

TRANSLATION OF XG.16, EINE KLEINE CLIQUE?

(OBVERSE)

A SMALL CLIQUE?

In his radio speech, Hitler admitted that the peace putsch had been organised by German officers. Goering, in his speech, called the men behind the movement “a small clique of former generals”.

Here are the incontrovertible facts: Hitler and Himmler have taken the military conduct of the war entirely out of the hands of the professional officers. Among the Generals sacked by Hitler are the following:

- General Field Marshal Fedor v. Beck,
- General Field Marshal Walter v. Brauchitsch,
- General Field Marshal Ewald v. Kleist,
- General Field Marshal Wilhelm Ritter v. Leeb,
- General Field Marshal Wilhelm List,
- General Field Marshal Fritz Erich v. Manstein,
- General Field Marshal Gerd v. Rundstedt,
- General Field Marshal Erich v. Witzleben,
- Colonel General Ludwig Beck,
- Colonel General Alexander v. Falkenhausen,
- Colonel General Fritz Fromm,
- Colonel General Franz Halder,
- Colonel General Erich Höppner,
- Colonel General Richard Ruoff,
- Colonel General Adolf Strauss.

Is that a “small clique”? Are they “irresponsible”? In any event, the above list of Generals is one of Wehrmacht officers who think differently, in military matters, from the political leadership. The “small clique” insisted that Germany must immediately end the war.

It is clear that there are only two sides in Germany now: The side of the war-prolongers and the side of the peace-hastenings.

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(REVERSE)

THESE FACTS ARE FIRM:

1. The German Corps of Generals is in the best position to know the facts of the military situation.
2. The Generals have come to recognise that Germany has lost the war.
3. The German Generals have therefore demanded the ending of the war.
4. Germany's political leaders cannot make peace without being destroyed themselves.
5. Since the demand of the German Generals was not consented to, they have had to act on their own.
6. The peace movement did not originate in a "little clique", but among experienced Generals.

NOW YOU KNOW THE FACTS:

Today you know what the German Corps of Generals has recognised during the last few weeks: namely, that Germany can no longer escape defeat. And also that the regime is not willing to draw the consequences of this. Why? Because the regime knows that the end of the war will mean its own end.

WHAT IS THERE TO DO?

THE FRONT is doing what it can to speed the coming of peace. 50,000 German soldiers refused to commit suicide on the Cherbourg Peninsula. On the Eastern Front the entire 4th Army, when in a hopeless position, surrendered on the orders of Lieutenant General Müller.

THE HOME FRONT has the greatest opportunity to speed the coming of peace. In spite of the Gestapo, in spite of executions and mass reprisals, Germany's working men have recognised that the wheels of the war machine can be brought to a stop through mass refusal to work.

THE FRONT AND THE HOME FRONT must each contribute to the ending of the war. The Generals have given an example. It is now up to all Germans, by means of disciplined, common action, to speed the end.