

**TRANSLATION OF LESEN UND AN DIE KAMERADEN WEITERGEBEN! DEUTSCHE SOLDATEN!**

(*OBVERSE*)

Read and pass on to your comrades!

**German Soldiers!**

In the Rshew region, advancing troops of the Red Army have forced the German Army to flee. The 9th German Army Command has ordered the systematic retreat of your troops in order to prevent a panic-like withdrawal.

**You are surrounded. The railway line Wjasma – Rshew has been cut off by the Red Army.**

**Your fighting supplies are exhausted.** You cannot expect any more supplies of ammunition. **Any attempted resistance is hopeless.** Your only hope is – **lay down your arms.**

(*REVERSE*)

According to the order of the *Volkskommissar für Verteidigung* (“People’s Commissar for Defence”) J. STALIN (No. 55 dated 23 February 1942) the life of every German soldier and officer who surrenders will be spared.

You have the choice either to lay down your arms or be mercilessly wiped out.

**SOVIET COMMAND**

This aerial leaflet is valid as your prisoner of war document.  
[Repeated in Russian].

*Translation courtesy of Michael R. Lavery*

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