

Post 9/28/40

The War Of Nerves ^{Post} 9/28/40

To the Editor of The Post—Sir:
In a military sense this has been the most humane of all wars. The campaigns have been short and decisive. As a result, leadership and ideas have changed with less loss of life and less physical suffering than ever before in history.

As a war of nerves, however, it has been terrific. Every conceivable means have been utilized, including lies, propaganda and war machines of little military effectiveness, to whip up fear, hate and hysteria. The emotional strain is kept continuously at the breaking point, merely to change the minds of men.

In a military sense, the war seems to have about run its course. The German might can't swim over to England and the British seapower can't crawl into Germany. The war of nerves, however, goes on, stimulated by desultory airplane bombings, various sideshows in the Near East, and by the slow, clumsy convulsions of ancient Asia.

This winter may finish off both Churchill and Hitler and the ideas they stand for and plunge Europe back into the anarchy of the Dark Ages, or both may hold on and fight until ultimate victory has been achieved by death, starvation and exhaustion.

In a military sense, America has absolutely nothing to fear from either Europe or Asia for the next 1,000 years. But the war of nerves goes on. The entire world may point the finger at our hoard of gold as the real cause of the collapse of civilization. The minds of men must change here too. Those who have economic acquisitions or political positions must somehow give up the idea that they have been chosen to dominate and frustrate those who aspire only to serve humanity. GEO. W. CHRISTIANS.
Chattanooga, Tenn., Sept. 24.