

THE AMERICAN SOLDIER OF 1917-1918
AND KINDRED TOPICS

OR
THE GERMANS

PREPARED BY
THE INTELLIGENCE SECTION
(THE ENEMY ORDER OF BATTLE SUBSECTION)
THE GENERAL STAFF
GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
1919

-6-

AMERICAN NERVE AND RECKLESSNESS

Interrogation of Arnulf Oster, Lieut.
of Reserve.

"Americans are good fighters with nerve and recklessness."

Statement of Karl Felder,
of Weider Irreg. Jan. 5th, 1919.

"I did not meet the Americans on the battlefields 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 Wassbender,
of RO'LOHN.

He was in the infantry and served 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 and dice displayed by the American soldiers who took big chances 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 the fact 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.

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