

CONFIDENTIAL

GREECESUBJECT: WAR MORALE OF THE CIVIL POPULATION.Morale of the People.

All kinds of vexations, privations and shootings have not succeeded in bending the opinion nor the will of the Greeks to resist. The most important part in this resistance is played by the YOUTH of GREECE, even up to children of small age. Small children who are offered help from the Germans, refuse to accept it. There is no example of the shooting of Officers, peasants or workers who have shown even the slightest fear before death.

The priests, from their pulpits, preach faith in the early rise of freedom and stigmatize the murderers. All the pastoral letters of the Archbishop DAMASKINOS are full of force and expectation, and encouraging the clergy to resist up to self sacrifice. A clergyman of the KALAVRITA district preferred death to betraying the hiding place of 5 Englishmen and 14 Greeks hunted by the Italians. Mothers fill the hearts of their children with hate against the invaders. The Greek population is bearing with courage the tragedy of hunger, privations, restrictions and humiliation to which it has been condemned by the invaders. They are clenching their fists and await with faith and conviction the final victory of the Allies which will bring them freedom. Practically all who can bear arms ardently wish to escape from GREECE to the M.E. and join the Greek Fighting Forces there. The difficulty for this lies in the lack of means of escape.

Due honor should be given to the Greek women for their attitude towards the conquerors. Practically all the Greek women show fortitude and behave in an exemplary fashion which obliges even the invaders to take note of it.

Morale of Troops.

The morale of the German troops of occupation is still sufficiently high, but it is not however as it used to be before the Russian campaign.

The morale of the Italian troops of occupation was and is always low.

(Source: Office of Strategic Services, Washington, D.C. Rec'd G-2 October 1, 1942).

CONFIDENTIAL