

NAZI PRISONERS DISGUSTED WITH HITLER REGIME

Tacoma, Wash.—(U.P.)—A dramatic picture of the psychological upheaval that batters men whose entire world suddenly clatters down about their ears is outlined in a letter by an American sergeant in Normandy whose duty is to interview German prisoners.

Sgt. Samson Knoll, Austrian-born soldier serving in the U. S. army intelligence division, reveals some of his observations in a letter to Dr. Warren E. Tomlinson, professor of history and political science at the College of Puget Sound in Tacoma. Knoll has spent a great part of

his life in Germany, and fled the country to escape the Hitler regime.

He depicts the utter bewilderment and frustration of both officers and men who suddenly realize that they have been betrayed by their leaders.

"Never before have I seen thousands and thousands of people so completely broken in spirit—people so disgusted with the way they have been left holding the bag," Sgt. Knoll writes.

In an informal talk with a 26-year-old veteran of the war on the eastern front, Knoll learned something of the hopelessness felt by Nazi prisoners in Normandy. This German, a former Hamburg garage mechanic, told Knoll:

"Russia was awful, but this is worse."

"He did not mean the violence of the fighting nor the conditions under which they lived," Knoll pointed out, "but this awful mess into which they had been led, this betrayal and the terrible way in which they had been forsaken."

Doctor Defends Nazis

At another time, the sergeant talked with a 31-year-old Sudean German doctor of the medical corps who had formerly been a Social Democrat and private chauffeur of Prince Lobkowitz. Although not of the Nazi party and admittedly not anti-Semitic, was arrogantly philosophical and defended Hitler's iron-fisted methods as "birth pangs of something new—something that must inevitably accompany a social revolution." Yet he was at a total loss when Knoll asked how he—a doctor pledged to save lives—could defend the Nazi's wanton slaughter of thousands.

A lieutenant, suspicious at first, finally warmed up under Knoll's friendly, casual half questions. He confessed that in private he painted and drew as he wished—notwithstanding the dictates of the state. He had been an artist in Berlin.

He admitted that national socialism is wrong and must ultimately give way to freedom. When the conversation came to a close, the lieutenant said simply:

"This has been the most pleasant hour I have spent in years, talking freely about art."

Whistling in Dark

On another occasion, Knoll wandered out into the rain after a long session of questioning prisoners. Later, he ducked into a prisoners' tent and huddled inside with a dozen Germans who were also seeking shelter from the downpour. For an hour he sat talking with them, encouraging them to talk among themselves and listening attentively.

Some were arrogant, young, defiant," he relates. "Others were older and more reserved. Yet whatever they talked about, however defiant they wanted to appear, they gave you the feeling that they were whistling in the dark."

Knoll tells of conversing with a 23-year-old master sergeant who was a veteran of many campaigns and had served on the Russian front. Witty, intelligent and a student, the German at first cautiously parried Knoll's questions, but suddenly became confidential.

"I talked with him for more than four hours," Knoll writes, "and with a voice trembling with emotion, he bared the great fear of what was to come—an idealist who had taken the patriotic ideals at their best, who had clung to them, and now that they were smashed—faced nothingness."

Closing time for Sunday Too Late to Cinema's 9:30 Saturday afternoon—Please remember

Yanks Occupy Tacloban, Leyte Capital City



While the new Philippine Government is busy in the capital building (background) in Tacloban, Leyte Island, U. S. Army engineers and supplies teams to-day are busy in exterminating their way to the sea. Photo by Staff Sgt. Fred H. ...



BEFORE—AND AFTER—For a long time he looked like a skeleton, haggard and hungry—but today, thanks to the aid of Greek War Relief, member agency of the National War Fund, he approaches normal health again.

VFW ORGANIZES ARMISTICE DAY HOLIDAY PLANS

Military Affairs committee of Veterans of Foreign Wars, local post 1883, was placed in charge of making arrangements for downtown quarters to be used for the Armistice day celebration at a meeting held last night. A post headquarters office and an office for service officers will be included, Commander Louis Erbes reported.

VFW Armistice day activities will include a "dutch lunch" feed Friday evening for marines and sailors from Kilmath Falls and a breakfast at Holland Hotel Saturday morning.

The marines and sailors, non-

commissioned officers and guests from Camp White and members of the Ashland VFW post will be welcomed to Medford by Karl Janouch, president of Jackson County Chamber of Commerce, Erbes said.

The local post will be in military formation for the parade, after which the Ladies Auxiliary will serve luncheon at the armory.

Post headquarters will be maintained for the occasion at Jackson Hotel with downtown

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HELEN DOUGLAS LEADS OPPONENT

Hollywood, Nov. 8—(U.P.)—Democratic glamour girl Helen Gahagan Douglas took a growing lead in incomplete returns in the 14th district today over William D. Campbell, Republican, for election to Thomas F. Ford's house of representatives seat.

The actress, boosted by Hollywood liberals and the CIO as competition for Republican Clare Boothe Luce, was leading

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Campbell 37,272 to 34,271 in the latest returns, with 371 of the district's 606 precincts still to report.

Mrs. Douglas, wife of film star Melvyn Douglas, now an army major stationed in India, and former Democratic national committeewoman from California, won the nomination in the

May primary after Ford declined to run.

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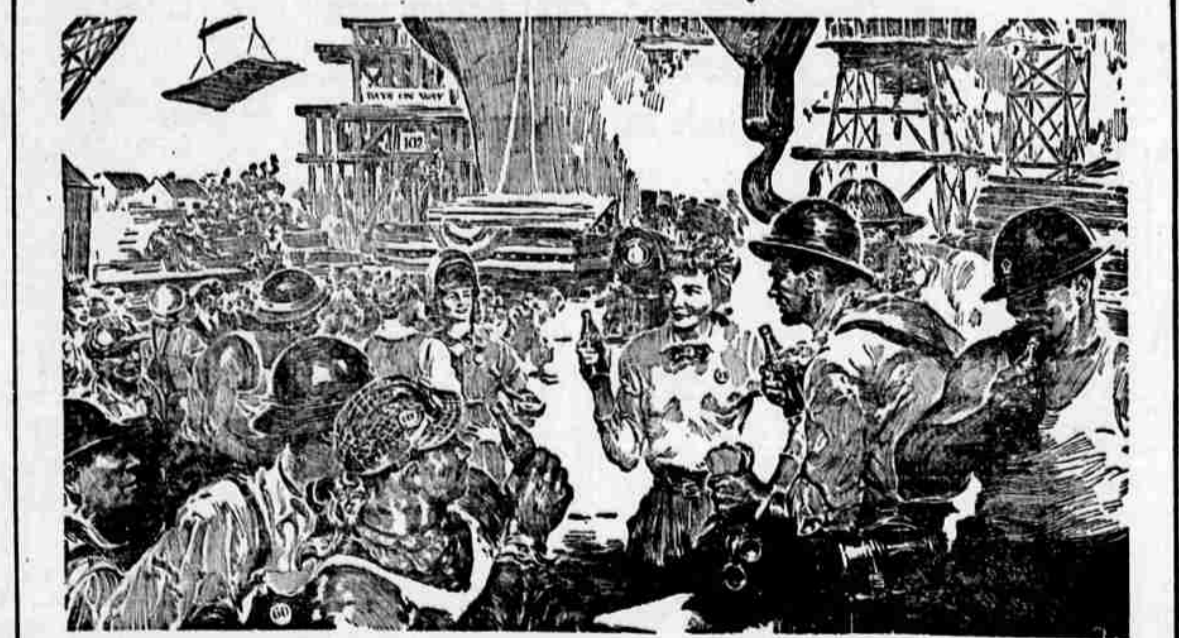
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