Contents

Acknowledgements 7

Chapter One
Introduction 9

Chapter Two
Army and propaganda in Germany before WWII 25
  2.1 Experience gained in the early 20th century and in WWI 26
  2.2 Theoretical developments between the wars 34
  2.3 Reichswehr and Wehrmacht propaganda to 1938 44

Chapter Three
Establishment of the propaganda troops 69
  3.1 Development of the idea 69
  3.2 Early experimentation and operational use 73
  3.3 Establishment of the Wehrmacht propaganda Abteilung (WPr.) 97

Chapter Four
War and organization: The propaganda troops in expansion and decline 105
  4.1 PK organization to 1942 106
  4.2 Regional military propaganda organization 151
  4.3 Expansion, reorganization, reduction 160

Chapter Five
Cooperation and conflicts: The relations between military and civilian propagandists 183
  5.1 Cooperation or rivalry? Working alongside the RMVP 184
  5.2 Military propaganda in the periphery as a model of cooperation structures 207
Chapter Six
Bringing the war to the people: War propaganda
   6.1 Early campaigns: Publicizing the military 254
   6.2 Years of victory: Master race and inferiors, soldierly idealism 266
   6.3 Turn of the tide: Total war, war economy, revenge 295
   6.4 The last six months: Secret weapons, sacrifice and the final defense 328

Chapter Seven
War and memory 341
   7.1 Indictment of Nazi military propaganda 342
   7.2 The 'Wild Duck': The veterans' organization 357
   7.3 Writings of the veterans 380
   7.4 The rise and fall of a myth: PK reporters and the myth of the U-boats 401

Chapter Eight
The hollow victory: Conclusions 419

Appendix A 429
Appendix B 435
Abbreviations 437
Bibliography 439
Name Index 459