy pride, that the welcome provided for the boys of the family is going to be complaints, debts, anxieties, responsibilities—no heartening assurance of the family's solvency and security, no encouraging plans for rest and recuperation—just the old tedious complaining and protesting against the general injustices of fate.

Another woman wrote to her son that she and his grandmother, who have been living together, have had so serious a disagreement that they are going to "law" about it. She asks him to answer several questions by return mail: Does he remember his grandmother saying that his mother had been mixed up in an unsavory love affair before her marriage; will he testify that his grandmother often called his mother ugly names, and so on.

The lonely son, wasting the best years of his life in the bleak Aleutians, must sit down and handle the quarrels of the two undisciplined women.

Runs Down His Wife. Another woman writes her son disparaging letters about his wife. Mollie, she says, is a perfectly good girl, but she has friends at the house all the time who are laughing and making candy and going to afternoon movies, and the mother-in-law thinks it is a shame to have Bob's money wasted that way.

And again a homesick man must open letters that fill his heart with bitterness and despair.

As for the "dear John" letters—these have become a recognized aid to the enemy! The "dear John" letter is a missile that opens with the shattering phrase, "I have been thinking of us and our married life, and I believe we would both be happier if we were to obtain a divorce and make a fresh start with other mates."

Don't smile at this and dismiss it as only an occasional thing. It is a very real and desperate menace to the morale and peace of mind of our fighting boys. Hundreds and hundreds of these cruel notes go forth daily, and the effect they have on a man whose nerves are shaken already by danger, by the loss of comrades, by homesickness, mosquitoes and strangeness may be imagined.

The woman he loves doesn't want to see him any more. The little children who cried when daddy went away won't be his children when he comes back. The home and security

MORALE WRECKERS

It is every woman's duty to try to preserve the morale of the men of her family who are fighting. She should do everything she can to preserve and, when possible, to improve the situation at home. When there are difficulties that she cannot cope with, she should tell her soldier little or nothing about them. Perhaps they will clear up—in any case they can wait. Seldom can the poor fellow in a distant camp do anything about them, anyway. He has enough to contend with, struggling against the enemy, and enduring discomforts of all sorts. Letters disparaging his wife, telling of family quarrels and financial problems, do serious damage to the spirit of the front-line fighters.

ty for which he is fighting aren't either home or secure. The devastating breath of war is not only blighting his life now, at the terrible battle front, but it has destroyed everything else, too.

Grim, Vital Days Ahead.

I would like to remind these letter-writing women that we are going into grim and vital postwar days. Every woman in America will be a help or a burden to the building of the new world then—there will be no half-way. Thousands of helpless, selfish, disoriented women will find themselves left out of the running, their children rebellious at the change that gives them a strange home and a new father, their new mates not inclined to be particularly considerate of the women who coldbloodedly could drop old mates during the crisis of war.

But thank God there will be other women, millions of them—women who have written nothing but encouraging and loving letters during this time; women who have planned practically for the home-coming, are saving money, are out of debt and are full of ideas for Tom's future; women who know that more than our pilgrim or pioneer mothers needed them, we need now courage, self-control, economy and foresight. It is the woman who is strong, faithful to her mate, concerned with his welfare and that of the children and able to live on her income, no matter how small, who is going to be the inspiration, the essential creator, of the new America.

Shifting Curtains Around Makes Them Last Longer

Curtains hung at windows exposed to bright light or sunshine will give out first. Sunlight causes the fabric to lose its strength. It is a good plan to make top and bottom hems of the same width and then reverse them each time they are washed or cleaned. Curtains from sunny windows can be shifted occasionally to the shady side of the house. Sheets usually wear thin first in the upper center, so reverse them from head to foot occasionally. Mend all snags promptly. Stitch together the outside edges of sheets worn thin in the middle, split them down the center and hem the edges.

More Cloth Coming Soon

The supply of yard goods for home-sewing in small towns and rural areas will soon be increased. Preference ratings will be given to merchants in these areas for the distribution of about 150,000,000 yards of cotton fabrics, including pongee, voile, sheeting 42 inches and wider, print cloths, outing flannel and gingham. This decision follows a similar order, issued during the first quarter of this year, which was aimed to correct unequal distribution of piece goods.



Already shaken by danger, homesickness...

To Harriman There Was To Be Time for Thinking

Railroad Magnate E. H. Harriman expected his employees to work hard. That's why it almost gave one of his assistants heart failure when the multimillionaire, without warning, walked into his office and found the man sitting idle. The culprit had been sprawling comfortably in his chair, his feet on the desk and a fat cigar in his face. At the sight of Harriman the employe briskly jumped to his feet, at the same time mentally shedding plenty of tears over his lost job.

"That's perfectly all right. Remain seated," urged the nabob. "I'm delighted to see that you take time out to think."

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SNAPPY FACTS about RUBBER

Eighty per cent of all rubber consumed during the past year was synthetic.

A Connecticut lady suggests rubber tips on broom handles so they won't slip when stood broom-end up.

Factory tests show that steel wheels on concrete floors wear much faster than rubber wheels on the same surface.

The Office of Price Administration estimates that over 43 million tires need recapping.

Russ Manning

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Tattooed Women, Imposing Burial Vaults in Okinawa

Okinawa, which Americans are now taking from the Japs, is a strange place where women tattoo the backs of their hands, where the family funeral vault is more imposing than the family dwelling, and where religion involves the worship of the spirits of the seasons and fire.

One hand is tattooed before marriage to remind the women of the sorrows of marital life; the other is tattooed after the wedding to help her, it is said, "endure the agonies of married life."

Now matter how poor, nearly every family has a stone funeral vault which has a whitewashed interior and gets much care. The Okinawans revere their ancestors. They believe that they, themselves, dwell after death as they did in life.

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That Nagging Backache

May Warn of Disordered Kidney Action

Modern life with its busy and worry, irregular habits, improper eating and drinking—its risk of exposure and infection—brings heavy strain on the work of the kidneys. They are apt to become over-taxed and fail to filter excess acid and other impurities from the life-giving blood.

You may suffer nagging backache, headache, dizziness, getting up nights, leg pains, swelling—feet constantly tired, nervous, all worn out. Other signs of kidney or bladder disorder are sometimes burning, scanty or too frequent urination.

Try Doan's Pills. Doan's help the kidneys to pass off harmful excess body waste. They have had more than half a century of public approval. Are recommended by grateful users everywhere. Ask your neighbor!

DOAN'S PILLS

BARBS... by Baukhage

Don't psychoanalyze the returned G.I., says General Eisenhower, pat him on the back. And, he might have added, keep your hand out of his pocket while you're doing it.

Surplus war property is estimated as equal in value to one-third of all the man-made property in this country less than 10 years ago, from the smallest pin to Boulder Dam.

The German wine crop is 50 per cent better than average this year. But the lees are bitter.

It's a paradox that for all of an army's destructiveness, 600,000 men now in the armed forces, according to Senator Murray, chairman of the small business committee, have had training or experience in construction work.