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[redacted]

CANDID COMMENT

ON

THE AMERICAN SOLDIER OF 1917-1918 AND KINDRED TOPICS

BY

THE GERMANS

SOLDIERS, PRIESTS, WOMEN, VILLAGE NOTABLES, POLITICIANS AND STATESMEN

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PREPARED BY
THE INTELLIGENCE SECTION
(THE ENEMY ORDER OF BATTLE SUBSECTION)

THE GENERAL STAFF
GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
AMERICAN EXPEDITIONARY FORCES
CHAUMONT, FRANCE
1919

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and related topics,

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SOLDIERS, PRIESTS, WOMEN, VILLAGE NOTABLES
POLITICIANS AND STATESMEN.

As expressed by them to American Intelligence
Officers in personal interviews

and

confidentially to each other by letter and
telephone

Being an inedited and unexpurgated
collection of excerpts from
such American Divisional, Army Corps
and Army Intelligence Reports

and postal and telephone Censorship Reports,
as relate to these subjects

PREPARED BY THE INTELLI-
GENCE SECTION
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PREFACE

The following pages containing the comment from German sources which has been recorded in the files of the Enemy Order of Battle sub-section, G. H. Q., sketch the varying mental states which the German mind experienced as the significance of America's entry into the European theater of operations became generally understood in Germany.

The source of each quotation is indicated just above the quotation. All are authentic, unchanged and inedited. An especial effort has been made to find all unfavorable criticism. The following pages contain all of the unfavorable criticism. That much of the comment is favorable is, therefore, significant.

It is to be regretted that the men who came in contact with the enemy and thus established American prestige cannot read these pages.

OVER

A POST-ARMISTICE RETROSPECT

- - - - The General commanding the Third German Army, General v. Einem, was absent but I was received by the Chief of Staff who asked me if I spoke German, and upon my reply that I did, asked the other officers of his staff, and the staff officer who had accompanied me, to leave the room, and when we two were alone together both standing made, in a very earnest manner a speech to me in substance as follows:

"I fought in campaigns against the Russian Army, the Serbian Army, the Roumanian Army, the British Army, the French Army and the American Army. All told in this war I have participated in more than 80 battles. I have found your American Army the most honorable (ehrlich) of all our enemies. You have also been the bravest of our enemies and in fact the only ones who have attacked us seriously in this year's battles. I therefore honor you, and, now that the war is over, I stand ready, for my part, to accept you as a friend."

From the report of an American General Staff Officer who was sent just after the Armistice into Germany.

PRELIMINARY

JUNE ANTICIPATIONS

Deny the Americans even a moral success:

"It was decided to use picked men against the Americans. 'A Division of five regiments', to inflict on them a morale defeat.

"The purpose of the intervention of the 5th Guard Div. and the 28th Inf. Div. was to prevent at all costs the achievement of success by the Americans - especially a moral success." (This is the statement of officers and platoon leaders.)

The High Command seems to have been much impressed by the Franco-American attacks, and to have decided to prevent at all costs the possibility of the United States being able to boast a success over the German troops.

(French 6th Army, Interrogation No. 6639/2, June 12, 1918).

Employs best divisions against Americans:

Extract from letter: "We shall have a look at the American: the embitterment against him is great. We should have been relieved, but now the American Division has been identified and therefore our Army General Staff has selected the best of our divisions for use against it."

(Hdqrs. 2d Div. U. S. Army June 14, 1918)

JUNE AND JULY REVISIONS

Germans marvel at skill of Americans:

"The prisoners do not conceal their wondering astonishment at the training and skill of the Americans, as revealed this morning before them."

(French 6th Army, Bulletin of Information 513, June 11, 1918)

"The prisoners seemed impressed by the calm and resistance of the Americans."

(French 6th Army Interrogation No. 7024/2, July 15, 1918)

Americans 'good and energetic fighters':

"We were told that the Americans were opposite us, and that they were brave men; and to be on our guard."

A prisoner states that as he went into line he met men coming out, from whom he learned that the Americans were "good and energetic fighters."

(2d Div. Interrogation June 25, 1918)

AND AGAIN IN OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER

"The Americans have the reputation for irresistible courage".

(Report of Intelligence Officer, Pontarlier, from Interrogation of Alsatian Deserter, Oct. 3, 1918)

OVER

Obliged to take our troops into account:

"One of the captured officers was profoundly impressed by the manner in which the Americans fight. He speaks of their valor, their energy, and their scorn of danger. "We shall be obliged to take into account troops which are so well armed and infused with such a spirit.

(French 3d Army, Interrogation No. 7120/2, Oct. 16, 1918)

'Killed to last man, rather than surrender':

"The troops recently arrived in Alsace were strongly impressed by the good showing of theAmericans under fire. They mention occurrences in a battle in which they took part, where groups of American soldiers were killed to the last man, rather than surrender. Most of the men are still completely dumfounded. They declare that all is lost."

(French G.Q.G., Belfort report, August 10, 1918)

"Germans fear Americans more than any others".

Three Russians, used by the Germans as workmen, escaping to the Americans, stated: "We have seen numerous French, Italian, and British prisoners, but no Americans. The Germans fear the Americans more than any other enemy forces on the front."

(Annexe to S. of I. #6, 77th Div. Nov. 5, 1918).

GERMAN IMPRESSIONS OF THE AMERICAN SOLDIER

AFTER MEETING HIM IN BATTLE.

AMERICAN NERVE AND RECKLESSNESS

Interrogation of Arnulf Oster, Lieut.
of Reserve.

"Americans are good fighters with nerve and recklessness."

Statement of Karl Felder,
of Neider Bresig. Jan. 5th, 1919.

"I did not meet the Americans on the battlefileds but I have talked with German soldiers who did. These soldiers were against the Rainbow Division near VERDUN and said they don't want any more such fighting as they encountered there. The Americans were always advancing and acted more like wild men than soldiers."

Interrogation of Herr Fassbender,
of REWAGEN.

He was in the infantry and seved three years on the Western front in the 185th Division. He fought against American soldiers on three fronts, namely, ST. MIHIEL, CHATEAU THIERRY and FLANDERS, being on the CHATEAU THIERRY front in September, 1918, and on the Flanders front in November, 1918. He praises the French soldiers for the slow and careful manner in which they conducted their battles, but is highly impressed with the daring ta dics displayed by the American soldiers who took big changes and went ahead irrespective of any danger. One great fault with them, however, was their failure to keep under cover; but this would have been overcome had they been in the war a little longer. The American gas caused many casualties among the German troops. The Allied artillery was very effective, but the French artillery was the most accurate. Had the American troops come over a few months later Germany would have been victorious. The American airplanes did wonderful work, considering thefact that they were new in the art of aerial warfare. The German people are very friendly disposed to the American troops, despite the fact that they caused their defeat. There is, however, at present a strong hatred against France.

42nd Div. Sum of Int. #230.
January 26, 1919.

THE AMERICANS UNUSUALLY AGGRESSIVE

Interrogation of Julius Baer,
of REMAGEN.

Bauer is a butcher who was with the German heavy artillery for three years. Referring to enemy artillery he said the French was the most accurateand could throw shells where they wanted. The enemy gas was very weak and little attention was paid to it. It was difficult to choose between the French and American infantry; there was however, a difference in the way they fought. The French would not advance unless sure of gaining their objectives while the American infantry would dash in regardless of all obstacles and that while they gained their objectives they would often do so with a heavy loss of life.

42nd Div., Sum. of Int. #230.
January 26, 1919.

Interrogation of James Levy,
of REMAGEN.

Levy served on the Western front in the 207th Div. This division fought against U.S. troops in the Flanders sector near the close of the war. The Germans have nothing but words of praise for the manner in which American soldiers fight, admiring their nerve and courage. Their way of advancing greatly discouraged the Germans. The American way of making drives also disheartened them considerably, as they were followed up in such quick succession that no opportunity was given the Germans to make a good stand, and to dig in and fortify themselves. Referring to the gas used by the Americans, he says that this caused more causalties than was ever supposed. Towards the last stages of the war there was great disorder among the German soldiers and they hailed with great delight the signing of the Armistice!

42nd Div., Sum. of Int. #238.
Feb. 4th, 1919.

From reports received it is evident that the German soldier has brought back a wholesome respect for the Americans and American Arms. They relate that after the warfare of movement started in last July they never fought against Americans but that they came out with heavy losses and much disorganization.

2nd Div. Hdqrs. Sum. of Int. #189.
January 24th, 1919.

Interrogation of Karl Finkl,
of BOLINGEN.

"He has faced the Americans on several occasions, at CHATEAU THIERRY CHAMPAGNE, in the Sector north of SOISSONS and in the ARGONNE, he says the prevailing opinion in Germany before our entry into the war, was, that America was a money hunting nation, too engrossed in the hunt of the dollar to produce a strong military force. But since our troops have been in action the opinion has changed, and he says that though Germany is at present a defeated nation, he believes that they would be victors in a war with any nation in the world with the exception of the United States, whose wonderful resources in men and material they could not overcome.

42nd Div. Sum. of Int. #252.
February 17th, 1919.

"GREEN AND UNTRAINED BOYS"---A MYTH.

Interrogation of Ludwig Kreuger,
of CARWEILER.

His regiment faced the Americans at one time in September, 1918 and says that no one can tell him now that they are green and untrained boys, for he knows better. He says that of the original members of his company, but five were on the line at the time of the Armistice.

42nd Div. Sum. of Int. #260.
Feb. 25, 1919.

Interrogation of Sgt. Hersch.
28th Inf.

Sergeant Hersch of the 28th Regiment of Infantry states that his division was opposed to the 32d (American) Division at the Second Battle of the Marne. Before going into action, all the men, who had never had any experience with the American troops were told that the Americans were green, untrained and cowardly, and that they would not fight. It was not long before his opinion in this regard underwent a considerable change.

32nd Div. Sum. of Int. #52,
January 9th, 1919.

Interrogation of Antone Fuhrmann,
of MAYSCHOSS.

Fuhrmann is 25 years old and served in the 128th artillery against the French at CHATEAU THIERRY, RHEIMS and ARRAS and the Americans and British at CAMBRIA. He states that his unit was kept utterly in the dark as to the number of Americans in France; in fact they knew nothing of their presence until the CAMBRAI action. He says there were only a handful of Americans there but they fought like wildmen. Knowing what he does now of their numbers and fighting ability he thinks the Germans would have laid down their arms long ago if they had as much information about Americans then. The Germans were herded about like sheepand kept in absolute ignorance of the real political and military situation. They were watched very closely and all incoming mail was subject to censorship, especially toward the last when they were losing.

42nd Div. Sum. of Int. #213,
January 9th, 1919.

Interrogation of Ludwig Weller,
a discharged soldier.

Morale took a severe slump after the defeat in July, and from that time on it was common talk among the soldiers that they had been deceived by their leaders in regard to the Americans. The troops, Weller says, soon recognized that the American soldier was a brave and worthy opponent that he advanced rapidly with little regard for cover and was daring in his night patrolling. The German troops had been told that the Americans would be poor soldiers and the actual experience was discouraging.

3rd Army Corps. Sum. of Int. #29.
December 14, 1918.

THOSE WHO DISTURBED THE PEACE IN QUIET SECTOR.

COMMENTS ON THE BACCARAT SECTOR.

Baccarat, which in 1917 and the Spring of 1918 was the training ground in trench warfare for many of the American Divisions, was considered almost as a leave area by both German and French soldiers who had been through the hard fighting of the active fronts. By mutual agreement the fighting had been reduced to a point where it was almost negligible. The German artillery would not fire if the French did not, and the French were as willing as the Germans to maintain peaceful relations with their enemy. It was a common thing for the soldiers to go across No-Man's land and barter chocolate for cigarettes and even to discuss the military situation and the prospects of getting home soon. It was a fine war.

One day when the Germans were sitting in their trenches playing cards and enjoying the rest and freedom from disturbance, a shell came over from the French lines, then another, and another. The Germans beat a hasty retreat to their dugouts, confused and angered by this violation of the Baccarat rules of warfare. The shelling continued and the anger of the Germans changed to anxiety, What could be the meaning of this unprecedented artillery activity? Surely the French would not attack. Determined to go to the bottom of the mystery, when night came a patrol ventured out from the German lines with instructions to visit the enemy trenches and try to get information that would account for the afternoon's shelling. The patrol accomplished its purpose - it reported that instead of French troops being opposite them, the Americans were there. No further explanation was necessary.

Sum. of Int. #236.
42nd Div. Feb. 2, 1919.

THE AMERICANS MAGNIFICIENT EQUIPMENT.

Interrogation of Karl Schuster,
of Malberg.

When witnessing the passage of the American troops he gave voice to his surprise at the magnificient equipment, transports, and the speed with which every duty is discharged. "No wonder we couldn't win", was his fitting remark.

3rd Army Corps, Sum. of Int. #22,
December 7, 1918.

Interview with a member of the Staff,
of the 2nd Battalion, 76th Res. Div.

An interesting interview was held with a member of the staff of the 2nd Battalion of the 76th Reserve Division, against whom the 77th U. S. Division (Major Whittlesy's Battalion) was opposed during the last Argonne fight. He said in effect that it wasn't lack of morale in his unit, but the fact that fresh troops with seemingly every necessary equipment, were opposed to them, and that the four years of hard service they had undergone had sucked every bit of initiative they had.

Lieut. Prinz was the adjutant of the 2nd Battalion, who wrote the note to Major Whittlesy asking him to surrender.

3rd. Army Sum. of Int. #23.
December 9th, 1918.

AMERICAN ARTILLERY FIRE.

Interrogation of Peter Bertram,

Shopkeeper of DERNAU. Dec. 18, 1918.

With reference to the American as a soldier, Mr. Bertram knew nothing of them directly but stated that he had been told by other soldiers that the American infantryman was reckless to the point of foolishness, seldom taking cover and even attacking machine guns in the open. American artillery is credited with being very accurate and special mention is made of the volume of fire.

Interrogation of Alex Statten,
of BODENDORF.

Statten considers the American artillerymen expert shots and says their fire had terrible effect. The Germans did not like to face our artillery and although he had never been wounded he has lost five brothers in the infantry. They were among the "cannon fodder" as he called the infantry.

42nd Div. Sum. of Int. #211,

January 7, 1919.

Interrogation of the Miller
of NIEDERCHE. Dec. 12, 1918.

The miller served against French, British, Canadian, Australian and American troops and expresses great admiration for the vim and dash with which our infantry attacked and for the effectiveness of our artillery fire.

Interrogation of Peter Mersch,
467th Inf. 239th Division, of
HOLZTHUM.

This ex-soldier was opposed to us in the Champagne offensive of July 1918. The orders were to reach CHALONS in the first drive but the wonderful American artillery and the stubborn resistance of the infantry proved too much. He spoke very highly of the dash and energy of the American soldier but considered them undertrained and poorly officered.

3rd Army Corps, Sum. of Int. #23.
December 8th, 1918.

Interrogation of Karl Diehl,
of SELTERS.

Diehl considers the Americans good fighters. The accuracy of American artillery fire, he believed, could have been considerably improved upon.

3rd Army Corps. Sum. of Int. #45.
December 30, 1918.

THE GERMANS FEARED AMERICAN FLYERS MOST.

Interrogation of John Oberlander,
of Bonn.

His experiences on the Eastern front caused him to say that the Russians were the poorest soldiers among Germany's enemies, and that one company of Germans was equal to a regiment of Russians. The real fighters were the British, French and Americans on the Western front. Oberlander stated that in his opinion England had the best infantry, the American Artillery was the most accurate, and the American aeroplanes the most feared. He considered the achievements of the American airmen wonderful, considering the length of time they had been in the field.

42nd Div. Sum. of Int. #205,
January 1, 1919.

THE ACTIVITIES OF AMERICAN PLANES OVER TRIER DURING THE WAR have been described by a resident of that city as follows :

The German anti-aircraft guns were placed on the bluff west of the city -- commanding position. The French planes invariably flew at an extreme height and about 80% of their bombs were ineffective. The Americans flew at such a low altitude that they were beneath the top of the bluff and, consequently, the anti-aircraft guns could not fire on them as their shells would fall in the city, At one time one of our planes attacked the anti-aircraft batteries with grenades.

All of our bombs were effective and they were so greatly feared that when the inhabitants saw their own planes flying toward the front to bomb French cities, "they would stand in the street and shake their fists at their own Planes and exclaim 'they had better stay at the front for the Americans will come over and retaliate' and seldom did the retaliation fail to materialize". The American planes attacked in the daytime as well as at night.

EDITORS NOTE:-- The planes referred to were British. No American aviators Bombed Trier.

THE YANKS MADE BAD PRISONERS.

Interrogation of Paul Heinman.

In 1916 Heinman was taken from this work and assigned to the 141st F.A., which was then near Verdun. During the campaign in the CHATEAU THIERRY salient, he wasshifted from one point to another, his first fighting against the Americans being just south of FERE-en-TARDENOIS. He comments on the fact that the Americans were what might be called bad prisoners. A group of 14 were brought in one day and when asked about their units refused to talk. They refused to work and talked back to the officers, much to the annoyance of the officers and the concealed delight of the men.

89th Division Sum. of Int. #208,
March 6th, 1919.

GERMAN AND AMERICAN OFFICERS CONTRASTED.

Interrogation of Herr Braun,
Forrester, BREIDSCHEID.

Braun has served in the German army as an enlisted man and keenly alive to conditions in the army. He makes an interesting comparison in the German and American systems of training officers and states that the German system was the direct downfall of the army. At the beginning of the war Germany was well supplied with experienced officers who were respected and looked up to by the men in spite of the harsh disciplinary measures. The casualties, however, among officers during the first year of the war were enormous and they at once started training new officers. The material for these so-called officers' camps was taken solely from the Gymnasia which correspond somewhat to our high schools. The candidates were selected from among the sons of the most influential families, given a short training and then put in charge of companies. They tried to impose the same rigid discipline that the regular officers had, but the enlisted men resented this to the extent of open rebellion and fought withtheir officers until there was no discipline left in the army. Herr Braun cited an instance where a friend of his was a teacher at BONN and an authority on his subject. He served during the war as an enlisted man while his immediate commanding officer had been up to the time of the war a pupil of his and his worst pupil at that. He knew personally of many cases like that. He said that the American training schools although modelled after the Germans turned out successful officers because the best fitted men were picked from the ranks.

42nd Div. Sum of Int. #209,
Jan. 5th, 1919.

Interrogation of Michael Hoffman,
of RECH.

He thinks that our officers are not well dressed. On being informed of the baggage allowance of an American officer and at the opportunities which they have had for purchasing uniforms he stated that all officers in the German army even when in active field service have one or more trunks and from time to time are allowed to leave for the purpose of obtaining uniforms; even an aspirant was allowed one trunk in addition to his field bedding roll.

42nd Div. Sum. of Int. #196.
December 23, 1918.

Interrogation of Burgomaster &
Secretary, NEUENAHR.

He spoke of the great difference between the American and German armies and was very much surprised to learn that one could become a non-commissioned officer after spending six or eight months in the service. In peace time in the German army a soldier was given a Sergeantcy only after he had spent 10 or 12 years in service with a clean record, and then if he continued faithful he was given a place near his home as Postman or railroad employee.

42nd Div. Sum. of Int. #207.
January 3rd, 1919.

ARE AMERICANS WELL DISCIPLINED?

Statement of Dr. Otto Schranzkmuller,
A former Prussian Municipal Official.

"The American army seems to me as fine a collection of individual physical speciments as I have ever seen," the doctor declared in his excellent unidiomatic English. "But formthe standpoint of military discipline it is a mob, pure and simple. The men appear slouchy; the officers do not stand out from the men in appearance as they do in any European army. All seem to allow themselves to be victimized in prices by the tradespeople of this, I am most unhappy to admit, vanquished country. They seem to have no conception of the fact that we are their enemies, and deep down in our hearts we hate each and every one of them." The doctor asked a few questionsin reference to the staff work of the American army. He recalled the German statement at the commencement of hostilities between the United States and Germany that the United States would find it impossible to procure six thousand efficient staff officers. He stated that he had heard that in the past few months the United States army had had to use a great proportion of French officers on its staffs in order to keep the service of supplies from an utter breakdown.

42nd Div. Sum. of Int. #185.
Dec. 12, 1919.

Interrogation of Herman Eich,
Dernau School-teacher. Dec. 16, 1918.

The American soldiers are well liked by the inhabitants as they are clean and generally treat the people with respect. He does not think our army well disciplined as compared with theGermany army but it is the universal feeling among the people that the spirit of the American army is much better than the German army ever has been. Our equipment is much better than the German especially during the latter days of the war.

Interrogation of Muskateer, Michael Kreuzberg,
of DERNAU.

He has never fought against American soldiers but says they are good soldiers in that they are always happy and contented even when forced to work in bad weather and under bad conditions. This is a contrast to the German discipline where the men were always grumbling among themselves.

42nd Div. Sum. of Int. #199,
Dec. 26, 1918.

Interrogation of Prince Karl of Hohenzollern,
Lieut. Gen. and Commander of the 38th Landwehr Brigade.

He deplored the fact that Germany had not started propaganda of larger proportions, spending millions instead of thousands of marks. He admitted that German propaganda was active in the United States, and regretted that it had been carried on in such a clumsy manner. In this connection he said that the greatest fault of Germany diplomacy was a persistent disregard of the importance of national psychology and failure to appreciate the point of view of other nations.

The Prince in closing, paid a very high tribute to the American soldier. Coming from an officer who had been 32 years in the German Army, this tribute has unusual significance. The Prince said that in all his experience he had not found anywhere soldiers who were better disciplined or better behaved.

3rd Army Sum. of Int. #43,
December 29, 1918.

Interrogation of Joseph Hahn,
of NEUNAHR.

Hahn states that all the people in the town are admiring the clean-cut American soldiers. He states that the impression the American soldier is leaving, with the people of Germany, is the impression that Germany will have of America in years to come. He notices the contrast between the American and German armies in their forms of discipline, stating that if the German army had been as free with their men as the American Army is, they would not have had the success that was theirs at the beginning of the war.

Sum. of Int. 42nd Div.,
Feb. 26th, 1919.

THE OFFICERS AND THE MEN ARE CORDIAL

Interrogation of Anton Liersch,
Postal Agent, DERNAU. Dec. 16th, 1918.

Our troops lack the snap and precision of the German soldiers but he thinks that the cordial relations between the officers and men more than make up for the lack of iron discipline.

Interrogation of Johann Grossgartern,
ex-soldier of RECH.

As usual with the German soldier he has a good opinion of our soldiers and officers and believes that while our discipline is not strict there is much better feeling between the men and officers of our army than with the German army. He has never faced American soldiers in Battle but from his talks with other soldiers in the hospitals he is convinced that they are fearless fighters.

42nd Division Sum. of Int. #195.
December 22, 1918.

Statement of M. Walter,
of MINDERLITTGEN.

"The attitude of the American officer towards enlisted men is very different than in our army in which officers have always treated their men as cattle."

3rd Army Corps, Sum. of Int. #21,
December 6th, 1918.

Interrogation of Aloys Hansen,
of WIMBACH.--December 13, 1918.

He did not know whether the American soldiers were or were not well disciplined. He remarked that the people had talked among themselves about the relations between American officers and soldiers and thought them much more informal than in the German army.

Interrogation of Anton Jolgen,
Rech, ex-member 65th Ldw. Regt.,
5th Ldw. Div.

This regiment was in the St. Mihiel Salient atthe time of the American attack. Jolgen reports that plans had been made to evacuate the salient and were being carried out at the time the attack took place. Everyone expected an attack but it was expected about three days later than it actually started. For this reason they were caught with practically no artillery in position and that which was in position was almost entirely out of ammunition. The infantry was in no condition to receive an attack as the plan was to go back without allowing us contact. For this reason without serious losses we were eneabled to capture positions powerfully organized upon which heavy resistance could have been made and which would have caused considerable losses to take by frontal attack. His opinion of the American soldier is very high. In this attack the artillery fire was very accurate and very heavy and the advance of the infantry was in good formation and irresistable. He thinks the American soldier does not look as well on the road or in camp as in the field but likes our discipline very much because of the greater freedom given the men. He thinks that individually the German soldier is not as good a fighter as the American.

42nd Div. Sum. of Int. #198.
December 25, 1918.

TRANSLATION OF A DIARY TAKEN FROM A HUNGARIAN LIEUTENANT OF THE 1ST AUSTRO-HUNGARIAN DIVISION.

NOTES ON THE WESTERN FRONT BEGINNING AUGUST 20, 1918.

Aug. 20th - Just arrived back at my company.

Aug. 22nd - Took up position in the third line. Rotten!

Sept. 5th - Took up position in the second line (with immediate reserve Command)

Sept. 7th & 8th - Consolidated the entire Battalion.

Sept. 14 - Eight of our observation balloons were attacked by an American plane and burned up. At 6.30 P.M. another plane attacked 3 of our balloons and finished them by burning. Our observer saved himself by jumping out. We are awaiting the attack of the French to-night or in the morning. In the attack, according to statements from prisoners, 4 or 5 Divisions, and about 300 tanks will participate.

Sept. 16 - At 7:30 in the evening two enemy planes again succeeded in burning two of our observation balloons.

Sept. 17, This evening we are to relieve the 7th Company in the front line.

Sept. 18th. So far nothing has been done about relief. The 1st Lieut. paid us a visit in the evening.

Sept. 19, At 4:30 in the morning we were awakened by the noise of a terrible barrage by the enemy. Later they stopped firing. I was wondering all the while what the barrage meant. Received orders at 7:30 for the relief which was completed by 11 o'clock.

Sept. 25th - During the day everything was silent; about 11:45 the intensive barrage which was coming down toward our right suddenly changed direction to our front line; it commenced exactly at 10:45 P.M.

Sept. 26th - The terrible barrage continues all day long without any noticeable change. Among the shells flying in all directions near us, many are gas shells, and everything is full of gas. At 12:30 in the middle of the fire I had to go over to the 112th Company to keep up liaison with them. I had just left them when a lot of gassed men were taken away to the hospital, All night and all day could not leave dugout. Towards evening the firing ceased but for a few minutes only, and started again with more intensity. In this mix-up someone lost our bread-ration.

Sept. 27th - At night the firing decreased but did not stop. In the morning we were compelled to move back to our lines again. I do not know, but I think we will have to move again soon. Of course the relief is supposed to be made in the evening. (Later) Exactly as I thought- I had not finished my dinner when the firing broke out again intense as before, full of gas-shells; and we had to move back to the dugout again.

Sept. 28th - Barrage continued all night long; especially with gas-shells, and no let up all day long. At 6:30 received orders to relieve the 10th Company to-morrow. 60 went to hospital gassed.

Sept. 30th - From 10 o'clock the 29th til 5 in the morning I was on post in a grenade dump. Not having enough men in the company, we were compelled to relieve the Feldwebel, till some one could be put on. The heavy rain did not stop a minute and soaked through and through. This being on post all night was a murderous job, as the French machine gun was firing all the time on my post. Went to sleep during the day. Toward evening at 6:30 had to go on post again till midnight, as the needed men were just arriving from some other company.

Oct. 1st - About 5 o'clock in the morning, we take in all the sentries and leave only three day men on duty. Those on duty all night sleep all day, and about 6:30--7:00 o'clock we go out again, Rain and rain again. I inspect the sentries half hourly, or hourly. Nothing happened all day.

Oct. 3rd. -Between 1 and 2 o'clock the assault detachment was out in front of the lines. Directly opposite us about 300 yards a lot of French machine guns can be seen. A few minutes later, they all let loose and bullets were flying around us like a hail-storm. Fortunately nobody was hurt. At 10:45 in the evening a lieutenant was here from the 7th Company inquiring about positions. They will relieve us within a few days. I pray to God that everything runs satisfactory till then..... The company received only one-third ration today.

Oct. 5th. - We finished placing the sentries in their new positions this morning only at 4 o'clock. We returned thoroughly soaked. Nothing noticeable happened all day. There is one thing though, the enemy lying before us for the last few days are making altogether too much noise. The constant hammering, moving of wagons, placing of lumber, plainly audible, mixed with some unknown shout like "Hipp, No" indicate preparations. It must be new American troops over there, who are making so much noise.

Oct. 8th - Till 2:30 in the morning I was on duty inspecting sentries when I was relieved, as the previous night I was on duty all night long. I was informed there is to be a great attack 5 o'clock in the morning. Of course, I have been told that before and nothing has happened, but I made my preparations and lay down to sleep for awhile. In five minutes I was up, or rather I jumped up, for like a volcano spitting its lava, the most hellish barrage started on us, inexpressable in its intensity, and a shell hit our dug-out squarely. The barrage moved up further within a half hour; and at the same time from another dug-out one of my platoon leaders ran to me and pointed to both sides of the hill where the French soldiers were already marching behind us in the valley. We jumping out from the trench with machine guns and hand grenades awaiting us, while at the same time from the mountain above us - like wild tigers, Americans and French jumped on us and swallowed us up. To resist - even to dream of it - was impossible. By 6:30 all of us were marching as prisoners. Really this was the most surprising, --- and in its extent, most marvelous attack I ever saw. All day long we were moved from one place to another until at 9:30 we arrived, soaked, in a large prison cage; within a wire fence we lay down in the mud. Later we received blankets from the Americans, which was very good of them.

Oct. 9th - Woke up in the morning at 5 o'clock. We received breakfast. Heavens, lovely white bread, a large piece which even in peace times is better than our cakes. Also meat and vegetables, conserve, and coffee that had some kick to it. Dinner, this priceless bread; a large piece, meat stew and coffee. Afternoon nothing to do. Supper, meat and vegetables as at breakfast, and that lovely white bread again. If this keeps up this way I shall even forget that I slept in such a condition. It is royal time the Americans give us.

(HEADQUARTERS FIRST AMERICAN ARMY.
Prisoners Document #204).

GERMAN OPINION OF THE AMERICAN OCCUPATION.

THE APPREHENSION AT THE COMING OF AMERICANS.

At OLINGEN (Germany) civilians stated that the Germans had taken a considerable quantity of foodstuffs without paying for it, excusing their actions by saying, "The Americans, who are the biggest robbers in the world, will take it anyway, when they come".

Extract from Summary of
Intelligence, 3d U.S.Corps,
November 22, 1918.

Many of the clothing stores gave suits of civilian clothes to the discharged German soldiers, explaining that their stores would be looted by the Americans upon their arrival, so they might as well give them away. All classes feared the coming of the Americans because they expected retaliation for what the Germans did in BELGIUM and FRANCE.

Statement of Liberated Italian
Prisoners of War.

THE LESSON OF BELGIUM

"The German people thoroughly understand how civilians in Belgium and France were treated and they will not afford you the excuse or opportunity to treat themselves likewise here". "You need not expect any trouble whatsoever from the German population, because they realize that might is against them and they can do nothing."

Statement of a German Officer.

No one expected any resistance from Belgium. It was thought that the army could march right through and Belgium would afterwards be rewarded. Instead she resisted and was destroyed. He is a firm believer in the force of Military necessity. When asked if we would be justified in destroying this town in case some one person fired at us he evaded the question and answered: "No one would be foolish enough to oppose an army in Germany." He would make no prophecies as to the future of Germany, but is afraid that the peace terms will be hard enough to keep her down for at least 20 years. He looks to the United States to keep the country from being entirely torn to pieces. He does not like the idea of having foreign troops quartered here but prefers Americans even to Germans as they are more considerate and spend more money. There is as much money spent now in the winter as there usually is during a peaceful summer. In that respect he thinks the people west of the Rhine are luckier than those on the east side. He also remarked that no American would watch even an enemy starve.

Interrogation of Adolph Werner
of RECH.

A MUNICIPALITY WARNS ITS CITIZENS.

To Our Fellow Citizens:

As everybody knows, American troops will occupy the region in which we live. They are still at war with us. DON'T FORGET THAT! They have the power of treating you as enemies but by the proclamation of their General Officers, they have plainly stated that they do not wish to exercise this power as long as you prove yourselves by your conduct worthy of their trust .

FELLOW CITIZENS! Prove yourselves true and loving Rhinelanders and Germans! Be reserved and courteous in your behavior, in your reception neither importunate nor surly.

Conduct yourselves according to the edicts of the Commanding Officer, and carry out their orders exactly!

You young people, however, must conduct yourselves in a specially well-behaved manner and be assured that otherwise INTERNMENT and DEPORTATION threaten you!

Parents, keep your children in hand, and you, maidens of the RHINELAND, be modest; don't throw yourselves away, for your behavior will not be forgotten: think of your future and the future of Germany!

Follow our advice and thus will the renown of your Rhenish homeland be held in high esteem. The Americans will behave well towards you and make good report of you and will take home with them a feeling of high regard for us. As the American Chief of Staff assured the people in TRIER, "Every interference with the freedom of the people will be avoided, and everything will be carried on just as if there existed no occupation".

The Committee of Public Safety
for the
Community of Rheinbrohl.

Translation of a Document
Posted in Area of 3d U.S.Corps.

THEIR FEARS ALLAYED

"From the time the armistice was signed to the entry of your troops into this village, we did not know just what to do or how to act. We heard through our returning troops that you Americans were following them at a short distance. We were also informed that your men were inclined to be rough, and the impression was left with us that we had a very serious time before us. Our own troops took many things away with them and at times made forcible entry into our buildings and took what they wanted. If our own troops acted in this way, what could we expect from an enemy. When your troops finally reached here, we watched their every movement with mingled feelings of fear and uncertainty. But today, after living 24 hours with them, we have no longer any apprehension. They are wonderfully mild mannered men and a great contrast to the domineering attitude of our own soldiers. Your troops, not even one, have spoken a single disagreeable word to anyone, and when we offered them wood for cooking and heating purposes they accepted with what seemed to be a certain shyness. They sit in our living rooms with us, and we smoke and try to make ourselves understood. This is a great relief when one considers how the Saxons treated us when they came through here."

Statement of the Mayor of
KASCHENBACH.

Statement of Michel Simon of
NEURBURG.

"The people of our village were worried at first about the occupation by American troops. Instructions were given as to how the inhabitants should conduct themselves in order to avoid any unpleasant incident. Children have constantly talked of the Americans' arrival, and pictured them as a band of wild Indians, However, when the troops arrived, we were astonished at their behavior and pleasant attitude toward our people. The men knocked at our doors, before entering our houses, and asked for what they wanted in a kindly manner. Not a single man acted disagreeably Our people could not be more satisfied with the conduct of the American soldiers."

Interview with the Manager of
Branch Krupp Factory at SAYN.

He said that he personally had had some fear as to the treatment the Germans would receive from the Allied troops of Occupation, but since he had seen the Americans all his fears had been allayed.

EDITORIAL COMMENT ON THE ENTRY OF THE AMERICANS

From the "COBLENZER GENERAL ANZEIGER",
of December 13th, 1918.

Yesterday, the 12th of December, a day made memorable two years ago when the Kaiser made his overture for peace, the American troops entered the city. The first troops marched in early in the morning. There followed a considerable interval until at midday long columns of all arms passed through, marching in close order. It was very much the same picture as was presented when the German troops withdrew during the last few weeks. Halts were made in the open spaces, draught animals, for the most part mules, were unharnessed, and the soldiers had their midday mess. On whatever side one looked one saw Americans. Many moving pictures were taken. The children for the most part surrounded the field kitchens, and the Americans distributed sweets among them. There was even a band which played its troops through the Ringstrasse. One can make only the most favorable comment on the attitude of the American troops of occupation, for the troops behaved themselves extremely well. Among the Americans, there must be a great many in whose veins flows the blood of this district. Among them there is actually one born in COBLENZ who belongs to an old established family. In his case, however, the occupation came too late, for only a few days ago his aged mother, who would have been so happy to have seen her son again, died.

From the "BITBURGER ZEITUNG".
December 7th, 1918.

"The occupation of the City and Circle by the American troops has been accomplished so far with no restriction of liberty or circulation. The officials and business men work in quiet and undisturbed. Life goes on as usual. The mails and railway traffic have necessarily been interrupted. It is just to acknowledge that the American Military authorities are efficient without harshness, and the behavior of the American troops is wonderfully good. Not only officers but soldiers are considerate and seem obliging. The Americans take pains not to make the occupation appear vexatious. On their side, the Americans will have observed (or, will have become convinced) that it is far from the intention of the local population to create any discordance."

A WOMAN'S ACCOUNT OF OUR ARRIVAL.

From American Postal Censorship.

An eye-witness, living in a little town near COBLENZ, gives us a letter with the following narrative of the entrance of the American occupation troops into the Rhineland and of their conduct in the town s occupied. At the beginning of his letter this man states: "In writing, I take it for granted that this letter will get through on account of the tolerance of the Americans."-.....

"Now let us come to the Americans. The march into the valley of the Rhine took place from the direction of the Hunsruck to the tune of "Was Nutzet dem Seemann sein Geld". They passed through the town.... in the direction of COBLENZ, strong young people, of whom at least every tenth man could speak German. These people arrive in a friendly - almost modest - manner, and therefore, everywhere, are given a good and friendly reception. The harmony between them and the French is very lukewarm. Everywhere one hears strong shrill discords. The French population sheared the Americans. While the French soldiers paid two fancs for a bottle of wine the Americans were made to pay 4, 6, and even 8 Francs.

"The supplies of theAmericans are excellent: Clean white bread, just as white as ever were our best cakes; plenty of meat, always served with potatoes and sauce. The supply trains come in continuously. Hay, straw, everything, is brought along.

"While on duty the relations between men and officers are very strict, but on the other hand, when off duty, they are without constraint. The officers sit in the same cafe rooms with their men. When one sees the supplies, the materiel, etc., one is obliged to laugh at the imagination of our marine heads who praised the U-boats as a victor over the Entente. Every man has his cloth coat and his waterproof coat, his leather shoes and rubber shoes, etc. There is no evidence of lack of discipline or of disobedience. Rumors to that effect are simply fairy tales spread by the Kultur of Kiel and Berlin. During the entrance of the Americans, the population lined the streets, displayed curiosity, remaining quiet. The soldiers distributed chocolate among the children, etc., thus laying the foundations of friendship. The Americans all state that they are not our enemies, but that they were pressed into service, etc.".

THE CONTRAST WITH THE GERMAN PASSAGE.

Statement by Mr. Seul, Mayor of WELLING .

"Our city is besieged by American troops. Everywhere one looks your troops are either on the march through the town or thronging the streets, and you seem to possess automobiles of every description. Our people look wonderingly on at all this. Until the scond of this month German troops also passed through here, but what a contrast! Instead of the orderly march of the Americans, our troops marched without any formation whatever. The almost kindly manner of your men toward our people is in marked contrast to the gruff behavior of our own soldiers. Before your troops ever came, here, we heard from our own soldiers what an extraordinary fine class of men you had - all young and strong.

"In their letters our soldiers told us to hope that American troops rather than English or French would occupy this territory. But even then, we feared and wondered what your attitude toward us would be. After the shameless way our own troops behaved, demanding and stealing what they wanted, what would and enemy do ? But we now know, and are much pleased.

Interview with Karl Schramem,
LANDSTRUMER of ZERMULLEN.

The American troops show much more consideration for the private rights of the inhabitants of the village than did the German troops.

Statement of Heinrich Hoffman,
of NOHN.

He states that the conduct of the American soldiers has been much better than that of the Germans; that there is no particularly hard feeling against the Americans except that the Germans were disappointed as they expected America to be with them, largely because of the fact that nearly every family has friends or relatives in America. He himself has two undles and two brothers living in New York and states that he could not understand how the Germans in America could fight against the Germans in Germany.

Statement of M. Erasmi,
of KYLBURG.

When questioned as to the conduct of the American troops, M. Erasmi stated that "the Americans can very well serve as an example for our own troops whose behavior as they passed through here was none too good".

Statement of Antonne Kleist,
Ex. Sgt., of STEMROPEN.

He is glad the war is over and that they were fortunate enought to secure the Americans in occupying their territory. The Americans are more considerate of the rights of the people than the German troops when they were returning through this country.

SOME GERMANS PREFER AMERICANS TO FRENCH OR BRITISH.

Interrogation of the Burgomaster
of AHRWEILER.

The Burgomaster states that he always has been and is a patriotic German and therefore he cannot look upon any army of occupation with pleasure. He states, however, thatthe population prefers an American army of occupation to any other for he thinks that there are no historical causes for enmity between America and Germany. The Germans also looked upon the Americans during the war with a feeling of kindliness because they were so many people of German descent in America.

Interrogation of Aloys Hansen
of WIMBACH.

In regard to their feeling for the Americans, he admitted that they did not love them but as the country had to be occupied by troops of some nation under the terms of the armistice, they were far better pleased to have American troops than those of England or France. He has no idea of what the future of theRhenish provinces will be nor of the peace terms but the people in general desire an independent state, if possible, under the protectionof America, but realizing that this is impossible, under the protection of a German confederation.

He does not think there will be any opposition shown anywhere within the occupied districts as they had been warned by the discharged German soldiers of the consequences of opposing in any way an organized army.

Interrogation of Michel Appel,
Burgomaster of Rech.

The people are well satisfied and have no complaint to make against the occupation by the American soldiers, being convinced that if soldiers must be here the Americans are probably preferable to those of any other army including the German army. He also said it was a good thing for the local inhabitants because of the large amount of moneyspent by our men.

Interrogation of Herr Sterns,
Cafe Owner, BEUL.

This man has been a proprietor of a cafe for eight years. He speaks very highly of theAmerican soldier and thinks that it was luck for the people that Americans were chosen for this district.

He thinks it is strange that the Americans, having spent so short a time in the army, can adapt themselves to any condition that presents itself. He remarked that on the day the soldiers came to this town all were surprised at the orderly way the Americans conducted themselves. He said that he had never known a regiment of German soldiers to come here and behave themselves in such an orderly manner. German soldiers were always brutal to servants and destroyed a great deal of property.

Statements of a prominent citizen
and an ex-German Officer of NOHN.

The American Army of Occupation has shown them clearly that our sort of government is very desirable, because our troops, coming as a conquering body of men, treat the citizens of the occupied towns with much more consideration than do the retreating soldiers of their own country. Above all, we are everywhere constantly hymned with peans of thanksgiving that we are Americans, because the civilians and discharged soldiers both fear that theFrench and English (especially the former) wish to and may overstep the terms of the armistice, in order to gain a personal revenge.

Extract from Summary of Intelligence.
89th Div., Jan. 2, 1919.

Waxweiler - One man - a discharged soldier - does not understand why America is keeping her troops here to guard Allied interests when it is apparent that the terms of the armistice are being fulfilled. He said that he would rather billet American troops than either the French or British. The inhabitants at large are very much interested in whether the United States has transported overseas all the troops she had in training. They say that the feeling in the larger towns in the interior is still very bitter and if the United States troops should attempt to occupy some of these towns it would be only a question as to the time when hostilities would begin again. The people are trying to be friendly but it is with an effort on their part.

From Interrogation of Herr Basstgen,
Curate of MURLENBACH.

The curate speaks very good French and assures us that COBLENTZ will welcome the Americans, as people know they come as friends, not as enemies. He states that the inhabitants in the Zone of American Occupation are extremely thankful that the troops are neither French nor English. He also states that the inhabitants have purchased American Flags for display when our troops enter the town.

Statement of Karl Felder
of NIEDER BREISIG.

"The people here hate the French more than they do the British. They much prefer the Americans as troops of occupation. Since the Americans have arrived the German people have learned to like them."

Interview with the Miller of
NIEDERCHE.

He is one of three brothers, two of whom served in the German army, while the third is employed as an engineer in New York. He is in the main inclined to be friendly to American troops and expresses relief that it is they and not the French or British who are occupying the Rhineland provinces.

Interview with H. Schaeffer,
Schoolmaster of UNKELBACH.

The people of the locality are pleased with the American occupation and frequently express gratitude that it is the Americans who are occupying their towns.

Interrogation of Wilheim Kalter,
Of METTNERNICH-SQUARE.

Kalter, as an employee of the street railway of Coblenz, has had a good opportunity to know what the people say and think. He says the people have no complaints to make as to the conduct of the Americans and that, after reading newspaper accounts of the occupancy of several cities by the French and British, they are pleased that the Americans are in this sector. He expressed surprise at the number of American troops and said that the last report they had was there were 1,800,000 Americans in Europe.

Interrogation of Peter Bertram,
Shopkeeper of DERNAU.

As in statements made by others the warm reception given the American troops is not so much due to the fact that they like us as it is to the fact that they like the French and English less. Reports are circulating through this part of the country at the present time of ill treatment received by the people around COLOGNE from the English troops. These reports have not been confirmed but they are generally known and talked about among the German people all of whichcauses bitterness of feeling against our Allies and increased liking for our own troops against whom no such rumors have been started.

Interrogation of Jacob Schwarz,
a discharged German soldier.

The feeling toward the French is very bitter while the attitude toward the English is one of utter dislike. The Americans are not hated as are the other Allies although everyone considers them, as they are, enemies of Germany.

PRAISE FOR THE CONDUCT OF AMERICAN TROOPS.

Interrogation of Herr Schmidt,
of DERNAU.

He considers the American troops good soldiers but not as well disciplined as the Germans. The inhabitants are very well satisfied with the treatment they have received from the Americans and are not unfriendlytoward us.

42nd Div. Sum. of Int. #188.
Dec. 15, 1918.

Statement of the Mayor of
GROSSLITTGEN.

"In my town here, I can safely say that no feelings of enmity exists toward your troops and for my part never really has existed."

Sum. of Int. #20, Dec. 5-6, 1918.

Statement of Mr. Kalb of
MONTABAUR.

"The Americans have proved themselves very courteous and have inflicted no inconvenience on the civil population.
It is evident that they do not hate us as do the French, who have been taught to hate ever since school."

1st Div. Sum. of Int. #105.
Dec. 17th, 1918.

Interrogation of Blasius Steffens,
of KELBERG.

Mr. Steffens stated that the people in the town are admiring the clean-cut American soldiers, who treat everybody with consideration.

3rd Army Corps, Sum of Int. #25.
December 10th, 1918.

Interrogation of Joseph Gorres,
of MAYSCHOSS.

He has billeted Americans in his home each day since they arrived in Germany and expresses himself as highly pleased at their conduct.

42nd Div Sum. of Int. #198.
December 25-26, 1918.

From Interrogation of Andrew Estin
of NEUENAHR.

Herr Estin thinks very highly of theAmerican soldier, having several billeted with him in his house and is impressed with their liberality, their democratic ideals and their attitude towards the German people.

42nd Div. Sum. of Int. #234.
January 31st-Feb. 1, 1919.

Statement of the Ortsvorsteher,
of BALESFELD.

"We have no complaint to make of the condutt of the American troops. They are all gone now, but while they were here I received not a single complaint in regard to them. They are honest, and have taken nothing without payment."

3rd Army Corps. Sum of Int. #23.
December 8-9, 1918.

Statement of Mr. Meier,
of MURLENBACH.

"We are very well pleased with the conduct of the American troops. I have not heard of a single disagreeable incident!"

3rd Army Corps. Sum. of Int. #19.
December 4-5th,1918.

Extract of a letter from Anny Brunieudorf,
of PFAFFENDORF.

There are quite a few Americans here at present. We have four at our home while the other house is used as a clothing store room. But we have no complaint to make. They are a very courteous people.

3rd Army Daily Resume,
17th April, 1919.

THE AMERICANS BRING BUSINESS.

The commercial instinct of theGermans has done much to smooth relations with theArmy of Occupation. Allowed to carry on their industries with little or no interference, they have shown both ingenuity and enterprise in offering wares that appeal to our soldiers. In addition to the usual souvenirs and standard articles, they have promptly obtained stocks of insignia, service stripes, books in English and numerous other things for which there was no market before our arrival. This has meant increased prosperity for the Germans with its accompanying cheerfulness and good will and had reduced any tendency toward friction on our part. Relations have at all times been very satisfactory.

Extract from Summary of
Intelligence, 42nd Div. #248.
February 13, 1919.

A jeweler in the area states that nearly all the gold was taken up by the government in 1916 so that practically none of the jewelry sold to the American soldiers for souvenirs is of gold. He further states that an immense profit is being made on these souvenirs, sometimes as much as 500%.

Extract from Summary of Intelligence
#91. 3rd Army Corps.,
Feb. 15th, 1919.

Interrogation of Herr Stenzel,
of BROHL.

Stenzel runs a notion store in Brohl, where among other things candy and cookies are sold to Americans soldiers. He bought them "on the side" at prices very much above that which is usual. He can afford to pay these prices and yet make a profit becuase the American soldiers will pay the price that he must ask, while the civil population would not. That the selling of flour and sugar products to Americans is wrong he admits, for it tends to further reduce a food supply which at best will hardly last throught the next month; but he says that he must do something to make a living and theAmericans occupation affords him the opportunity.

42nd Div. Sum. of Int. #234.
Jan. 30th, 31st, 1919.

Interrogation of Anton Liersch,
Postal Agent at DERNAU.

The Americans are very well liked as their behavior has been good and they have in no way disturbed the civil population. The people are unable to understand why at times the American soldier pays such prices for articles, often paying more than is asked. There has been no increase in prices during the occupancy of the soldiers.

42nd Div. Sum. of Int. #189.
December 16-17, 1918.

From Daily Resume; 3rd U.S.Army.
May 3, 1919.
Extract from a letter from Frau Gerhard de Burh, Coblenz,
As long as the Americans are here we will also remain, Gerhard feels himself at home under them. He is making money fast. He already has 11,000 M. and the motor boat clear. We are getting rich.

Trade has become so active in Neuenahr that many stores long vacant have been taken by people from other towns and opened to catch the American custom. There is no great change in price.

Sum. of Int. #269.
42nd. Div. March 6, 1919.

THE SOUVENIR THIRST

Translation of a letter from Dr. Schmidt, (dentist) of Coblenz.

An enormous business era is reigning here at present. A fabulous "Occupation Industry" has sprung up. It is laughable to see even the smallest of shops endeavouring to meet the demands of the Americans. The former military industry cannot compare. Everywhere there are notices that English is spoken. Beautiful things and art work are on exhibition. It is indeed a gigantic souvenir industry which is rapidly increasing. The principle of it may appeal to the American idea of progressiveness but is not a guarantee for the future. Naturally all things are outrageously expensive but they are bought up extravagently Since the American dollar is now worth from 10 to 12 marks, it does not seem so high in their estimation.

Daily Resume, 3rd Army,
May 6th, 1919.

Interrogation of Fritz Ulman.
of Cologne.

Ulman is a traveling salesman for a cutlery and silverware firm of COLOGNE. He is 33 years old and a college graduate. He served in the war from start to finish in the 32nd Inf. He states that he is selling large orders not only for the American soldier trade but also in places where there are no soldiers. There seems to be plenty of money everywhere and people are spending freely. As to the soldier trade, he says that they have lots of money and buy foolishly. Articles that just before our occupation were sold to the people and theGerman soldiers for 25 to 30 marks are now bought by the Americans for from 80 to 100 marks. He showed the interviewer a watch which across the Rhine sells for 16 marks, and which costs the retailer 12 marks. This same watch sells here in occupied territory from 70 to 75 M. and costs the retailer 50 marks. So the high prices are not altogether the fault of the local dealer as the rise is put on by the wholesaler or maker. He also stated that a great many articles are being mde expressly for theAmerican souvenir hunters and that in almost all cases these are made of cheap imitation material. He said that knives that bear the stamp of a firm that is known for its excellent quality, or once was, are now made of inferior material and sold for high prices.

Sum. of Int. #267.
42nd Div., March 4, 1919.

The American Discipline is excellent, but the thirst for souvenirs appears to be growing. A week ago the Post Commandant of Treves directed the town police to resume wearing thier spiked helmets as formerly. Since this has been done daily complaints have been received of soldiers assaulting policemen to get their helmets. This has been called to the attention of the Post Commandant.

Daily Letter, Treves, Germany.
March 6th, 1919.

THE IRON CROSS BUSINESS.

Interrogation of Fianale Fappen,
of NEUENAHR.

Frau Fappen is the owner of a novelty shop in Neuenahr. Having been in the novelty business for yeras, she gives some interesting facts concerning her business. She cannot understand the general desire of the American soldier for the "Gott mit uns" belt buckles and the German Iron Crosses, as these seem to be the only souvenirs they care to buy. She states that she alone has sold more Iron Crosses to American soldiers than the Kaiser ever awarded to his subjects. Another strange thing in her line of business is the fact that it was absolutely impossible to buy leather pocketbooks or waist belts until the Americans came to this area. Now she can buy any amount of leather waist belts she desires.

Summary of Intelligence, #260.
42nd Div. Feb. 25th, 1919.

The feeling against the sale of Iron Crosses to Americans has grown so strong that some stores which formerly sold large numbers of them, now not only have ceased to sell the Iron Crosses themselves, but decline to sell articles decorated with an Iron Cross design.

Intercourse between our soldiers and the German civilians continues normal and without friction. The Germans still make a point of dealing fairly and try to retain our good will by courtesy and unchanged prices.

Sum of Int. #260.
Feb. 25th. 1919.

THE GERMAN HOTEL KEEPERS EXPECT AMERICAN TOURISTS.

The hotel keepers in the RHINELAND expect that after peace is made a great rush of tourists will come to the continent. They hope that Americans will bring their families to see their former stations and are planning to receive them. They therefore urge courtesy to our troops.

Third Army, U.S. Sum. of Int. #106.
March 2nd, 1919.

There were quite a few cards, written to the parents, sisters and brothers of A.E.F. soldiers who were formerly billeted with, or became acquainted with the writers.

Daily Resume 3rd Army
April 12, 1919.

ARE AMERICANS STRICT?

A. Rose, Trier, advises her brother Max Rose of Keoln that it is now dangerous to carry on illicit trading in food-stuffs. She has heard of people being arrested that had only one pound of flour they could not account for. She justifies secret buying in as much as she claims that people cannot live on the food rations allowed by the government. The Americans carry out their orders very strictly, but instead would it not be better, if they turn their attention twards the "Junker crowd" responsible for the conditions ? She concludes that now, as she has heard that the sending of food stuffs throughthe mails would be forbidden, she would not dare to make use of this means, on account of the dangers of discovery and punishment.

American Postal Censorship,

AMERICAN PROVOST COURTS ARE UNPOPULAR.

The American provost courts are not especially popular with the inhabitants. There is a variety of comment on the informal and unceremonious fashion in which they mete out justice. Only occasionally is there complaint of injustice. One such complaint comes from Prum where it is alleged, a man was fined 500 marks and confined nine days, merely because he refused to give up a bed. It is said that the people in Prum were highly incensed and indignant over the proceedings.

American Postal Censorship.
April 2nd 1919.

COMPLAINTS FROM OCCUPIED ZONES.

I arrived recently in that part of the Rhineland occupied by Americans. The designation of "Armed gentlemen" fits the Americans best, for they respect the rights of the citizens as far as the orders of Marshal Foch permit, even though they do not fail to punish very slight offenses. However, the inhabitants in theAmerican Occupied Zone do not live in a paradise. For when the reader learns that a ship captain who sailed his ship a few minutes later than allowed by the regulations, in order to reach a certain landing place by night, was punished, not with a fine, but with imprisonment, a part of illusions about American occupation vanishes. However, the Americans have the reputation of being least severe and of interfereing least with the freedom of the press.

Press Review, Third U.S.Army,
Trier, Apr. 17, 1919.

The citizens of Eich who were fined for having a dirty yard and premises claim that their trial was unfair, and that the fines were too heavy. One of them says that American soldiers were partly responsible for the condition of his yard. The people in this town say that the German officials have already levied heavy taxes and requisitions on their produce, and that the additional fines levied by our courts are too great a burden.

Headquarters Third U.S. Army,
Trier, Apr. 17, 1919.

THE GERMANS ADMIRE OUR FIRM POLICY

The infliction of several sentences of hard labor upon Germans who broke our regulations, is very well received. People feel that they are protected against disorder by our presence and the visible evidence of the exercise of our authority makes a distinctly favorable impression. Inffactions of our rules are few and their prompt punishment after fair trial makes easier the task both of our own and the German authorities.

Sum. of Int. 42nd Div. #262.
February 27, 1919.

Feeling toward Americans is friendly and respectful. The numerous arrests and convictions of civilians for infractions of our rules have added greatly to our standing and it is reported from all parts of our area that no sympathy is expressed for those convicted. The consensus of opinion seems to be that it served them right for not behaving themselves.

42nd Div. Sum. of Int. #285.
March 22-23, 1919.

Interrogation of Pietro D'Paris,
of Mayschoss.

A few American prisoners were brought here in June 1918 and were not mistreated. The Americans were the chief complainers when the food was bad which was always. The Americans occasionally received packages containing hard tack and other luxuries but their packages were usually rifled.

After the entrance of the Americans several Italians desired to return to Italy and France and demanded their pay from the German contractor. This was refused. They appealed to the Americans. "Three "doughboys" with fixed bayonets accompanied the Italians and prompt payment was made. He states that miners are now being treated well and receive thirteen marks a day.

42nd Div. Sum. of Int. #207.
Jan. 3-4, 1919.

There have been a few attempts at the illegal sale of spirits to American soldiers and when the bootleggers received sentences of hard labor, comment by the local civilians was entirely favorable. The area is predominantly law-abiding and the visible enforcement of the law is highly satisfactory to the Germans.

42d Div. Sum. of Int. #269.
March 6, 1919.

In general satisfaction is felt with the attitude of American troops of occupation. They are frequently said to be very strict in enforcing their regulations; this strictness is criticised by a few, but generally admired. We are said to be stricter than German troops ever were. Coblenz is said to be in perfect order and quiet, thanks to the presence there of U.S. troops.

Third U.S. Army, Trier, Feb. 24,1919.
Weekly report for week ending
February 24th, 1919.

The inhabitants of adjoining towns approve the arrest and trial of the Burgomaster of Ahrweiler and say that if he is guilty of having violated the Armistice he should undoubtedly be punished. Although a man of much standing in the community, his arrest does not seem to have caused resentment.

42d Div. Sum. of Int. #282.
March 19-20, 1919.

THE INHABITANTS CO-OPERATE IN ENFORCING OUR LAWS.

Germans write many letters to our authorities directing attention to violations of our rules. At first these were mainly anonymous and sprang from motives of spite. Now a certain number of them appear to be written in food faith to assist us in keeping order and enforcing regulations.

42d Div. Sum. of Int. #272.
March 9 ,1919.

There is still complaint from the Germans of our aloofness in personal dealings with them. Their efforts toward friendliness seem to be dictated by genuine good will and the general desire to cooperate with us becomes increasingly marked. When Germans were first tried and convicted by our Provost Courts there was interest but no resentment. Anonymous letters were sent to us informing on other Germans for infractions of rules. Presently signed letters began to come in and now the Germans appear in person and call our attention to violations of the regulations. There seems to be general appreciation of the fairness of our trials and the Germans realize that they are tried on the facts of the case and not on prejudice or enmity.

42d Div. Sum. of Int. #273.
March 10th, 1919.

THE OCCUPATION A SAFEGUARD AGAINST BOLSHEVISM.

Three letters from Trier today "thanked God that the Americans are here", since "without them, law and order would be disregarded as in unoccupied Germany".

American Postal Censorship,
Feb. 12, 1919.

Sermon delivered at
GR.MASCHEID.

The priest urged all the people to treat the American soldiers cordially and show them all the hospitality possible. He went on to say that theAmericans were here to protect and not destroy as the Germans had done in Belgium and France.

32nd. Div. Sum. of Int. #42.
Dec. 30th, 1918.

The feeling of theGermans toward Americans in this area is one of gratitude and friendliness. It is now abvious to all that our presence has saved the district from all the ills which have caused such distress in other parts of Germany. Our administration is considered reasonable and just and the conduct of our man is exemplary.

42nd. Div. Sum of Int. #282.
March 19-20, 1919.

Translation of letter from Coblenz to Essen.

We have thought considerablyabout your condition there. We are protected from the unrest as long as the Occupation troops remain.

Daily Resume, 3rd U.S. Army.
March 24th, 1919.

It is the general opinion that if the Americans were not here that there would be a revolution here the same as in the interior of Germany, E. Schlitz, a jeweler of Daun, and Dr. Lenin, of Gorolstein, went so far as to say that they would love to see the Rhineland come under American rule,

Sum. of Int. #104, 90th Div.
March 13th ,1919.

Frau Dickhoven, wife of the government Agent for railroads for this district stated that before theAmericans came she had plenty of room in her house to receive visitors, etc., but now we take all the room; when asked if she were sorry that the Americans were here she replied "No, the Americans are alright, and that it is best that they are here, otherwise the Sparticists would come in and cause a revolution.

Sum. of Int. #104, 90th Div.
March 13th, 1919.

Today, America , among the Allied powers comes up for the greatest share of praise. Faith in American ideals and their power to bridge the crisis are enunciated. From Junkerath emenates glowing praise of the American troops because they have assured the safety of life and property and suppressed the unruly elements. A letter from Ludwigshafen, signed by the "German Democrats for the occupied area" contains an appeal to Americans for aid. The aid sought for is to rid that territory of French troops and repel any attempts of theGerman militarists to raise their heads.

Third U.S. Army, Postal Censorship.
March 31st, 1919.

Letter from Lutzrath to Hamburg. - Most of the community have American soldiers billeted with them. We have a Major, who is commander here. He is in every way a gentleman and more like a guest. No one is complaining and all are glad to have theAmericans here. We have protection and can carry on our business unmolested, whereas the Sparticists are keeping other places in constant agitation.

Daily Resume, 3rd U.S. Army,
March 11th, 1919.

THE PEACEFUL RHINELAND VS. SPARTICIST GERMANY.

Interrogation of Dr. Willy Wolff,
of NEUENAHR.

Wolff, who has been interrogated before, is one of the leading physicians of Neuenahr. He has just returned from a business tour of the interior of Germany, having visited several large cities. He states that the people of occupied territory and especially those in theAmerican area do not realize how fortunate they are. In traveling on trains in the interior one never knows what is going to happen. Many bridges have been blown up and other damage done to government property, causing great delay in transportation. General disorder prevails not only in the large places but even in the small towns. Few of the former soldiers are working and they continue to draw a small sum each day from the government until they can find employment, many making no effort to do so. Thieving is frequent, food is hard to get, many of the rich people who have always had sufficient food now complain of the shortage due to the theiving that tkaes place in the transport of supplies.

Sum. of Int. #272, 42nd Div.
March 10th, 1919.

Morale in Kreis Ahrweiler is developing some marked peculiarities. As troubles spread in unoccupied Germany, the safety, quiet and comparative prospertiy of the occupied area appears in creasingly valuable to the inhabitants. The poorer classes are very well content and do not bother about anything which does not touch them directly. The better educated and more prosperous people are deeply worried by the approach of anarchy and have grave fears for the future of their country in addition which must be enacted to pay war indemnities. Perhaps the most striking feature of the situation is the fact that a considerable number of Germans have stated their desire to enlist in our army if any further fighting takes place.

Sum of Int. #272, 42d Div.
March 9th, 1919.

THANKFUL FOR THE PRESENCE OF AMERICANS.

Translation of a letter from Coblenz to Wurzburg, 4/14/19.

"I want to congratulate you for not having accepted the Soviet government. We followed with great interest the proceeding in Bavaria. I would not have thought that the conservative Bavarians could be so forward in overthrowing their government. As sad as it was, it must have been a real picnic. Let us hope everything will be regulated again before long. Bolshevism is slowly spreading all over the world. I spoke to a Frenchman a few days ago, who stated that the working men in France demand 25 francs per day. I am glad and thankful we are having American troops occupying our town, otherwise we would have the same trouble as many of the larger cities and industrial districts.

Daily Resume, 3d. U.S. Army.

Extract from a letter from Coblenz to Tilsit, 4/14/19.

It is a good thing we have the Americans occupying our town, otherwise we would have the trouble here too with the Spartacists, as it is in other cities like Dusseldorf.

Daily Resume, 3rd. U.S. Army,

Referring to the Dusseldorf disturbances a woman write s from Coblenz:- "Thank God we are spared that as yet, probably through American Occupation, and we must gladly take the billeting as part of the bargain.

Daily Resume, 3d. U.S. Army.

Gratitude for the protection from Spartacism rendered by the occupying troops, was noted in almost every letter originating in the occupied area. From Liesen on the Mosel, one writer reports that the people had been robbed of many of their privileges lately, but still are thankful that order prevails.

Postal Censorship, March 6th, 1919.
Third U.S. Army.

Complaints of treatment by the Americans continue plentiful. On the other hand, one letter today from unoccupied Germany says: "You are at least much better off under the Americans than under the Spaticists". And another, from Schlesien, contains the unusual passage: "From your letter I see that you feel quite well under American supervision. One learns everywhere only the best about the presence of the Americans. The odium under whose burden we have to go about does not touch those people - the odium of having to live outside the occupied area."

Daily Resume, 3d. U.S. Army,
February 26th, 1919.

Formerly one could live a peaceful and fruitful life here, but now, under the stupendous occupation, things are of a different character. It is not unlike a swarming ant hill, Genuine Americanism. All of the signs within and without the stores, resturants and cafes are in English. There are no more German policemen nor soldiers. Everything is under the American flag. The Rhine steamers are only used by them and sail under the same colors. That flag waves proudly over the fortress of Ehrenbreitstein and over every magnificent building. One lives in Germany but under foreign rule, and needs time to adjust oneself. But one is satisfied if one can live under good, orderly conditions and we have that under full swing. No strikes nor disturbances, and above all good food.

3d U. S. Army Daily Resume,
May 7th, 1919.

SOME ADVERSE CRITICISM

The young girls complain of the requisitioning of all public buildings by the Americans thereby making any sort of recreation impossible for them. They begrudge our monopoly of the dance. Some inhabitants complain of being overcrowded with billeted men and of a dis-proportionate assignment of billets. A Minister writes: "We quarter about two hundred men, almost a garrison. The schools are occupied so that the children have one long vacation."

Weekly Resume, 3d U. S. Army, Feb. 3, 1919.

There is a growing resentment toward the billeting of troops. The inhabitants resent the taking over by the Americans of nearly all the places of amusement.

Complaints, coming especially from the smaller towns, accuse the Americans of immorality and drunkedness.

Weekly Resume, 3d U. S. Army Feb. 3, 1919.

In general satisfaction with conditions incident to American occupation was voiced today. One man from Trier, however, says that the American troops are causing starvation and trouble in Trier.

American Postal Censorship, Feb. 10, 1919.

Interrogation of Karl Kovson of Niederbreisig:

He has plenty to eat and asks why he should worry about others. He does not like the Americans, but says he will do as he is directed, not because he likes to, but because he is forced to.

42d Div. Summary of Intelligence #252,
Feb. 17, 1919.

Hubert Gemerich, Trier, makes a bold statement in speaking of the influenza epidemic; he says, "The Americans bring the disease since it is one that was unknown in the past."

American Postal Censorship, Feb. 11, 1919.

Letter fom Walter Strasburger of Neuwied:

"Neuwied is occupied by the Americans. The women "Sell themselves" for a piece of chocolate. For them we fought four and a half years!"

American Postal Censorship, Feb. 3, 1919.

A young woman, who lives in Neuwied and teaches school in Gladbach says that she does not and never would like the Americans because President Wilson, had said that he would furnishe food for Germany and has not done so.

32d Div. Summary of Intelligence Jan. 2,
1919.

The American troops are being more severly criticised daily. A letter from Hans Röhrl, Neuwied, to Paul Röhrl, Berlin, Feb. 16. contains the following passage; Since day before yesterday there has been a crisis here too, among our workers; they all want to strike. But that is only because of the terribly high food prices, for the Americans eat up (Fressen) our little bit and pay outrageous prices. So there is no more butter to be had; The Americans pay 30 marks per pound and in the same way they like potatoes. The farmer is a shark and gives to the one who pays the most. It's not very pleasant now, a girl dare not let herself be seen after dark, and even peaceful citizens are struck and abused. If one protects himself there's a fine of not less than a 1,000 Mark. The roads are all rundown from the army autos, and people are being killed every day by crazy chauffeurs. Electricity plants are over burdened and the inhabitants get a feeble current so that the Herr Americans may burn 3 lamps in every latrine. This is the way things are here with the much praised American Occupation. If one smokes an American cigarette, one goes to the pen or pays a 3,000 M. fine. All in the name of Foch. Poor Germany how low you have sunk. The saddest is that all women folk run after them for the sake of candy.

From American Third Army,
Daily Resume, Feb. 18, 1919.

FAMININE COMMENT.

One very noticeable fact remains during the weeks and months: Almost without exception the commenting is being done by the women. The men as a rule are very conservative and non-commital, an attitude no doubt throughly ingrained by years of contact with official and military Prussianism.

Weekly Resume, 3d Army,
May 4, 1919.

Letter from Mia Clausen,
January 26, 1919.

Our Americans, are very good. But the officers and Generals are boasting scoundrels. First they searched our house to see if we had any weapons but they found none. Now they come again to search for soldiers articles. There isn't a space the size of a persons hand which they do not look into. At the time I was in Salmrohr they were searching the places. I was alone with Gerda. Hans and his wife were at Trier. The house was all upset when they finished searching. The things were thrown out of the cupboard. They looked into every corner. Each one has a searchlight. I am frightened to think of the mixup when they come to this town. In our house 16 men and 2 officers are quartered. They slam the doors so hard that the whole building shakes. Enough of that subject.

Translation of a letter from Frau Lemka,
of Wollstein, Rheinhessen,

I want you to forbid Herman using such bold and isolent terms in speaking about the Americans. Let him be more decent and by all means do not accept any chocolate. Not the least bit, and if you have a servant girl warn her also. They can make things warm for you if they

want to, and above all do not say that you are right. We do not touch their pockets nor anything. We have very neat and genteel soldiers. Do be very careful. Here Katchen Schroder was thrown into jail from Monday to Tuesday because she told a soldier to ----------. Another girl was unceremoniously spanked in broad daylight, and she is 23 years old too. And what can one do ? However, it serves them right. Why don't they leave the soldiers alone ? Stores were also closed because the owners were unfriendly and impudent. I am writing you all of this that it may be a warning to you. Anna is painting beautiful roses upon white velvet which she intends to make into sofa pillows to send to you. You are to sell them to the Americans for a high price because they are good buyers and send many articles to their rich relatives in America.

Daily Resume, 3rd Army,
May 4th, 1919.

Extract from a letter from P. Stanller,
of GRENZHAUSEN.

Am glad you are not at home, for we have serious conditions here. One of the boys was shot last night and two others were stabbed. It is unsafe to cross the street at night. Am not going to take any chances either. Many of our young girls have gone wrong since the A---- are here, it is almost hard to believe of some of them. Martha Strodter is engaged to an A----. Isn't she crazy ?

Translation of a letter from Else Kluth,
of NEUENAHR, VILLA HEDWIG,

We once more have a bustle of life in our house. The Orchestra, which has been here for 14 days, leaves today. We have had 36 men and 45 are coming. Half of Neuenahr has been converted into an American pleasure resort. One has to admit that these people know how to amuse themselves. At present every house has its billeting. A surprising number of nurses are here. I am curious to know whether peace will come soon. Just now our Americans went away in two autos. The noise in the house was the only objection, otherwise one actually develops a regard for them. Among these were several straight and exceptionally tiptop men. As they, a moment ago, stood in their auto and waved us a merry farewell, we forgot that they are really our enemies. The little Lieutenant, who led the Orchestra was indeed a musical genius, and a charming good fellow. So plain and near and merry and not a bit forward. ---- You see Irma, when these men first came here we all thought that we would be as cold as the muzzle o f a dog etc. Today all that has been forgotten, and only those few who have had no men in billet still think so. You can rest assured that you would have had the same experience as I. English of course goes here like water. Practice makes perfect. Recently we had three men of Italian origin. The smallest, only 19 years of age has been in America 7 years, and tells me I speak the language better than he. A Lieutenant, who marvels over my expression told me; "If you, with your pronounciation, would go to America, you would have the best chances!

Daily Resume 3d Army,
May 2, 1919.

Extract of a letter from Frau Le'Spies,
of COLOGNE.

Our business is good inspite of these uncertain times. The British Occupation Troops are a good asset since the gentlemanly officers always carry canes. Le in his visit to Wilhelm and Anna found conditions different. Anna has considerable work and dirt in taking care of the Americans.

Daily Resume 3d Army,
May 5, 1919.

As an illustration of the affection with which a few of the people still regard Ex-Kaiser Wilhelm the wife of the pastor at Atwied (200) has forbidden her maid servant to clean the room or change the linen on the bed in a room occupied by an american officer. This change of attitude on the part of the housewife is believed to be due to the fact that she found some American magazines in the room containing cartoons of the Ex-Kaiser.

Sum. of Int. #232, 2nd Div. U.S.Army,
March 9, 1919.

SOME INDIGNANT SPINSTERS.

Hannah Roschorck of Pfaffendorf writes to Martha Dalheimer of Morscheid as follows:

We are still very busy in spite of the many officials who have returned from our army. The Americans, in fact the entire Allied authorities have deprived us of a number of telephone and telegraph stations and also control a good many others. We even have night service now every eight days. I have escaped so far, and that is fortunate too since it is dangerous to be out after nine o'clock in the evening. I generally take a street-car. In fact the insecurity has become so great that the authorities have placed military police at our disposal to escort us home. Each girl is given a stamped pass with the policeman's number upon it. We have gone far in our beloved Vaterland! However, I protest against such protection! When we are free again and can write without censor restrictions I will tell you more about this. You ought to thank God that Morsheid is unoccupied. We have had an American soldier in quarters since the 14 of December. I had to clear out of my spinster apartment to accomplish this. Sorrowful, was it not? Luckily an early peace will bring us more freedom. For 15 years the Rhineland is to be occupied! A pleasant perspectiv e indeed!

(Third A rmy Resume 1st April 1919)

Letter from Lani Schuster, Coblenz-Luetzel:

We have the French, English, Negroes and what not quartered here. Many orders are being enforced, but we can endure it all I suppose. When a person really thinks about it all, it makes ones heart ache, to see how these strangers act. All of the beautiful buildings and pretty restaurants they reserve for themselves. Our school is also occupied. Yesterday we had to clear out the last room in the building, which was used for our library. All books were placed in a furniture wagon and today we took them to another building. We had to put them up on the third fl oor. What a tedious job. And we were compelled to do it because the Americans wanted it done. -----many German girls go around with the Americans, I simply can't understand it. If any American talks to me I am prepared to give him an answer.

(American Postal Censorship)

Letter from Gertrude Bissfeldt -- C oblenz:

Rather nice conditions in Germany! It is to be fervently hoped things will soon change. You write of charming affairs, and they would be were they not otherwise. Those girls evidently consider it useless to dream about the future when the beautiful is so near. Let them alone. Regrets will come when it is too late. They alone will be responsible for their misery. I was at Braubach today and that is a very daring deed in these times. I tell you that the girls are to blame, but one must not forget that the gentlemanly enemy are a decidedly forward people. Fresh beyond bounds. I saw enough today. However, there is a reward, and revenge is sweet. Your German thinking Gertrude.

THE AMERICAN AFFINITY FOR GERMAN BEDS

Bendorf: -- A ll is well here, but Americans insist on having our beds.

(3d Army resume, M arch 9, 1919)

In a letter from Ehrenbreitstein, there occur the following remarks:

The writer says in one place that the Americans are having their own way now, but "he laughs best who laughs last." He grows sarcastic over an alleged American order in Vallendar to the effect that "all male persons from 12 - 60 years old must give up their beds to the troops of occupation. Children under 12 years certainly never had any claim to a bed. We are supposed to sleep on the floor." This is a rather strong example of the feeling that is being expressed in an increasingly large number of letters.

(Daily resume, 3d Army, Feb. 24,1919)

A. Ockenfrels of Remagen writes to Herman Harder of Holstein:

At present we are permitted to travel anywhere in the occupied zone. However, the unoccupied section is still barred. Indeed conditions must change. It will be impossible to have them continue to prevail. The manner in which the girls and the women associate with this folk is a shame. They have taken beds, mirrors, chairs and tables out of the rooms. They take possession of the best always. New troops are here now. The former were certainly well behaving. Everybody is complaining that they are a bad deceitful people. If they had seen our rooms our beds would surely have gone before this. At nights they laid the children on the floor and took the beds and we must bear it all without a word. Civilians are not masters of anything anymore. It is certainly sad. Things must change soon. If we only had peace then they would have nothing more to say.

(Third U.S.Army report 5 May, 1919)

GROWING TIRED OF AMERICANS AND THEIR CHOCOLATE

Translation of letter from Niederbreisig to Gondorf:

What are your Americans doing? Do you get as much chocolate as I do! I am tired of the stuff and also of the entire pack, although I have had many very very pleasant hours with them. The Americans cannot grasp that we have so much work to do. Those lazy people. Things are better for them in America than for us here. I may yet go with them. Then you would indeed make eyes.

The feeling toward the Allied troops is still a sort of regisnation to the inevitable. Their conduct is in most cases spoken of as highly commendable, although the wish that they were gone is always in evidence. One letter refers to two English soldiers in billet, and expresses regret at their departure because they may be replaced by impossible ones. Also the Americans are much more desired because they spend their money freely.

BAITING THE CENSOR

Translation of a letter from Hote Koetter, Neuwied:

I am certainly mourning, but it is for our old glorious Germany, and not for these damned Socialists who are to blame for everything. I wish them the worst that can befall them. I hate this gang even worse than I do these "gentlemen" from America. Indeed I cannot understand how they imagine themselves to be "gentlemen". However, if one questions this, one offers them the greatest of insults. And these people want to bring Kulture to us barbarians ? If makes me laugh. They are so many kilometers beneath us in reference to this kultur that it should be impossible for them even to try to compare themselves with us. They are like children and find their joy only in playing and eating which they do the whole livelong day. I haven't found any yet with any conception of the beauty of a rt and nature. One hears only music-hall tunes among them. Of course there are exceptions as in everything else, but some of these men are so far beneath, that their origin from the ape can be plainly seen upon their faces. How the censors will rave when they read this letter, but I am only writing the truth. They are the wildest when they are after the girls. But thank God that they can at once recognize the difference between a "decent" and a "common girl".

However, it is dangerous to be seen upon the streets after dark. A ll other enemies are much more cool-headed and bother the women as little as possible. The old people at home are naturally much worried ov er their daughters, being in the midst of the enemy. W ell, I feel perfectly secure as far as I am concerned with my cool and forbiding countenance.

SATISFIED WITH AMERICAN OCCUPATION

A meeting was held by the Centrum party at the Hotel Henerici in Mayen on January 2nd, and a womens' meeting by the same party in the same place on the next night. Satisfaction was expressed with the American Occupation, and mention made of the fact that neither the French or the English allowed meetings to be held.

(Summary of Intelligence, 3d Div. Jan. 4, 1919)

Letters from Luxembourg voice their pleasure in the daily improving con dtions. Since the arrival of the Americans living is better and more secure, and no food cards are needed any more.

(American Postal Censorship, Feb. 11, 1919)

The Germans are friendly in their demeanor and many now ask when the Division is to be relieved. It is widely rumored that the 42nd Division is on the point of returning to America and the Germans are anxious to know what troops will replace us. They say that our conduct and administration have been so considerate that they fear the advent of anyone else.

(From Summary of Intelligence, 42d Div. Feb. 11, 1919)

Interrogation of Allen Kurtzman of Neuenahr, ex-soldier:

He states that the signing of the armistice relieved many of the restrictions placed upon them during the war and expressed the desire that American troops continue as occupants of this area since all concerned were well satisfied with the present conditions.

(42d Div. Summary of Intelligence #197, December 24, 1918)

From Third Army Weekly report, Feb. 19, 1919:

The attitude towards American troops is very satisfactory, a few minor complaints only were found during the week. The French troops are occasionally criticized on personal scores, while the British are never mentioned. Unoccupied Germany is gradually beginning to feel that existence in occupied Germany is much better than where they are, and some people express the wish to live in the occupied area.

Daily letter, Treves, March 4, 1919:

According to the report of an officer just returned from Berlin, the so-called "Anti-American Demonstration" in front of the Hotel Adlon in Berlin was not Anti-American, either in the purpose for which it was held or in its expression. It was a meeting to welcome General Lettow-Vorbeck, and the German soldiers returning from East Africa. The meeting was held in front of the Hotel Adlon, in the windows of which American Officers were standing and looking on. One of the speakers voiced the demand for the return of the German prisoners of war and the crowd taking up the demand, shouted "Give us back our prisoners", -- to the American Officers in the hotel windows. The demand was not made in a menacing or unfriendly manner, nor was it anti-American in character. The Americans are the least unpopular of Germany's enemies in Berlin.

Third U. S. Army, Postal Censorship, March 11, 1919:

The American Army of Occupation is well spoken of in a number of letters. One of these says: "They are people of great character, they maintain perfect order, but still we hope they will leave soon." From Prum comes an isolated complaint occasioned by the use of the school buildings there by American troops: It is displeasing to the writer to see the children unable to go to school. To counter-balance this, a writer from Bitburg speaks very highly of the American troops.

A long-well-written letter from a school teacher in Niederprum to a Professor in Cologne, is lavish with praise for the occupying troops. The honor and sense of fairness of the officers and the irreproachable conduct of the men is praised and admired.

(American Postal Censorship, April 9, 1919)

The Censorship shows severe criticism of Americans in the Eifel region for requisitioning many articles for which they have no apparent need, and by so doing depriving the inhabitants of necessary equipment and housing. From Saarburg complaints come in of food conditions and it is felt there that only American food will save the situation. The former frequent laudations of the American Occupation which passed through the censorship have given place more and more to fault finding. Where we were formerly called "chivalrous" we are now called "greedy" because we do not share our food with the population, - and "spiteful" because we punish the Germans severely for the mere possession of American goods or food. The efficiency of the American Inferior Courts and our refusal to hand out food promiscuously appear mainly responsible for these complaints, which are not believed to represent any deep seated discontent or widespread dissatisfaction.

(Items from Censorship report April 15, 1919)

Opinions do not vary greatly from former weeks. The attitude of the people toward the Allied troops is still about evenly divided. Some complain openly about their conduct while others praise in the same degree. Incidents of attack, suppression, and unjust court-trials are offset with the mentioning of cases of sympathy and generosity. One party writes of publicly spanking a girl and adds that without provocation it would not have occurred. Another mentions the burning of a high school and how the French soldiers compelled the German proletariat to help extinquish the flames after the latter had refused because they did not believe in superior schools for the rich.

(Weekly resume for week ending May 4, 1919)

The people of Trier, says a letter from Zowen, are eminently satisfied with the American troops of occupation, because they are kind and friendly, which is the contrary of what they had been led to expect. The papers during the war had told them that the Americans were desparados and thieves.

(G-2 D May 11, 1919, Third Army report)

THE RETURNED GERMAN PRISONERS PRAISE AMERICANS.

M emorandum of information obtained by censor:

Returning prisoners of war are preaching American gospel in their homes. A Liburg student writes that he has talked with many of these and that they have nothing but praise for American treatment. The food, clothing and housing conditions while with the Americans were all of the best and as a consequence they were in excellent spirit and physical condition on their return. These under French control tell another story. They say that those who are still in France will be kept quite a while because they are not in fit physical condition to be returned. They are described as being mere skeletons of their former selves.

(3d Army, A pril 18, 1919)

Prisoners of war under American jurisdiction continue to send home glowing reports of good treatment. It is clearly deducible that they are more satisfied with their present condition, than they would be at home.

(Postal Censorship, A pr. 12, 1919)

Americans bought to become very popular if the news contained in letters from German prisoners, is disseminated. They describe the treatment accorded them as "ritterlich" (princely), especially the food. One Serge ant Major says the people at home would be astounded to see how royally they live. They do not want people here to send them parcels of food. Rather would they send packages of food to the folks at home.

(Postal censorship, Apr. 11, 1919)

Colonel von Mueller made the following announcement:

"On the 28th of February the President of the American Mission, General Barnum, handed over a note concerning facilities for postal communication concerning prisoners of war which the United States Government had approved of. I should not like to fail to thank General Barnum for these facilities granted our prisoners of war."

(Spa, Belgium report March 3, 1919)

AMERICAN FOOD COSTLY BUT WELCOME

Letter from Neuwied, 4/25/19, speaks of the distribution of food there by the Americans but complains that it is too dear; another letter from Engers 4/29/19 has the same complaint, but adds "nevertheless we are glad to get it."

(3d Army Daily resume, Apr. 26, 1919)

Letter from Rhens a/Rh. 4/19/19 says: The first food from America, bacon, coffee, rice, flour and fish are now plentiful enough. We are all very glad that we at last have something to cook. It is interesting to note that all letters mentioning incoming food, speak of "food from America." They never mention the Allies.

(3d Army Daily resume Apr. 25, 1919)

Letter from Coblenz, 4/20/19, comments on entry of American food. It is somewhat expensive but of the best quality and the writer states "A nyway we cannot eat money."

(3d Army Daily resume Apr. 23, 1919)

Translation of a letter from Frau Louis Remy, Fuhr:

Last week we had our first American food supplies, an allowance of 1/2 pound of bacon and a 1/2 pound of flour at 2 Marks each. The prices of course are too high but one at least has something to eat. Had we had this earlier, the Spartacist would not have become so evident.

(3d Army resume April 28, 1919)

Letter from Bruhl, May 1st:

Thank God! The American food is coming at last! Now we can at least get nourishing subsistence for the old and sick. It makes one sad to think of all the poor people in Germany who have died in the last year from sicknesses which good food would have prevented.

(American Postal censorship)

Letter from Coblenz 4/29/19 says:

Thank God we are now better off, due to the occupation, for since last week the American food has arrived which can be bought cheaply. On Friday we received 200 grams of rice per head for 1/82 M, 200 grams smoked bacon, very fine (about 15 cm. high) at 7/80 M. per lb. 320 grams of the purest flour, white, at 1.55; one lb. canned salmon. From this one sees that our enemy has food and plenty and very cheap for we really pay a triple price owing to the low value of the mark. I would like to send you part of my ration but one is severely punished for sending food into unoccupied Germany. Canned milk is available for everybody. Also we can get plenty of herring here; fresh at 95 pfg. and smoked at M.1.25. We have only had meat once in 5 weeks.

(3d Army Daily resume May 2, 1919)

Letter from Berlin to Trier:

"Schoreder has also written to me, did he not send you a clipping of Hoover's speech in the Chicago Tribune? If not I will send you a copy. Hoover does not speak well of us."

(3d Army daily resume March 8, 1919)

SENSITIVE OF THEIR COUNTRY'S DEFEAT

Frau Justiz Schweitzer of Coblenz writes to her son Eberhard Schweitzer:

Our billeting still continues. A big sporting event is taking place at Oberwert and a large number of buildings have been erected upon the Schlossplatz. The beautiful green lawns are covered by giant barracks and it appears as though every possible effort is being made to offer the soldiers a continual change of entertainment. Indeed you cannot realize the life and stir and amusement taking place. It cuts to the soul to observe - these merry people and then dwell upon the miseries of our own. Has there ever existed so great a contrast? I would never leave my door, did not circumstances compel me, because one cannot conceive the possibility of there being anyone who could so unconcernedly overlook the apparent suffering of the Fatherland. One comfort remains, and it is that there still lives a merciful God and that the time will come when justice will be ours.

(3d Army daily resume April 26, 1919)

Criticism, both veiled and direct, of the carnival celebrations is still common in the area. Part of the people are eager for parties and all forms of social activity while another part points to the numerous families in mourning, the defeat of the German arms and the harsh terms of peace which threaten them and say it is frivolous and in bad taste to show gayety and must necessarily give the American Army a poor opinion of German character.

(Summary of Intelligence #268, 42d Div.
March 5, 1919)

AMERICAN SOLDIERS TEACH THE ART OF VOTING

The political situation so far as the average civilian in this area is concerned, has been decided. There is no more interest displayed in either party or delegate.

The Germans in discussing the elections say there were more votes cast in the districts where the Americans are stationed than any other area. They account for this by saying that the German people are more or less ignorant of the method of voting and the necessity for it and that many went to the American soldiers who give them information and in general stimulated interest in the elections.

(2d Div. Summary of Intelligence, Feb. 2, 1919)

SOME SENTIMENTS CRITICAL OF OUR ALLIES

Some people in Mayen believe that the United States does not have enough ships to return soldiers without the aid of England, and that England is withholding this aid in order that the Army of Occupation will remain longer and be a burden upon the German people.

(3d Div. Summary of Intelligence Feb. 7, 1919)

No change is noticeable in letters with regard to the attitude of the Germans toward the Allied Nations. The feeling toward the French is one of fear and hatred, whereas America is universally looked upon as the one loop-hole for Germany. America is to furnish food immediately and is to be a source of commerce especially later on. There is a very pronounced and noticeable tendency in all letters touching the subject to compare the American attitude with that of France. Much to the disadvantage of the former. Comments on the British and the Belgians are strangely absent.

(From Weekly report, 3d Army, Feb. 16, 1919)

Erich Appaun of Coblenz writes to 1st Lt. von Tepel of Weimar:

I really dread to go to Wiesbaden and it is on account of the French Occupation. Yes! If Americans were there it would be a pleasure. Coblenz may consider itself fortunate. They are a likable, neat and sensible people. I readily noticed the wide contrast in my journeys to and from Wiesbaden. But courage, the Frenchman will surely not devour ~~xxx~~ me.

(American Postal Censorship)

The keynote of the attitude toward the Entente Powers is Germany's resentment of France's propaganda for annexation of territory. The feeling is prevalent that France's selling foodstuffs in the Saar District and according generous treatment there, has the motive not of pure generosity, but that all is a calculated plan to affect annexation with less difficulty. America is lauded as being the only member of the Entente showing human considerations, and others are said to be ignorantly prejudiced. President Wilson is frequently mentioned with greatest respect.

The only point of severe criticism is the presence of French Colonial Troops who are frequently reported as committing acts of gross misconduct. The British were by one person termed the "Damned British Troops". American soldiers have, with nearly no exception elicited words of praise. Universally all occupying troops are considered with gratitude, when the writer happens to be thinking of conditions beyond the Rhine. While the troops cause inconveniences, they do keep order. From the Eifel District, by letters from Bitburg and Prum, it is reported that too many troops are stationed there, causing sericus inconveniences.

(3d Army weekly report Mar. 23,1919)

Items from Censorship Reports:

Censorship reports show a keen criticism of the arbitrary action of the French authorities in Alsace-Lorraine. The point of complaint is that hundreds of the people are being deported with only 30 kilo of personal effects, and sent destitute into Germany. The old idea that France wishes to deal Germany a knock-out blow is still prevalent. The Germans see in France's desire to annex the Saar Valley and to reconstruct Poland an endeavor to shear Germany of all strength so that she can never again attain a distinctive place in the world. Some of the occupants of the Saar Valley have unearthed a new possibility; a republic under American mandatory. The efficiency of the Americans in administering this area, and their ability to suppress the unruly element and maintain order is responsible for this plan.

(Daily letter Treves, April 15, 1919)

L. Gusson, writing from Thorn (near Polish border) gives us our first though very biased comment on the Polish situation:

"If the Americans only knew what dirty lousy people the Poles are, they wouldn't concede their demands, which are greedy in the extreme. They have no rights over any German territory, and if they get an inch of it, they will do so by begging and lying ... A m glad to hear that you are well satisfied with the Americans. They are at least reasonable, and do things justly. If it had not been for America we would not have received any food, and thousands would have sta rved todeath."

(3d Army, report, May 5, 1919)

THE FRENCH AND BRITISH STOCK RISES AS AMERICANS REMAIN FIRM

The American troops are in general not as well spoken of as during the earlier part of the occupation. The French troops on the contrary are becoming more popular. The reason for these changes is probably that the Americans are continuing to enforce all their regulations v ery strictly while the French allow the inhabitants of their zones much more freedom than formerly.

(3d Army report, May 3, 1919)

British and French continue to be popular (in the mail) because they are less strict about infractions of regulations and because they hand over some of their food.

(American Postal censorship)

It is evident that the French are selling food to the Germans. Hence the inhabitants praise their generosity and brotherly attitude. It is a fact that Germans who are caught in possession of American goods are dealt with very severely, hence Americans are gegarded as spiteful and greedy. Such is the substance of a batch of letters passing between the two zones.

(American Postal Censorship, April 11, 1919)

THE AMERICANS REFUSE GERMAN FRIENDSHIP

There is a noticeable change in the first impressions which the inhabitants of this section had of the American soldier. It was the general opinion of the Germans when the Americans first entered the present occupied Territory that Americans had no idea why they were at war against Germany, and that their friendship could be easily won. The efforts of the people, however, have met with little success, and our soldiers have in general, less love for them now than they had upon their entry into Germany. The period has passed quietly.

(3d Army Summary of Intelligence, Feb. 18, 1919)

APPREHENSION AT OUR APPROACHING DEPARTURE

Rumor appears to have it that by about July 1st, French troops will take over the present American Zone of Occupation. Quite a few letters originating in the American Zone express their fear of the prospective French regime, and they still hope that the Americans will remain till Occupation days are ended.

(3d Army Postal Censorship, March 10, 1919)

The general opinion seems to be that after the American Army has vacated its present holding, the French and Belgian armies will be sent in to occupy this territory. Discussion of the question is tempered with praises for the Americans, and apprehensions after they are gone.

(3d Army Postal censorship, Apr. 24, 1919)

Translation of a letter from Henrichs of Dusseldorf to Frau Math. Petri, Trier:

By August the Americans will have turned their backs to us, because they too wish to join their loved ones. These people are the best and upon a higher scale than any of our enemies. I cannot understand what the Belgians are gaining by their mistreatment of us.

Johann Vogelsang of Westfalia who has visited the American Occupied Zone writes to Anna Wold of Niederahr that he would rather be among the gentlemen from America than the brutes who call themselves government soldiers.

(American Postal censorship, May 7, 1919)

MISCELLANEOUS:

A vague rumor was going the rounds of MAYEN last night that the water supply had been poisoned by an American soldier and that he was in jail now. The truth is that the American authorities have medicated the water in order to purify it.

Sum. of Int. 3rd Div.
May 15th, 1919.

A TRIER rumor, found in a number of letters, says that the Americans here will soon be succeeded by French troops of occupation. This is looked upon with dismay. Quoted: "The Americans have treated us well, they are gentlemen and bear us no hatred".

Postal Censorship, May 16th, 1919.
Third U.S. Army, Trier, May 17th, 1919.

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SOME APPRECIATIONS FROM BERLIN JOURNALISTS.

Taegliche Rundschau - Berlin, Apr. 24, 1919:

Pictures from "American" Germany

Impressions of an eye - witness.

The advance of the American troops into the Rhinelands was preceded by a benevolent proclamation of the Commander-in-Chief, General Pershing. The American troops did not come as enemies, the civilian population was to be undisturbed in its daily pursuits, schools, officians, and courts would not be interferred with. Beautiful words, but alas! only words.

According to the terms of the armistice, the German government is to bear the expenses of the Occupation. An exact statement of the number of troops was not considered necessary. The clever American then brought all the troops who could march or ride into German territory. Every place, even the smallest village is now crowded with soldiers. There is hardly a house not groaning under the load of billeting. In small farm-houseem 10 or 12 men are quartered and private houses, parsonages, etc., are requisitioned for messes and have been compelled to give the use of their kitchens. The owner himself is sometimes put out of hiw house. Schools and churches are requisitioned and monks are put out of monasteries that these may be used as hospitals. All American troops who are sick or wounded (very few, as the American "Victor" has scarcely ever even smelled powder) seem to be quartered in Germany. They have not yet put their cripples and sick from America into uniform and sent them over for a cheap "airing" in Germany. Gardens and fields of the farmers have been ruthlessly destroyed by American automobiles. Lately an inspection of beds in the country districts was made, with the statement that the Germans were to sleep on the floor, if there were not enough beds for the American troops. No wonder that bitterness among the people is increasing.

Up to the present, the Rhinelander has not been recompensed in any way for his difficult situation. Not a gram of American food is given him. To give any food to Germans is strictly forbidden. What is left over from the American military kitchens must be destroyed. The starving populace see daily thousands of pancakes, quantities of pies and mountains of fine white bread delivered to the Americans. When the German sees field-kitchens lighted with heaps of fat, he thinks sorrowfully of the 40 grams of margarine which he receives perweek. Eggs and vegetables in immense quantities are bought by the Americans at fabulous prices and the cost of living for natives is thus greatly increased. Americans are forbidden to sell cigarettes or tobacco and a German found in possession of American supplies is severely punished. Innocent people are tempted to break regulations and are then punished. We are sorry to say that Germans receive high pay for doing this work.

The American is very fond of large fines. I saw copies of the "Coblenzer Zeitung" in which the list of fines covered columns. No fines were less than 100 marks and many of them mounted into the thousands. Two respectable merchants were given two years imprisonment and 200,000 marks fine for smuggling cognac and this sentence was "mercifully" commuted to six months imprisonment and 100,000 marks fine. Fines are regulated according to the ability of the person to pay and not on the gravity of the offense. The mayor of "S" on the Moselle on information of his servant complained that an American girl in his house was practicing fornication. He was fined 500 marks for slandering a citizen of the United States and the servant was given three months in jail and a fine of300 marks. It was proved that the American girl had actually maintained sexual relationship with an American officer; but this was excused because she was engaged to him. Everywhere there is a feeling of uneasiness and the people consider themselves candidates for the penitentiary.

But this is not all. In Mayen, peasants are ordered to keep their windows open at night under penalty of punishment. The peasant is never a friend of fresh air - he has enough in the day time - but in Eifel climate such an order is dangerous. The American know-it-all health authorities think that they will prevent the grippe by it.

Moreover, the farmers are ordered to remove manure twice every 14 days and spread it on the fields 100 meters from houses. The American authorities do not seem to know that the growing crops, especially potatoes, can not bear any more fertilising. Who laughs at German beaurocracy?

Freedom of travel is maliciously interfered with by American authorities and passes to unoccupied territory are almost impossible to obtain. The Rhinelander is cut off from all communication from his relatives in interior Germany. Only exceptional cases, such as deaths in the family, are considered valid reasons for granting a pass. When they must be granted, the person is forbidden to take provisions or fuel with him.

Treatment of German officials is malicious and often humiliating. Personal affronts are not infrequent. Thus a representative of the Coblence Regierungspraesident was ordered to furnish 400 men in 24 hours to repair the roads. This was impossible, but the Regierungspraesident himself, though 68 years old, was summoned before the court and made to stand for three hours. Finally he was told to report daily at a certain hour at the American headquarters. When made ill by this treatment and after sending a physician's certificate, an American policeman appeared at his bedside to see whether he was telling the truth.

Even religious services are interfered with by sending censors to listen to sermons.

In the peace of my Berlin room I have the feeling that, in spite of strikes and workmen's assemblies, in spite of barbed-wire and machine guns, life is more endurable here than under American authority.

(3d Army report April 30, 1919)

Rhenanus in "Berliner Lokal Anzeiger":

The train is on its way from Cologne and we approach the American zone. A tall American enters the compartment. "Pass he says, without stopping chewing gum. We hand over our papers, he nods and goes out. As we pass the different stations we greet swarms of the sons of "Uncle Sam" in their khaki uniforms and cloth puttees of the same color, with soft caps which resemble closed paper bags. No shining buttons or insignia break the monotony of the uniforms. The only touch of color is the narrow yellow chevrons of the lower sleeve and the insignia of the various divisions on the upper part of the arm. The insignia worn in Neuwied is a star with an Indian head.

The streets are crowded with soldiers. The old charm of the hat-manufacturing town is gone. The Stars and Stripes wave over the castle, the home of the Rhenish poetess, Carmon Sylva. Through the streets rush heavy American autos and one hears the shrill signals of motorcycles with their attached side-seats. A strang, foreign world, which has no feeling for this old seat of culture and its kind hearted people has forced itself into the Rhine Valley. The streets of the old Rhine towns were never adapted to auto-traffic and the heavy American trucks shake the houses and ruin the roads.

GERMAN OPINION

OF

AMERICA'S WAR EFFORT

AMERICA'S POWER UNDERRATED.

Interrogation of Mr. Keller of Remagen:

The military leaders, at the outbreak of the war, contended that the conflict would be one of short duration, probably less than a year, as the enemy was weak and wholly unprepared. This, too spurred the people on and raised their spirits. After a year or so had passed, with no sign of victory, people began demanding explanations and Berlin tried to pacify them with statements to the effect that officers had blundered and had been severely punished therefor. With the advent of submarine warfare, followed later by the severance of diplomatic relations with the U. S., the people were brought to a stern realization of the possibility of a long drawn-out conflict and perhaps defeat. Further explanations were demanded and to again quiet the people changes were made in the Reichstag and in the Cabinet. Besides this, it was argued that the U. S. was over 3,000 miles from the battle-ground; that it would take too long for her to raise, equip and train enough men to make their presence felt; furthermore, submarines would prevent a great many troops from ever seeing European shores. The credulous people believed this until early in 1918 when the Americans began doing effective work.

(42d Div. Summary of Intelligence #247,
February 12, 1919)

Speech made by Prof. Klein of Cologne at a Social Democrat meeting in Segendorf:

"In 1917, soldiers at the front were told that by means of the U-boats England would be brought to her knees in from two to six months and that America would never land a ship-load of troops in a French port. Prof. Klein continued by saying that instead of this promise being fulfilled, England was never starved and Germany made the whole world her enemy, including a great Nation with plenty of money, men and material - in fact everything necessary to bring about the defeat of Germany. This Nation's name was the United States. They landed troops - you can see for yourself. Thank God we have them present with us. They have just come from the front. The United States not only got ships in safety to European ports, but landed millions of men; thousands of trucks and railroad cars with all accessories. If the German people could see the full amount of supplies brought to France by the United States they would die of aston ishment."

(2d Div. Summary of Intelligence, #172,
Jan. 6, 1919)

Interrogation of Mrs. Joseph Kegel of Rengsdorf, Dec. 26, 1918:

One of the guests who was taking treatment in Rengsdorf last summer claimed to be the American correspondent for the Kolnische Volks-Zeitung. He claimed to be thoroughly conversant with American affairs and said that America had no navy, no merchant marine, no army and would be unable to raise an army. This being so thoroughly in accord with what they had read in their papers, the statements of this man were given a good deal of credence.

Interrogation of Antonne Kliest, Ex-Sergt. of Stemropen:

When the war first broke out he thought it would last only a month or so; after the third year and up to the first appearance of the Americans in Champagne, July 17-18, he was still confident that Germany would win. When America came into the war he thought she would be of no help to the Allies further than her help as a neutral. They all thought that if she attempted to ship troops across the submarines could take care of that problem.

(42d Div. Summary of Intelligence, #195, December 22, 1918)

Interview with Mr. Ulrice of Marienberg:

The big mistakes of the war were not to be blamed upon the Emperor but upon his advisers who failed him on the most crucial questions. For example, von Ludendorff and von Tirpitz (both of whom he considered criminals for their actions had repeatedly and constantly affirmed that no American transports would ever cross the ocean in large enough numbers to be of any assistance to the Allies. He believed that such a move as the establishment of the U-boat warfare would have been justifiable only in case it would bring a quicker end to the war with victory to the Germans, but that now it had brought ridicule and shame.

(32d Div. Summary of Intelligence #46, January 3, 1919)

THE GERMANS WERE DECEIVED ABOUT AMERICANS IN FRANCE

Statement of Franz Marur of Nohn:

The soldiers were told after the entrance of the Americans into the war that it would be impossible for any number of troops to be brought to France as the submarines would prevent them from crossing. Even after the Americans arrived at the front it was said that they were English troops disguised. After the passage of the first American prisoners to the rear the German troops realized that this was not true as they could distinguish the actions and speech of the Americans from the English and that they had been falsely informed as to the true situation.

(42d Div. Summary of Intelligence #183, December 10, 1918)

Conversation between two natives of Berncastel:

"(German soldier) ..... "I cannot understand why we were all so ignorant about the truth. When we were at the point of making our drive to PARIS we were still being encouraged as to the small number of AMERICANS that were in France; but that they were not on the firing-line. This report was circulated throughout the whole front for a long time and, was believed by every German soldier on the Western front. In a few days we were in the drive again and before we ever made the proposed object . . . . every place seemed to swarm with Americans!"

(90th Div. Summary of Intelligence #75, December 30, 1918)

Interrogation of Katie Vogel, Sinzig:

When the war started and during its early days she says that all the German people believed that they were engaged in a righteous war of defense, because Russia, France and England were going to ruin them. However, as the war progressed, they believed that the Kaiser had misled them and his stories that he was trying to make a good peace on fair terms were doubted. During the last year of the war the German people knew they could not win and it was a question of how peace was to be brought about. The German people knew the United States was in the war after April, 1917 but the largest number of troops ever stated to be overseas was 200,000. When it became known after the armistice that there were more than 2,000,000 Americans in France the people were astonished.

(42d Div. Summary of Intelligence #276,
March 13, 1919)

Interrogation of John Lanz, of Dernau, Feb. 13, 1919:

After America had entered the conflict the soldiers were made to believe that it would be impossible for the transports to cross the ocean. For a number of months they were told that not an American soldier had landed in Europe, but it finally became known to the German soldiers that the Americans were landing troops on this side. They were told that we would not cause them the slightest worry or trouble as we were untrained boys. When pitted against the American soldiers the Germans saw that they had been badly fooled and deceived. Lanz says that the American soldiers caused the morale of the Germans to break entirely.

AMERICA'S AID AROUSES THE GERMAN HIGH COMMAND

Extract from an interrogation of prisoners of the 28th Division:

The American aid which had been underestimated in Germany because there were doubts as to its value and immediate effectiveness, seems to frighten the High Command much more than they wish to admit.

The officers themselves admit that among other causes this is the principal reason why Germany has been in a hurry to finish and to try to force a peace upon us.

They believe that if we can hold out this year "Germany will have lost the battle". But they say that until the very end of the year no respite will be left us in an endeavor to "break our morale and our will to victory". They hope that the fear of devastations and the terror exercised on Paris, as well as the perpetual attacks of the German Army "determined to make an end" will overcome our resistance before American aid will be really effective.

All admit that it is indeed a question of the last crisis of this moment; all declare that the present offensive will be prolonged and repeated for a decision "until the exhaustion of the German Forces".

Moreover the prisoners do not conceal their wondering astonishment at the training and skill of the Americans as revealed this morning before them and no less for the splendid performance of the French Artillery which for 8 days "has kept them encaged" preventing the arrival of all supplies and all reinforcements and causing extremely heavy losses.

(French VIth Army 2d Bureau, Information
Bulletin 513, July 11, 1918)

THE GERMAN MORALE SLUMPED AFTER CHATEAU THIERRY

Statement of Ernest Enelt of Gladbach:

Ernest Enelt of Gladbach served two and one half years in the First Pioneer Regiment. He had been on many fronts, but at Chateau Thierry had his first encounter with the Americans. After the first battle with this new foe, his regiment was ready to give up, and their officers were forced to drive them against the oncoming Americans. He claims that if the soldiers had had their way war would have been over after the start of the 2d Battle of the Marne.

(32d Div. Summary of Intelligence #48
January 5, 1919)

Interrogation of Ludwig Weller; a discharged German soldier:

Morale took a severe slump after the defeat in July, and from that time on it was common talk among the soldiers that they had been deceived by their leaders in regard to the Americans. The troops, Weller says, soon recognized that the American soldier was a brave and worthy opponent, that he advanced rapidly and with little regard for cover and was daring in his night patrolling. The German troops had been told that the Americans would be poor soldiers and the actual experience was discouraging.

(2d Div. Summary of Intelligence, #150,
December 15, 1918)

Interrogation of Lieut. Kreutzberg of Ahrweiler:

When the average soldier was aware that Americans were fighting, he said, the morale dropped almost at once and every soldier said, now its not only one year more, but many more. Lt. Kreutzberg's company, and in fact the entire division, was on the front until the Armistice was signed. Lt. Kreuzberg maintains that if food conditions had been anywhere near normal Germany would have won the war regardless of the Americans. He thinks that soldier for soldier the Germans never feared an American in the field and had Germany had twice the number of U-boats she actually had, America would never have had a ch ance to assist the Allies. The same spirit exists among all German officers says Kreutzberg.

(42d Division, Summary of Intelligence
#250, Feb. 15, 1919)

Interrogation of M att Speinmann, of Holzweiler:

He is 33 years of age and is one of the few volunteer troops to enlist from this section. He was assigned to the 116th Artillery (77s) and after two month's training near Bonn was sent to the front in Flanders. During 1916-17 they were shunted from one front to another and in July and August, 1918, were against the Americans in the Chateau-Thierry drive and again in the Argonne in September and October. He says that the fighting of the American troops was terrible and as they had been given to understand by their officers that the Americans were green and untrained, the surprise caused many of the Germans to surrender where they were. With the first news of Americans in the line the German morale dropped and the general feeling among the troops was that they were defeated. From then on discipline failed to hold the troops and toward the end they paid little or no attention to their

officers and were hardly more than a mob. He says that papers dropped on their lines by American planes caused great uneasiness among the troops and resulted in many desertions and surrenders.

(42d Div. Summary of Intelligence #286, March 23, 1919)

Interrogation of Peter Fuchs, Westam:

Fuchs is 32 years old and enlisted in the State Pioneers of Coblenz on February 20, 1915. After a period of training at Coblenz his regiment was sent to the western front where they immediately went to work putting up barbed wire and building dugouts. He took part in the July offensive on the Champagne front and was wounded in the head and foot. The morale of the people in the hospital was low and especially so when they heard that Americans were on that front in force and had a lot to do with the failure of their offensive. He thought that the war would be won by that offensive but realized after the failure that Germany had lost. The soldiers soon learned that the submarines had also failed because again Americans were met in Chateau Thierry with disastrous results to the Germans This news got back to the hospital by wounded men. Some of the tales were greatly exaggerated because the Americans fought differently from what they were accustomed to. Some said that the Americans would not stop in the face of any kind of fire and their artillery was wonderful. All these stories helped still further to depress the low morale.

(42d Div. Summary of Intelligence #287, March 24, 1919)

Interrogation of Joseph Muller, Ringen:

Muller is 27 years of age and was called in May, 1915. He was assigned to the 47th Infantry Regt. and saw service in practially every important engagement during the war. He was wounded twice but was returned to the front after recovering each time. He says that during 1914-1915 everyone was confident Germany would be victorious in a short time; food and clothing were good and plentiful and the morale high. After serious defeats in 1915 and the shortage in food and material became apparent the morale dropped and desertions began. When the news finally got out that the Americans were in the front lines in great force the German soldiers knew that they were beaten and a great many surrendered to escape the chance of being killed in the trenches. He fought against Americans for the first time on the Marne in July and August and says that in open warfare there are no better troops. He thinks the system of the American army and the comradeship of the men is far better in the making of good soldiers than the strict discipline and machine-like actions of the German system.

(42d Div. Summary of Intelligence #279, March 16, 1919)

Interrogation of Matthew Guttis, Unkelbach:

Guttis was called into active service March 24, 1916. He saw very little service at the front until the summer of 1918 when he was sent with other replacements to Chateau Thierry where his regiment ,

the 294th was held in reserve at the beginning of the great offensive and was finally sent into the front line when they were forced to fight to the finish. He says the Americans were so strong that it was a futile effort so they finally broke and ran for their lives. He claims that at that time the Germans thought the Americans were either crazy or bullet proof.

(42d Div. Summary of Intelligence #274, March 10, 1919)

AMERICAN AID WAS ESSENTIAL TO THE ALLIED VICTORY

Interrogation of Joseph G orres, Mayshcoss:

Gorres was a Sergeant in charge of a German machine gun crew and served during the war. He fought against the Americans during the last year on the Champagne, St. Mihiel, and Argonne fronts and attributes the ending of the war entirely to the efficiency of the American artillery and infantry.

(42d Div. Summary of Intelligence #280, March 17, 1919)

Interrogation of Wilhelm Eschuriler, Vetterlhoven:

Eschuriler is 55 years of age so was not in service during the war. He is a cafe owner in Vetterlhoven. He says that the Armx people at home and the soldiers were kept in ignorance for a long time of the fact that America had entered the war. After the news of our entrance into the war could not longer be kept from the people they were told that the U-boats were sinking our transports as fast as they left America and that there could never be more than onr or two divisions of American troops in the line. He thinks that when the fact that the Americans were here in large numbers and had shown their fighting qualities it did more to break the German morale and hasten the end than any other one event during the entire war. The news of the terrible fighting of our troops was spread rapidly throughout Germany by returned wounded and A.W.O.L. soldiers. He thinks that America had no just cause for entering the war and he is sure that without our aid the Allies would have been defeated.

(42d Div. Summary of Intelligence #276, March 13, 1919)

Interrogation of Peter Bendheuer, Rolandswerth:

Bendheuer was called into the military service in 1914 and went to Frannkfort where he entered the Aviation school. He was a member of the Flying Circus on the Champagne front in July 1918, was injured on August 16, 1918 and sent home the following month. He speaks very highly of the American Army of Occupation. He claims that after the failure of the German drive in July 1918 everybody said they were whipped because the Americans were now in the war and were too strong for them to cope with.

(42d Div. Summary of Intelligence, #273, March 10, 1919)

Interrogation of John Oberlander of Bonn, Jan. 12, 1919:

The entry of the American army into the conflict caused dissention in the ranks of the Germans. They did not want to fight us, in the first place, for they did not see why we came into the war, and they saw no reason why they should have one more enemy. The announcement that we had actually arrived on the field was a discouraging piece of news to the men in the ranks.

Interrogation of Mr. Rahrig of Remagen:

Rahrig was a machine gunner for 3 years, having been on the West front for about nine months with the 10th Division. His division fought against Americans in St. Mihiel on September 12th and he believes that at least 12,000 men must have been captured on that front. After the big drive by the Americans the German troops lost heart. This, coupled with internal troubles, finally forced a change in the order of things until the people began demanding a cessation of hostilities.

(42d Div. Summary of Intelligence, #247,
Feb. 12, 1919)

THE GERMAN CIVILIANS LOST HOPE

Statement of the Mayor of Rubennach:

The Mayor states that the people received constant reports of the United States' futile efforts to transport troops across the Atlantic. The usual procedure was to announce the sailing of a transport of a certain name, and a few days later to announce the sinking of a transport of the same name and the loss of a large number of troops. When the population suddenly realized that we had a large army over here and the German Army began to feel its pressure, it destroyed their last illusions and precipitated the end.

(32d Div. Summary of Intelligence #26,
December 14, 1918)

AMERICAN PROPAGANDA WAS EFFECTIVE.

Interrogation of Paul Schmidt of Rema gen:

One of the things that made a great impression on the German soldiers, and which, Schmidt believes, helped to shorten the war, was the propaganda dropp ed by American planes. There were strict orders against picking up propaganda dropped from planes, and against having any papers of that nature in their possession. In spite of these orders, the soldiers continued to obtain the papers. An order was then issued stating that men would be paid for each piece of propaganda turned in. At first this resulted in the men collecting and turning in the papers, but soon they started keeping them again, and passing them around among their comrades. Many of the men sent the papers home to their families. Schmidt recalls one paper dropped from one of our planes which read something like this: " You are fighting for the Kaiser, we are fighting for you. Think this over for yourself." This particular paper was read by a great many soldiers, and many copies were sent back into Germany.

(42d Div. Summary of Intelligence #232,
January 28, 1919)

WITHOUT AMERICA GERMANY WOULD HAVE WON.

Interrogation of Mrs. Brandenburg of Burgbreh:

She is a warm admirer of the Kaiser and says it is the people and not the Kaiser who caused the war; she also blamed the people for the present situation. She says that if it had not been for the Americans coming in when they did, that the Germans would have won the war and that all the sacrifices that they had been making for four years would not have been in vain. She does not understand why the Americans came into the war.

(2d Div. Summary of Intelligence #148,
December 13, 1918)

Interrogation of Christian Schlotter of Wirges:

Schlotter overheard several staff officers of the 3d Guard Div. discussing the defeats suffered by the Germans since July 18, 1918. They considered the main cause of their defeat to be the timely intervention of the Americans, the valor of their troops, their superiority in war materiel, and the poor quality of the newly called out German classes of 1898 and 1899. Tanks were also considered a very effective weapon, and one which the Germans were not able to master in most of the combats. The staff officers agreed that Germany's industry while very efficient had been hopelessly outclassed by American industries, whose enormous production was well known in Germany. The shortage of raw materials was said to have been an important reason for Germany's speedy surrender. The majority of the senior officers did not admit the defeat of Germany, but said that peace was merely a question of policy, to quickly end a losing fight and thereby save greater loss.

(2d Div. Summary of Intelligence #155,
December 20, 1918)

Interview with Lt. Wingender, formerly a member of the German Staff:

When asked whether lack of food and supplies caused the breakdown of the German machine, he said: "No" . Conditions were not nearly as bad as in 1916, and they could have held out until this coming Spring, and perhaps through the Summer. The people were very much frightened by the shortage of some things and the revolution easily gained headway. Had America not come into the war he is sure that the Germans would have won, but after we began to take an important part in the fighting they no longer had a chance for anything but favorable peace terms.

(3d Div. Summary of Intelligence #72,
January 30, 1919)

From Summary of Intelligence, 3d Div. Dec. 15, 1918:

Lt. Joseph Breilbach, a former artillery officer, says that Ludendorff, who he considers the most capable of German leaders, could have played with Foch as a cat with a mouse if America had not stepped in.

Statement of Peter Bruse, Gr. Maischeid:

Peter Bruse, a wealthy sheep owner of Gr. Maischeid thinks that the revolution was a deplorable affair for Germany because, although everybody knew that defeat was certain after America entered the war, and later it was sure that Germany would have to accept the Armistice terms, things might have turned out better . had it not been for the revolution.

(32d Div. Summary of Intelligence #86,
Feb. 13, 1919)

Interrogation of Fred Eiker, M.G. Co. 43d Inf. Regt.:

He said Bois de Belleau was well known in Germany. He also said they had never before met such a sudden shock and deadly machine gun and rifle fire, and that most of their losses were from the above mentioned arms. They came to Chateau-Thierry with a company strength of one hundred and fifty men and had lost only two per cent until they met the Americans the first of June, and when relieved the 10th of June by the 108th Regiment had only thirty men left in his company. They were out of the line for three weeks then replaced being sent to the Champagne front, where again he met the Americans July 15, and here the American Artillery so badly wrecked his Regiment that what was left were given work behind the lines. He has three other brothers in the German Army and two in the English Army. He frankly admitted that Chateau Thierry and Soissons were the turning points of the War and also said that if the Americans had not come to the aid of the French in June and July that they would have been in Paris by the last of July. He thought the American morale the best of any he had ever seen.

(2d Div. Summary of Intelligence, #181,
January 15, 1919)

From Summary of Intelligence, 90th Division, Feb. 13, 1919:

A number of ex-soldiers declared themselves satisfied that the war is over; they state had not the U. S. come into it that the outcome would never have been doubtful.

SOME GERMANS ARE GLAD AMERICA INTERVENED.

Interrogation of Adam Scheiber of Kripp:

Later on in the war, when the tide seemed more and more against the Germans every day, the men became very much discouraged, and resisted the orders of the officers whenever a chance came. Often he said they had chances to kill Americans, but did not as they could see no gain for them by doing so. He says Germany was wrong in her U-boat campaign, that she should have left the American ships alone, but he was glad that America did come and cause them to lose the war, because victory only spelled more power for the richer classes in Germany.

(42d Div. Summary of Intelligence #232,
January 28, 1919)

Interrogation of Joseph Wershafen of Neuenahr:

He would have liked to see the United States enter the war a year earlier for he realized that Germany was violating the neutral rights of the United States and that we would resent it to the extent of declaring war and that the sooner we entered the conflict the sooner it would be over.

(42d Div. Summary of Intelligence #221,
January 27, 1919)

Interrogation of a German Machine Gunner of the 52nd Sturm-battalion, Remagen:

This man was on all fronts for 49 months being wounded three times. He often wished to be taken prisoner by the Americans or British. He finally succeeded in escaping to Holland where, posing as a Hollander, he worked on ships. He says he has been instructed in all arms used by the Allies including American machine guns, rifles and grenades. His organization was used only for strictly storming work. When they had reached their objectives they were often relieved by machine gunners but in no case where they used to hold positions. He believes that had the Americans not entered the war the Germans would now be in Paris. He is glad we came in, however, for it shortened the war and brought about favorable changes in the German Government.

(42d Div. Summary of Intelligence #193, December20, 1918)

GERMAN VIEWS OF THE CAUSE

OF

AMERICAN INTERVENTION.

THE UNREGENERATE GERMANS

From Summary of Intelligence, 42d Div. Feb. 14, 1919:

A surprisingly large number of the better educated Germans, when carefully interrogated, show an entirely "unreconstructed" spirit. They do not see why the United States entered the war. They defend the U-boat campaign and declare that no "unnecessary" outrages were committed by German soldiers. Many think that if it had not been for the shortage of supplies Germany would have been triumphant even against the help of the United States.

Statement of Parish Priest of Niederbresig:

A merica's entry into the war he considered hardly justified because the submarine war was the only defense of Germany against the blockade England had instituted.

(3d U. S. Army Summary of Intelligence, J anuary 16, 1919)

From interrogation of Frau Frieda Fischer of Lohndorf:

She likes the American soldier individually but does not like the nation as a whole. She states that America entered the war for what money she could get out of it.

THE SUBMARINE WARFARE A BLUNDER.

Statement of Franz Wildnis, Schoolmaster of Holzthum:

"The ruling powers made a great mistake in diplomacy and tact when they involved America in the war. The U-boat war was never defensible; the sinking of the Lusitania was a crime". --

(3d Army Corps Summary of Intelligence #23, December 8, 1918)

Interrogation of John Lanz of Derman:

John Lanz is 21 years old and served with the 5th Grenadier regiment of the 4th Prussian Guard Division for the last three years of the war. He volunteered when he was 18, fearing that if he waited until drafted he would be too late to see action, but saw more than enough action during the first week. He admits that Germany by her U-boat policy caused her own defeat, for he believes that the United States would not have declared war had it not been for this mistake on the part of Germany.

(42d Div. Summary of Intelligence #248, February 13, 1919)

Interrogation of the Burgomaster of Ahrweiler, Dec. 16, 1918)

The Burgomaster is very sure that Germany would have won the war but for America. He states that Germany's psychology was faulty and that this led to a series of blunders regarding America. The first and foremost blunder was submarine warfare. This policy, he says, was championed and put into effect by von Tirpits and Ludendorff, against the better judgment of the Kaiser and Hindenburg, who accepted it unwillingly. After submarine warfare had been started, its conduct toward America showed further blundering judgment. The Germans, says the Burgomaster, did

not think that America would declare war. In the next place, they had no idea that America would accomplish so much in so short a time and the Burgomaster does not conceal his own personal amazement at America's achievement. The Germans thought that they could whip England and France before America could make her power felt. The Germans also thought th at the people of German descent in America would cause a great deal of trouble if they did not openly resist America's participation in the war. The Burgomaster expresses great surprise that the mass of these people showed themselves to be patriotic citizens.

Interrogation of Friedrich Muller of Walporzheim:

At the time the unrestricted submarine warfare was commenced the German people thought England would be brought to the verge of starvation in four months. They were very much disappointed in the outcome of the submarine policy as it was the cause of the United States entering the war. Herr Muller feels that the whole world hates Germany and that the German people must spare no effort to establish themselves again in the good will of other peoples.

(42d Div. Summary of Intelligence #191,
Dec. 18, 1918)

THE AMERICANS WERE DECEIVED BY ALLIED LIES

Extract from a letter from Frau Helene Stade, Genzhausen:

It is said that our province is to be occupied for 15 years. However, it has been no burden so far. I have with me now a teacher who has been over here in Europe for one and a half years. What caused such people to throw themselves into the uniform of War? When one asks one is told: America would not have joined had there been no atrocities in Belgium. The whole affair in a nut shell is that the Americans were lured into the trip by lie upon lie.

(Daily resume, 3d Army, May 3, 1919)

THE GOLDEN CALF A FACTOR

Letters from Germans to relatives in America:

(a) P ostdirektor Dortelmann, Trier, expresses the satisfaction of the Treverians on being able to correspond with friends in America. He feels that the returning troops will carry home with them propaganda favorable to Germany, particularly in dispelling the idea that all Germans are barbarians. He thinks that without America, Germany would have won the war, and cannot explain America's hostile attitude, after her enthusiastic reception of the U-boat "Deutschland". "Probably the 'Golden Calf' business played an important role in this matter."

THE KAISER BELITTLED AMERICAN AID.

Interrogation of Julius Baer of Remagen:

Baer is a butcher who was with the German heavy artillery for three years. He thinks Germany continued the war too long. He means that it should have ended before America got into it. When the United States declared war it is said the Kaiser ridiculed them and said the few men sent over here would have no effect. He often wonders what the Kaiser thinks about it now. He thinks Germany would have

been victorious had not the United States entered the war as France and England were ready to quit but the aid which those countries received greatly discouraged the German soldiers.

(42d Div. Summary of Intelligence, #230, January 26, 1919).

Interrogation of Aloys Hansen of Wimbach, Dec. 13, 1918:

He would give no opinion on the sinking of unarmed and unescorted passanger ships such as the Lusitania, saying that he knew nothing of the true conditions. When asked if the people realized such actions were liable to bring America into the war he said they did, but what the German authorities assured them that America would be unable to help the Allies to a much greater extent than they were already doing.

THE TRUTH SUP PRESSED.

Statement of Hans Paasche of Berlin:

"I was commissioned in 1909 and was a Captain in the German Navy. I am a brother-in-law of Maximilin Harden. They had a bureau in Berlin the main purpose of which was to create a favorable answer to the American accusations in regard to the Lusitania. The Commanding Officer of Berlin issued a statement that if anybody told the truth he would be punished.

" I have always been against war and was glad when the Americans drove the Germans back."

(2d Div. Summary of Intelligence #205, February 10, 1919)

From Summary of Intelligence, 3d Div. December 18, 1918:

An old German civilian living in Miesenheim, who had four sons in the war, three returned , relates the following: The people of Germany have never at any time been advised of the severing of diplomatic relations between the United States and Germany. The note which President Wilson directed to the German Government may possibly have been printed in the local papers, but the public did not receive these copies, and as the newspapers were sent by mail were probably withheld by censor. At times, papers for 3 or 4 consecutive days were withheld.

Statement of the Mayor of Neunkirchen:

"We were never given any other reason other than that every time another power entered into the war on the side of the Allies, it was due to the underhanded methods of England. We believed all these statements for how could we suspect our own government? But when the United States entered the war, the statements were not convincing enough, and several times when some of our leading statesmen asked embarassing questions, they were promptly removed from office. From this time on, people became suspicious. Nearly every family here has some relative or other in your country, and quite a few of them have come back to us for short visits. They seemed to be prosperous enough or they could never have afforded the trip. So what could these people gain by declaring war on us? We had our meetings and discussed these matters.

When we sent our representatives to the government asking for a little more information, the government told us, that these questions were being v ery ably handled and in the future no more meetings would be allowed. Up to this time, every man, woman and child had given their entire support to help win the war. But as soon as we suspected that things were not going right, and this feeling spread very rapidly, the most natural consequence was only a half-hearted support. The government always liked to use the phrase that "The whole world is against our dear Fatherland" . This phrase went very well for a time until we desired to know the reason. When we were denied the right of knowing the reason why we were sending our men to give up their lives, we realized that it was then time to change such a state of affairs. It took us a long time to find out. There is no reason to hold out longer in an unjust cause forced upon us by deviltry. We look to you for a just settlement of our pitiable conditions brought about by not thinking for ourselves."

(3d Army Corps Summary of Intelligence,
#22, December 7, 1918)

THE AMERICANS AS ADVENTURERS.

Interrogation of Mrs. Anton Bursch--a shop-keeper in Echternach:

A German officer said to this woman that the Americans came over here only to see the world and for the sake of adventure.

(3d Army Corps Summary of Intelligence,
#11, Nov. 26, 1918).

A SCHOOLBOY'S VIEW

From Third Army Summary of Intelligence, Dec. 8, 1918:

"A twelve year old German boy who was asked the way immediately began a conversation. 'You Americans are not really heart and soul in this war, are you? The French hate us because we took Alsace and Lorraine, but you only entered the war to make sure that England and France would be able to pay you the money you had lent them. For that reason we are glad that the country is being occupied by Americans instead of French or English. Row-boats were often used to deceive German U-boats, and when the latter came to render assistance concealed guns opened fire on the U-boats."' When asked where he had obtained all this information the child answered: 'I learned it at school'".

THE GERMAN ATTITUDE TOWARD THE UNITED STATES.

THE GERMANS WANT A GOVERNMENT LIKE OURS.

In the area of the 243d Field Artillery, most of the people seem to want a Republican form of Government. They have expressed their desire to have a Government similar to that of the United States, but whether or not this is merely propaganda, remains to be seen. They want to get away from Berlin, but they do not want to belong to France. Many of the people have expressed a desire for a separate Rhineland, and some are in favor of independent States, combined under one President. Very few know whom they want for president, and the fact really is, that there is no one in whom they can put their confidence. Some of the people were surprised that the Assembly was holding their meeting, the never having heard anything of it.

Extract from Summary of Intelligence
89th Div., Feb. 15th, 1919.

Interrogation of Louis Mueller,
of ELGERT.

It was Mr. Mueller's hope that Germany would adopt a republic similar to that of the United States. He admitted that he did not know much about our government or our country but it was his hope nevertheless, and the hope of his neighbors, that President Wilson would be able to give Germany a government like that of the United States which seemed to be looked up to by the entire world since the start of the war.

32nd Div. Sum of Int. #42.
Dec. 30th, 1918.

Statement of M. Balzer,
of DOCKWEILLER.

"I have friends in America where opportunity is accorded everyone, and I hope that our new government will be patterned in some such manner as your own."

3d Army Corps Sum of Int. #24.
Dec. 9th, 1918.

Interrogation of Discharged
German Soldiers in GEROLSTEIN.

In an interrogation of several ex-soldiers, among them a 1st Sergt. it was found that they very strongly held the same sentiment that we have heard so constantly, expressed by the civil population since our entry upon German soil. Namely, thankfulness that the war is over, no matter what their debt may be; hatred of the Kaiser's system since they have read in their own daily publications of the real reasons for the war's inception; and hope that the Americans will be friendly in their occupation and that President Wilson will have the greatest weight in the final peace settlements. They also believed, and expressed this desire with great ferver, that the Americans would rush them foodstuffs and clothing.

Upon being asked if they understood that the Americans had made war upon the evil and impossible monarchic-"Gott mit uns" governmental system and not upon the German people; they replied that at first they could not believe that statement because they believed in the stories that their rulers had told them. Now however, they realized that we were not "man-eaters", but rather, very human and likeable. They expressed a strange desire for some Republican form of government, not caring particularly as to the exact form, so long as they could know the truth at all times and have confidence in their own governors.

Finally, both civilians and discharged German soldiers unanimously agree upon their joy and thankfulness that they have American troops of occupation and that peace is very near.

2nd Div. Sum. of Int.
Dec. 7, 1919.

In the town of RITTERSDORF the subject of separation of Church and State was very strongly advocated at a meeting of the German Democratic Party; an opportunity to defend the position of the Church in this question was seized by two Catholic priests in the audience, who contended that the ideals of good government and the ideal of the Church were identical. In reply, the speaker of theGerman Democratic Party stated there could be no better example of the results of a divided Church and State than the American soldiers billeted in the German homes; he asked the audience to compare the conduct, appearance and enlighternment of the American soldiers with the aspect of theGerman soldiers.

The reply met with the approval of the audience and the priests were "hissed" out of the meeting.

Extract, 89th Div. U.S. Army.
Sum. of Int. Jan. 24, 1919.

Interrgation of the Parish Priest,
of NIEDERBREISIG.

The Social Democratic principle to which he objects most strongly is the separation of church and state which, he says, is a blow at the very existence of religion and Chrisitianity. When it was suggested to him that America had managed to keep religion in existence over a period of 150 years of separation he replied that America's separation was not complete for the church property was respected and not taxable and parochial schools were permitted to exist both of which conditions the Social Democrats do not intend to permit.

42nd Div. Sum. of Int. #220,
Jan 16, 1919.

The following extract from a Regimental Intelligence report, covers very precisely the political aspect of our occupation.

"Instead of trying to teach our men the superiority of German institutions, theGerman speaker now finds that his most forceful argument is the statement that the system or method that he is upholding is always followed in the United States. In short, it is the American soldier who is unconsciously spreading American propaganda among theGermans, and not the German disseminating insiduous doctrines among our men."

2nd Div. Sum. of Int. Jan. 20, 1919.

THE GERMANS PUT TRUST IN PRESIDENT WILSON.

Interrogation of Mr. Matthew Yearhats,
a farmer of DORSEL.

He feels that President Wilson is the man of the hour and that he will be the one to name their next ruler and is confident that he will do absolutely the right thing, and says President Wilson is at the present time "King of theWorld".

42nd Div. Sum. of Int. #183.
Dec. 10, 1918.

Now that many families are celebrating the anniversary of the death of a father, son or brother on the field of battle, the League of Nations is becoming doubly impressive. They want it. They want assurance that no war will again recur to cause the sorrow and suffering that now depresses them.

Postal Censorship, April 9th.

Interrogation of Mr. Miller,
of REMAGEN.

At present the people are very bitter toward the French and English, but are highly pleased with the American troops. They have nothing but words of praise for President Wilson on account of his fairness in dealing with the representatives of the various belligerents at the present Peace Conference.

42d Div. Sum. of Int. #241,
Feb. 6th, 19191

The well known German writer, Otto Ernest, published on the eve of the landing of President Wilson, a word of welcome under the motto "We desire a tribunal". The author calls to mind that even a common criminal has the right to an impartial tribunal - only a world in which culture and civilization have lost all power and all meaning would a tribunal be denied. If the Entente protests against an unconditional neutral tribunal, then President Wilson, as a thinking man, must unmistakeably say that the Entente fears this tribunal. Germans do not fear it. The German people have never followed the principle of "my country right or wrong" and have never been of the opinion that patriotic purpose justifies every means. The German people desire an impartial tribunal -----a tribunal that Germany and her adversaries equally call together from neutral countries and to which all archives are open.

The outcry of the English and French, who, as parties, wish to be judges, and even now are ready with their judgment, must make a man like Wilson exceedingly distrustful. On this account it is to be hoped that the first words of the German delegates at the Peace Conference may be "We desire a tribunal".

The author concludes: "This tribunal will and must come, and indeed very soon, and peace conditions which are based upon our "guilt" cannot be maintained if we are innocent, or, at most, guilty in common with others. People are no longer so stupid that they respect closed archives or diplomatic assertions".

Extract, 89th Div. U.S. Summary
of Intelligence #132 Dec.20,191

Dr. E. A. Spiker, director of Siemens-Halske and Siemens-Schuckert Werke, president of theChamber of Commerce, formerly chairman of a league to foster friendly relations with other countries said: "We Germans are not vanquished, but have suffered an inner collapse, because the old government adopted a too feeble attitude towards the social democracy ever since the beginning of the war. This led to the inner break down which was the cause of our losing the war even if I should accept the viewpoint of the Entente powers to the effect that they have won the war. The fact nevertheless remains that it was not England, France, Italy or Russia which won the victory but America, and above all American mechanic which, both in the matter of quality and quantity accomplished great things in the production of aircraft, tanks, arms and munitions; and sinc America undoubtedly brought about the decision in favor of the Entente, America or President Wilson can and may and must bespeak the decisive vo at the Peace negotiations. We Germans take it for granted that the Presi dent will abide by the 14 points which he has set up as the basis for pe

and that he will not concede that any of the demands exceeding these points, and which may be made by the powers which did not win the war, should be recognized.

To recognize the idea of a league of nations, as proposed by President Wilson, at first appeared as a Utopia to me, because I considered it impossible that Germany. geographically wedged in between Russia and France, could ever agree to a disarmament of her army and fleet. Well, this condition has come to pass in the most unexpected manner, and I assume that England, France and Russia are likewise so exhausted that they will be forced to forego the maintenance of their standing armies. The preliminary conditions for a league of nations are therefore given at the present moment in a greater measure than ever before, and the only obstacle seems to me to be the question of the freedom of the seas; should President Wilson succeed in solving this question in a manner satisfactory to the freedom of the nations, then and only then, will he also succeed in solving this question in a manner satisfactory to the freedom of the nations, then and only then, will he also succeed in realizing the great ideal, the establishment of a league of nations for the permanent preservation of peace, and succeeding generations would bless his name if this loft goal be achieved.

Extract, 89th Div. U. S. Summary
of Intelligence, Dec. 24, 1918.

He reports that there is no ill feeling toward the Americans. In fact they are looked upon as practically the only friends the Germans have today. He stated that the remainder of the world wished to see Germany torn to pieces and divided among the various nations which fought against her. The fact that America came into the war, he said, to protect the money she had invested in it, caused a feeling among the people of that President Wilson would soften the peace terms and prevent the country from being entirely ruined.

42nd Div. Sum. of Int. #190.
Dec. 16, 1918.

Extract from "Berliner Dienat"
February 5th, 1919.

"We signed the armistice, thinking we would show our attitude towards Wilson's 14 points, but made a big mistake, because we can see now, the fighting being over, America's help isn't needed any longer, and England and France are doing the dictating. Our army, recognized during the last 4years as the best in the world, being disorganized and turned into an undisciplined mob through Bolshevism and Sparticism, France and England think we are at their mercy and must accept any terms imposed on us. Fruits of this conviction are clearly seen in the conditions of the armistice and the Paris Pre-peace Conference. Since then, conditions have changed again. Political groups of powers influenced the peace problem through the downfall of theCentral Powers. Several members have come to the conclusion to achieve what they could at our expense. Further demands of such Powers are against their own allies and neutrals and mostly against Italy, Belgium and the Balkan States.

Regarding the division of German colonies, there is also a different opinion among the Allies. Most important is the sharp difference in opinion over the character of the peace negotiations. Wilson wants justice without consideration as to who is winner or loser. France, as the radical representative of the law, understands by justice, punishment of the guilty, under the condition that Germany is the guilty. On the whole, you have two world economic views fighting each other; France

as a continental economic state without interest in a world economic problem, tries to take the advantage of her westward neighbor. America as a world power without a territorial European interest works for a good world economic condition. The knowledge that economic energy of the people, neither through a lost war nor momentum inside this organization, cannot be dead forever, causes Germany to be a future buyer of the raw mateirals of America.

England as the great power of the world, surrounded by the British Empire, tires to work against this American plan because she needs for the upkeep of her world power a necessarily great fleet, but has no interest with the local European French desire up to now as regarding peace.

Wilson is for his points and ideals and it is up to the German people to show that they care for a just peace. The German people must furthermore, inside and outside, give the assurance that the majority rule and every possibility of a Sparticistic and separate disturbance will be killed in its infancy."

Interrogation of Jacob Heinbach,
of REMAGEN.

Heinbach is a baker and remained in Remagen the entire length of the war supporting himself and mother. He was not fit for the army owing to the loss of one kidney.

Heimbach does not agree with the opinion that some civilians have expressed concerning the American manouvers with live ammunition. He sees it from the soldierly standpoint as being necessary for a soldier's training. Some have, however, expressed the opinion that the Americans were putting on these shows to inspire fear in German hearts, to show the Germans that we have the upper hand and that they should think a great deal before attempting anything offensive. They can not see the reason for tearing up farm lands with high explosives for demonstration only. One even expressed the opinion that President Wilson did not know of these manouvers or else he would put a stop to them.

Sum. of Int. #268. 42nd Div.
March 5th, 1919.

With the idea of obtaining the opinion of the average German regarding the Peace Conference now being held in Paris, numerous civilians have been interviewed as a result it is found that the subject is being little discussed among the Germans and there is a marked indifference to all that is going on there. They all show a surprising conficence in President Wilson and feel assured that so long as he is present at the meetings of the Conference, German's interests will be justly considered. From their distrust of their own Government at Weimar it is not too much to say that they place more trust and confidence in President Wilson than in their own countrymen.

Sum. of Int. #233, 2nd Div.,
March 10th, 19191

B.Z. am Mittag, March 9th, 1919.

Revival of faith in President Wilson:

There is an indication that with the President's return to France, Germany is regaining faith in his ability to successfully carry out his program. A good impression has been created by his determined attitude in facing the Senate, opposition and his declaration in the Metropolitan Opera House in New York City to submit the League of Nations idea to a popular vote.

By appealing to the will of the mass directly he has placed himself before an ex-parliamentary forum. It is thought that this move has furnished him with anew credit which he will be able to apply towards his interpretations of his ideas, especially as they effect Germany.

Advance. G.H.Q., Mar. 12, 1919.
Items from Berlin Newspapers,
of March 9th, 1919.

The general press opinion seems to be that Wilson and his principles have so far won a complete victory at the Peace Conference.

From 3d Army Weekly Resume,
February 11th, 1919.

AMERICAN IDEALISM- REAL OR FALSE?

Abstract from the "MECKLENBURGER TAGEBLATT" Wiemar, Feb. 19, 1919.

Demands for an early peace continue. The following passage is from a letter written by a nurse in SULZHAYN.

It is bottomless meanness on the part of the Americans to refuse passes to you and other officers' wives. The new and stricter conditions of the Armistice scorn all human feelings anyway. The Americans and the rest of that company still preach about a just peace and that kind of rubbish; in reality it is a peace by force (gewalt frieden) than which there has been none more brutal and reckless in the history of the world. I cannot bring myself to believe that such injustice exists and I firmly believe that the German people will yet come to their senses and, as in 1813, will once more drive the oppressors from the country. May this day of awakening be not too far distant. There have been frequent expressions of sympathy to the people of the Rheinland for their sufferings under the troops of occupation.

Daily Resume: 3d Army,
Feb. 25th, 1919.

Dr. Hess, who is one of the most influential lay Centrum supporters in KREISS AHRWEILER, says that the good will shown towards our troops by the Germans is genuine and had its beginnings some time before the armistice when people gradually came to believe in the altruistic attitude of President Wilson. His Fourteen Points made a deep impression and people were only too glad to welcome a peace on this basis. The conduct of our Army of Occupation has strengthened this impression and Dr. Hess states that the United States is regarded with trust and gratitude. If Dr. Hess is correct in his statements the fact that we have received courteous and even friendly treatment from an enemy population becomes intelligible.

Extract from 42d Div. U.S. Summary of
Intelligence No. 222.
Jan. 18th to Jan. 19th, 1919.

PLAYING AMERICA AGAINST THE ALLIES

Interrogation of Michael Hanneberg, 33d Res. Div. Wallersheim:

He believes the entry of Americans will be a good thing and improve conditions. The people fear that the country known as the Rhine provinces will be annexed by France but they firmly believe that the Americans will see to it that a "square deal" is established.

(42d Div. Summary of Intelligence Dec. 8, 1918)

Interrogation of Mr. Stuckholtz of Rech:

Everyone in Germany is looking to the United States and President Wilson to give them "a fair deal" in the peace terms.

(42d Div. Summary of Intelligence #195, December 22, 1918)

Interrogation of Peter Steil, of Kerpen:

He states that the future of Germany will be decided by President Wilson. He thinks that General Foch and the British would deal harshly with Germany if the decision was left in their hands.

(42d Div. Summary of Intelligence #185, December 12, 1918)

Former officers of the army, and the better educated people are much more interested in the political situation than are the rest of the populace. They hope for a stable government, preferably a republic, and look with dread on the radical factions that dominate Berlin and a large part of Prussia. They fear and hate Bolshevism, and show an almost pathetic hope that President Wilson, backed by the American people, will intervene to keep Germany from disintegrating. The internal forces of the extreme faddists are no more to be feared, they think, than are the too severe conditions, which may be imposed on Germany by the Allies, embittered and vengeful after the long years of ruin. Should the burdens render the laborers hopeless, they would cease to labor, and bloodshed and chaos would result.

(Extract, 3d Div. Summary of Intelligence December 13, 1918)

Interrogation of Paul Hoffman, Electrician of Bonn:

He is confident that the Rhineland will remain a part of Germany saying that, inhis opinion, President Wilson would not sanction the seizure of Rhineland by either France or Belgium.

(42d Div. Summary of Intelligence #213, January 9, 1919)

Interrogation of Herr Schroeder, Prop. Westwend Hotel, Neuenahr:

Both he and his wife are emphatic in declaring that they are glad the war is over and say they are very glad the Americans are coming through instead of the French or Belgiums. They feel that the Americans not only treat them better individually but they also say it is their opinion that America is the country which will be of most benefit to Germany, in so much, as it will prevent France from asking too much in the way of territory and indemnity at the Peace Conference.

(2d Div. Summary of Intelligence,
December 10, 1918)

Interrogation of Mlle. Konig, a Social worker:

Mlle. Konig, a social worker, states it is inconceivable to Germany that England and France should retain hold on Germany and that the United States retire. Also that the heartfelt wish is that America acting as guide and montor, will help to establish a German Republic.

(3d Div. Summary of Intelligence #30,
December 18, 1918)

From Berliner Tageblatt, December 20, 1918:

An American captain in Ahrweiler is reported to have said to the Soldiers' Council that the Americans came not as enemies but as friends. They do not look upon themselves as victors and are willing to confirm and further the aims of the new German republic. They are opposed to every monarchial tendency and condemn the so-called Liebknect or Spartakus group. They are also opposed to the annexation of the Rhineland by France.

(3d Div. Summary of Intelligence #36,
December 24, 1918)

Interrogation of Herr B. Clemen of Remagen:

He would prefer to have the Rhine province beome a colony of the United States but does not think this will happen. He hopes that France will never get the Rhine province.

(42d Div. Summary of Intelligence #231,
January 27, 1919.)

Some of the occupants of the Rhine Provinces have hit upon another course. The talk now leads to a Rhine Republic under an American mandatory. There are two reasons given for this new plan: 1. The efficiency of the Americans in administering this area; and 2. their ability to maintain order and suppress Spartacism.

(Postal Censorship, April 9, 1919.)

THE GERMANS WISH THE PEACE CONFERENCE WERE ALL-AMERICAN

Bitter comments on the French attitude at the Peace Conference are frequent. It is alleged that France is gradually absorbing the Rhinelands, that she is harshly mistreating prisoners, and that the suppression of newspapers and periodicals is carried to extremes by all Armies of Occupation. This latter item is claimed to be conducive of misunderstanding between the people of the occupied, and those of unoccupied Germany. From the Saar district two letters came expressing fear that France would annex that district. In which case the writers foresee another war in the near future. Both letters express the wish that the Peace Conference were "All American", thus they feel, a speedier and a more just Peace would result. Dr. Bitburg remarks that he thinks it peculiar that American officers should believe in the League of Nations. German business firms, in the lower Rhine regions especially, express their satisfaction with the prospective prohibition of German emigration to the United States. They believe that diastrous depopulation of Germany will thereby be prevented.

(3d Army weekly report Feb. 9, 1919)

The opinion most generally expressed is that Germany's hopes are centered in President Wilson and America. France is frequently criticised very strongly. It is generally felt that France will make excessive demands for territory at the Peace Conference, and in this connection it is felt that President Wilson, whom they deem the only just man in the Entente circles, will see that justice is done.

(3d Army weekly report Feb. 24, 1919)

A writer from Trier warns that Germany can expect no quarter and must be prepared for the severest peace terms. "Let us hope that we will obtain justice from the Americans at least." he concludes.

(3d Army censorship, May 6, 1919)

Interrogation of Dr. Otto Schranzkmuller, a former Prussian Municipal officer, December 12, 1918:

In regard to the peace conference the doctor declared that Germany looked upon the United States as a means to soften the peace terms, but declared that he did not think the people would, in their hearts, feel anything but contempt for Americans for so doing.

PROSPECTIVE EMIGRANTS TO AMERICA

Rumors spread among the Germans from time to time that German emigrants are wanted in the United States and applicants come to G-2 for information. At one time a number of men came in to offer their services as locksmiths and skilled mechanics. At another time sailors volunteered. Again, it was farmers who applied. There is no doubt that a large number of Germans are anxious to live in America and will go there as soon as they are permitted to do so.

(42d Div. Summary of Intelligence, Feb. 5, 1919)

A good many of the women, and younger people in this district express the desire to go to America after the war. Some of the small farmers also have this idea in their heads, as they fear taxes will be so heavy that they will be unable to live in Germany.

(3d Div. Summary of Intelligence,
January 29, 1919)

Interrogation of Mrs. Joseph Kegel, wife of a hotel proprietor in Rengsdorf:

This lady says that a good many of the inhabitants of Rengsdorf and the surrounding towns have made up their minds to emigrate to America if they will be permitted to do so. She explains that this is due to the good impression made by the American soldiers who are occupying this region and also the fact that most of the middle class and lower class are much afraid of the impending war debt and indemnity.

(32d Div. Summary of Intelligence #38,
December 26, 1918)

Statement of Arnulf Oster, Lt. of Res., 18th Army Corps, Frankfurt:

"The people will never vote with the present regent in power. We hope that peace will come soon and it must be a just peace. If France acquires the Rhine provinces it is America for us. If the peace is unjust another war in ten years will be the only solution. There can be no League of Nations with the United States, France and England, for Germany will be always mistreated. At present the rules of the armistice are so severe we cannot think of ever resuming this war."

Interrogation of Herr Feldman of Bonn:

Feldman has been in the military service but never served at the front, but did garrison duty at Coblenz for almost two years. Feldman and numerous friends and relatives are intending to leave Germany as soon as the first opportunity presents itself to go to America and obtain work at their respective trades.

(42d Div. Summary of Intelligence #272,
March 9, 1919)

Interrogation of Peter Ulrich, Vetterhoven:

Ulrich is 24 years old and was called in May 1915, being the 4th member of the family to go. His two brothers were called at the beginning of the war and his father just previous to him. He has hope, that after peace is declared, he will be allowed to emigrate to America as he will never be satisfied to live in Germany.

(Summary of Intelligence 42d Div.#272,
March 9, 1919)

Conversations with many Germans discloses the desire of many of them to come to America after Peace is signed and the present restrictions have been removed. The little regard shown by the average American of money is a source of much wonder to the German people.

(Summary of Intelligence #235, 2d Div.
March 12, 1919)

Satisfaction with the occupation by the Allied troops is becoming more general; this, in proportion to the spreading of Spartacism in the interior of the country. A number of letters, however, especially those of discharged soldiers evince a tone of animosity towards the French, stating that as long as their homes are under French control they refuse to return . About a half dozen letters by active and retired officers, who are disgusted with the military prospects and the political outlook of Germany, discussed emigration to America after the con clusion of peace.

(Postal censorship, March 8, 1919)

The average letter writer rarely comments on the nations of the Entente; when he does so, it is to express his inborn hatred of France and England. Some fear that France's territorial aspirations in the Saar Valley will be crowned with success. One writer comments with exaspiration on the financial obligation of 12 to 15 milliards for a period of 30 to 50 years, which he hears is to be imposed on Germany. As a relief from the unbearable living conditions bound to come, some suggest emigration to America.

(3d Army weekly report March 9,1919)

The American mail, as per expectation, is always filled with lavish praise for the American troops. The food conditions and the unrest in unoccupied Germany is only mentioned in a small way. Nothing of any import was discussed today in that class of mail. There continues to be the unprecedented desire to migrate to America as soon as it is permitted.

(3d Army Postal Censorship April 24, 1919)

Letter from Grenzhausen to Graf von Westarp, Berlin, indicates that the Graf is intending to emigrate to America. The letter is full of advice on the subject of cotton-growing in Texas. Prices of labor, etc, from before the war standpoint.

(Daily Censorship report Feb. 28, 1919)

FEAR RESTRICTIONS ON IMMIGRATION

A desire to emigrate to America at the first opportunity is evident among the poorer classes of the inhabitants, who are anxious to share in the opportunities which America affords. This is one of the reasons why they are desirous of being friendly to our men. They also fear that America may put restrictions on Germans immigrating to that country.

(3d Army Corps, Summary of Intelligence, #72, Jan. 27, 1919)

Especially from the occupied area there is expressed a desire to migrate to America, and the lament is general over the prohibition against migration into the United States.

(Postal Censorship, Apr.22, 1919)

In several letters addressed to America, the writer states that peace is at the door, and he expresses his satisfaction at the prospect of being able to see his relatives soon, and getting their financial help. It is generally believed that immigration to America will not be allowed for a long time, so people are writing to their relatives in the United States, to come over to Europe to visit them.

(3d Army Postal Censorship, May 4, 1919)

DISCHARGED GERMAN SOLDIERS APPLY FOR SERVICE

IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY

The remark in the National Assembly, that the United States are attempting to hire our non-commissioned officers, appears to have been taken at its face value by the Germans. An increasing number of applications for admission into the U. S. Army are appearing in the mail, addressed to various commanding persons.

(3d Army daily resume, Mar.2, 1919)

Letters stating that offers are being made to German officers to enter the service of foreign armies at high salaries continue to come in, although there has been a marked decrease in the number of such letters in the past few weeks. The fact is that for the first time in their lives German officers are realizing that they have trained themselves for a profession for which there is not, and probably never again will be, a demand in Germany. These opportune offers from foreign countries will probably be accepted. There appears to be some doubt about Japan, however; many officers having expressed their unwillingness to fight for a "yellow race." Mexico and South American countries will probably get a great many of these professional soldiers.

(. Censorship report, Apr. 15,1919)

Letters from German officers, stating their plans to join some foreign army, continue to come in. Many state that they expect a war between Japan and the United States, and that, in that case, they would rather fight with the United States against the "yellow race". South American and Mexican Armies seem inclined to take war experienced German officers.

(Weekly resume, 3d Army, Mar.2,1919)

A personal letter received from Gen.Harries dated Feb. 28th states that the number of applications from German officers and non-commissioned officers for employment in our military service continues.

(Spa, Belgium report, Mar. 3, 1919)

Interrogation of Heinrich Dannerberger, age 22, of Bendorf formerly a private in the Garde Regiment, served all during the war first on the Russian front where he was wounded and then on the French front. He stated he would not soldier in the German Army again. He wishes to go to America after peace is signed and would like to soldier in the American army.

(2d Div. Summary of Intelligence #222, Feb. 26, 1919)

The following letter (given verbatim) from a German Aviator applying for a position in the Aerial Postal Service in the United States, shows the zeal and adventurous spirit of these soldiers suddenly thrown out of employment in their profession. This is only one of three written by the same man, the other two being addressed to Chicago and Philadelphia.

Quote:-

Coblenz, the 5th of May, 1919.

To

the directors of the "Air-Post" New York.

In sight of the speedy termination of the hostilities between the waring states i do allow me to lay a petition to the directors of the air-post at New York with regard to employment as aviateur at air-post of the U.S.A. Since 1915 i am active with success in this profession (1000 flights, more than one year activity at the front in a night-squadron) and i am perfectly exercised with all types of aeroplanes. (Also great aeroplanes with more motors). If there is no vacanz now, please let me know of any later. Knowledge of the English and French language. Certificates and career to disposition.

With respect W. Zimmermann, Aviateur,
Coblenz a/Rh. Balmhofstrasse
24 Germany. Unquote:-

In the same mail was a letter addressed to the same man coming from the Swiss Army, stating that at present there are no openings in their army for foreigners.

(Press Section Report 7 May 1919)

GERMAN MERCHANTS SEEK AMERICAN BUSINESS CONNECTIONS

About 2,000 pieces of mail for Entente countries passed through today, being about equally divided among France, Belgium, England and America. The number of business letters is increasing. They are varied in character. They seek to buy, sell or exchange any and everything from Cadillacs to Ivory Soap. The German business men predict a bright future for American industry, especially in chemicals. They are of the opinion that America not only leads but will continue to lead the world in chemistry. To illustrate the German attitude toward the war as a mere artificial interruption of trade relations, this instance may be cited:

"A firm in this area writes to a firm in New York enclosing the New York firm's letter of June 6, 1914, and begins in this manner: 'In reply to yours of June 6, 1914, beg to state, etc.'"

(Postal censorship, Apr. 9, 1919)

REPULSIVE FLATTERY

From "Kolnische Zeitung", Feb.1, 1919:

It has always been said about the German abroad that he is not able to adjust himself to new surroundings. The German is said to be under the impression that everybody must think and feel as he does, and for this reason he not only makes no friends among the foreign races, but, on the contrary, makes enemies. Heretofore this charge was partly justified but today to all appearances it is more justified than ever. If one considers closely the conduct of certain members of our government then he must needs recognize it as German, and how much more must foreigners recognize it as such. The humiliating wooing for favors, these spells of self-accusations and self-destruction are only possible in Germany.

The aping of foreigners and foreign tendencies in Germany has always been a sad feature. One might have expected that new times would bring new spirit. But one of the many disappointments of the present is the continued bondage to foreign customs. The shame and dishonor brought on Germany since November 11th hurts us intensely, all the more since our complete humiliation has accomplished no good. Instead of taking this experience as a lesson for our present conduct, the wooing for .:' favors is going further every day. The American President especially is being flattered in a manner which in our eyes is repulsive. He is considered a strong men, who as champion of the German people sees to it that no harm will be done to them. His speech held before the Paris Conference on January 25th is regarded as a splendid defense of his German client and hopes are attached to it which are absolutely fantastical. Some of our political writers appear to have lost their logical judgment by setting before the German public a mirage which after its disappearance will cause all the more disappointment. Giving laurels in advance has always been a doubtful procedure and it is more so in the present dark times. Who dares to pretend to know the true state of President Wilson's mind? And even if he knew it and if President Wilson's idealism were sufficiently pure and great to let the sun of justice shine alike over just and unjust, can he say with assurance, that Wilson possesses the power to enforce his will? He cannot do it, because he is only one of the many. And he is no super-man. Let us assume that he has both the will and the power to be the defender of Germany. Would he not at once become suspected of partisanship? Granted that President Wilson is attempting to obtain justice for the German people, must it not become repulsive for him to see the way in which his admirers approach him? More self-respect is sorely needed and above all moreknowledge of the character of other people. Otherwise it will come to pass, as Goethe wrote in the final verses of his "Tasse": The sailor finally clings to the cliff on which he will be wrecked.

(3d Army Corps Summary of Intelligence,
#80, Feb. 5, 1919)

WILSON - "HERCULES OR HAMLET"

For the first time has an American President set foot on European soil. For 142 years it had been held at Washington that the President during his term could not leave the country. Woodrow Wilson, who broke so many customs as soon as it seemed profitable to him, has also put an end to the imprisonment of the President and has given his country a proof that the days of her insular

separation are at an end; that its entrance into this war is also its entrance into the world and world politics.

But the arrival of Wilson in Brest denotes more than a breaking away from old customs. It represents a task and the determination of fulfilling it. There has fallen upon him a duty more difficult than has ever fallen upon mortal man, there is also along with this a responsibility that would discourage the strongest. Its greatness increases when we consider that it was not forced upon him, but was self-imposed. Wilson has mapped out for himself a two-fold duty. He wished to destroy an old system and upon its ruins erect a new one. He has succeeded in the first instance, the destruction is completed. The Hohenzollerns and the Hapsburgers are no more and Prussia militarism is of yesterday.

Now the second part, the construction. Wilson has made known his plans in his 14 articles - whether that counts for the others is the doubtful question; that has brought the Constructor across the ocean, for he realizes that he will be obliged to fight. For the destruction, there were many and all of the same opinion, but for the construction, there is disagreement as to desires and demands. What until now was unity is now disunion and the prayer to the "God of Justice" gives place to prayer to the "God of Revenge". The "Ego" has taken the place of the "We", and the"Ego" has always been the opponent of the "We". Nevertheless, the "We" must take precedence over the "Ego". If the new system is to be of any advantage, it must replace the "Ego" system and its powers by a system of rights through international justice.

President Wilson has strongly convinced the world, inasfar as it was not egotistical, of a possible international justice and has wrought changes which he must now confirm, if he does not wish to deliver it up to a "Surprise" which would be of great consequence than anything heretofore. A "Surprise" in this instance would indicate despair, and the impossibility that things could ever be bettered. He has left the world dream of everylasting peace that others before him have dreamt, even none other than Kant. And we ourselves, who have become distrustful of militarism, may credit ourselves with the fact that the disciples of Kant were more numerous than the disciples of Mars. We were Wilsonites long before Wilson made known his 14 articles. We were not wise enough to desire to come to peace through war. We thought to arrive at peace on the road to peace. Our way has proved wrong. Wilson has chosen the other path; it remains to be shown that he has chosen correctly.

The goal is attractive, but the way is steep and thorny and beset with many obstacles. We are still in the midst of soul ruins that appeals us. A chaos of misunderstanding and of hate stares us in the fact and there seems to be no hope. Even Wilson seems to be lost in this desert, as the wireless from his boat seems to indicate. His refusal of the German invitation on the grounds that the German people must show signs of repentance for years and must make amends for its wrongs. Yet, none the less than Edmund Burke, one of Wilson's pet authors, has said "You can't indict a nation."

To make the reasons for an understanding, to explain geographical circumstances and historic facts is the first step toward construction. In this work strange facts will make themselves known to Wilson. He will discover that on the other side, with which he has sided, many human events have taken place, and he will have to destroy before he can begin to construct. He will make the discovery that of all his 14 articles and his other demands very few have received full recognition and therefore he will be obliged to use his eloquence and other persuasive powers until he has constructed the roof for his "House of Peace" and of international union. He has a task which no one envies, also a glory given to no one before, if he should succeed. Only a "Hercules" in moral and political power will be able to exist in this battle with the revengeful "Lion of Hate", to decapitate this treacherous "Snake of Greed", to kill this man eating animal, and to overcome all the work that will present itself in order that "Golden apples of Hesperedes" might be his pay.

(89th Div. Summary of Intelligence #134,
December 22, 1918)

AMERICAN ISOLATION vs. EUROPEAN POLITICS.

From what we hear and read lately from America, we get the impression that this land, which has previously been pleasantly isolated, is busy with impressions which it is working over, but on which it has not yet formulated any definite ideas. In general one may say that Wilson has succeeded in convincing America that the value of the Peace Conference depends on the League of Nations and that the founding of the League was America's mission. One may also say that, aside from questions of prestige, of vanity, if you will, which influence public opinion on the League, Americans are generally convinced that the Covenant is a good thing. Wilson succeeded in silencing Republican opinion in his recent visit to America but the problem still remains whether the League is in the best form for America's interests. This gives an opportunity for continued Republican opposition. There is no doubt that the majority of Americans, without regard to party, are very regretful that America has been obliged to enter the maelstrom of European politics but that is just the purpose of the League of Nations. The quarrels of the little peoples of Europe and the hatred between the large ones is repugnant to the American and fills him with regret that he can not longer look upon them plantonically. The American fears his period of isolation is over and the uncertainty of Europe fills him with a feeling of uncertainty as to his how future existence. This is a new sensation for him, and he does not know what to think.

There are many adherents of Wilson who feel that their own security depends on the peace of the world but some Americans go over to the other extreme in that they literally gnash their teeth because Wilson has robbed America of her old traditions and threatened her with European ideals and aims. Here Wilson has bitter enemies who consider him a delettante who has ruined America with a few strokes of the pen. They say that America entered the war to punish Germany for her U-boat policy toward America but that is all that they will admit. But even more powerful is the group that believe that a passive attitude is necessary for their best existence and they wish to keep this with the League of Nations. They are the people who forced Wilson to incorporate a clause about the Monroe Doctrine which gave Wilson a lot of trouble, especially with England.

But this does not settle the difficulty. The American is like a man who has had his private house and garden and is forced to take the best floor in an apartment house and feels uncomfortable with so many neighbors near him. Wilson is charged with being too intimate with the crowned heads of Europe and of being too much under Clemenceau's influence. Others are aroused over his indifference to Irish claims, and do not like his intimacy with Lloyd George.

America wishes to return to her peaceful condition before the war, but it is certain that her experiences in the war will have their effect. We do not know what permanent effect America will have on Europe but we do know that the European worry about one's neighbor will make a rent in the simplicity of American thought. America is now very closely linked with the weal and woe of Europe. Russia is a big question mark and Japan is a poorly concealed danger. At present it is best not to speak about Germany and America but it is a pleasant thought for us that America has had an opportunity lately to get a glimpse of what the real conditions in Europe are.

(Berliner Tageblatt, April 29, 1919)

GERMAN GRATITUDE TOWARD U.S.

Statement of M. Erasmi of Kylburg:

"We realize too late that we underestimated the unity of spirit in America, and did not believe it possible that you could train and land any influencing number of troops in Europe. We had been informed that this was impossible due to the success of our submarine Campaign. We are thankful that the war has ended though the outcome is such as it is, for we have been liberated from military rule. The German people of all classes will now have a voice in their government."

(3d Army Corps Summary of Intelligence #20, December 5, 1918)

Passive hopes for peace are still expressed by about 10 to 15% of the letters. A tendency towards optimism seems to be growing, but optimistic ideas are expressed only in connection with America's voice at the Peace Conference. Some letters express immense gratitude to America for championing the rights of Germany.

(3d U.S.Army, Postal Censorship, Mar. 1, 1919)

At a political meeting held in Dierdorf the whole assemblage was greatly aroused when the speaker finished by acclaiming that all honor was due the Americans for bringing this great thing to a head by defeating the plans of the German leaders to conquer France and England, for if they had succeeded they would have forced the people to slave like dogs throughout their life with no chance to overthrow the tyranical rulers. Their children and their children's children shall honor America for this through the generations to come. The assemblage burst forth in prolonged applause at this, lasting a quarter of an hour before the chairman could again speak. The few Americans present were congratulated and pounded upon the backs by the enthusiastic audience.

(33d Div. Summary of Intelligence Jan. 7, 1919)

ADDENDA

H. Moeren, Sinzig a/Rh. writes to Frl. Henny Skowron:

Great activity here at present. We have a large aviation field. Seven out of ten of the population are Americans. Many of the girls have fallen deeply in love with them. A new song has already been composed, as follows:

Wo steht denn das geschriben.
Du sollst nur Deutsche lieben?
Man liebt doch auch America.

Translation:- "Where does one find it written, that one must love the Germans only? One can love America also."

Daily resume of mail censorship, May 16, 1919.

Frau Lisbette Schafer, Vallender, writes to William Straube, Bad Oeynhausen.

I have had soldiers in quarter all winter. At first I had Germans. Later Americans came. To become acquainted with these "our enemies" as house companions is among other things also very instructive. I have changed in a good many of my opinions, and would like to go to America for a half year or so because it is certain that these people possess a secret method which raises the most common fellows into an individual who stands up boldly and moves about freely and unconcerned. I think we can learn some things there which later could be used to advantage here. I do not mean this personally, but as a better education nationally.

Daily resume of mail censorship, May 14, 1919.