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WWII was an important turning point in the history of European and North American schools. Russian psychology was no exception. It has undergone two devastating blows of repressions by the state, which significantly impacted the development of psychological research: first the so-called smash of pedology and psychotechnics in the pre-war period, and after the war the famous “Pavlov&#39;s session” of the Russian Academy of Sciences, fraught with the threat of prohibition of psychology as a science. The war period, in a way, paradoxically, was a time of intensive and fruitful development for Russian psychology. The paper presents an analysis of the psychological research carried out during the WWII in various psychological training and research centers. Particularly we focus on areas of research the development of which was interrupted because of post-war repressions, primarily personality psychology. Research in personality psychology mainly focused on the applied practical issues of the wartime (research on the moral and personal qualities of the military men by Teplov, Kornilov, Levitov, etc.). In the same time, there were important theoretical studies by Sergey Rubinstein, Alexei Leontiev, Ananiev, Myasishchev, etc. Among the practice-oriented works, Teplov’s research on the personality of the military leader is of great interest, which focused on mental abilities, “required by a certain type of practical activity”. Egorov studied personality characteristics of mid-level commanders, Salmanov – those of unit commanders, Skachkov - headquarters officers. As the result of joint work of scientists and military experts, a generalized psychological portrait of a military man was created. Levitov elaborated on the problem of will and developed a model of the complex of will qualities of the personality. Levitov defines will as the core of personality, determining all personality traits, their development and manifestation. Specific features of the organization of research in wartime are highlighted.