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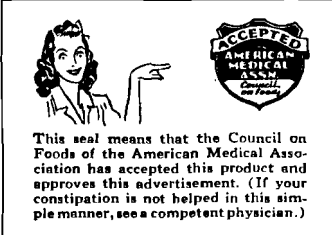
3 "YOU KNOW IT'S SUCH AN EASY WAY TO HELP RELIEVE CONSTIPATION DUE TO INSUFFICIENT BULK — AND SO EFFECTIVE."



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LETTERS TO THE EDITORS

GIRAUD'S MEMORANDUM

Sirs:
LIFE has done the American people a service in publishing General Giraud's views on the Fall of France (LIFE, Feb. 1). It gives them an opportunity of judging this unfortunate accretion to the Allied camp—a man who, by offering Nazi Germany with "its prosperity, its physical and moral health" and its freedom from "anarchy and disorder" as an example to France, stands exposed and self-convicted.

OSCAR E. MILLARD
Pacific Palisades, Calif.

Sirs:
Of all the amazing stories which came out of this great war, the most astonishing without doubt is the statement by General Giraud. The explanation of France's defeat by Hitler which he gives is one-sided and distorted, and it shows that the general and his kind have learned absolutely nothing. It makes France's debacle almost look like justice. Undoubtedly the untimely attempts at a New Deal by the Popular Front at the time of Germany's unlimited rearmament had something to do with it. But holding the French underprivileged classes responsible for the defeat because they desired a higher standard of living and greater leisure is something else again, especially coming from a man who is a member of the comfortable French middle class of the aristocracy. If General Giraud were the kind of man whom the United Nations would wish to lead the French army fighting on their side, he would not have whitewashed himself and his own group by accusing others but would have pointed his finger at those faults and deficiencies for which the army command was responsible. We all know there were a few such things which also contributed to France's defeat. If the general and his kind cannot see their own mistakes at this late hour, may God help that unfortunate country!

HANS W. HAMM
York, Pa.

Sirs:
General Giraud's memorandum to Pétain might have been written by Adolf Hitler himself. More babies, more work, more submission to authority, says Giraud. Not a word about democracy, which is obviously beneath his contempt. Not a word about the rights of man, of which he obviously hasn't heard. And not a word about the Four Freedoms, none of which could exist in a world in which Giraud had any power.

Giraud's doctrine is so completely that of Nazi Germany you can't help wondering why he escaped from that paradise of authoritarians.

W. F. FUNK
Chicago, Ill.

Sirs:
From General Giraud's memorandum it is obvious that apart from his refusal to collaborate with the Nazis, and this probably because of traditional anti-German sentiments, he is as much a fascist in his outlook as Pétain. To him democracy is evidently synonymous with disorder and anarchy and to be rejected for the good of France. It is no wonder that he and his type in the French Army fought only half-heartedly in the first year of this war when they still felt that even if France were defeated Hitler would not disturb the Better People.

I wish to express my appreciation to you for printing this revealing document. It has told me plainly and pointedly why France fell, better than all of the elaborate theses and articles I have read on this subject.

A. B. BERMAN
Indianapolis, Ind.

Sirs:
I read with much interest General Giraud's article on those factors which led to the collapse of France. It is a



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