

# YANK

The Army Weekly  
SEPTEMBER 7, 1945

THE SOLDIER SPEAKS:

Which was  
the greater menace  
to our country  
and our values:  
Germany  
or Japan?

## A Menace, but Like Us

**G**RANTING the danger that Germany is to our way of living, she still does not offer the menace that Japan does. It must be admitted that Germany has made quite a number of important contributions to the furtherance of civilization. We owe a great many medicines, manufacturing methods, ideas of conservation and other things to their scientific research and experimenting. Their way of life is similar to that of other civilized nations. Take away the bestiality of Naziism and you have the same good basic foundation of decency and progressive civilization that you find here in the United States.

In Japan you have a nation that has prospered from the sweat of others. They have never had the initiative to forge ahead on their own but rather have utilized the advancements of other nations. Their scientific and educational books are direct steals from Europe and the U. S. Take away the false mask of civilization and in Japan you will find a hideous, barbaric race, a race that lives on the misfortune of the illiterate masses.

Japan is our real menace and should be smashed so as never to rise above the level of a fourth-rate power.

Oakland (Calif.) Regional Hospital —T/Sgt. JEROLD M. GORBY

## Like Us, but a Menace

**F**OR the very reason that the cultural and economic ties and origins of the United States are European, Germany was and is a greater menace than Japan. Germany is a country we thought we knew. Emigrants from Germany helped build our country. We know German music, literature, art and science. We always thought of Germans as people like ourselves. There lies the danger and menace.

We now know that German cartels in this country and economic penetration of South



## YANK

America all tended toward the world domination sought by German monopolists. We now know that we "can't do business with Hitler," that Nazi barbarism is unforgiveable.

The direct German menace is now averted by Allied armies, but our values are still in jeopardy. Nazi lies are spoken aloud and printed. We have our Negro question and anti-Semitism. Our President is the target for libelous remarks. We cannot trifle with the blasphemies with which they have polluted the world.

But Japanese institutions were dissimilar to ours and left us indifferent. The Japanese had no cartels in this country. Americans found little value in Japanese opinions and dogma. They were always foreign and suspect to us.

—Ex-Sgt. NATHAN MINKOFF  
(Veteran of Second World War)

Detroit, Mich.

### "Nice, Agreeable" Germans

**W**E must destroy Japan, both as a military power and as an economic contender for prosperity. It is an open-and-shut case. But we are all mixed up about Germany. We realize that we must beat her but we also want to see her become "a nice, agreeable member of the family of nations." Japan, destroyed, will no longer be dangerous but the German danger will still be with us.

Even front-line soldiers and officers admire German efficiency and "the world's finest soldiers." What they admire is what they are fighting to destroy, militarism. How can we achieve an enduring peace if we are unable to decide how to treat Germany? Some say kiss and make up, others say erase her from the map. We cannot afford confusion. It is Germany's avowed intention to conquer the world when we have sunk back into lethargy.

France

—Cpl. PHIL STEARNS

# YANK



## YANK

### Six and a Half Dozen

**W**OULD you prefer to be bitten fatally by a cobra or crushed to death by a python? Which represents the greater danger to your home—the arsonist who sets fire to the west wing, or the pyromaniac who sets a torch to the east wing?

China

—Cpl. HARVEY J. FOX

### The Japanese Locusts

**G**ERMANY has had a desire for world conquest for hundreds of years. However, Japan, evading world affairs and problems but capitalizing on the trials of others, has done Germany one better.

These people have lived like locusts for thousands of years and have built up a gigantic war machine on the profits that civilized people of the world have reaped in order to live in a better world. The Japs are capable of using almost anything to their own advantage though incapable of independent thinking.

That is why I think they are more of a menace than the Germans who had an open desire for world domination.

POW Camp, Trinidad, Colo.

—Pfc. KENNETH M. WRIGHT

### Traitors to Civilization

**B**y turning renegade to the traditions of Christianity and Western civilization, by bringing war to the world three times since 1870, Germany has proved herself the worst traitor within the family of nations.

By the Dec. 7 stab at Pearl Harbor, Japan revealed herself as an international thug. Once her designs were unmasked we were ready to deal out retribution. But the German menace has been more dangerous because it has used pseudo science and cross-eyed logic to poison truth and falsify values. Racial supremacy justified the enslavement of people by the Germans; the dogma of nationalism undermined and destroyed independent thinking.

Germany's crime is great. Knowing the full implication of her acts she chose war and barbarism as an escape from the problems of peace.

England

—S/Sgt. S. J. ZISKIND

### Fascist Ideas

**C**OMPLETELY foreign ideas are rarely dangerous, for to be foreign an idea must have no roots in our experience. Japanese values are foreign to us and have attracted few Americans. The Japanese have not tried to export their ideas other than those necessary for economic exploitation of conquered lands. Most Americans hate the Japanese as the villain in a melodrama, not understanding his motivation.

On the other hand German fascist ideas have root and flower in sections of America—the snicker at the smoking-room stories of the Jews; "white supremacy" which can be translated as "herrenvolk"; the disgust at the tediousness of democratic procedure and the wish for authoritarian government; the attraction which German militarism has for American nationalists; the Nazi treatment of labor unions, which is that espoused by some of our industrialists: all these are the genitives of fascism, and all are at home.

Germany

—Pfc. PERRY WOLFF