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A 100th ANNIVERSARY

A few months ago, Switzerland celebrated the 100th birthday of General Henry Guisan.

We all know that only in times of war that the Swiss army has a General. During the first World War it was Ulrich Wille and his 2nd-in-command von Sprecher. As a youngster I remember very well the little verse which was on everybody's lips: Was Wille will und Sprecher spricht, dem fuege dich und murre nicht.

The survival and destiny of our country in the 2nd World War rested in the hands of General Henry Guisan. His outstanding ability, undoubted integrity and particularly his inspiring personality made him, for the army as well as for the whole civilian population, the symbol of unquestioned resistance.

His was no easy task with Hitler's army a few miles away in the north, on the western side the defeated French people and with Mussolini on the southern border.

His report at the Ruetli to his officers in July 1940, when he made it perfectly clear that no surrender, under whatever conditions, would ever be considered will go into the annals of Swiss history.

If in future generations a Swiss mother tells bedtime stories to her children she may well say: Once upon a time there lived a great General, beloved by everyone . . . and in the French speaking part of Switzerland she will say: Il y avait une fois un grand et bon General, que tout le monde aimait . . .

—Arnold Biland.

Authority

They that govern make least noise, as they that row the barge do work and puff and sweat, while he that governs sits quietly at the stern, and scarce is seen to stir. —Seldon.

He who is firmly seated in authority soon learns to think security, and not progress, the highest losson of statecraft. —J. R. Lovell.