

Verbundkatalog Kalliope

Invasion Themes.

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INVASION THEMES

Besides factual information, the following arguments may be most likely to affect the morale of the German soldier in this theater, in the case of an Allied invasion of Western Europe:

Germany's situation is hopeless (Allied material superiority, rebellion of occupied countries, etc) and cannot be changed by any efforts or sacrifices made by German troops in this area.

The German soldier now stationed in Italy, is likely to be sent to the Western front -- which would mean almost inescapable, futile death.

The German Fatherland on the verge of anarchy (rebellion of foreign workers, intensified air raids, etc) and can be saved only by immediate peace.

Possible Slogans:

Vergeltung...

(Occupied countries revolting... German soldiers are likely to be sent from this area to other parts of Europe, where they would become victims of civilian "Vergeltung" - revenge.... In Anglo-American captivity, Landsers would be safe -- sure to return to Germany, as soon as the storm has calmed down...)

Die letzte Runde

(Referring to Goebbels' prediction that the invading Allies may be able to win "the first round;" pointing out that invasion is not the "first round" but the final, decisive phase of the struggle...)

Europa erwacht!

(The Fortress of Europe cracking... The peoples of Europe awakening.... Germany's isolation... The European nations on our side... Partisans, sabotage, etc.... Senselessness of further resistance on this front.)

Es ist so weit!

(The long period of tension and expectation is over... The Invasion no longer is a matter of guessing and speculation... In view of our overpowering material superiority as proven by recent developments, further resistance would be senseless, criminal. Hitler has to be stopped by German people: "Bis hierher und nicht weiter!" People expect example, leadership from army... German army has to save Germany by enforcing peace...)

S O S

(Germany in danger! Chaos threatening! Air raids, etc.... Go home! Your wives, children crying for you! Protest against senseless continuation of war!... Help saving Germany! This is Zero Hour!...)

Der Wall stuerzt ein!

(The "Atlantik Wall" proves hollow - is breaking... Nazi regime to be swept away by irresistible flood... No use in risking one's life in Italy, while the fundamentals of Nazi power are collapsing all over Europe...)

Es brennt!

(Germany - Europe - in flames... Air raids, etc.... Every shot fired on the Southern front is instrumental in prolonging and intensifying the devastating fire... Quit firing! Es brennt!)

Um Kopf und Kragen

(Hitler continues War - realizing that his life is at stake: "Bei ihm geht es um Kopf und Kragen."..... Why should more German soldiers sacrifice their lives - just to delay the inevitable end of a fool-hardy gambler who has lost his game? ... In contrast to Hitler, the ordinary Landser is by no means in a hopeless position: he can save himself... Captivity, etc....)

Entweder - Oder

(Recalling official German statements to the effect that the Invasion would bring a decision - one way or another... The invasion being a success, history has decided - in favour of the Allies... Now it is up to every individual German soldier to make his own choice: to die for a lost cause - or to live and contribute to reconstruction work, etc....)