WAR JOURNAL
OF
FRANZ HALDER

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Winter 1939/1940

The Chief of the Army General Staff.

First entry: 7 December 1939.
Last entry: 9 May 1940.

7 December 1939.

Notes for OBdy:

1.) Fuehrer has summoned both AAA Corps Commanders to his Hq, in order to brief them himself (details unknown).

2.) Fuehrer is undecided between Ghent and Dinant; Walcheren and Carignan have been dropped.

AGF. A reiterates proposal to apply main effort on the southern wing from the start.

8 December 1939.

0900 Demonstration arranged by General Ott. New Infantry squad, semi-automatic rifle, Infantry cart.* Close cooperation KBE and Gen Qu. Camouflage by Fieldpost number.

Shifting of troops. Report by Gen Qu.

Fieldpost difficulties:

There are still some double numbers. And the whole Number system. Lack of supervisory personnel at collecting centers. Shorten process of sorting. Speed up transit from collecting centers to sorting centers.

Troop movements! Have Gen Qu report!

Proposed Changes:

a) Collecting centers might be increased to speed collection of letters. Railroad facilities ample.
b) Run mail trains as special through-trains. Mail loading facilities must be developed.

c) Mail to be loaded in freight yards, not in passenger stations.

d) Reduce total of Fieldpost numbers! End of January.

Blaskowitz:

a) Hoefl very good, also Schaede (521 Border Guard Bn.).
Both North Courbière Center.
239th Div. Neuling, Pflugbeil.

Not so good: Corps Hq Buex (reduced) must go. Replace with Boehm-Tettelbach Military Administration Hq 581.
Stengel 209 Saxen.* (Could be replaced with Schaede.)
Ulex!

b) Two functions held by one man impossible in the long run.
Exchange Rupp against Dohna?
High Command Center at Radom (good accommodation).

c) Help Holldt! Gerlach not so good. Langhneuser very excitable.

d) Decent Junker plane for Blaskowitz.

9 December 1939.

b) Sponck.
c) Christmas leave.

10 December 1939.

Sunday (Berlin). All quiet everywhere.

11 December 1939.

Kinzel: Report on Romanian operation from the north.##
Note for ObdH:

a) More soldiers! New activations (Expand Brigades to Divisions!).

Officer replacements. — Captured Polish material. — Training of staff officers, etc. — Expansion of Replacement Army. Report by Chief Org. Sec.

b) Inf. Training Manual - Still in need of revision!

c) No decision today.

12 December 1939.

Rechricht: Measures to be taken in event of a prolonged waiting period. Instructions by Chief Inf. Officer concerning defense in place; attack against fortified fronts; use of smoke, large-scale demonstration. Instructional Pamphlet for airborne transports. — Amphibious Engineers.

Buhle: Report to ObdH on expansion of the Replacement Army. New activations.

13 December 1939.

Notes for ObdH: 1.) Chart.

2.) Appointments in the Gen. Army Office (Sodenstern — Buhle).

Corps Hq (February): Manstein — Stulpnagel.

3.) Training directive.

4.) Transport situation (OKW order).

5.) Anonymous letters.*

Salmuth, 1640:

a) Withdraw 263rd Div. across the Rhine, to the south of Twelfth. Extend sectors of 87th and 62nd Div. This puts 62nd Div. into assembly area.

b) 267th Div. must be exchanged against 28th. In this way the latter will come into the assembly area.

c) Exchange V Corps for II Corps (remains in the case of offensive).

d) Remove GHq Artillery from Wahn (Waldbroel). Wahn for AGp. B.
Fromm: Trained men: 170,000 by end of January, plus 250,000 = 420,000.
1 March 620,000
1 April 150,000 half-trained
770,000

Anticipated losses 150,000 a month, less returnees from hospitals
100,000 available to relieve older age-groups. We must ask for 1,000,000. That would take an endless time.
Right away: Age-group 12/11 for the front,
Age-group 06/07 for Regional Defense units etc.
For fall: Age-groups 19 and 20.

Conclusion: Combat casualties can be replaced. Old age-groups can be exchanged only at very slow rate. New activations impossible without further slowing down tempo of exchange.

Length of training period: as long as possible.

Organization: More Vo's in the Area., e.g., 6. Each for definite groups, i.e. two-weeks', four weeks', eight weeks' soldiers, etc.

Keitel (Personnel Div.):

Old officers: 50,000 Reserve officers (less those unfit for service) used up. Bulk in Replacement Army, 1000 perhaps to be had still.
Young officers: 5,000 trained young replacements. 5,000 in officers' training. 2,000 three years' enlistments. 12,000

1,500 to 2,600 men ready for promotion each month. Difficulty to activate Aqs. (Replacement Army!)
Officers' Corps, peacetime strength 3,700 (1934), was expanded to 99,000 (beginning of 1939). Refer to Tng. Sec.

Training period for Reserve Officer candidates must not be shortened. Refer to Tng. Sec.

Hqs must be combed out. Central Branch.

Program:

1) Reactivation of the Replacement units used up for Replacement Transfer Divs. by end of December 1939, without artillery. Also available for that purpose some Ens. in Mil. Districts XVII and XVIII. Activation with own cadres. Training of the newly activated units to begin on 1 Jan.

2) Ideal aim: A replacement reserve of at least 50% should be activated for each Btry. and Co. (Replacement Transfer units) which would take in those with advanced training.

3) Questions: At what dates and rate can we activate Field Recruiting depots? Into these will be taken eight-weeks men of the Replacement Army.

4) Measure introduced by High Command East for units which cannot be regarded as first-line Combat Divisions: One recruit Bn. per Regt. Renewal from within.

5) Field Recruiting depots must be activated with field troops.


7) Remainder of the Replacement Transfer Brig. must be changed to Infantry Regts. Field Army must help out. Can we take out Field Replacement Ens? (Field Army replaces its own losses.) Infantry guns. — AT guns. (Field Army must help out.)—— Engineer troops. —— Artillery from GHQ artillery.

9.) Replacements for depleted artillery in the East.

10.) Expansion of Replacement Transfer Divs, to fill dive. Measures in detail. — Question of field replacement ens.

11.) Surplus of Officers in Replacement formations. Personnel III. IV.

12.) Combing out of Hqs. Central Branch.

13.) Training courses for Inf. and Arty. En. Cos. Take one Replacement Transfer Brigade. Instructors from the front. Fig. Sec.

14.) Industry can produce 25% of the trucks demanded by armed forces and by the civilian economy. Question of tires. Steps must be taken to safeguard army requirements.

15.) Activation of Corps Hqs. How many Corps Hqs can be activated, and when? Problem of officers (Gen. Staff Officers) and Corps Troops (Signal Ens.) Central Branch.


17.) C O Mil. District acting as Post C O. * Org. Sec.

**O'&u IV

a) (Preventive action: Reich Chancellery**) Question of Norway: Public sentiment; leading personalities in Berlin.— Combined operation Navy — Army. Simultaneous with operation against Denmark. Information file Denmark and Norway) Maps through Hemmerich

Russia is viewed calmly.

Finnish war pushes Russia into the anti-British front.

Balkans. Russia is supposed to have no intentions in this quarter, apparently certain Russian promises concerning Romania have been received.
Fuehrer thinks he has a free back in the East and Southern.

Italy: Italy would like to strike soon. His policy meets opposition, also in the Royal Family. Slow pace of armament. "Fortified" that he cannot make his country keep pace with Germany.

Belgian question: Il Duce disinterested. Ciano: Italy will not change her policy, on Belgium's account, even though the Royal Families are related. They are surprised that we are not yet in Holland.

We are now supposed to have so much oil, that we supply Italy!

b) SS Luetzow sold to Russia (Said to be faulty design!)

c) Spain will send ships in convoys, if Italy does the same, similar as Japan.

Memo for ObdH:

1.) Urge all Hqs to practice strictest economy. (Wagner says, some arty, Btys. have 5 MGs.)

2.) Jodl: a) Road construction, road blocks, preparations for mot. units, good. b) Traffic on Dutch border. c) Draft plan of AG 3 regarding Air Force.

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15 December 1939

1.) Talk with Siewert on deficient cooperation with BdE. (Prompted by conference on 14 Dec.)

2.) Talk with Gercke on complaint by Keitel OKW that contact between OKW and Army is not close enough.

3.) Witzleben reports in Commandant War Academy Training Course.

4.) Material for map maneuver given to OQu I.

ObdH: Training directive also for 342. Courses: Give them the latest (order on signals for attack!). --- Machinegun belts!**
Cipher codes at the front (officer candidates in Signal Corps).Friessner in charge. The Sec. Officer candidates who have not yet thrown hand grenades. Ing. Ssc.

16 December 1939.

Bulle and Wagner: Care of service component in the ZI. "Our War-time Army."

Jacob: Steel only for ammunition, not for fortifications. Fuehrer now wants only: Fischbach Valley, Kemich, Spicherer Heights*, gun emplacements; 4.7 AT guns (100); 8.85 AT guns (60).

Jodl: Fuehrer is taking an interest in the shifting of our reserves. (Ou I).

Note for Odh: a) *Fuehrer has taken an interest in the disposition of our reserves.
b) Etzdorf.


3. Our attitude toward Denmark and Norway similar to Russia's attitude toward Finland.

c) My appraisal of the Balkans' situation.
d) Our lap maneuver
e) War pay.

17 December 1939. (Sunday, Berlin).
16 December 1939.

0930 Conference with the Arms Chiefs on the new plan of chains of command.


19 December 1939.

Fuhle: brings idiotic proposal by A gp. A.

Weizsäcker: North.

Southeast, — appraisal of Italy's wait and see policy.

20 December 1939.

ObhH: a) K 12* (120 km) ready after Christmas (Will go to A gp. G). 120 rounds (tubes will last 30 - 40 rounds).

b) Conference Fuehrer/Rundstedt: Strength must be conserved for main effort in A gp. A. "Has A gp. A a double mission?" "Rundstedt" Friday possibly Thursday, Central Branch.

Conference: Operational intention, diversities. Guderian at Sedan will not be strong enough for major operation. Arrangements must be made to assure follow-up of troops on roads, (Wietersheim's map).

c) Have several Gen. Staff Officers tour the front to find out what the Divisions really are doing.

d) Combat experiences of First Army with French? Ogm IV. (Artillery, Infantry, no overrating!)
21 December 1939.

1030 Reception of the Russian Military Attaché, General (Commanding General) Sm.

Notes for ObdA:

1. Deception (men on leave to Reich), a) GHq. troops, b) men on leave in Reich, c) East of the Rhine.

2. Five new Corps HQs (Stülpnagel, Hanstein), 15 new Divs.
   - Fifth Draft: 5 Divs.
   - Sixth Draft: 4 Divs.
   - 13 REPL. TRANSF. DIVS.
   - On 1 March: One Mot. Div. (14th TRANSF. DIVS.)
   - Police Div.
   - SS DIVS. (55th and 60th)
   - Total 29
   - No HQs.
   - No Ghms (for 25% of wartime Army) Gen Sm.

3. "New chemical warfare agent", 100** sprayed from aircraft. In production not before fall 1940. Ready for use not until the spring 1941.


5. Directives for Chief of Army Equipment.
   - (Back to ObdA).

6. Periodicals, Inf., arty.

7. Telegrams from AGp. on Sinclar's plans for Belgium.

8. Officer strength, Chief Arty Off., etc.

23 December 1939.

Railroad accident at Genthin.

Conference with Col. Gen. von Rundstedt:

1. Proposal regarding shortening of period for assembly.

2. Plan of operation: Full and limited objectives. von Rundstedt claims that the bulk of Fourth Army is aimed at Givet, only a small fraction at Givet, attack on Bethel (?) to keep enemy from attacking from the south. "An entirely different operation!"

Ott: 1.) How does Inf. handle 8 mines?

2.) When will training manuals be ready?

von Sock: Salnuth will bring a letter on the conduct of the operation? Contents of this letter in agreement with Sock's views, but he did not want to throw the weight of his personality against Odhm's decision.

23 December 1939. 8th. Edj.

Buhle: Definition of jurisdictions as between Chief of Army Equipment and Gen. Staff.

von Tippelskirch/von Losell: Directives for Bucharest.

24 December 1939. Sunday.


Notes: a) Role of tanks in the opening battle.

b) Propaganda among the population of occupied territories in their native language (Russian pattern). OQuIV - Gen Q.
26 December 1939.

Morning: At 2ossen. Nothing of consequence. Only current mail.

Afternoon: At home.

27 December 1939.

0800 Map maneuver conducted by von Stuelpnagel. The three possibilities of the offensive in the west are worked out.

Fellgiebel: Ground-air identification. Panels will be tried. Obd#.

Sound locators will be tested starting middle of January. Obd#.

"Next decision 9 January, 1800 hrs. at the latest". (Perhaps a few days earlier).

Görcke: Material needed for "Immediate offensive" released.

Memo for Obd#:

a) Horse-drawn transport units. (Young age groups must be taken out! But not all active officers. (60%). Officer candidates get peacetime training; dangers of the Rear Area!

b) Bock's proposal on re-disposition of the troops assembled at frontier.

c) Hanstein's plan of operations. Battle of Katno. Obd#.

d) Proposal of AG. B: regrouping on the baseline. (Map Op. Sec.)

e) Stuelpnagel and von Hanstein to Commanding Generals.

f) Report of a First Army order prohibiting fire.
28 December 1939.


ObdH: First Army:

a) Fire only if the French attack. Own patrol effort hindered. No attempt must be made by outposts to draw fire.

ObdH does not want training to be pushed entirely into the background. Some elements must continue training activities even in the terrain forward of fortification lines. No matter if progress is slower.

78th Division, Austrian. Assign a Gen. Staff Officer to offset the Austrian (Heimacht).

Notes for ObdH:

a) Cav. Brig. activation completed 6 Jan.

b) Tanks for Fourth Light Div. will not be ready before 7 Jan.

c) Tests with ground-air identification panels—sound locators in fog, trials.

29 December 1939.


b) 8 Jan. Departure of Tenth Arm. Regt. (Czech) to Eighth Arm. Div.


Central Branch: OQu I. — Felber — Stever (?). Army HQ (not.) — Sponeck, Hahnstein — Neckensen — Hilpert — Kiewisch.*

Fourth Light Div. converted to Ninth Arm. Div. Tracked vehicles will arrive in the Limburg area on 3.
My tour! (From 2, evening to 7, morning.)

30 December 1939.

Rupp calls: G of E, Corps HQ XXXII (reduced), Lublin.

Gercke: Makes proposal about getting "State Secretary".


Talk with Gercke on the "State Secretary" idea. The danger is that the Transp. Chief might neglect work of his original department in the new job.

Evening: The children come to see us.

Memo for tour:

a) Fourth and Sixth Armies. Prepare shifting of Med. Artillery within Army Group. Shifting of Bridge Units.

b) Sixth Army, 6.2nd MT Art. (DJ) has been allocated for supply movements. Must therefore be free for the job as soon as supply routes start lengthening. Use for other assignments only with the approval of OKh.

c) AOp. B. Shifting of AAA. Back to a conference!

d) First Army: 1.) Proposal on Spicherer Heights.

2.) Reception.

3.) Use of Arm. and mot. units for surprise missions.

e) Status of preparations for winter?

f) Training: Marksmanship: Target ranges

g) Fuel? of total issue

About one-half quota was consumed in three days (500 km)**. Restrict consumption. Clamp down on private trips! Road checks!

i) Undesirable practice of having families near front.

1) AOp. B. Senft von Pilsach. OQu 1; Capt. von Kessel. Salath: Jodl "decrees".

-14-

- 14 -
1 January 1942.

1000 Conference with Keitel OKW:


2. I point out the difficulties in the conduct of operations. Interference in command a grave danger.

Promise that there will be no interference in such matters. Book to come to AAA conference. (Com. I. Send for Jodl to discuss with him our objective. Dinant.)

3. a) What happens if the offensive is postponed for a prolonged period, say 6 to 8 weeks, i.e., middle of March?

Directives are prepared for Navy (stepping up of sinkings) and Air Force (attack on England).

Army: Preparedness must be maintained:

Moving up of Armor. (Op. Sec.)

Training. (Inf. Sec.)

Activations. (Every postponement raises the question how the loss can be made up.) Replacement Army new has fully trained men. Losses can already be covered by men now in training.

Oldest Army pieces must be brought into use. Heavy Artillery must be manned by old men. Potential must be increased.

(Urg. Sec.) (Check all points relating to Army with Com. I.)

ObdA: a) Airborne operations on a large scale. Airborne troops (paratroopers attached to Ground Forces as Assault ones).

b) Arm. Div. to the outpost area in First Army sector. Divs. of First Army back for training.

Motorcycle Div. on, to the outpost area (Kpt. Grossdeutschland). SS units to the outpost area.

c) Deception movements also with tanks, e.g., practice advance movements, shifting, etc. within Army sectors.

(3.) b) Scandinavia: Russia will limit herself to Finland (1914 frontier); agreement Ribbentrop - Molotov. . . .
Sweden and Norway strictly neutral. General Quisling, Norway, (one of Rosenberg's acquisitions) has no followers. It is in our interest to keep Norway neutral. In case England threatens Norway's neutrality, our policy will change. Memorandum OK. Fuehrer has stopped the memorandum (Jodl). OQw I must get it!

c) Bessarabia. Dangerous game!
It is in our interest that the Balkans remain quiet under all circumstances.
"Military diversion" would be most embarrassing for us. We are trying to arrange a compromise between Russia and Romania (1914 frontier) (Ribbentrop himself has been put on the job for this); we have also got in touch with the Italians to reach a common formula. It is our aim to divert the Russians from the Bessarabia to Afghanistan and India. Stalin reportedly not adverse.

d) Progress of trade negotiations with Russia has improved due to our aggressiveness. (Russian demands very far-reaching.) Romania satisfactory progress.

e) Italy: Mussolini has sent word that he will approach the Fuehrer with proposals by middle of January.
Use of Italians in German operations in the West: The Fuehrer is thinking of independent missions: Southern France, through Savoy, to the southwest. Even our promise to Switzerland would be no real obstacle. OQw I.

f) Decision based on weather situation possibly will be made as early as 3 Jan., this would mean start of offensive as early as 11 or 12 Jan. Op. Sec., Transp. Chief, OQw I.

1130 ObaH:

a) Spicherer Heights: 1.) We must hear the views of First Army! - Check with Land Fortifications Sec. - No tank obstacles. "Advance Group" will be the solution. No tank obstacles. Recommendation to OKw.

b) Gercke: 1.) Solution must be prepared along lines of Schell's proposal (special mission dictatorial powers for Transp. Chief). Must start right after 5 Jan.
2. Then we must reorganize our Transp.
Sec. Transp. Chief
Bork as deputy to Gercke.
Kaiser must be changed, if necessary
(to new Corps Hq?). Central Branch.

c) Personnel changes in key Staff posts only in the
event of a prolonged waiting period. Central
Branch.

3 January 1940.

Reports and preparations for the trip.

Matters to be attended to:

a) Vietinghoff - Kleist new mot. Corps Hqs.

b) Temporary deputy for Helmich in Hq., A/Cp. B. (Senfft von Filsach, OQu 1 Kassel).

c) Reply from Fromm regarding signature*.

d) SS and Police in the West. — Gen Qu.

e) Organization of supply from central depots.

f) Down-grading of horse-drawn transport units
take their active officers, active soldiers,
no officer candidate, etc.). Talk over with
Pers.Div.!

g) OQu IV, Intelligence on enemy forces: British.—
Brock for Bruckmann.

h) Operational study Romania.

(Turn over items c) through g) to OQuI)

3 January to 6 January 1940.

Tour of the western front. See travel orders and travel
notes.
7 January 1940 (Sunday).

0740 Return to Berlin (Charlottenburg).

1000 Keitel OKW: 1.) Jump-off date known to enemy.

2.) Preparations of the Gestapo and Police.

3.) Spicherer Heights.

1100 von Salmuth: a) Says it makes no difference; period for closing up to border might as well be set at two days.

b) Armor must be placed under Army Gr. Op. Sec.

1130 von Stulpnagel (at my home): Summarizes business during my absence.

1630 Oth: Report on tour and review of pending questions.

1820 Keitel OKW: a) Fuehrer is aware that the jump-off date is known to the enemy.

b) Question of Gestapo and Police for the west not yet discussed with the Fuehrer. An understanding will be arranged with the Minister of the Interior.

c) Data on Spicherer Heights wanted soon. Land Fortifications Sec.

d) Concerning offensive everything is still in the balance.

8 January 1940.

Gen Qu Zap exercise: Comments:

1.) Build-up for "Battle of the Ruhr", Problems of organization and of road communications, Very difficult. Could be eased by cutting out return traffic.—Advancing of railheads.—

Maximum utilization of railroads.

2.) Traffic control basically a command function. It does not make any difference who is in charge of the mechanics of control.
Fuel supply and truck situation must be handled by a central agency. Exchange of horses (heavy and light horses).

Op. Se:i
1. X-hour: three hours before jump-off.
2. Time needed by mot. troops in AGp.A equals time needed by foot troops (to reach Arlon).
3. How waiting-period could best be put to use.

Salvuth: Speidel and Sponeck state that tactical air support will not be available for several days (fourth day). Elements with great striking power, effectiveness of action.

von Etzdorf:

a) France and England: assistance to Finland under their League of Nations obligations. Land route via Narvik. Agreement of Norway and Sweden. Are we going to be informed? Prerequisite would be British promise of aid to Norway and Sweden in the event of a war with Russia. Iron deposits in Northern Lapland. No indications that the Fuehrer is demanding bases.

b) Osaky - Ciano.

c) Kerkhove's telegram (Belgium).

d) Caucasus British objective.


f) Trade talks with Russia are not getting to any start.

Romania: Very much in arrears with oil deliveries.— Railroad cars.

g) Bulgaria-Russian Trade Treaty....

h) Peace questions. Dutch Premier Colijn not received by Il Duce. — Roosevelt?

i) Visit to the Pope.

k) Today meeting at Fuehrer Hq.

OQ: IV: Review of material accumulated during my absence. —
Grosscurth. — Confidential information on Goering’s
peace feeler.

The. — Orm. — OQ: Joint report on withdrawal of troops etc.
to training centers in the event of prolonged post-
pomemt.

9 January 1940.

Jacob — Gehlen: ————
Schell: —

Deliveries in the immediate future will not allow
any improvements.

Eule: Organizational matters.

Gercke: Railroad situation very difficult. Backlog of
657 trains. Personnel reduced by sickness. We are
having trouble with coal supply. For shifting of
troops in eight-weeks period we need 520 and 570
trains. Readied about 335 trains (in addition to
over 100 trains in transit). Enough trains are
readied for tanks. For Inf. Divs. we need 370
trains over and above the 335 trains standing by.

Feasible if passenger traffic is restricted.

We won’t find out about the effects on the economy
before conference with Goering on 10 Jan. (Gercke)

Conference with ObdH (at his home), present also Fromm
and Eule, 1700 to 2030.

Warner: Coal problem. —

Building up of truck reserve can not start before
1 March. GHq Reserve will have to be formed by
drawing on resources of Armies.

Op. Sec.: “Museum” Leeb — also Sixteenth Army.*

Orq. Sec.: Balance tank types.** Settle question of Brig.
and Regt. 00s.

Ott: Med. Inf. gun SPh? Self-propelled or with traction?

Trials.

Orq. Sec.: Airborne troops. Should striking power be in-
creased? Rocket-firing guns? (Sponeck’s wishes)
Set aside equipment for two additional Divs;
10 January 1940.

Jodl: Gehlen: Leeb’s report on Sturmburschen-Fulling. Recommendation to OKW.

OQu IV (Groß אחד):

1.) Il Duce, warns against Russia. Continuation of present course means separation from us. Asks not to attack. Peace guaranties (Polish buffer state). Italy cannot enter the war now (Armed Forces not ready!); will join us only at the very last moment. ("Do not believe in my victory.")

2.) Instruction to call meeting of the IC Officers in the west (to warn them against representatives of the Foreign Office).

3.) SS Degree.

OQu IV: British.

1500 – 1730: Führer conference:

a) Target date: Wednesday, 17 Jan is A-Day.
   (A – 4: Saturday, 13 Jan.
   A – 1: Tuesday, 16 Jan.)

Zero-Hour: 15 minutes before sunrise at Aachen (0615 hrs on 17 Jan.). Reasons for selecting this date: A high of rain intensity and permanence; clouds from the east perhaps on 12 and 13 January, then again clear winter weather with 10 to 15 degrees below freezing in Belgium and Holland for 12 to 14 days. Op. Sec. Get information on thickness of ice.

Embarco on flying: Air Force specifications.

OKW order tomorrow. Should the weather deteriorate in the meantime, date will be put up.

b) 13 Jan, perhaps even 12 Jan. Big bombing attack by Air Force against airfields along the entire northern border. Also air attacks against pilot schools (70% of enemy fighter strength in the zone of attack). Then own Air Force will be withdrawn; dummies, on airfields, (save OQu IV ascertain effectiveness!) Pounce again just before jump-off.
Op. Sec.: Army Gps. must now establish close contact with their air formations. Air defense against enemy retaliation.

Chief Air Officer calls on OthH.

a) Dinant -- Ghent -- Amsterdam. New supplementary instructions of OKW for Ground Armies are coming.


Keitel (on phone):


b) Special directives on Civil Administration.

"Simultaneously Fuehrer decree will order closing of the frontier." New version.-- Gen Qu.

c) Wagner proclamation redrafted; now in Fuehrer's desk. Gen Qu.

d) Our directives for Military Government approved by OthH. Soon to OKH.

c) Conference of Js officers. Foreign Office representatives. -- Propaganda. OQu IV.

f) Set-up for last-minute stoppage of attacking forces must be maintained. Prepare re-disperse. Op. Sec.

Conference with OthH:

a) Organizational measures: what can we do until start of the offensive? Org. Sec.

b) Training. Chemical smoke exercise, etc.


f) Transfer of OKH must be prepared for any time after 15 Jan., evening (Monday). Recommendations. Central Branch.
Matters to attend:

**Gehlen IV: Etzdorf, Target date!**

**Op. Sec.:** Possibilities for stopping troops before start of attack, day by day. Information on thickness of ice to troops.

**Gehlen - Jacob: Saarbruecken.**


(All points discussed with Sec. Chiefs at 2200.)

11 January 1940.

**Gehlen:** Orientation on Fuehrer conference (Saarbruecken).-- Report on completion of defense position in Adp. C.

**Piekenbrock, White Book.**

**Fellgiebel:** Target date for offensive and transfer of G Hq.

**Bogatsch:** Target date for offensive, transfer, Air attack before start of offensive and its effects.

**Buhle:** Possibilities for organization in case of the offensive.

**Gercke:** Road-building program in Reich and East. Expansion of railroad construction program 1940.

**Stepf:** Air landing in Holland.

**Gehlen IV:** Il Duce's letter:

1. Proposal to seek ways to reach a peace. Restoration of Poland. Question of frontiers left open.

2. Warnings against offensive in the West. Military successes are possible, but all the greater than the danger that the war may spread U.S.A.

3. Go slow with pro-Soviet policy. As recently as six months ago Public Enemy No. 1. Now, a friend.

"As an old revolutionary I know that it is impossible to change ideologies to suit the exigencies of day-to-day politics".

- 23 -
Asks us to revert to struggle against Bolshevism. Conviction that fight against the Western Powers is possible only after Bolshevism has been smashed. Remember common graves.

Great sympathies for the Finns, although Finland stood in the enemy camp when sanctions were imposed. Possibilities of military participation are being studied by experts. Similar as in Spain.

"If you go on step farther in your present Russian policy, a terrible situation may arise, which would compel Italy to make her position clear."

Afghanistan: Nothing possible without Russian support.

Report on Military Attachés who came in while I was on tour in the West.

Greiffenberg - Heusinger: Order has been issued for 11 Jan. OKW, Order for Seekreuzen, OKW.

12 January 1940.

Greiffenberg: Case of the flyers landed in Belgium (on 11 January).

It must be assumed that at least part of the documents is in the hands of the Belgians. What material did they get? Führer has reserved decision.

Should location of Hqs be changed? What has been divulged; Location of Hqs; no arm, units; Hq of Seventh Air Div.; airfields of Air Grp. 2.

Report of Air Force to Führer; ObdL wants to do the air attack on 15. (Offsets danger.)

Führer himself will give signal for attack.

Wagner: Fifth Arm. Div., reports about damages suffered on route. Must get help!

Gen. Student (Christ): Air landing Holland.

OQu V: Obkircher, Writing of books by Army personnel on the Polish Campaign.
Admiral Schniewind: General review of the situation.

Gercke: Transport order communicated to Railroad offices. Kleinmann claims he will swing it.

13 January 1940 (Saturday).

Gercke: Meeting at the Reich Ministry of Transportation.

Elseer: Report on border protection in the South: Border Guard now set up. Can be doubled by summer, 1940, quadrupled by summer, 1941. Special defense detachments are integrated with Border Guard. Training in progress.

Kt. Div. out of replacement units, activation in progress.

Col Oliva -- Col. Wagner.


ObdH: Brauner - Hilpert.


Sodenstern for General Army Office?

Mittelberger: Operational study Southeast.

14 January 1940 (Sunday, Berlin).

Conference with ObdH, 1130 to 1315.

1) Take up with OKw:
   a) The repeated extension of the date for the offensive is undermining confidence.
   b) Effects of the last cancellation. (Some of the troops were already entrained and en route to front.)
2. K.3 and K 5 Becker claims the responsible factors are the cold temperature and the steel manufacturing process. (Only high-class refined steel can be used.) Art.Sec.

3. Countermeasures: Holland, Belgium: Time interval and speed of reaction? OQu IV.

   a) In the event of an offensive: Sodenstern to my Staff, Hilpert to Leeb's Staff, as temporary assignments.
   b) If no offensive: Kahnstein and Stulpnagel, Commanding Generals, Olbricht, General Army Office, Central Branch. Sodenstern to my Staff as OQu I; Felber goes to Asp.A. In what way does it affect others?
   c) Mittelberger possibly C in C Upper Rhine. Schindler??
   d) Oskircher case must be taken up. OQu V.
   e) On principle no objections to Kraemer. Kewisch's efficiency rating must be submitted! Central Branch.
   f) Should Hollidt be relieved in the East? Who in his place? (Someone very stern.)

5. Propaganda among Marrrocan and African troops in Southern France across Spanish border(?) OQu IV.


Ziehlberg (OQu I):

a) Sodenstern — Kieth — Konrad — Lanz (C of S. for Home Mil. Dist. V?)

b) Assignment of Hilpert (1.1. 39) might be arranged despite Kieth's seniority (1.3. 38), by calling it temporary duty.

c) Asp. A: Felber. As behind Felber, Hilpert, Army Hq 2 (possibly Hollidt).


Buhle: When operations start: One Replacement Transfer Bn. must be activated for each Division of the First, Second, Third, Fourth and Fifth Drafts;
three Inf. Cos; rifles for signal, artillery and engineer components, activation to be initiated on issuance of order for attack.

1245 - 1300, Führer conference:

a) Weather uncertain because of penetration of a center of low pressure. Impossible to forecast weather for a 6 to 10 day period.

b) Minimum needed, eight days; battle at the Meuse on the fourth day at the earliest.

Air landing inside Fortress Holland. New orders!

Rechberg's letter.*

16 January 1940.

Col. Gen. von Bock. von B. Kesselring instead of Bock.**

1. Decision not at Maastricht, but on the Meuse river. Von Br. expects that the Führer will leave us freedom to decide.
   Clear picture not before late afternoon of first day at the earliest.

2. Operation against islands, Kesselring wants to help.

3. Supply of materiel: Spare parts. Sixth army:
   1 recuperator spring,*** 1 / one word illegible Ed. /

4. SS Decree ("Stab in the back").
   Officers' Corps in a "nasty" mood.
   Women are "shirkers". #
   Article in "Schwarzes Korps".##
   Von Br. we stick to our stand.-- Adverse effect of the period of inactivity.

ObäH: Bridge launchers on Tank IV chassis: 9 m long, for water depth of 2 m. End of March: two units.
   2 Krupp, 10 Regulus. Tank bridges.
   Four Divs. will get 3 units each.

Footbridge for Infantry: two ready in Feb.
   Tank IV chassis needed.
60-ton tanks in 1943: Two types, with 80 mm all-round armor.

Conference with Thomas.

Conference with Bock.

Grossrath: Conference in Canaris' office: a) OKW order on measures to insure secrecy. — b) SS Decree. — c) Report from the East.

17 January 1940.

Op. Sec. et al.: Disposition of battle forces on the western border. — Need to make the most of any waiting-period.

Rohrricht: Training courses for Go and Stry Cos on army level, etc. Training ammunition. — Miscellaneous questions.

Lissa: Belgians alert troops around Eben Emael district and west of Maastricht. Demolitions being prepared by Dutch in Maastricht.

Talk with Salmuth on repercussions of these Belgian measures; also on Fortress Holland. Passed on to Chief Op. Sec. for transmittal to Air Force, OKW.

Landhauser: Situation in the East.

Kusel: a) Sand sprinkling and other preparations for icy roads.
   b) von Sock: Matériel casualties must be replaced now!
   c) Reduction of fuel consumption! (60%).
   d) Instruction on Field Post.

von Bock: a) Inquires whether Sponeck's proposal is known here.
   b) Plan of attack IV Corps (Maastricht?)
   Reply: OKW and Air Force have been informed of Belgian measures; I shall reply to him myself.

Gercke: Repercussions of the paralysis of railroads in consequence of short alert notices: Assembly of trains might easily give clues to target date. Concentration and direction of offensive might be recognized several days before the attack.
To counter these hazards: "Flying start".* This, however, puts the railroads under a continuous high strain.

Greiffenberg: (Jodl):

1. Decision: Jump-off with troops echeloned in great depth. No surprise (neither operational, nor tactical, ) "rather uncertain. Troops must be poised to strike instantaneously. No previous notification of Zero-Hour.

At any moment! Complete readiness must be assured at all times. (24 hours). Inf. and Armor west of the Rhine. During these 24 hours no railroad movements, no return movements etc.; resumption only after frontier has been crossed. Missions and objectives remain the same. Possible slight variation (main effort south of Liege preferable).

Holland in its entirety.

Not tied to a fixed time schedule: Seventh Air Div.

Time needed for grouping. (Easter?).

2. ) In future the Fuhrer will divulge his plans only to a very few.

Deception measures: "Use deception plan, tanks, staff exercises, etc. Plan of operations — Battle only against British!

a) Closure of frontiers with Holland and Belgium.

b) GHq? (1 Feb.)

18 January 1940.

ObdH: (1200): No fixed date. Not 24 hours.

Vehicles must not be left standing in the open.*

Orders must be submitted after issue.


Abwehr: von Blaskowitz. — Officers too weak; do not stand up for unjustly persecuted.
Personnel Div.
a) Olbricht, Gen. Army Office.
   Felber/Ranstein
   Bodenstern/Stulpnagel.
   Heinrici/Stumme/Reinhard/Brockdorff etc.
   Commanding Generals.
b) Mittelberger.
c) Leeb. (Frau von Leeb's pessimistic remarks:)
   Weak spots in the West Wall.
   Gropp's promotion to Major General (Landwehr Div. in von Witzleben's group).

OKW: "No surprise. In contrast to 18."

Channeled method: Keep them on edge. — Abandonment of plan must not be openly stated. Fiction must be preserved that we may start off any day. No massive build-up, a flowing assembly. Start of attack sets flowing assembly in motion. Preceded by Air Force action. Strategic surprise as in invasion of Czecho-Slovakia. Air Force, smoothly running on third day. Assembly of units in the rear must be telescoped. Railroads will remain at the disposal of the Army until further notice (Fuehrer).

Conference with Chiefs Op., Orz., Transp. Secs., and Gen Qu:

1. In view of the fact that the enemy in the past reacted drastically and with promptness to our successive attack alarms, the Fuehrer has come to the conclusion that the original system of assembly no longer affords surprise. Our policy must be changed:

2. The new method will be characterized by the following features:

   a) At the frontier and directly behind it, only the forces necessary to attain the first objectives. That is, Inf. Divs., as far as required for initial jump-off; engineers and roadblock clearing organization, to clear the path for Armor. (Air cover and AAA for potential road bottlenecks.)
Build-up such that operations could be started at shortest notice (24 hours).

b) All battlesforces and supply destined for the follow-up, must be echeloned in the rear in a manner that enables them to catch up during the inevitable stops due to road jams, border battles etc., and so have closed up when the initial offensive wave has reached the first objective.

c) Railroad shipments, large-scale road movements, transfer of Hqs will be initiated only after the frontier has been crossed.

3. Our job now is:

a) To decide on "first objectives" To allocate forces needed. Specify missions for Air Force.

b) It is necessary to think out carefully, what effects all this will have on the work of other Staff Sections; Transport not affected! Supply. Trains scheduled to run on the first day must stand by.

Tomorrow I shall be at the disposal of the Section Chiefs to talk over their ideas.

4. In working out our plans we must bear in mind:

a) Holland.
b) Deception.
c) Readiness to strike any time in response to enemy offensive.

5. There will be no "let-up period". Readiness to initiate operations in conformity with the present plan must be maintained until the new plan has entered into force. (Op. Sec. -- Reply to Bock.)

6. Organizational program will go on during regrouping.

7. Training program will go on.

8. Transfer of OKH Hq. Camouflage and security.

Warner: Reorganization of Columns: Three 30-ton MT Clms and three horse-drawn Clms for every Div.

Buhle: Organization orders.
19 January 1940.

Grosscurthi:

a) We are insufficiently informed on political matters. --- Ulex decree. --- Eastern questions.

b) Close check to prevent leaks in OKH.

Rochrichti: a) Training program: Five Divisions to be sent to Training Centers. Tank Demonstration unit to Wünsdorf.

b) Staff Manual for Staffs of SS and Police Diva.

c) Chemical smoke experimental exercise.

Personnel matters:

a) In new Corps Hq: Geyer, Manstein. For Geyer, Stielpernagel. (IX Corps will soon be relieved).

b) Qul I: von Bodenstern.


d) Army Cs of S: Paulus, Sixth Army; Brenncke, Fourth Army; Hilpert, Second Army; Marcks, Eighteenth Army; Fischer, Seventh Army; Mackensen, Twelfth Army; Model, Sixteenth Army; Konrad, First Army.

e) Corps Cs of S: Siewert. / No others named. /Ed./

von Etzdorf: Italy: Coal. --- War materials. --- Public sentiment increasingly succumbing to Allied propaganda (Graf Spee). Ciano-Geassy: Hungary will make no territorial demands if Romania successfully resists any attack by a third party and makes no territorial concessions to third parties (Dobrudsha, Bessarabia).

Russia:


Finnish suggestion that we take action before League of Nation intervenes.

Molotov: Time very late! Schulenburg has not left in consequence of Tanner's offer. ** Fuehrer wants no mediation.
Swedish-German Friendship Banquet.

Commercial Treaty with Hungary: Open part – secret part (on war economy), Bessarabia.

Japan: New Cabinet is believed not to be favorable to us. Interim Cabinet, Japan politically disunited. Not yet committed to new course (pending liquidation of the Chinese question, restoration of good relations with U.S.).

Memo for ObdH: Talk with OKW, 13 Jan., afternoon (see yesterday's notes).

1.) Breakdown of confidence in East: Personnel change (Hansen for Hollied). Tour to the East to look after troops.

2.) Siewert a personal liability.

3.) Instruction on Organization set in operation. (Must take it with me.) Order issued on reorganization of MG Ens., Cav, Div., Inf, Eng. Plato.

4.) Training: Divisions must be withdrawn for training. Training course and Demonstrate unit for Tank Commanders at Wunendorf. Chemical smoke exercise, 28 Jan.

5.) Personnel matters (see above).

6.) Recommendation for reorganization in the West (Greiffenberg) – Conference as soon as possible.

7.) Reorganization of columns (Wagner).

8.) Protest by Ott.

9.) Etzdorf

10.) 60,000 armaments workers from the Army (release in several stages). We hear that replacements for them are assured before they are relieved. Talk it over with ObdH von Greiffenberg:

1.) First objective: Holland in its entirety which will require at the least all forces so far assigned.
South of Namur-Meuse.
In central sector: Get across Canal, then Antwerp and Namur.
2.) Army Cb, Holland: Tanks: Three Inf., one Armd. and one Cav. Pr.

Fourth Army: A - 1
Twelfth Army: A - 1
Sixteenth Army: A - 1

Total time lost due to increased depth of assembly: one day's march.

Armour strength as before, but allocations changed.
No reinforcement of Fourth Army.

Distinctive band on cuff for Armd. Troops.

Six Divisions. On + 1, morning, if material is ready.

Gercke: Stipulations by State Railroads, if they have to transport five Divs., which were withdrawn to Training Centers:

a) Furlough traffic must be reduced 50% (for about two weeks).

b) Restriction of passenger traffic to skeleton schedule.

OKH approves. Reduction of furlough traffic must not extend to short-distance passes. -- OKH approves.

Fulke: Artillery program:

a) Present program in force until end of February.

b) Starting end of January there will be available for allocation;

Fully mobile (mot.):

4 Enns. 21 cm Hvy. How. = 10 Btrys.
3 Enns. 15 cm Med. Hvy. How. (Czech) = 9 Btrys.
(2 of these to be converted to Lt. Hvy. How. mot))
2 Enns. 15 cm Guns = 5 Btrys.

In fixed emplacements:

7 Enns. 6.3 cm Czech AA Artillery in AGp. C (including 2 Enns. of limited mobility) = 21 Btrys.

c) As of March:

Polish guns for AGp. C:

60 Btrys. of 4 Polish Field Guns each = 240 guns,
Of these 21 Btrys. of 6 guns each = 144 guns,
go to Army Hq 7 (static).

- 33 a -
Remaining 96 guns - 18 -ns. (left wing of First Army).

Full complement of artillery (horse-drawn)
For 10 new Divs.:

30 Bns. Lt. Fd. How. 18
For time being third Btrys. will be equipped with Fd. Gun 16.

As of March:

Mot. Med. Artillery: (materiel only; question of traction still unsolved):

8 Bns. (Czecln) Med. Fd. How. mot. Soon 1 March
3 " 1 May
2 " 1 July
1 Btry. 30, 5 (Czech) Hv. How. mot. 1 March
1 Btry. 24 cm Gun (Czech) mot. 1 March
4 Btrys. 21 cm Gun (Turkish Skoda) 1 April
May
June
July.

Beginning April: each month, 2 Bns. - 6 Btrys. Hv. How. 13 (3 per Btry.).

Beginning middle of May: each month, 1 Btry. (3 pieces) 15 cm Guns 18.

End of May: 3 Btrys. (3 pieces each) 22 cm Pol. Polish (only ones).

1 June: 1 Btry. 24 cm (Turkish) How. Skoda (mot.)
1 June: 6 Btrys. (4 pieces each) 10 cm Gun (Czech) mot.
1 July: 1 Btry. 12 Gun*.
15 July: 8 Bns. (2 Btrys. each) Med. Fd. How. 15 cm (Polish) horse-drawn. (Constitute Replacement Transfer Div. for 8 Divs.)
1 Aug.: 1 42 cm How. (Czech).
1 Aug.: 20 Btrys. 10 cm Fd. How. (Czech), horse-drawn; (allocation open).
1. New Führer order on weapons: Field, How., naval guns etc. — Buhle.


   Replacement Army embargo for two weeks, not two. Not two weeks!" Short-distance traffic as before, beginning 22 January.
   Chief of Transp.

4. Army Grp.: New Corps H.Q. Must be talked over with AGp. (Buhle).

5. Who looks after Divisions taken out of line? (Füchsen) — Reichsrichter.
   13 new Divs., 10 Divs. scheduled for activation and Demonstration Div. have no bridging equipment. — Op. Sec.

6. Brand to southern wing of Seventh Army. — Buhle.
   Kuntzen must be freed once field operations have started. — Geyer XXIV Corps.


Reich Chancellery 1500 hrs.

20 January 1940.

_Buhle: Organizational matters.

_Füchsen: Construction Ens.

_Grosscurth: Maintenance of security.

_Führer conference 1500 hrs:

Situation compels us to adopt new methods. Reasons:

1.) Enemy has a fair idea of our plans.
2.) That plane accident has made everything very clear to the enemy.
Take the prevalent view: Is convinced that we shall win the war, but are bound to lose it unless we learn to maintain secrecy. Carelessness may lose us the war.

We must have the fanatical determination to keep operational matters absolutely secret and to act swiftly in the case of an alert. ("Offensive thru through Sedan", date known.)

Careless talk, faults, organization or keen observation of many separate facts (unusual occurrences) means must be found to eliminate all these factors. Number of those initiated into operational plans must be kept to an absolute minimum, and within this group, each individual must be told only what is essential for his function; no over-all picture. Information must be given out at the latest possible moment.

-giving instructions purpose must not be revealed.

An order need not give away the underlying intention. Execution requires a large number of workers; intentions must be known only by a very small group. (departure dates, girl typists).

No one must be told that we have abandoned system of four-day alert. Everything will be done out of hand, (Wants report on measures taken to implement new system!) Enemy must not become aware of change in procedure.

Air effort to destroy enemy aviation is of prime importance. Present clear weather spell is not long enough. Better chances not before March.

1.) Hence: Air Force must deliver first blow; orders not until the night before.

2.) Other missions: Enemy command organization must be smashed. Headquarters, All must be attacked at the same minute, and with heaviest bombs. Other points of strategic importance.

Maastricht bridges must be captured intact: Occupation of Holland. Offensive must attain maximum penetration of enemy territory: Ju 88* England thus will not be attacked from the air in the first days. From third day onward, small groups of Ju 88 can attack England.
Target for the first days: Immediate action on limited number of especially important objectives. More may be expected from a attack with small forces, using maximum surprise, than with larger forces, but against an enemy poised for defense.

Clearing of road blocks. Fieseler Storch planes to drop Commandos and transport ammunition and men.

Orders will be issued in the afternoon. Movement during night. Attack in the morning. "Leap from stand."

Our change of method must not become known to troops. Enemy must be left in belief that we still follow original method. Essential prerequisite of success. Wants list of officers who have to be in the know.

Secret must be guarded in issuing orders. Divide orders! Don't say anything about intentions, just pass down the order!

Total of "immediate" actions. Leap from stand! Desirable to include in "immediate" actions: Holland on full scale.*

Operation Maastricht. Passage through the Ardennes. Prevent demolitions. Figure out in advance at what points we might have to repair demolition damage.

Timing: October would have been best. Enemy cannot do much construction work during period of frost. Frozen Holland affords great advantages.

Weather always keeps one guessing. Even now we must take advantage of any period of good weather. Making the most of opportunities offered is better than waiting for the "perfect" weather. Accordingly, every opportunity must be seized. Not likely before March. We must stand by prepared at all hours.

Transfer of GHq by plane.

Idea that we keep alert period must be fostered also on the railroads. Block telephones! Fallgriebel. Spread rumors. (Marras*)

Order to all participants at the conference on observing secrecy.
Order to first attack echelon: Start off with two-thirds; improvisations. Make arrangements for elements left behind.

21 January 1940

1200 (with ObdH) at Führer conference: We submit the recommendations of the Army. He wants maintenance of instant readiness so as to be able to take advantage of any favorable weather period.

Leave out Regt. Grosdeutschland.

1800 Führer (with ObdH):

a) Disposition of troops generally approved. Wants arrival of Divs. from the rear planned so that they can be immediately committed.

b) To be carried out first off: Original plan called for smashing of enemy air force; Ghent; Maastricht. Now, Maastricht, Ghent (and Dinant) have been dropped, leaving only smashing of enemy air force (on which, as a result, all weight can be thrown).

c) Holland "now in first line. The whole country. Employment of sufficiently strong forces to preclude any setback. He wants a build-up that ensures full success.

d) Maastricht not yet completely ruled out (no air tank). Strong forces would be needed to exploit success; tanks on Hasselt and Maastricht. If action impracticable, tanks can be withdrawn from sector.

d) (sig) Fourth Army: Cooperation of Air Force to blast obstacles. No tanks in the lead (mines). At the head of column. Inf. and Eng. with assault guns. Tanks will be held up at Meuse (Givet). In this sector, therefore, tanks are not the primary weapon; come in second line.
Giders for assault detachments against tank obstacles.

e) AGp. A. Things will be much easier because now they will have no enemy opposition in cutting through Luxembourg. Held by comparatively weak forces with large gaps. Cargo gliders to Bastogne, etc. Sowing of mines by planes in southern Luxembourg. Difficulties to be coped with in a battle on the Meuse. Assembly of Artillery will take 5 to 6 days.


Start so that Armor is available at all critical points from the start.

Disposition of battle forces about as originally planned.


2200: Conference with von Greiffenberg on developments of the day.

22 January 1940.


0900: Meeting of the La Officers of Army Gp. and Armies, on new plans.
1500: Jacob. Noise control in fortifications: corrugated slag plates can be used; cost, 3 M per square meter. Earcaps, 5 M a pair.


1700: Training Sec; Training in Replacement Army again suspended for eight weeks.

1800 Org. Sec: Trucks? — Save trucks by de-motorization.

Organization of Divisions in the East.

2100 OQu IV: 1.) Case Gruppe/Himmler.
2.) Report on tour.
3.) Security among troops — at Hqs.
4.) Enemy Headquarters.

Notes for OdkH:

1.) Operational planning.

* a) 2.) Conference with AGp. and Army Hqs Questions.
b) 3.) Truck problem (400 instead of 4,000).
   a) Rundstedt’s letter.
b) Stumpner.
d) 4.) Organization of High Command East.

6.) Personnel changes:
a) Kansel? "We must get Rundstedt’s opinion opinion.
b) Stülpnagel. Stiewert, Corps O of 8?
c) Hilpert and Holldt to Weichs, Army Hq 2 For Holldt — Konrad,)
d) Selection of Gen. Staff Officers for new Div. and Corps Hqs on 5 Feb.
e) 2 Corps Hqs (mot.) Personnel Div. — 5 Feb.
7.) Conference with Himmler:
   a) Question of Corps troops etc. for SS Corps.
   b) Withdrawal of all SS men from Ground Forces. (Agp. E).


10.) Doorn.

11.) Responsibility for training:
   a) of the Divisions in Training centers;
   b) of the Demonstration Div. (Inspection going easy).


13.) Bogusky: Security. General effects of the "standing start".

14.) Order issued regarding reorganization of Truck Corps.

15.) Tank Spare Parts Depot Cologne, 29 Jan. Another one at Koblenz.

16.) Fuel quota system.

17.) Representative to Chemical Smoke exercise.

18.) Staffs and Aides.

Special points.

23 January 1940.

Liege, Antwerp, Meuse.

Grosscurth (OQu IV): Dispute with Himmler.

Chief, Op. Sec.: Go over with him the points discussed with ObDH.
Artillery preparation for the offensive.
For every linear km of front, 10 light Btrys. and 10 med. Btrys for close support; 8 - 10 Btrys. for counter-battery fire, as against about 30 Btrys. per km.

Liège – Meuse — Artillery of the static front.


Gen Qu:
a) Question of detachment of 250 Veterinary Officers.
b) Directive for Service Chiefs in Gen Qu Sec.
c) Truck situation disastrous. — Tank treads. — Rubber blocks.
d) (sic) Ammunitions and weapons situation slightly improved, reserves increasing.
e) Fuel quota system, OK# order.

ObdR:
1.) Liège: Command set-up.

2.) Border guard East Prussia must be taken out. Possibly one Div. less in south.

3.) 50% authorized.


5.) Doorn. Write letter to Keitel or call up Jodl. Chief.


7.) Whom for Grosscurth? Central Branch.


24 January 1940.

Central Branch: Talk on likely candidates for assignments. — Possibly Speidel for Grosscurth.
Garnek: a) 68th Div. has left; four more Div. left late. Train schedule has dropped from 36 to 24 trains per day.

b) Day before yesterday (22 Jan.) Reich Railroads placed a general embargo on all freight movements (coal, but incl. ore cres).

Ziehlberg: In place of Grosscurth: Speidel, Steffel, First Div.-- (Berke)
Pfuhlstein.

25 January 1940. (Koblenz-Bonn, in accordance with itinerary.)

Conference at Hq AGo. A. Sources of information? Should allocation of be decentralized trucks?? (Manstein).

Sixteenth Army will need six days for regrouping:

   Thursday 25.
   6 Friday 26. 1.
   Saturday 27. 2.
   Sunday 28. 3.
   Monday 29. 4.
   Tuesday 30. 5.
   Wednesday

Arm, Div. can arrive on the morning of the fourth day (morning of the fifth!)
Wants a Corps Hq.
Replacement for Training Div. turned over by Sixteenth Army.

Twelfth Army. Disposition of Infantry Divs., will be completed within three days.
Detraining of tanks as of Monday morning. -- One day's march.
Tenth Div. not before third day of offensive (Pruem- Gerolstein).
Desirable, third day of offensive, evening.
Question of XIV Corps next to XIX Corps.
Armies will have their orders at: 1300
Army wants to keep all preparations to "Emergency".
"Emergency".
No difference between "Emergency" and "Attack".
Also XLIX Corps to the front if technically possible.

Air Force: Largest proportion of Air Force will be committed in tactical support. Air units for Armd. Corps.
Draft missions and discuss them with units. More to forward fields A-Day.


Narrow-gauge railways!

Busche:** Submit Defamation Decree#draft once more

AGp. B wants a Corps (Regular Army) behind its right wing, because of Holland.

26 January 1940. (Arrive Berlin about 0800)

von Ziehlberg: Kanstein, Commanding General.
Falber to Leeb? (Letter).
Hilpert to Weichs.

QQu IV: 1.) Grosscurth affair.
2.) Tischoowitz.
3.) Enemy situation. French Second Army reported reinforced.
4.) Instructions for Sappenheim## (French-Belgian agreements. Do French and British plans embrace Dutch territory?).

Col. Krueger, In, Police Division, reports. Difficulties in combined arms training (Artillery with Infantry).
Equine pneumonia epidemic in one Artillery Bn.

Gen. Bogatsch: Role of AIR reconnaissance in reorganization of Western front.

2.) Order on former Ruling Houses. Need not be circulated (since we make all appointments to key posts connected with operations###).
3.) Narrow gauge railway material is said to be available in Reich, 180 km in Reich Labor Service, 300 km in Todt organization. Can be gotten at only through Führer. Narrow gauge railway lines: 300 km under construction in sector of First Army. Civilian economy now has no more than 300-400 km left.

4.) Railroads 26 Jan.
Backlog: 916 trains, 49,400 cars.
Shipments for training will be completed on 27 Jan., noon.
Tank shipments as of 28 Jan. as scheduled.

Coal supply Improvement in sight.

Passenger traffic: New curtailments.
Deliveries to Russia.

5.) Order on former ruling houses.

6.) Grossurth: Speidel? hein? Leitzler?
Younger prospects: Schwatle-Gestering, Schniewind - no!

7.) Mieth?

8.) Report by Claus.

27 January 1940.

Conference with OdbH. Tirpitzufer: * Part I

Raw material demands of OdbH:

Steel: Annual requirements 6,800,000 tons
Allotted 3,600,000 tons
Deficit 3,200,000 tons

Copper: Annual requirements 97,000 tons
Deficit 46,000 tons

Aluminum: Annual requirements 110,000 tons
Deficit 66,000 tons

Machinery and manpower. We need 35,000 machines.
Necessary factories are still running; and we are supposed to discharge skilled workers from Army.

The situation relating to raw, machines and manpower ought to be straightened out before OKW gives orders.

Thomas: Steel for 1 to 2 quarter-year periods. Non-ferrous metals for one quarter-year period.

Recommendation: Deter all projects which would not produce results before 1941. Non-ferrous metals are the bottlenecks. Ratio of industrial requirements for machine tools, etc., to deliveries is 4:1.

ObdH declares he will accept no more orders, which are not matched with allocations. In future he alone will draw up the program.

Becker: Second quarter = first quarter, but this purely on a mathematical basis. Uncertain. We must have proper balance of workers, machinery and raw materials. 14 hour workdays?!

Thomas thinks he can deliver in the second quarter 30,000 tons of steel over and above the first quarter. In the third quarter 50,000 tons more. Non-ferrous metals no clear picture. Heavy drop already in the second quarter, more severe in third quarter. Molybdenum from Finland.

Becker: We need 70,000 machines.

ObdH demands that deliveries be stepped up to maximum to assure utilization of our full capacity.

Thomas: Between 600,000 and 700,000 tons.

Becker, Thomas: manpower question. Thomas wants to kill all projects which would not produce for 1940.

ObdH: How many workers do we need at full capacity, if we can get the maximum of raw materials that can practically be expected?

Thomas: We do not have a sufficient number of skilled workers. Retraining program short of requirements.
Fate Program: 1941*

Part II. Truck situation

Fromm: Rubber is current bottleneck. Monthly production has dropped to 1,000 t.

Schell describes organization of truck producing industry. 1,700 trucks for civilian economy per quarter-year. Filling of field and replacement armies requires 15,000 new trucks (not counting reconditioning of old ones). Believes that current short deliveries, due to lack of non-ferrous metals, could eventually be made up (after the first quarter). Schell proposes to have separate steel quota set aside for trucks.

Fromm: REQUIREMENTS 5,200 trucks. Order of priority: Seventh Draft, Eighth Draft, (Rear Ens.), and only then Sixth Draft (Four Divs.). Monthly deliveries 1,000. Up to 1 April, 3,000 from Schell. Deficit 1,000 in artillery; 1,200 in the Divisions. We could economize 1,000 trucks, if ammunition carried by GHQ artillery is reduced.

OQ4 IV: Report on current foreign relations and on conference Abwehr/OQ4 IV on 26 Jan.

Voehler. Chemical Smoke demonstration.— Liege.

26 January 1940.

Wechsler, 1030 - 1200: Discussion on situation.

1210, von Brauchitsch, von Puttkamer: Four German Officers, Capt. von Karo one First Lt. 2 Second Lts., crossed the frontier at Emmerich, while drunk. Gp. B is trying to straighten out the matter.

1220, Salnuth. Lt officer of Army Gp requests to set matters right with the Border Guard. Result will be reported (Report to ObaH.)

1230: Gen Staff Officer of 207th Div. has been dispatched. Automobile has been returned to German territory. Officers in Herrnberg customs station.
1400: Report from ASp. B: Officers have arrived on German territory (Sachsen); are being interrogated by Gen. Staff Officer of 207th Div. (Oblt has been informed.)

23 January 1940.

1000: Demonstration of Hv. Inf. Gun mounted on chassis of Tank I, accompanied by a 1-ton ammunition carrier. Good technical solution, but tactically only a compromise solution.

Roehricht: Preliminary report on chemical smoke demonstration: The thing has possibilities for development. Density and blanketing effect still in need of improvement. Orientation in blanketed area by means of signal flares did not work; radio direction beams made out well.

Mirow, Liaison Off. to Inspector General of Todt Road Construction Organization.


Transp. Chief: Railroad situation.-- Bridges in the East.-- Narrow-gauge and field railroad equipment.


Gehlen: Border fortifications in the East. Chemical smoke demonstration. Smoke effect was thin.

30 January 1940.

Conference with ObdI (1000):

Production: 1 Feb. 1,300
1 July 2,000
1 Oct. 5,700
1 Apr. 1941 7,400, if steel quota is cut, 13,000 with full steel quota.
Filling installations: Just barely adequate. Present capacity 200 tons a month. Will be expanded by March, 1940, to a capacity of 400 tons a month; by Fall 400 more in Sagendorf, giving a total of 800 tons a month. 700 tons a month can be worked up in spray containers; will be increased to 1,400 tons a month (spring, 1940).

What quantities of chemical warfare agents can be supplied.

Gen. Staff: What quantities of ammunition do we need? Current requirement, first reserve. Filling machines. How many are needed to handle the monthly output? Data will be supplied by the end of the coming week.

In view of the expansion of the ammunition production program, the Gen. Staff ought to have taken up this question earlier. Op. Org. Arty.

Notes for ObdH:

1.) Report on Av. Inf. Gun on Tank chassis I; trials under war conditions necessary (Inf. School). Allocation to Infantry. --- Observer Staff. Turned over to Inf. School, allocation to Inf., Arty. (Assault guns)

2.) Chemical smoke demonstration.

3.) Operational orders; operation "Gelb" (Assembly orders) Operation "Emergency". Op. Sec.


5.) Study Romania (entry crossed out. — Ed. / Op. Sec.

6.) Border fortifications in area of High Command East. Land Fort. Inspect.

7.) Gen Qu. Defamation Decree. — Such.

8.) Deathhead Division does not want to go to Guensingen. SS units must be inspected after their return from the east. (Entry crossed out. / XIV)

9.) Reported new activations of SS units. Implications for arms production SS men program are pulled out of Army units. Letter to Keitel?
10.) Talk with Coepner. Morale! - Trips!

11.) Wage scales in the East (Recommendation by Blackowitz).

12.) Adp. C: Draft plan for attack on Maginot line.


14.) Coessmann back from the East. — Report.

15.) Tabulation of transport data.

16.) Truck situation. — Only radical remedies will be further clarified with Chief of Army Equipment.

17.) Himmler decree — Groppe.

Preparations for construction of fortifications South:

Materials requirements. — Transport requirements. Reconnaissance partie.
Talk with Gen.
Where will the stuff come from (Antwerp) in enemy country?** (Steel, cement, gravel.)

Org. Sec.: Mortars for Adp. C.
Letter — Erlimont. Organization.

Galan: Fatal within a few minutes. Mask affords protection.

Eschenbach smudge producing agent*** Test.
Allogen.
Production capacity now 150 tons per month. Mask affords no protection.

Evening: Italian Generals Carboni and Marras.

31 January 1940.

0930 - 1100: Conference with the Chief of Air Force Gen. Staff at Wildpark.
Holland: Cooperation with Seventh Air Division.

Fellgiebel can at any time supply personnel (without trucks) for two Corps HQs on special assignment by making use of GHQ Reserves. Also HQ IX Corps.

Ziehlberg: Filling of vacancies in the new ten Divs. (In).

von Greiffenberg: Current questions. --- Reception. --- Map maneuvers in Adp. A.

Notes: / All underlined entries under this heading were added by Gen. Haldor on 1 Feb., after his conference with Odih./
1.) Himmler decree. Handling of the Groppe case. Unrest in Army about the decree considerably antedates the Groppe incident.

2.) OQu IV's draft reports on a) points at issue with the SS, and b) spreading of rumors.

3.) Reported new activations and re-equipment of SS. --- Material to Keitel? Grosscurth.

4.) What has become of the question "Wage scales in the East"? Fromm.

5.) Defamation Decree. --- Busch: What has become of it? Sign!

6.) Personnel matters:

   a) Adp. A, Sodenstern. Must go there at once.

   Adp. C Meier. --- First Army, Konrad. ---

   XVIII Corps, Lanz. Selber at the disposal of OKH (later OQu 1). ---

   Hilpert. --- Can be started, except: Konrad, Second Army, and Hilpert, First Army.


   Is IX Corps. When is this to come off?
7. ) "Retrenchments", OKW order.

8. ) Deception. (Effect of the Landraete conference called at this time.) Must be done on big scale (complete switch in plans, announcement on extensive traffic control preparations, intention of all-out attack on Maginot Line.)

9. ) **Dr. Rapoport, Air defense and cooperation with Air Force. Make preparations for railroad movements. Fuehrer inquiries have been answered in writing. What has the Fuehrer been told regarding the prospects of the attacks planned in the several zones of attack? Goering: "Main effort at Sedan; battle at Brussels. We must be prepared to handle Belgium as a fortress."

Bock must have sufficient forces to feel sure that we need not wait. It does not matter too much when they arrive.

9. ) Talk with Jeschonnek:
   a) Protection of our own planes against fire from friendly ground troops.
   b) Friendly troops must display distinctive identification also behind the front.

10. ) List of Operations codes will be submitted; must be requested also from Air Force, Siebert

11. ) Reichsraad again is a good deal in Berlin.

12. ) Railroad troops.

Personnel Div. must travel around more.

1 February 1940.

6906 Buhle: Railroad engineers and other matters of his Sec.


von Ziehlberg / no entry/
von Groffenberg: Deception. -- Border traffic and border control. -- Movement largely completed.

"Marlomont: 1.) Holland. "armed protection of Dutch neutrality". Kiewitz.

2.) Supervision after surrender of arms.

3.) Doorn. "Courtesy visit must be paid to the Emperor; he is to be informed that nothing will change".

4.) Removal of GHq to H. ObdH is to inform Fuehrer when he is going to move. (Fuehrer wants to conform his own move to that of Army's).

Perhaps not expedient on first day. ObdH.

5.) F - equipment of tanks with 4.7 cm guns.

Vogelnis: Observations in Poland.

Wagner: Organization of Supply services for Eighteenth Army. -- Current matters. --

OQu IV: Current matters.

2 February 1940.

von Montigny In. SS Deathhead Div. Makes a decent impression. Combined arms operations will be difficult for this Division.

Gehler-Jacob: Preparations for construction of fortifications in conquered territory; in conjunction with Organization Todt.

Buhle: Homogenous material & in Artillery units. ** --

Labor Service and Construction Ens. and other current matters.

Gerekel: Transport situation.

Groffenberg: Build-up of front.

Keitel (Personnel Div.) Personnel situation.
3 February 1940.

von Ziehlberg: Personnel matters. (Call up CG First Army.)


von Schell: Instructional Pamphlet on care of automotive vehicles. -- Rubber is the bottleneck. Wartime program has been in operation since 1 Jan. -- Army needs 18,000 tons of steel a month, 5% nonferrous metals.

16,000 trucks mobilized in the civilian economy.

- 3,200 to supply shortages in Army.
- 5,000 to replace trucks in repair.
- 5,000 for new activations.
- 2,800 trucks for replacement Army and minor new activations.

No reserve.

New production: with total capacity being 12,000 trucks per quarter year, 4,000 per month could go to entire armed forces, including 2,500 - 2,600 for Ground Forces.

Actually Ground Forces get 1,000 trucks per month. (This is not even 1% of its entire park, which means that we are not replacing normal losses through wear, let alone keep anything to cover losses in operations and combat.)

Maintenance Services: Improve by assigning additional trained personnel in the 21 Motor Transport Districts (2,000 mechanics), and on unit level (1,000 mechanics), as well as mechanical equipment. Transfer of civilian workshops to the West (has not worked out). Transfer of new military workshops to the west.

Scheduled delivery: 85 Tank III chassis.
Buhle: Conference on demotorization. -- Forest Guard Regt.

Wagner: Truck situation. -- Kewisch.

Notes:

a) Conference with Manstein. Two-thirds of SS Division in Agp. B too far to the rear.

b) Tour to army Ag 18. Go to Koblenz, leave Tuesday. -- Back Friday morning.

c) Organizational matters:


2.) Forest Guards and Industrial Guards. -- (See additional notes.)

3.) 4.7 cm Gun on Tank I chassis: G6q Troops.

4.) Inf. Regt. mot. (See additional notes.)

5.) Condition report. (See additional notes.)

c) Truck situation. Reorganization also after regrouping.

e) Cover addresses by fieldpost numbers.

f) Construction of rear positions.

g) Deception.

h) Military police patrols. -- Air Force. **

4 February 1940 (Sunday).

The truck situation:

1.) Conference with Schel:

We have now about 120,000 trucks. Monthly new production for Army not more than 1,000, i.e. less than 1%. No reserve.

Shortages reported by troops 2,668 (trucks), i.e. more than 2%; actually, if trucks in repair are included, the true figure is about 5,000, or 4%. Material in the units is quite old. (That way we cannot pull through in any operation.)
2.) If we allow a 2% for the normal monthly loss (not counting combat casualties), which is the normal rate, new production will cover only half that loss. The consequence is a continuous drain on our truck strength, impairing the operational efficiency of our forces.

3.) Remedy 1 would be to increase production. Rubber bottleneck (von Schell) restricts new production to a maximum of 4,000 per month (over-all capacity for production for the Armed Forces).

Prerequisites for an increase in the Army allotment are: a) larger steel allocation from Army quota (which can be done only by either restricting other projects or increasing the total quota); or b) curtailing of new production for other branches of Armed Services. (At the outbreak of the war Air Force had 80% peace time vehicles, we at most 40%.)

Any change would require a ruling by the FaI & Fiehner, for which we must prepare accurate data.

4.) Remedy 2: Requisition of 16,000 trucks from domestic economy now under consideration.

5.) Remedy 3: This is one we can apply ourselves. That is, drastic and ruthless restriction of motor vehicles in existing and newly activated units. This would reduce the total number of trucks in use and so the losses due to wear, so that, viewed in terms of total strength, the proportion of trucks available on the present level of production would increase *. For the various possibilities see tabulation supplied by Org. Sec.

The prerequisite is sufficient replacement by horse-drawn vehicles and horses. This, in turn, raises the question of raw materials (steel, lumber, leather) and forage. (Army horses need more oats and fodder than civilian horses.) See Org. Sec. tabulation: 33,000 vehicles, 67,000 horses.

There is no doubt that by dipping once (and only that time) into the resources of the domestic economy, we can supply the present shortage and perhaps even set aside a small reserve, but this backlog would be absorbed within seven months by the normal wear of at least 2% a month (excluding combat losses). (How fast it would go with combat losses is beyond our power to estimate.)
After deducting 5,000 trucks to supply the unit shortage of about 5,000, we would have 11,000 left, not counting new production. If we assume the loss of 1,500 trucks per month, which cannot be supplied by new production, the new addition to our park would be exhausted, if there is no operation, in about half a year (seven months).

These measures, then, would not solve our problem. They would have to be supplemented by a concurrent demotorization program on a big scale, which entails the procurement of horses, vehicles and harnesses. That decision must be taken immediately to make sure that it would take effect in time to carry us on when the present single addition to our park will have been exhausted.

The best thing would be to appoint a special committee (Gen. Staff and Chief of Army Equipment) to deal with details of the demotorization program and to determine its scope by exploring all the various possibilities in consultation with representative bodies of farming, small business, etc.

The most important thing, however, is to start at once with procuring vehicles, harness etc., without wasting a long time for computations and conferences.

6.) Remedy 4: Equalization of truck strength (supply trains) between Army and Air Force. A suggestion to this effect has been made to Gen. The decision lies in hands of the Fuehrer.

7.) Remedy 5: Improvement of truck maintenance. Possible methods:

a) Workshop personnel must be assigned to the Field Army! This move is already on. See Report Gen Qu (altogether about 1,800 men).

b) Special trains from base motor parks of the armies to the 21 industrial centers, e.g. Cologne - Saxony (shipments now take four weeks!). Plan is under study.

c) Trucks in need of repair may be turned over to the civilian economy in exchange for good ones. The new owners would look after having them repaired in small shops. Proposal is being examined by Schell.
7.) The development of the situation has the following consequences for the conduct of ground operations:

a) At the present high level of motorization, starting of an operation with a distant objective is advisable only if a minimum truck reserve is available or the possibility of prompt replacement by horse-drawn vehicles is assured.

b) When operations have continued for a certain time, (the length of which would vary with road conditions, supply and combat losses,) it would be necessary to call a pause in operations in view of the impossibility to obtain replacement for all material losses. The pause after the Polish Campaign lasted about four weeks. We found that it was not long enough. After a new operation, the pause would have to be considerably extended, in proportion to the lessened operational value of our trucks.

e) The preceding analysis does not include our position in special vehicles (tanks, tracked vehicles of the artillery, etc.). Separate measures must be considered to deal with that situation.

5 February 1940.

ObdH: a) 1 : 1,000,000 maps (also East) for selected Divisions.


c) Roehricht: Training Div. -- Volkmann to ObdH.

Personnel and material. Eng. Sec.

d) Eastern frontier at Ostrolenka. Attended to.

e) Field post cover addresses. See that they use some common sense. Gen Qu
Running-time of letters - statistics:
20 - 28 outgoing
25 - 3 evening incoming

f) ObdH wants to wait for exact findings on extension of range of med. Ed. How, before ordering modification applied everywhere.

As far as necessary now: Single

4.7 cm guns to ord. Troops or armed. Div.: ?--
Let us first see the design of mount. --
First demonstration 10 or 14 Feb. --Assault guns!

h) Forest Guards, Industrial Guards: Officered by SS: 18,000 in Poland, Rural Police, St., Secret Field Police. Details are still being worked out. Org. Sec.

i) Components of arm. Divs.: arm. units --
"Rifle Regts." and not. divs. No changes for the time being.

k) Solution of truck problem. Three methods:
Domestic economy. -- Increased production.---
Horse-drawn vehicles. Org. Sec.

l) Time in operation equals time necessary for reconditioning. What are all-around consequences? See in touch again with Schell after conference with ObdH. Regrouping of models, spare parts situation.


n) Conference with Himmler on 2 Feb., 1600 to 1900. Org IV.

1.) Decree on birth rate: Agreement obtained. Reichsfuehrer himself is going to publish the decree, with explanatory commentary.

2.) Grope case. Himmler feels insulted. If not dismissed, Grope must get a "punitive" transfer.

3.) Leeb affair.

4.) Decree on channelling of complaints. "Safety valve" question.

5.) Himmler denies that SS men are pledged to inform on army.

- 59 -
6) High Command East. Force of 16,000. Mission is to carry out ethnical policy, a difficult mission. Mistakes have been made. Has learnt of five cases from report of High Command East, and asks for information on all other cases. His intention is to carry out his complex task in as considerate manner as possible and with a minimum of bloodshed. He wants good relations with the Army. Denies any intention whatever to set up an Army beside the Army.

Tank ditch along the frontier is work project for two and a half million Jews. ObdA promises to look into the plan.

Simmler claimed that our troops get additional food by slaughtering cattle. ObdA asked for details on instances.

Simmler also asserted that some officers took their meals with Polish landowners every day. ObdA asked for details.

1500 Buhle: Organizational matters, incl. question whether army judges should be accorded disciplinary power of officers.

1630 Brand: "Artillery build-up Agp. 3,

Antwerp East: 4 med., 3 ens. and 3 Divs. *
Antwerp - Namur: 10 Divs., and 10 med., ens. and Special Btrys.
Lige: 2 1st. and 2 med. ens., in addition to 5 - 6 Divs. **

Leaves for Neuse front: 15 mixed med. ens.
5 Hv., How., and 15 on gun ens.
20 ens.

Ghq Reserve: 10 ens. (4 med., Fd., How., and 6 10 on gun) by 1 April, together with 1 med., Fd., How., and 2 10 cm gun from Bds.
8 ens. (5 med., Fd., How., and 2 10 cm guns) from Agp. C.

Taking the 194 Btrys of Ghq. artillery, and assuming Agp. B commits everything and Agp. A keeps what it has, we get a density of 15 Btrys. (incl. 6 from Div.) per kilometer on a 16 km
front, and of 12 or 13 Btrys. (incl. 6 from Div.) on an additional 20 km front. There would be a total of 25 Divs. * on this 36 km frontage.

ammunition for preparation of attack: 1.33 issues.


Gen Qu: Tilling of fields in the evacuation zone. — Current Gen Qu matters.

6 February 1940.


von Greiffenberg: Map maneuver to develop planning data for our strategy on the Meuse.

Jacob: For construction of 350 km of fortifications he needs:

30,000 tons of steel a month, beginning next May.

3,000 trucks (2,500 from Todt **), beginning July.

40 railroad trains, daily, beginning July.

120,000 workers.

7 February 1940.

Through the night on train to Koblenz. Arrival 0900.

Map maneuver at Hq 40p. A: Notable points:

Red Army: Northern wing does not advance beyond line Antwerp – Namur. Southern wing proceeding from the area of French First and Second Armies, enters Belgium in the Ardennes with mechanized forces and advances to the Semois river with St. troops; Rn. elements from (French) AG. A enter Luxembourg for reconnaissance (Stop at the Alzette river). Plans to attack on A plus 7 (or 8) with about 40 Divs. on front Dendermonde – Sedan, striking in direction of Namédy-Liége.

Blue Army follows out our ideas. Ninth Arm. Div. not under its command. XIV Corps not yet
Guderian insists on Ninth Arm. Div. on the right wing for "bank battle forward of the Meuse river". (NB: This is impossible for reasons of camouflage; possibility of transferring of Ninth Arm. Div. to the left wing is being studied by Adp.)

Hundstedt: "Ninth Arm. Div. on the wrong wing".

Direction of operation (very good!) Operation is developed so that XIV Corps reaches the bank of the Meuse at Charleville-Sudan on A plus 2; XIV Corps follows closely behind XIX Corps (two Divs).

Guderian wants to force crossing of the Meuse alone with XIX and XIV Corps on A plus 4.

AG, Command (Blumentritt) disapproves. (Suggests to have XIV Corps strike northward.)

Red wants to launch its Arm. Div. on the eastern bank of the Meuse for an attack from the north on A plus 4.

AG, Command wants to attack across the Meuse according to plan on A plus 8 (15). Asks for seven additional artillery guns, with requisite Aqs.

Results:

Attacking force: Armor assault echelon must be reinforced by Ninth Arm. Div., which in any event could not be committed in time anywhere else! Behind it, Second mot. Div. and mot. Regimental Groups, followed by XIV Corps, which must start off on A-Day and closely follow behind the mot. formations.

Inf. assault echelon is handicapped by its depth. The follow-up movement, as originally planned, worked better. There is danger that steady flow might be disrupted on approaching the Meuse. Special steps to avert this are necessary, such as having Inf. Divs. leave behind their trains and moving up the combat troops on side roads.

Timing:

a) XIV Corps must start at once.

b) I think there is no sense in the Arm. Corps attacking alone across the Meuse on A plus 4. Not later than A plus 2, OKH must be able to decide whether it wants to launch a concerted attack across...
the Meuse or let the Army Gens. slug it out on their own.

c) A concerted attack across the Meuse would be impossible before the ninth or tenth day of the offensive.

d) Red may at the same time start a heavy attack against the left flank. It would run into a defensive front of nearly sufficient strength (half that of the attack).

e) GHQ Reserves must be brought up in very close succession.

f) Air force thinks it will be able to fly across the frontier not earlier than 70 minutes after the Army has started off (state of training). (Rundstedt expects that it will take at least 90 minutes for the alarm to get through to the enemy Air Force.)

Conference at Hag Cap. 2 1800:

1. British capabilities. Can move up four not columns against the Asselt-Tilburg line as a first echelon, with a second echelon following directly behind. Belgian left wing can swing over to Tilburg. GHQ IV.

2. Antwerp Tunnel: are there other bridges or preparations for such?

3. Timetable:
The British can move four columns into the area Waal - Belgian frontier on A plus 1.

Eighteenth Army can commit eight Arm, Divs. and two-thirds of SS Div. against this force on A plus 2, and 25th Div. on A plus 3.

4. Regular Army Divs. for Eighteenth Army must be moved up via Maastricht (205th Div. then remaining GHQ Reserve). Approved, Op. Sec.


6. Follow-up of GHQ Reserve in the present disposition is very slow (especially Sixth Army).

8. Air Force is reported to have given order to bomb everything not positively identifiable as German forces.

9. Transfer of officers is believed liable to cause serious complications.

10. SS is reported to have started large-scale recruiting drive, including age group 23 (several age groups ahead of us). Party circulate recruiting leaflets promising early registrants exemption from army service and assignments in Poland. (Fromm is said to have had them a week ago.) If this is allowed to go on, age groups 20, 21, 22 would be bespoken and stripped of their best material before we had a chance at them. Allegedly no deferment applications for SS, Weitzei boasts of recruiting drive for 100,000 men for the SS. Fromn/Org. Sec.


12. Hesse ***. Propaganda extolling the ethical ideals of the German soldier. Oq XIV.

February 1940.

(Spend night at Viersen, after arrival by train.)

Third Arm. Div. Also Cs of S, XI, XVI Corps and Sixth Army.

a) Third Arm. Div. has difficulties getting everything together, especially its Bridge Cmnd. after its own Bridge Cmnd. was taken away for Eighteenth Army.

b) Personnel changes in Third Arm. Div. -- Gen. Staff Officer.

c) Air Force order on swastika flags and pennants.

d) Armored car for Division Commander.
e) Fuel allocations for training exercises. Radio embargo and fuel shortage in armed units.

Hq Eighteenth Army (Hq XXVI Corps):

a) Support by air force and Canaries' organization in surprise attacks to capture bridges, etc.

b) Timetable: First day as far as Peel position. Second day to southern 'ilhelnina Canal. Third day at bridge site.

c) Bridging equipment and med. Artillery of 2nd Div. must go to Eighteenth Army.

d) Northward extension of zone of attack.

e) Plans to transfer Hq to Wesel.

254th Div: Talk with In produces nothing new. The Div. seems to be making good progress in its training program. Truck problem not acute. Nothing special concerning age or type of equipment.

Eighth Army Div. On the whole, good. Only minor operational casualties. Have got through latest movements in good shape. The opinion seems to prevail that the present alert for instant striking will last four weeks. Otdh.

Hq X Corps (207th and 227th Div., 66 Deathhead Div.)

a) Preparations of the Corps thorough to last detail. Lots of drive! Breaking up of Corps into a number of Advance Combat Teams seems to be safe. Much use is made of bicycles and what appears to be requisitioned vehicles.

b) Timetable:

First day: Arnhem - IJssel. Attempt will be made to break through Grebbe Line with Advance Combat Teams and arm. train.

Second day: If surprise attack has failed, main body will be moved up to Grebbe Line, with weight concentrated on right wing.

Third day: Continue movement to Grebbe Line.

Fourth day: Attack, with main effort in direction of Utrecht.
Or. Sec.: ObdH: Don't we put too much into the Groningen area by committing the whole Cav. Div.?

c) Personnel matters:
    Mackwolf (297th Div.) does not look very fresh, is said to have diabetes. Will have to be replaced. Personnel Div.
    Brand (29th Div.), Central Branch, does not seem to be quite to the liking of Corps.

d) Waffen SS seems to have difficulties finding suitable replacements for GIs going to newly activated units. Radio cars are lacking for Armd. Bn., Bn.

Evening, back via Munster—Han—Hanover in special on attached to express train.

9 February 1940.

Gen Qu: Report on current matters.
ObdH is annoyed over the manner in which the matter of speaking letter (Reichsau) was handled by Lattmann.
Concentrated forage for horses.

Ort. Sec.:

a) 4.7 cm guns. 132 tank destroyers (4, 7 Skoda); of these 120 to Armd. Divs., leaving 12 for G4q Troops! This gives each anti- tank Bn. in Armd. Divs. one Go. of SFM; remainder into material reserve. ObdH!

    One 15 cm Gun Bn. of 2 Btrks. ready for operation as of 25 Feb.
    To Arty. Reserve.

c) Chemical warfare units:
    As of 1 April we shall have material for 3 - 4 more Chem. Mortar Bns., for which we need cadre from heavy and Field Artillery.
    Motorization would take about one month.
Chemical mortar ammunition:
110,000 filled shells, on hand in front
107,000 in the 21 Ordnance depots.
120,000 empty shells.
60,000 rounds coming from production each month.

Beginning 1 May new material for one sh. will be delivered each month.
First deliveries of Do Projectors * as of July.
500 till fall: No order for smoke ammunition yet **. ObdH.

d) Order on Reich Labor Service.
e) Military Railway Police instead of Civilian Railroad Police. Change-over will take six weeks.
f) Strengthening of the Reinforced Border Guard Service against Denmark. (About 1 Mar.; reinforcement will be effective 1 Apr. after abolition of the customs border with Czechoslovakia.)
g) Ready for assignment 25 Feb: XXXVIII and
15 March: XXXIX, XXXI, XXXII Corps.
h) Moving up of Mountain Corps. Org. Sec.

OQu IV: a) Russia - Romania - Carol Line.
b) Scandinavian countries.
c) "Safety valve" question put aside for time being. Personnel Divisions will continue to study the matter in conjunction with OQu IV.

Transport Chief: Reich Railroad makes official admission that they would not be in a position at the present to see us through in any large-scale offensive operation.

Signals Chief:
 a) "Festa" cable *** is available in sufficient
quantity for new fortress front; 6,500 km on hand. 1,000 multiple (20) twin cables.

b) artillery pack radio sets will be supplied to Divs of First to Sixth Drafts by middle of March, thereafter Seventh to Eighth Drafts.

10 February 1940.

Roehricht: Chemical smoke demonstration at Grafenwoehr. Briefing on cooperation with Air Force in regard to identification.

Volttmann: Commander of Training Div. at Koenigsbrueck. Comes in for talk on tasks of his Div.

Witzleben: War Academy Courses.

1230 - 1400: Munder inspected 4.7 cm Czech Skoda gun on Tank chassis I; had good impression. Gun for close Infantry support, not for Armd. Divs.
Talk about one-ton, three-ton, five-ton prime movers. Prefers the three-ton trucks.

Start of air operations during night. ObdH. 
Economize rubber by reducing driving speeds. Gen Qu.

Todt Organization reported to have run out of steel (30,000). Eng. Chief.

Army Veterinary Office: Contagious anemia. ObdH.
Turnover and replacement of horses. Detachment of Veterinary Officers for duty in Z1. ObdH.

Wagner - Weinknecht: Supply organization for fortified front on Upper Rhine.

Tippelskirch II* reports on transfer to Supply Sec. at OKw. Is to work only with Op. Sec.

OQu IV and Major Macke are deeply distressed because ObdH is not shown in the Polish Campaign film. Is to be remedied by addition of suitable shots. Letter to OKw? ObdH.
Hermann comes to take photographs for the Leipziger Illustrierte Zeitung.

Gercke: Conference with Keitel on 10 Feb. OKW does not want to put the railroad problem before the Fuehrer. Everyone tries to hide behind the Field Marshal **. OKW yesterday sent him a letter on the situation drawn up by Gercke with documentation on the truck situation supplied by Jodl. Keitel warns against putting the question directly to the Fuehrer. But he is also afraid of handling the matter himself. ObdH.

Field Marshal in Berlin on 12 Feb., will probably visit the Fuehrer.

Notes for ObdH:

1. Map maneuver AGp. A.
2. Conference with von Bock.
3. Eighteenth Army.
4. Smoke: More Chemical Warfare Bns. (3 - 4) (see 9 Feb. 1940 **).
5. Fuehrer conference.
7. Military demands on Holland.
8. My trip to map maneuver at List's Hq.
9. Transfer of OKH Hq. (What about Fuehrer!)

12 February 1940.

ObdH: Action to be taken when time is up. Report: Holland?

4.7 cm guns: Six pieces for each Armd. Div., or perhaps to new Divs.
Organize eight Companies with 72nd as GHq Troops.
Delivery in May.
Must be earmarked for XIX Corps! Next for
Fourth Army; then for Sixth Army. Six per
Company in GHq AT Enns,; equivalent elements
may be taken out for new Divs.

Boehler *: In GHq AT Enns. How many? 20
each month. Production of 5 cm Guns should be
started in the meantime.

Veterinary Service: "Auxiliary Veterinary Of-
icers". Put them only on furlough status.
Gen. Qu.

Report on chemical smoke to ObdH.

Instructional Pamphlet on employment of, and
training of crews for, 4.7 cm (also Boehler!).
Employment as assault guns. Ing. Sec.

Planning forolland: Railroads and transport-

Buhl: Trucks and horses. Todt and Speer:
9,000 trucks (Organized as Column!). Production
1,000 - 1,200 per month. (Reserve of
3,000 by March). Later 2,500 - 3,000. Ca-
sualty rate anticipated during operations about
6,000 a month.

180,000 horses? 65,000 for new activations.
90,000 for operation. 30,000 to replace cur-
rent losses.

Trucks must be pulled out of the units!
We shall meet at ObdH for decision end of the
week. Org. Sec.

About Stapf. Central Branch.
Wedel. (attend to it myself.)

1300 Roehricht: briefing on report to ObdH regarding
smoke screen laying, and drafting of Instruction-
al Pamphlet regarding smoke.

Air Force (Report by Lt. Col. Vorwald, Chief, Air Force
Org. Sec.): Reconnaissance, 30 Staffeln. Henschel

Planes: Long-range reconnaissance 10 Staffeln,
Do 17 P **. Ju 88, one chain *** per month.

Fighters: 26 Gruppen. 1 April, 29 Gruppen
(42 Gruppen!) 23 are Me 109 E! Endurance one hour.
One Night-Fighter Gruppe (Arado 68); coast protection.

Long-range fighters: 8 Gruppen Me 110. More than doubled (21 Groups!). 2 Gruppen Me 109 will be 1−equipped with Me 110.
Monthly rate of losses: 20%. Wider range as of April.

Bombers: 44 Groups. By 1 April, 3 more.
(No change.)

Of these, 13 Gruppen are He 111 (longer range). Bombs up to 500 kg.
11 Gruppen P (range 500 km less). Bombs up to 500 kg.
2 Groups for sowing air mines.
12 Groups Do 17/Z (good for ground support).
8 (at present 3) Ju 88, partly suitable for sowing mines; also 1,000 Kg bombs.
1 Condor Gruppe**: heavy cargos, big mines.

Dive bombers. 10 Gruppen, Ju 87. No change.
In 1941 this type will be supplanted by Me 210. Range of craft in two Gruppen extended by jettisonable wing tanks. Screaming attachment.
Close-support Gruppe: 1 (123) former dive-bombers.

Air transport: 6 Gruppen, Ju 52; available at any time, but must be brought together from schools.
(In addition two Gruppen are available on short advance notice).
Increase possible only at the expense of bombers.
Total in existence 1,100, in Transport Staffeln of Corps and in Flying Schools.

Navy: 20 Staffeln (six also suitable for over-water land flying).

Add: 1 12.8 cm Styr. (trial Styr.). Will not go into production before fall, 1941. Muzzle velocity 906 m, ceiling 14,000 m, horizontal range 21,000 m.
19 10.5 cm Strys, and 2 replacements Strys. By 1 Apr., 5 more, by 1 Oct., 21 more Strys.
622 8.8 cm Strys (including 17 previously will be discarded 1 Apr.). Between April and October more Strys. will be delivered. By 1 October 662 Strys. and 15 Replacement Transfer Strys.
94 3.7 cm Strys, later 9 more (1 Apr.), plus 20 Strys. by 1 Oct.
391 2 cm * Strys., plus 14 single-barrel Strys, 11 more on 1 Apr., plus 20 more by 1 Oct.
150 cm searchlight: 131 Strys., plus 4 more on 1 Apr., and 21 more by 1 Oct.

Barrage Balloon Strys.: 9, plus 3 by 1 Apr., plus 12 more by 1 Oct.

b) 256th Div. to AGp. B. 217th Div. from the East as GHQ Reserve. 256th Div. OoH.

Assemble at Munster on A – 1, afternoon:
4 Railroad Transport Groups for 22nd Div.
3 Railroad Transport Groups for Seventh Air Div., and
at Regensberg: 2 Railroad Transport Groups for Seventh Air Div.

One Parachute Bn. in 22nd Div. 3 Parachute Bns. in Seventh Div.

c) Führer has authorized launching of attack on French Air installations, 45 minutes before X-Hour. (One-third of entire operational Air Force, Waldb.)

Foreign Office **:


Mission: a) Information. b) Groundwork for mediation proposal.


Reasons: a) Surprise and confusion about the course of the war to date.
b) It is anticipated that the U.S. would not be able to keep out of the conflict. — Collapse of Finland. — Military action on the Balkans and in the Near East. Repercussions on the U.S.
c) Domestic politics: elections! Angel of Peace!
Perhaps English initiative to draw in Roosevelt.

Our reaction cannot yet be predicted. Welles will arrive in Italy on 1 Mar.

3.) Italy. Increasing strain between Italy and England. Tightening up of Neviscert system. Time of Italy's entry into the war must not be allowed to hinge on any accidental clash over exercise of sea control.

Prince of Hesse: Il Duce wants to enter the war at any time when doing so helps, and adds no burden on Germany. The British are convinced that Il Duce is still following his old line. New phase of British-Italian relations. Any further deterioration of the situation would result in open rupture.

4.) Russo-German Agreement will be signed tonight.


Gen Qu: a) Fieldpost. b) General Staff Training Courses. c) Computation of the gas ammunition requirements. d) Truck situation. e) Feeding of Belgium and Holland.

13 February 1940.


Buhle: Ammunition position satisfactory. No ammunition crisis is to be anticipated this year. Army Crisis at the end of three months. Truck position.


Gercke: Suspension of all military shipments (Columns, Labor Service, Etc.) * 150 trains per day.
Gen Qu (Mueller): Conversion of Supply Clms. - Traffic control. - Truck position. - Organize ZI Motor Transport Districts! *

Gahlen: Data on construction of fortifications in the East. -- Plan for trip to the West. -- Questions of tank obstacle materials.

Evening: Leave for Mayen, map maneuvers at Hq Twelfth Army.

14 February 1940.

0900 to 1500: Map maneuver. Hq Twelfth Army.

a) Most vulnerable spots of Red: Carignan and on both sides of Sedan (especially to the West). Beziers bridgehead is being held.

b) Blue's using of XIX Corps in line at the outset of operations indicates that they did not have enough Inf. Divs. up yet. This employment of large Armd. units in a coordinated offensive must be organized in different fashion: 1.) A tactical echelon distributed through the first wave of the assault force without regard to order of battle, and behind it 2.) an operational echelon, to be formed during the assembly of troops, which has the mission to follow up in exploiting the breakthrough. Details of disposition of units, see map.

XIX Corps strikes for Sedan with Second mot. Div. (Second Armd. Div. in Corps reserve) and for Houzon, with Regt. Grossdeutschland (Tenth Armd. Div. in Corps reserve).

c) A plus 8 is the earliest possible date for the front-wide attack. Technically it will not be possible before A plus 9. Transport for ammunition: two Truck Bns!

d) The wheeling movement of Twelfth Army, which is feeling pinned down on its left wing, would cause a splitting of the Army when the northern wing continues to advance to the west. On the other hand, if the Army keeps contact with the left while swinging the entire army southward, our entire front would
be split on the AGp. boundary line.

e) The gap in our air defense system, in the Luxembourg area, must be closed by moving in AAA from the Home Air Districts.

f) Shortage in bridging equipment.

Conference with List: He is endeavoring to find new patterns for teamwork between Armor, Air Force, and the conventional arms.

Guderian and Wietersheim plainly show lack of confidence in success.

Guderian: Has lost confidence. The whole tank operation is planned wrong!
XIV Corps thinks it need not be alerted before the morning of D-Day.

Conference with AGp. A (1600 - 1600):

a) We review the resources for rapid closing up of Inf. Divs. from the depth.

b) It would be possible to bring Ninth Armored Div. to the left wing of XIX Corps. Best to commit the Div. in the Second echelon.

Leave for Bad Kreuznach.

Conference with C in C First Army:

a) Political matters. Attitude toward the SS, his own ideas on the subject. Directions from a central point.

b) Groppe case has gone wrong.

c) Witzleben thinks that Raschik has not been much good since his accident. Does not want him in First Army. ObdH.

d) Heavy Artillery will be kept in readiness for concentration on right wing.

e) AGp. A will have to determine the sector for Ninth Armored Div.

2145: Return to Berlin.

(All matters of the day subsequently taken up with ObdH.)
16 February 1940.

Arrival Grunewald 0930.

Talk with Jacob on role of engineer troops in removal of the obstacles on Luxembourg bridges.

Ott: a) Revision of the new Inf. Training Instructions: Delete diagram showing only one Co; in line.

b) Assault detachments for attacks on pillboxes.

c) Purpose underlying reorganization of Infantry units.

d) Training of Inf. in teamwork with tanks.

e) Inf. hand-carts *. I would rather allocate 15,000 tons of steel for them than for weapons.

Winter: Results of Kluge map maneuver. Immediate effects of mission of Army Gp: attack on Huy. Chances are poor on the Kaze south of Namur, but good at Huy. Mission "on both sides of Namur". OKH will help out at the crossing of the Ourthe. Second Army. Points of concern: Direction Huy! -- Keeping closed up to the front! OtDH.

Buhle: Truck position: "trenchments in the units would yield about 2,000 trucks. Further proposals cannot be made until we know the result of the Goering's conferences with von Schell. If we use 4,500 horses and 2,000 vehicles instead of trucks in the Div. Supply Units and Combat Trains, we are sure to have a severe shortage in horses by 1941 at the latest. Parallel measures to economize horses in the units must be initiated.

Gercke: Field Marshal is forming a compact committee headed by himself. He has full authority from the Fuehrer to issue orders.

Technical reporter: someone of the Ministry of Transport (Kleinmann). New State Secretary for Shipping, Krieg, also new State Secretary for Motor Transport, Brandenburg. New blood in other Sections!
Members: Gercke (Railroads and Waterways), Schell (Motor Transport). Economic experts in an advisory function: Thomas, Hanneken, Todt, Mehnlein (executive member for the civilian economy). Representative of the Minister of Post whenever needed. Koerner representing the Four Year Plan. Gercke permanent representative with full power. Recommendations for organization and operation. All work must be completed within a few weeks.

Decisions cannot be retold even by top level. ObdH.

16 February 1940.

Talk with Salmuth: Substantially the same as the letter to ObdH. Danger of splitting of the front.

Ziehlberg: Reschik for Upper Rhine front. Mueller (Landwehr) will be replaced by Kreischer middle of March and in turn will take Fretter-Pico's place (XXIV Corps). To Field Marshal in place of Staff: Duevet, Welsch? Katzky (Kinzel), Haufe.

gen Zetzdorf, 1145: Medal for Kawabe. Meeting with State Secretary.

von Greiffenberg: Operation, situation map.


OQu IV: Visit to 58th Div. **. Rifle barrel liners for training ammunition, Rations (rather a little less for the front). Gen Qu.

Rumors about Baldur #: Has volunteered for service in the AAA...

Memo for ObdH:

1.) Written report on change of assembly plan. Change in disposition of forces: Questions asked by Fuehrer, have report returned.

2.) Report on Lietz map maneuver. (Talk with Guderian, Wietersheim)
3. von Kluge and maneuver. - Talked over with Salmuth.

4. Result of the two maneuvers:
   a) Problem complex of tank operations.
   b) Disadvantages deriving from starting the operations before process of closing up is completed.
   c) Inner doubts on prospects of ultimate success.

5. Abwehr report on plane landing.

6. Air Force materiel:
   a) Ju 88 are coming off the line very slowly.
   b) Transport planes only at the expense of bombers.
   c) Monthly rate of losses computed at 20%.

7. Air operations; attack on enemy Air Force; attacking force will cross the border 45 minutes before X-Hour (one-third of entire Air Force).

8. Div. Artillery Commanders. Artillery Chief wants 22 new Div. Artillery Commanders and 8 Regimental Commanders (one for every four Bns.). 15 are enough!


10. Forecast for organization and materiel.

11. Truck position.

12. Miscellaneous:
   a) Raschik (rating given by C.in C. First Army). To Upper Rhine as of 25 February, brand for IX Corps. 0 of 8 IX, who should have gone to Training, in place of Raschik.
   b) Gercke: Reorganization.
   c) Visit to Gen. Staff Training Course in Dresden, Thursday.
   d) Fieldpost.
   e) Decisions on XXXVIII and XXX mot. Corps Hq. 25 Feb. XXXIX, XXXXI, XXXI (mot.), middle of March.
Weinknecht: Reorganization of Division Clms. *

a) Divs. of First, Second, and Fourth Draft have given up their truck Clms. for horse-drawn Clms. Conversion still in progress, will be completed by 20 Feb. Two collecting areas: Hamm - Schweinfurt: 81 30-ton Clms. and five 60-ton Clms.

b) A total of 136 30-ton and five 60-ton Clms. have been withdrawn. Replenishing of other Divs. was accomplished with the trucks of about 30-ton Clms. Surprisingly good.

c) By way of compensation, ten 30-ton Clms. will be left in each Army (four more in Eighteenth Army = 54 Clms.).

d) Five 60-ton Clms. and withdrawals from Seventh Army make up a new MT BN.

e) With the first installment filled, we can proceed to replenishing of the Clms. now at the front.

ObdH: 1. ) East: Troop training centers in area South. Gehlen, Tng. Sec. Blaskowitz wants to set up the Industrial and Forest Guard himself, using Regional Defense units. Himmler wants to take over the Forest Guard after four weeks. Claims he has not yet got his 40,000 men; wants to use his men only to fill gaps. Also wants to activate Artillery of the Police Division with his own men.


Arm. Divs. must be overhauled once more (March). Attend to Himmler business at the same time. (Army Commanders including those in the East.)

3. ) Heinrici.

4. ) Assignment of Corps Hq? As soon as cadre is completed, transfer XXXX to the West, to have it at hand.
5.) Goering. 16,000 trucks. Refused.

6.) Trucks:

Withdrawn from export 4,000 new by 20 March.  
From Protectorate 1,500 new.  
From Skoda (exports) 1,000 (equip units completely with this type.)  
Production to April 3,000 (but then we have nothing in reserve.)  
9,500 instead of 16,000.

Must get under way! See what we can get out of Todt (BdE, Schell).

7.) Haushik remains until further notice - ask Chief of Staff *.  
Brand to Seventh Army.

8.) Fieldpost: work up backlog, starting from the rear. Gen QA.

9.) Footway bridges, not yet. Arm. Divs. at present 3, later 4 trestle bridges **; eventually perhaps completion as roadway bridges. --- Allocation? (Prepare timber for subsequent decking) ***. Org. Sec.

10.) Smoke: If possible not by sectors! Instructional Pamphlet. Tanks. Tng. Sec.

Night exercises as a substitute for exercises in blanketing fog. Recruits must get used to night operations from the first day.

Roehricht, BdE.

18 February 1940.

Fuehrer conference, 1200:

Introductory: Original plan was to break through the enemy front between Liège and the Maginot Line. Drawback was constriction between "Fortress Belgium" and Maginot Line. Extension of the attack northward of the Liège area was considered so as to obtain wider frontage. The central feature of that plan was to concentrate the main weight in the south and to use Antwerp instead of Liège as the pivot of the great wheeling movement.
Now we have reverted to the original scheme.

Discussion:

1.) **Surprise** may now be regarded as assured. It took the enemy ten to fourteen days to learn about some of our regrouping movements, which proves that the earlier leaks were in Berlin. Enemy will find means to watch the border area more closely.

2.) **Enemy offensive:** We have no definite idea as to

a) whether the enemy will advance automatically in reaction to our crossing of the frontier;

b) whether the French High Command will give the starting signal for the offensive which assuredly has been carefully prepared; or

c) whether this signal will be given by the French Government.

It may be taken for granted that the operational details of the offensive have been formulated and drafted, but that the commanders in the field have no liberty of action. Most likely the French High Command or the Cabinet will make the decision. This means that the French will lose at least 12 hours.

Some people believe that the French plan is for the Germans to spend their strength in Belgium, and then have them run head-on against the strong French northern front.

3.) Our plan, therefore, must aim at getting behind the fortifications line in Northern France at the very start. This calls for:

4.) Sixteenth Army to get to the border in southern Luxembourg with the utmost speed. Advance Combat Teams! Nat. elements. Obstacle Removal Detachments. Planes sowing land mines, etc. Purpose: To seize the terrain needed for the defense as quickly as possible, and organize it for sustained defensive warfare.

The enemy would be able to launch a strong counterattack in this sector after three to four days, covered by his fortress system (Camp of Châlons, etc.).
It would thus be five or six days, before the main body of Sixteenth Army arrives and takes up positions, and the critical stage is overcome. Sixteenth Army will then be placed under Agp. C.

Agp. C must closely watch this operation in the meantime. Question of rear positions, Question of Artillery reinforcements, Supply route network (including field railroads) and signal communications network. Op. Sec. with Gen Qr, Transp. and Signal Chiefs. Think through implications.

5.) Twelfth Army will become an offensive extension of the defensive front.

6.) Fourth Army: Is now poised for attack with whole weight in western direction. This will not do, all the more so, as it is still doubtful that Fourth Army will be able to make a frontal breakthrough on the Meuse.

7.) We need one more Army. The weak link in the entire operation is the moment when List is locked with the enemy and Kluge reaches the Meuse. This weakness can be rectified only

   a) by strengthening the assault wedge, or

   b) by having another Army ready when needed.

8.) Allocation of Armor in detail:

   a) We must not adhere too closely to the order of battle. Form mixed commands.

   b) Tanks allocated to any sector must be of the type best adapted for the specific tasks.

   c) Holland will oppose our armor only with anti-tank defenses (4.7 cm Boehler), not with tanks; therefore, all we need on that front are about 14 Tanks IV and 30 Tanks III, with the rest Tanks I and II, for anti-tank defense at Antwerp. (Eighteenth Army).

   d) In Belgium we shall have to expect enemy tanks north of the Meuse-Sambre line; accordingly there will be no change in original allocations. Guns on EMAs are a good weapon. (Sixth Army).
e) In Belgium, south of the Meuse-Sambre line, we need only a few Tanks III and IV (7.5 cm) but all have more Infantry and Engineer troops (Fourth Army). Bulk of Tanks IV and III, together with some II, should be in the Assault Group (Twelfth Army). With it go AT units, heavy Inf. guns mot., etc.

9.) General evaluation of tank types.

Tank I can be employed only against a week and demoralized enemy. Tank II is but little stronger; not good against tanks. Tank III effective against enemy tanks. Relatively ineffective against Infantry (Czech III). Tank IV effective against enemy tanks. Good effect also against enemy infantry. Sixth and Eighth Arm. Divs., which have Czech tanks, are considered outstanding.

10.) Heaviest flat-trajectory fire.

a) Againstachen forts., older railroad guns will go.  
b) K 5 Gun* and good 28 cm Gun at the earliest to the Assault Group or Defense Group in Luxembourg.  
c) 38 cm and 40.6 cm Gun. Available when?  
d) New naval guns?  Emplacements? OKW will let us know.

Points to be taken up:

1.) Assignment of new missions and assembly orders. Urgent.

2.) Allocation of tanks and other forces. Urgent. ObdH has halted shifting of tanks.

3.) Preliminary IA conference (?).

4.) Conference with C in Cs and Cs of S on Saturday.

5.) Timetable for shifting and equalization of forces.

6.) Monday, 0930, conference with Buhle and Greiffenberg at ObdH.  

1930 Conference with Greiffenberg, Winter, Sixt, Nieth.
2145 We could set up:

** Luxembourg frontier:**
- Four K 5 Guns (56 km) *
- Five Bruno 28 cm Guns (36 km) **

** Eben Emael:**
- Five Bruno.

** In Fourth Army:**
- Four 24 cm Theodor; mobile reserve for Luxembourg. (Still under consideration.)
- Five 36 cm Guns.
- Three 40.6 cm Guns. (Fixed emplacements, one year. Question of moving in divided loads not yet solved.)

K 12 Gun (20 rounds, range 120 km). What against? ***

Chief Op. Sec.: Changes called for by the new plans:

** Fourth and 27th Div. to AGp. A. Hq for second Armd. echelon (Reinhard XXXI Corps) must be ready by 1 March.**

** Conference with AGp. B, if possible to be held by ObdH, Wednesday. Subsequently AGp. A.**

19 February 1940.

0930 ObdH:

a) Shifting of Tanks III and IV stopped. First, Second, and Tenth Divs. will be reinforced with Tanks III.
Czech tanks for Seventh Div. (Tanks III will be taken out instead).
To Sixth and Eighth Divs., Tanks IV.
Demonstration Sn. remains at disposal of GHq #.

b) Tank destroyers by May (seven Sn.). First conversions in March, one Co. in each Sn.

c) Boehler: Conversion to 8 cm guns not feasible. Sn. on both wings must be reorganized. 1 Mar.; 70 pieces, where is the Co. of 12 Tank Destroyers (First Army)?
1) Objective: Two Scheeler, one 3.7 cm (three guns).
2) Objective: Recall all Scheeler from Hq. 0 so that we can reinforce all Hq. At Hq. with one Scheeler. Will be made up from current production.

c) [sic] Assault guns: Deliveries slow. 4, 6, 10 **. Activate units! Combat assignments undecided! Use mild steel. ** One ready. To Training Div. For training in Seventh Divy., --Artillery Training Group.

d) Med. Int. Gun. Middle of March, six Cos. of 6 each.

e) Flamethrowers: From end of March until June incl., one Co. of 3 Platoons, each with four flamethrowers, every month.


g) Eleventh Div. mot.?  

h) Activation of Chemical Mortar Eng. must be speeded up. Light trucks or prime movers?

i) From: 1.) 14,000 replacements to XII. District XX **. 2.) Replacements for seven Divs. still in the home districts.

1230 State Secretary von Weizsaecker:

Situation in the North. Views mediation proposal the same as we do. Very cautious in assessment of Norwegian possibilities.

Belgium: As sees no likelihood of closer voluntary cooperation with France.

Balkans: No signs of any disturbance.

Italy: Uncertain. They would really prefer doing business with us, but they remain willing to do business with the other side, too.

1330 Luncheon at the Japanese Embassy. Farewell to Kawabe.

1230 Gercke: Report on revised planning for railroads, operational and repairs position.
20 February 1940.

Col. Heim reports as Chief on special assignment (zbV).

Guderian:

a) Ninth arm. Div. 400 cars * in repair. Will be finished soon. Are for the first to remain at present stations. Attended to.

b) 4.7 cm gun on Tank Ib chassis can operate only in units with organic tank repair shops. If detached, it would need special repair facilities. This makes it necessary to mount the 4.7 cm assigned to Inf. units on ordinary gun carriages. Org. Sec.


Gen Qu:

Military Criminal Justice. Disapproved for this isolated category; question must be settled for army officials as a whole. Confirmation of individual sentences.

Central branch informs us that the Fuehrer wants to talk to General von Falkenhorst, as an expert on Finland #.

Felber: Lieb wants Brand. Raschik's case will be talked over once more on Saturday.

Roebright: Order on supervision of training activities. By newly activated corps Aqs. Night training as preluminary to training in smoke blankets areas.


Roebright: New corps Aqs.


b) Has XVI Corps Aq still any useful function up north? Who commands the Second Schalon? XXXIV Corps ##
c) Blumentritt: "projected course of operation".

d) Op. Sec. "Study on prospects of the operation".

e) Deception measures must be intensified.

f) Sixteenth Army: Projected course of operations (map study) covering period from the start until the crisis is over.

g) Map maneuver in AGp. B?

h) What reserves have been earmarked? What reserves are really free? How must they be grouped? How move them up? Ch. Reserves for Norway?

i) Liaison Officers to AGps. B, A, and Fourth, Twelfth, and Sixteenth Armies; later also for AGp. C. (Six in all.)

Centre Branch: When do we release Grosscurth? — Liaison Officers.

21 February 1940.

Morning: My own work or new assembly orders and on order for feint attack by AGp. C.


Winter: Reply to Leeb on attacks "Falke", "Geier", "Habicht".

Blumentritt: Review of the new intentions. Organization of the First and Second Arm. Echelons under Guderian. Third echelon will follow up under Army C. Conclusion of the regrouping movements about 8 March. C in C AGp. A believes that spearheading of offensive by Armor is no longer justified under present circumstances.

First off, two Boehler Tank Destroyer Bns (two strys. of 12 each, and one of 12) and 2 Bns. 4.7 cm Skoda (three strys. of 6 each).

b) Corps, etc. Artillery Hqs. -- Pers. Div. has no one. General Branch must help.

c) Replacement units for Fortress Troops in Gp. C.

d) Post of Arm. Forces Chief.

Gen. Rith: Operation "Gelb".

Oko IV: a) "Safety valve" question. ObdR.  
b) Staff of officers with writing experience for Press Sec. 5 *.  
c) French fortifications on the northern bank of the Seine and at Mézières.  
d) Sicherung. Idea of "sécurité" in France **.

Mendel: Employment of K5 and Siegfried Guns *** in compliance with the Fuehrer's wishes.

Heusinger: Operation "besetzung":

Falkenhorst saw the Fuehrer. Fuehrer put him in charge of preparations for the Norway operation.

Hq XXI Corps will be placed under OKW, in order to avert trouble with the Air Force.

Planning Group will soon go to Berlin (Corps Hq to Luebeck?).

Reinforce Falkenhorst's Hq.

Troops: Seventh Air Div., 22nd Div,  
One Sgnt. of First At. Div.  
Two Divs. with assault equipment (Seventh Draft).  
Selection of Commanders.  
Eighteenth Rifle Brigade, reinforced with tanks.

Napoli!

Denmark. Air Force wants Denmark #. Troops must be readied.

Timing: Shortly after substantial conclusion of offensive in the West. Then as quickly as possible! (All points taken up with ObdR.)

/Marginal entry, presumably 2 March: /Not a single word has passed between the Fuehrer and ObdR on this matter;
this must be put on record for the history of the war. I shall make a point of noting down the first time the subject is broached. Nothing to date (2 March).

Evening, 2245. Leave for Dresden.

**22 February 1940.**

Arrive at Dresden in special car at 0400.

0830 Classes start in the lecture rooms.

0830 - 1030: Lecture room B, Lt. Col. Hermann (The "Fire Brigade" Division) *.

1045 - 1240: Lecture room C, Major Wagener (The mot. Div.).


1930 - 2300: Party at the officers' Club (afterwards back to Berlin in special car).

Impression of instructors: Very good. Courses are businesslike. ObdH.

Impression of the participants: Quite gratifying. Some outstanding officers, such as Trotha, Philipp, Steindorff, Grewenitz, Sebelhack.

**23 February 1940.**

0724 Arrival at anhalter Station. On to Zossen.

0930 von Greiffenberg. Exchange XXXX Corps for XXI Corps. Order! ObdH.

Nieth: Alleged complaint by Todt on lack of cooperation by Felber's troops on the Spicheler Heights. Thirty-three emplacements are now under construction. Casualties. 900 shellhits! ObdH. Containing attack by C (Cadenbronn).
Wagner: Tank wedge. 18,000 vehicles.
A total of 45,000 vehicles in the sectors of Twelfth and Sixteenth Armies.

Winter: Approval of draft plans for attack "Falke" (Leeb) and for individual missions. ObjH.

Memo for ObjH:

1.) New directive for operation "Gelb".

2.) Points for conference 24 Feb.

3.) Corps Hq Falkenhorst (XXI Corps) will leave (25 Feb.). In his place Stumme (XXX Corps) (as of 25 Feb.). Orders issued.

4.) Falkenhorst's mission (Operation "Weseruebung").

5.) Leeb does not want Raschik.

6.) Inspectors General and Troop Inspectors (Dollmann, Raschik). Not yet.

7.) Arm. Forces Chief at OKH. Not yet. Not Balk at General Army Office *.

8.) Two letters from Keitel. a) Finding mission for K5 gun on southern wing. b) Construction on Siegfried Line, Jacob's report.

9.) Todt is said to be again at stirring up the Fuehrer against us, this time over Saarbruecken. Fuehrer is reported to wish continuation of work on extension of the front! (Steel is supposed to be available again.) we shall have to wait for confirmation. For the time being Saarbruecken is under Artillery fire.

10.) AGp. C. "Draft plans for operations "Falke" etc. -- Reply.

11.) Summing up of observations at Gen. Staff Training Course, Dresden, Dresden Corps Hq.

12.) "Safety valve" question.

13.) Note for conference with Gehlen.

14.) Intensification of the "Containing attack" by AGp. C.

15.) Progress in construction of border fortifications in territory of High Command East.
Chemical smoke demonstration, under Kuntze.
Kuenstereifel *
Keitel.

24 February 1940.

We must hear Blaskowicz on the subject. -- Reply to Himmler.

High Command East Divs. as of May! Should they be replenished at once or one after the other? Op. Sec.!
Sabie.
Sequence in which they are to be released by High Command East.

Industrial Guards will be organized by High Command East itself.

1100: Conference with the AGp. and army Cs in C (simultaneously conference of IA officers), Tirpitzufer.

Points discussed:

New assembly order to meet the changed situation.
Regrouping and disposition of forces. Date for the completion of regrouping (7 Mar.).
Training programs.
Truck position.
Subjects relating to Political Liaison Section.

C in C AGp. A is skeptical about the effectiveness of the Arm. wedge. Is afraid that the Second and Third Echelons would not be able to catch up.

Particulars:

1.) Command of the Arm. wedge: Form Group Mönstein with small OQu Staff.
Not. Signal units for assault wedge?


3.) Preparations must be made for construction of bridges.
Jacob, Gercke.
Busch thinks the bridges at Luxembourg border will be blown up. Military bridges with Construction OIms. must be readied.
What is needed for these preparations? Check assembly. Op. Sec.

4.) Uniform leave regulations for spring sowing. Tang. Sec. with Bde. --


8.) Student: Cooperation in the preparation of the offensive not yet as it should be. Op. Sec. Küchler has not yet been able to get hold of the man. ***


10.) Personnel Div.: Siebert (Weichs) cannot get along with Austrians. Must be given a different Division. Weichs must get some German Officers for his Austrian Div. (Reserve Officers). Personnel Div.

11.) 44th Div. is behind in its training program. Tang. Sec.

12.) Air Support. We must specify our requirements to Air Force! (Get wishes of Army Gps.). Op. Sec.

New OKH Hq Fellgiebel:

a) Führer needs five lines for his Staff, Air Force also needs five. In all only 15 lines can be handled at Muensterfeld. It is simply impossible for OKH to direct operations with only five lines.

b) It would take eight weeks to prepare switch-over to a better signals network.

c) Our recommendation: Advance along the cable of Pruem. Initial operations might be directed from Giessen. Liaison Staff to Muenster-eifel.
1. 02. Sec.: Check together with Signals Sec. on what we need for operations, and for Transp. Chief, and Gen Qu.

2. Talk with Keitel.

3. Give ObdH documentation for talk with Fuehrer.


Result of the conference Rohricht/Keitel. Material for Conference ObdH/Fuehrer.

Tag. Section: Organization of supervision of training programs. -- Question of Inspectorate General still open.

Wahn - Senne *. Must be settled!

Chemical smoke demonstration by Hantzse. Tag. Sec.

Political Liaison Sec.: A BdE order on church attendance is said to have been issued 10 days ago. "Safety valves" question not yet discussed. Org. IV.

Org. Sec.: Question of creation of rank of "General der Panzertruppe" ** not yet decided. Org. Sec.

25 February 1940.

1015 Molle calls up: Engel has told Siebert: Todt will fly to Miskirchen tomorrow, to look over the site.


1130 Gen. Obst. Keitel: Miskirchen Hunting Lodge will serve as HeadForward, eliminating the drawbacks of the Main Hq, which was organized on too large a scale (and moreover was not completed in time). Todt and Schmundt went to Felsenest *** the day before yesterday, to hear Fuehrer's wishes. Night before last Todt received orders in Munich to speed up work at Hunting Lodge so as to get the
house ready for the Fuehrer and his entourage (without Dönitz, Foreign Minister etc.).
The main house is to be supplemented by wooden barracks in the woods to Obdr's specifications.
Todt will go there tomorrow to inspect the place.
Wants an OKH representative to come along. OKH representative should specify number, kind and size of the accommodations (also what is needed for visitors, cars, telephones).

Central Branch,

von Bock: 1230, at his home.

Worries:
1.) Reichenau's Army is too weak to take advantage of its opportunities. In particular it needs more Arm, Divs, so as to be able to exploit a success at 'Sanstricht or 'Kassel.'
Reply: Cannot be done. Giving R, the Armor would break up the concentration of the Arm, Echelon, as now planned; Armor would then have to be committed teamed up with Infantry.

Training: Combined exercises of Infantry and Armor.
Available immediately for close support, Twenty-third Div. (mot.) and those elements for which Knecikler has no room at his front.

2.) Engineers and artillery cannot be released without jeopardizing Reichenau's mission.
(Op. Sec. must check weather and when new forces become available.
Jacob: More needs to be done for construction of improvised bridges.)

3.) Replacements necessary for canceled two Divs. Bock now also wants to close up more compactly to the front and so make room in the rear for two additional Divs.
(Op. Sec. These two Divs. must be brought up. Consult with Tng. Sec. on locations, Divisions may remain Hq Reserve.)

von Brauchitsch 1300:

1.) HQ Forward: Purpose: To provide temporary accommodations for Obdr, Adjutant and Chief of the Gen. Staff with requisite staffs, (of about the strength planned for our Forward Echelon in two railroad trains), together with motor vehicles, and servicing facilities. Needed also such landing facilities and signal communications, that would ensure dependable liaison between HQ Forward and Transp. Chief, through Giessen.

Central Branch.

- 94 -
2.) Preparations must be made for a Hq in the Froem area, since Muenstereifel will be useful only for a short time.

3.) Sodenstern:
   a) Keep a tight rein on Kluge! He wants to be "out of reach" for his Army Gp.
   b) Location of next GHq.
   c) Who is to command the Armor wedge: Manstein, Kleist, Weichs?? Oh.

4.) Fuel: We must be a little less stringent now. Gen Qu.
   Armd. Divs. have been reassigned and must be broken in. New Div. Commanders! Roepner and Guderian must make sure that Div. Commanders conduct exercises on Div. level.
   Tng. Sec.

5.) Something must be done about reconnaissance on the Afp. boundaries. It must not occur again that the Afps. lack a unified view of the situation. Op. Sec. Oqu I.

6.) Viehalm - Witzleben. 257th Inf. Div. (III Corps) against 263rd (Kuehme) or 216th (Soettcher) or 211th (Peter). Oh.

1530 Lt. Col. von Zichlberg, briefing on his scouting job at Muenstereifel.

26 February 1940.

Roesricht:  Training questions.

Greiftenberg:

1.) a) 350 to 400 men are standing by in two groups at Greifshafen *. will go to Witt burg on A - 1 Day. Their mission is to open the way for XIX Corps west of Bastogne. Fieseler Storch ** planes ***! Talk with Waldau. Obda.

b) Sixteenth Army wants to take care of its flank cover itself, with advance Combat Team, but the Fuehrer wants Storch planes to be employed also in that sector.
2.) Missions of Operational Air Force on D-Day.

X-Hour - 20 to X-Hour over enemy air force targets (operational airfields).
One-third of our entire Force will be committed as previously announced. From X-Hour to X plus 120 minutes, German AAA will hold fire (returning planes).
X-Hour plus 180 minutes, a second large-scale effort possible, in direct support of ground operations (against British).
Group Mittestden, cooperating with Sixth Army, will not be included in this plan.
X-Hour plus 60 minutes, all German fighter planes over Luxembourg, to provide escort for the returning first wave of bombers and to repel attacks on Guderian.

Buhle: a) Training program in the East has been started; date set for termination much too late. Number of recruits too small to justify such a long training schedule. Oddh wants termination end of April. Oddh has been informed.
b) Reorganization of the Landwehr Divs. * on the whole completed.
c) Transfers of the Regional Defense Divs. will last into April.
d) Austrian Regional Defense units! Officers must be switched.
e) Regional Defense Regts. must be grouped according to the corps area which activate them.
f) Polish Peasant Cart Clms. — Local assignments to Landwehr Divs.

General Nieth: a) Bridges across Our and Saur rivers.
b) Forward shift to Mayen.
c) Order to revise plans for Southeast and Caucasus.

Falkenhorst (Buschenhagen): reports on mission (operation "Weseruebung"). He wants AT. Troops. Oddh.

I request early specifications on a) Strength, b) assembly area, c) time when the troops are needed.
One report is that the troops should be readied immediately. (That is different from what Greiffenf"enbergtold me.) Op. Sec.

[Marginal note: presumably entered 1 March:]
Promise to get in touch with us before drawing up of requisition was not kept. 1 March.

Notes for Odbd:

1.) 15 Corps artillery Commanders, 8 Regimental Staffs.


3.) "Inspectors" (Haschik, Schwandner, Koch, Siegeleben).

4.) Haschik. For Haschik: Boehm-Tettelbach.

5.) Special training program for officers replacements (men with three years' service) -- New school.

6.) Bridges across our river (Mieth, drawing). Pictures!

7.) Deliveries of equipment to foreign countries (56 pack radio transmitters). Must be taken from frontline troops.

8.) New OKH dq.

9.) 40 cm and 38 cm guns between Saar and Roselle.

10.) Supply organization for attached Air Force units.

11.) Commander of armd. wedge.

12.) Spicherer strengths.

Map of Divisions. Check list of Divisions.

Southeast study.

Fallgeneral:

1.) Odbd. with Liaison Staff, must be near the Fuehrer. Fuehrer's decision.

2.) "Promotes" keyen for OQu I, OQu IV, Signals, Central Branch. (Wittlich for AG. 4: Bad Bertrich for Second Air Fleet.) Claims it could be done in two weeks.
Says he has: 4 telephone and 2 teletype lines, to each ADP. 4 telephone and 2 teletype lines, to each Army. 12 telephone and 6 teletype lines, to the rear. 4 telephone and 2 teletype lines, to Muensterfeld.

3. Pruem.

4. HQ Forward: 5 trunk lines to Giessen for us, several connections with local network.

5. Italy was given French cipher code by Canaris; in return we must demand intelligence material from the Mediterranean.

von Greiffenberg: Set-up of an Arm. Command HQ could be constituted as follows:

One Corps HQ (with Signal on): Special Radio Cos. from several GHQ units, for radio and field trunk cable.

XXII Corps (Kleist)? Behind it only I Corps. Reinhard (XXX Corps) main Schelon; Schmidt (XXXIX Corps). "Juderian in command." ObdH.

Goetteke: Metz! Who has asked for that?

2,500 workers must now be put to work in our own territory, which was evacuated at the request of ADP A.

Goetteke - Jacob - Toholte - Gahlen:

1. 40 cm and 38 cm guns between the Saar and Roselle (Metz). 38 cm guns northeast of Saarbruecken. For action in central sector of our front.

2. Construction work for the time being only on ammunition storage and gun platforms. 60 cm thick, 8 m long.

First gun emplacement ready by middle of August, then one more each half month.


2. Bridges over our river. Military bridges. - Improvised bridges. (Have them checked up front).

3. Readying of bridge Ums.: three horse-drawn, six no traction, three more coming.


CQG IV: Welles wants to form a block of neutrals if his peace mission fails.

Paper: France wants to relieve Finland by attack on Saku (!) Turks will not agree.

Bruns: Spanish report on alleged low morale in France.

Question of the exchange of codes with Italy.

Exchange of material on Yugoslavia with Hungary disapproved.

Bircher – Nyland. German – Swiss doctors on our western front.

Notes:

Gen 21: If mission of Sixth Army is altered, could they do without some of their Supply units?

Org. Sec.: If Corps artillery commanders, 8 Regtl. artillery commanders. At what time intervals?

Tnx. Sec.: Officer candidate Schools for three year NCOs.

Org. Sec.: XXXVII Corps Hq (reduced) (Raschik) will get new CO, will relieve IX Corps. OdH.

Schwandner and Raschik, generals on special assignment, for training. Get them an adjutant and a clerk each.

27 February 1940.

Chief of Tnx. Sec.: / No entry. /

OdH: 1.) Falkenhorst.
      2.) Timetable OKW.
      3.) Hq forward Auenstereifel.
      3.) sic/ artillery: Start at once with "Blau", collect new data for "Rot". **
4.) Air Reconnaissance. Not for Fuehrer report.
5.) von Rundstedt. Guderian or Kleist? Schmidt must get ready soon.
6.) Air-ground identification.
   1.) Zone where Air Force will fire on anything.
   2.) Zone where troops must identify themselves.
7.) Raschik/Bohm-Tettelbach. IX Corps must be freed for other duties.
8.) Raschik free for Training.
    Schmidt must get ready soon.
    Guderian or Kleist?
10.) Sketch of the Meuse position.
11.) Zossen Troop Training Center?
12.) Decree on horses. Has no implementation.

Gericke: a) Moving of recruits from Mil. Districts VI, V, and XII to the Protectorate, Gau Warthe-land, etc. Waste motion. ObdH has been informed.

b) Divisions which gave up Bns. have received no replacements yet.

c) Over-all railroad situation.

d) Speeding of bridge construction. Preparation of transport for assembly of forces.

Buhle: Olbricht.

1.) XXXXI and XXXX Corps must get ready as quickly as possible. Original sequence: XXXVIII, XXX, XXXI.
    Now XXXXI, XXXX, XXXVIII.
    New XXXXI, XXXIX, XXX, XXXVIII.

2.) Difficulties of maintenance of secrecy. (Information Centers #.)

3.) Activation of Chem. Mortar Bns. Will get 100 trucks from the Field Army. By 1 May three
more Chem. Mortar Bns.; one more by 1 June. In their place we must defer the two Decontamination Bns., which will not be ready before August, unless they also become Chem. Mortar Bns.


Sodenstern: Hq with many Signal Bns. and large OQu Section (Specialist for Kleist).


Salmuth (Mieth):

a) Difficulties about Liège. — No change! XVII Corps Hq under Army Gp.? No!

b) Map maneuvers, with observers from the Armies.

Sodenstern: Solution for Kleist (Zeitzler). ObdH.

Jacob: Todt has been boasting about 500 tons of steel. Führer "100% behind him". Jodl will speak to the Führer again and explain the situation. Should the Führer persist, Jodl will consult us before anything is done. ObdH.

28 February 1940.

Wagner: Hq for Armd. Wedge. Allocation of supply units for the Assault Forces. Reduction of Clms., and other current matters.

Smock:

Liège XVII Corps? Engineer Siege Park.


Matschinsky: Golden service anniversary.

Kehlen: Consultation with Jauer brings out that activating the 15 Corps Artillery Hqs will be no trouble at all, if some personnel is transferred from the Dresden Training Courses.

Org. Sec.
Report from AGps. B and A that Goering has requested the two Cs in C to see him in his special train at Koblenz on Wednesday night. ObdH is getting in touch with the Adjutant's Office of ObdL about this matter.


von Ziehlberg: Current Gen. Staff personnel matters.

29 February 1940.


Konrad: Length of training periods. -- 46th Div./Siebert. Hq XVII Corps opposes Weichs' viewpoint.

Siewert: a) Fuehrer agrees to Kleist. Are we going to be ready by 7 March? b) Felber has called up Jodl about Spicherer Heights.

Salmuth wants two Divs. and one Corps Hq behind his front on the second day at the latest for the thrust to Breda.

Notes for ObdH:

1.) Felsennest. Godesberg instead of Mayen.
2.) Projected disposition of forces; material Op. Sec.

AGps. B. To Dusseldorf.


Sixth Armd. Div. into area of Thirteenth mot.: Second Echelon. 3 March
Second mot. Div. into area of 29th mot.:
Second Echelon. 3 March
Thirteenth mot. Div. and 29th mot. Div.:
Third Echelon. Ready 1 March
Completed 7 March noon.

3.) What are the subjects of the Koblenz talks?
Sodenstern plans map maneuver. (Advance movement.)
Subsequently Mieth (Keuse crossing).

4.) Beyer's letter. -- Coordination of studies on means of attack against permanent fortifications. Is anxious to tell us about his observations on troops in the Westerwald. Inform Weichs!

5.) New man in place of Siebert, 46th Div. Kriebel recommended by Pers. Div., is better!

6.) Report that Fieldmarschall has ordered the Custom Guards on the Luxembourg frontier to remove the road blocks. *

7.) Raschik - Geyer - Kleist. See Appendix **. Will be signed before 5 March, noon.

8.) AGp. B. Gripes about
   a) Liège and XVII Corps.
   b) the two Divs. (are already there) and Corps Hq.

AGp. A. Gripes about
   a) Armd. Wedge.
   b) XVIII Corps does not want to go up front.

9.) Railroad position has improved: Train backlog less than 200. Car backlog.

10.) Spicherer Heights - Todt (OKH will be consulted before Fuchrer issues order). Gehlen.

11.) Tng. Course for Btry. and Cq. Cos. Submit tabulation. See Appendix ***

12.) Hq for Kleist. Kretschmer, OGu for Kleist. Successor for Pemberg (replaced by Spitzer, Ib, 33rd Div.).

13.) Glaise-Horstenau?
14.) Liaison Officers.
15.) Operation "Weseruebung".

Ostorkamp, 1 March, 1300 at office, Luetzowufer 7.
1 - 1½ hours.

1 March 1940.

von Greiffenberg: Received from OKW: Order to contribute for Operation "Weseruebung": One Corps Hq (reduced), one Mt. Div. (of two Regts.), four Divs., two AA Bns. (mot), 10 med. Btrys., etc.

Go to Berlin:

Canaris: a) Radke - SD? *
b) Entry in longhand (two names?) rendered thoroughly illegible. - Ed._/

Jacob: a) Nobody is interested any more in heavy Artillery emplacement constructions. Construction takes 2½ months, mounting of guns also 2½ months.
b) Spicherer Heights.

Rabenau: Danzig: 80 carloads. **

ObdH: 1.) Suggest Felsennest to Godesberg and Godesberg to Felsennest. *** Pruem quite apart.
2.) Scandinavia.
3.) Request SS for Arnheim, unless there are reasons which preclude inclusion in line-up.
4.) Wants report from Army Gps. why his orders are not carried out.
5.) Goering. No action taken.
6.) Voelklingen.
7.) Kretschmer.
8.) Glaise -- Take him over from OKW --
Order to Zieger: Order on training courses conducted by Div. Vet. Officers.
Courses in the Divisions: Vet. Officers, on feeding of horses: all the rest, by officers. The same in Replacement Army.

a) OQu cannot issue any training orders.
b) Vet. Officers would be put in charge of matters which were always kept out of their hands.

Greiffenberg: "Wasseruebung".

Proposed: Kaupisch with part of the Hq. (Replacements must be found.) SS Deathhead Division (instead of Pol. Div., plus 2 AA Bns. mot. and one Eng. mot. and MT Regt.). No! Fuehrer wants ordinary Division.

Divisions: Third Mt. Div., two-thirds of 22nd Div., 69th Div., 212th Div., 196th Div. (Danzig) will be ready later.

Message from Fuehrer Chancellery: Fuehrer does not want to take 22nd Div. away from the Dutch front. Does not want the Deathhead Div. in Holland.

Mueller - Weinknecht: Order on training of horses.
(Zieger?). Talk with ObdH on the subject.

2 March 1940.

Ott: Reports on his promotion to Gen. Lt.

Wuertefeld: Ruling on demarcation and jurisdiction of "Hq Lower Rhine" in operation "Gelb".

von Etzdorf: Scandinavian questions.

Buhlo / Schell:

a) By end of March, trucks for all newly activated units. (How about Eighth Draft?)
b) By end of April, 10,000 - 12,000 trucks for the Army, so that in April about 2,000 can be turned over to the Field Army. Subsequent development cannot be calculated.
Status reports:

a) Complaints about trucks are growing less.
b) AGp. C is complaining about gaps in personnel replacements.
c) High Command East will organize Industrial Guards in the East.
d) First bridge launchers * for First Armd. Div.
e) Two GHq 4.7 cm AT ** have received no travelling trolleys. ***
f) Static troops for the Upper Rhine cannot arrive before end of March.

Personnel of OKH Sections:


Radke.

Gen Qu:  
a) AGp. A. Everything ready as regards stockpiles and transport. Ammunition, fuel, traffic control, food, medical service, MT service: will be controlled by the Armies themselves.

b) Operation "Weseruebung": Mountain equipment. -- Supply.

c) At present not fit for movement: 207th Div., two lt. Artillery Bns. (Osnabrueck), stranglers (Substitute prepared for movement). One med. Artillery Bn., Senne, also stranglers (but apparently will be all right soon).

d) Fieldpost Collecting Centers.

OQu IV:  
a) Wahle. Frictions with Envoy.
b) Summer Welles: Economic peace.
c) Roessing in need of a rest.

Canaris: 1800, today or tomorrow.

von Brauchitsch - Keitel: Keitel wants good troops. Has doubts about SS Deathhead. von Brauchitsch does not want to release SS Regt. ## Points out that 20% of our GHq Reserves are tied down, as it is. ##

Decision by ObdH:

Transportation for one Regt. Muenster. Mot. MG, Bn.

Eleventh mot. Brig. Fuenen (now in Altengrabow) and 1 MG Bn. ready to start from Altengrabow 5 March.

Mixed Armd. Group (one Co. of Ninth Armd. Div., one Co. of Seventh Armd. Div., one Co. of Armor Training School, School Hq).

163rd Div. (Doeberitz) Zealand. Remains at Doeberitz.


Naval Hq, Wesermuende.
Kaupisch, Hamburg.
Falkenhorst, Luebeck.
Air Hq, Hamburg.

b) Norway. Third Mt. Div. must move into Nauen area, Hq at Doeberitz.

69th Div. (Oslo) Gross-Born. Remains at Gross-Born.

196th Reserve Div. remains at Danzig. Danzig.

Six med. Btry., 10 cm Czech. (729th and 730th Bns., Asch, will become ready this month) for coast defense.

Field Signal Commander.
Radio Co.
Supply Services.

Ron. Staffel. No decision yet.

Ground-air identification: Fuehrer makes positive air identification of ground troops mandatory at all times.

Boundaries of "identification Zone" must be defined by OKH in consultation with Air Force.

Kriebel reports impressions on his tour in Holland.
3 March 1940.

1000 Greiffenberg has reported to ObdH on "Weseruebung." List of units for Weseruebung. ObdH approves telegram to AGp. C*, regarding request to move XVIII Corps to the front.

1640, Blumentritt (on phone): Explains once more the difficulties in moving XVIII Corps to the front-line.

1700 Canaris:
   a) Radke affair. - No need for worry.
   b) OQu IV's talk with Heydrich; subsequently Canaris had a talk with Himmler and Heydrich. OQu IV must be more careful.
   c) Notes on Welles' visit to Rome and to Ribbentrop.
   d) Romanian visit. -- Conditions in Yugoslavia.

1745 Stieff reports on Blumentritt's teletype regarding Mt. Corps.

1930 Gercke: Fuehrer demands that movements for operation "Weseruebung" start immediately. Timetable: Movement to Training Centers completed by 7 March. Assembly of units there by 10 March. Ready for jump-off as of 13 March, so that landing in the northernmost parts would be possible about 17 March.

4 March 1940.

1100 ObdH:
   a) Speed up preparations for "Weseruebung".
   c) "Upstairs" they don't understand Manstein's transfer. Does his successor have the necessary drive?
   d) A representative of Op. Sec. must be dispatched with material to the Koblenz and Mayen conferences.
1130 Gercke:

a) Keitel has been informed that the arrival of the Armd. Divs. for the extreme northern wing has been delayed. Ninth Armd. Div. will not arrive before 9 Mar. Accordingly 10 Mar. is the earliest date on which we can be ready for attack.

b) Third Mt. Div. will be ready 6/7 Mar.

Heim 1215: a) New SS units.
          b) Propaganda in the Army.

Greifneck: Fuehrer conference. Nothing was said about the postponement of the target date. No report has been made to the Fuehrer on dates past the 7th. (Has not been to the Fuehrer for ages.) ObdH. Transp. Chief complains that he is not kept currently informed.

Rochricht: 1.) Training missions for the General z.b.V. **
          2.) Instructional Pamphlet on ground-air identification.

Greiffenberg: "Weseruebung". — Air Force units detach- ed for this operation.

von Salmuth (on phone): 1845: As a result of the Map man- neuver at Teosel, Kesselring told C in 13 Apr. B, he had to demand that larger forces be committed for link-up with the air-landing troops. He should tell that to the Fuehrer. von Bock says he cannot make any promises as to the time for the link-up; on third day at the earliest. Constric- ted space prohibits commitment of larger forces.

von Ziehlberg: 1.) Shifting of ammunition depots will be effected between about 13 and 23 Mar. — Accommodations Zessen and Felsennest.
          2.) Personnel for "Weseruebung": Ele- venth mot Brig.? In for Nieder, Fuehrer.

5 March 1940.

Gen Gu: a) Training Course for Ib and Ic officers.

          b) Evacuated area. Care of industrial plants remaining in the area.

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c) Gas warfare and smoke screens (Unold). Gas: For 50 km of the offensive front one million 1t. Fl. How., 300,000 med. Fl. How. rounds.
By 1 Oct. stocks sufficient for a large-scale attack.
We can produce chemical warfare and smoke ammunition on a scale sufficient for two major attacks a year.

b) Readiness for operation "Oeser-uebung".
c) Clearing of Training Centers and relieving of Divisions.

von Witzleben: 39 can be graduated, 5 after additional training (out of a class of 60); 16 unqualified. Suggestions on how to modify the training course for re-activated Gen. Staff Officers.

von Ziehlberg: Gen. Staff Officer in Eleventh Bríg: Sixt von Armim. -- Buchwieser is to stay with Scheenkerl. Presentation of Gen. Staff gift to OdaH on 22 March.
War Journal OKH. -- The book should be written by chapters, under the title: "The OKH in the British War".

von Etzdorf: Norwegian question. -- Peace feelers Russia - Finland. Welles' tour. Conference with Führer in a very cool atmosphere. The Führer outlined his familiar ideas: "We are the victims of aggression. Our aim is peace, the aim of our enemies is annihilation. Welles will be sent off not without some hope.


Schwandner and Raschik: Briefing.

Bogatsch: Orders for Air Reconnaissance. -- Allocation for AAA. -- Training questions.

1 or 2 15 cm Bns. Pass on at once to Co. Sec.

a) Wanted one Gen. Staff Officer for Falkenhorst, immediately available.
b) Brigade.
c) ... / no entry. - Ed. /

6 March 1940.

Phone talk with Sodenstern:

1.) Order of Army Group on operations of Armor west of the Rwuss. No distant objectives, only capture of bridgeheads! (It seems Army Gp. has caught on to our ideas.)

2.) Reorganization of the Armd. Echelon. If Sudermann becomes too ‘weak’ during reorganization, Sixth and Eighth Divs. can be moved to the frontline.

Sixth: a) Reorganization of the Artillery Clms. will not be completed before 20 March.

b) TD Bns. SPK (GHq TD) are now on route to Tuedsdorf. Will be ready perhaps by 1 April. Boehler. Lack of travelling trolleys *, ammunition difficulties. How will they be fired? ObdB (Siewert).

c) No provision was made for training of crews for Tanks III and IV. Siewert. ObdB (Siewert).


f) Bridge launcher (Tank IV chassis). The first 20 will arrive end of April, with trained personnel. Orders have been placed for 30 more. Submit data on total requirements!

g) Officer replacement situation: Expansion of the Officer Training Courses starting middle of April at Doeberitz and Koenigsbruch. Officer candidates at once to the Replacement
Army, at the disposal of BdE. Every Co. must propose two officer candidates. Cavalry still has reserve of officers and officer candidates.

h) Statistics: Regular Army Officers in the Army 25%, NCO 35%. These figures apply to the entire wartime Army, not to the Field Army alone.

i) Available as of 1 April. 250,000 men with 6 - 8 weeks' training. Then each month 250,000 with 8 weeks' training.
- Total capacity of BdE 550,000 -.

Silowot:

1.) Fuehrer report: Vague and confused. Overall political situation. Britain and France have demanded troops transit through Norway and Sweden. Fuehrer wants to act. Preparations ready on 10 Mar. 15 Mar. set for start of operation Weseruebung. Thinks he can launch major operations in the West three days later. Goering's warnings regarding overall weather situation.

Details:

a) Fuehrer needs six Divisions. Flamethrowers against casemated Btrys. in Bergen and Narvik. 69th and Third 1st Divs. have them!
Six med. Btrys. are not enough. Talk it over with Keitel.


2.) Himmler's tour in the West. Plan of conference with ObdH on 13 Mar.

Greiffenberg:

a) Talk with Jodl: There seems to be no hurry.

1.) 198th Div. can arrive in the area Wittenberg-Pritzwalk-Perleberg on 11 Mar. morning. Destined for Denmark.


b) Major changes in plans for "Weseruebung".

c) Heavy Artillery Luxembourg.
Col. Schaefer: OKW deception measures. Intimations of German plans for an offensive from the Palatinate and the Upper Rhine. Lost letter *.


Thomas reports. Briefing on his new job.

Greiffenberg:

a) Warlimont: Goering is responsible for the changes. 69th Div. and Third Mt. Div. have flamethrowers. Study under way to determine whether more are needed.

Mod. Artillery: Our 15 cm guns have been allocated to Sixteenth, Twelfth and Fourth Armies. General Army Office can activate three Btry's of 15 cm Guns (Turkish) at Jutshorn, without prime movers. Navy crews.

b) Southeast: The Russians will be given German intelligence material on the concentration of enemy forces in the Near East.

c) AAA: Ultimate goal envisaged by Fuehrer is a med. Arty. Regt. incl. one AAA Bn., in each Div.

Order to initiate organization to this end will be forthcoming soon.

Mieh brings report purporting to show a new disposition of the French forces.

Liss comes in with report from Xylander showing French forces in a disposition entirely different from that originally assumed, i.e., deployed for an offensive with principal effort on the Moselle river. Obel.

The authenticity of this report still needs to be checked.

7 March 1940.


Topics: Operational questions, -- Supply, -- Morale in AGps. A and B. Different groups will participate in the political end in the operational conferences,

Xylander: Report on the information obtained from Swiss sources (Bircher). Xylander's Swiss situation map is correct as far as the Rhine front is concerned.

Follgiebel: informs me of surveillance of OKH by political agencies. (How dignified!) Report on telephone service and other communications in operation "Weserbundung".

Jacob: a) Bridges over Our and Sauer rivers.
    b) Construction of Artillery emplacements in the Sauer position.
    c) 12 new Bridge OMs. Op. Sec.
    d) Mine detonating "depot".

Harpe reports. We talk about mission of Armor in fighting as a team with Inf.

Erfurth: Archives questions. -- War Journal.

Weinknecht: Preparations for operation "Weserbundung".

Greiffenberg: "Weserbundung". -- Conference ObdH / AGo.

A, Wednesday, 13 March. -- Anti-tank defense in Eighteenth Army!

Wagner: SS and Police are recruiting volunteers.

Turning in of winter equipment by the Armies.

New training course for In officers (class of 15). Instructor Elchlepp, Lt., 255th Div. Central Branch, Gießen.


400 trucks are coming. -- Schell, Org. Sec.

Ammunition.


Hollidt (on phone): Government-General is making trouble about the protective cordon. Regrets measures of High Command East as interference in its jurisdiction, threatens to take steps in Berlin.

High Command East will lodge an official protest with us, based on the agreement of 19 Oct., and wants us to prepare OKW to forestall the expected complaint. -- Gehlen, ObdH.
Sixt:  

a) Regional Defense Bns. to replace Civilian Railway Police.

b) 10 cm gas-filled shells.

c) Training programs for new weapons and improved conventional weapons.

1.) Bring together all Tanks III and IV at Putilov, end of April.
2.) Armd. Group Wünsdorf. Activation can proceed while training goes on.
3.) Heavy Inf. Gun SPM for Inf. School.
5.) Bridgelancers: First through Fifth Armd. Divs. already have Eng. Bns. of three Cos., are activating bridgelancers. Personnel will be trained in BfE training course. Units for Sixth through Tenth Armd. Divs. are still to be organized by BfE.

d) 4.7 cm Bochler. 70 guns at the moment free for allocation, in addition to 40, for Holland, with different ammunition.

e) Requests of XIX Corps.

f) Armd. Recon. corps, no shortage; 90 in reserve. As of 1 May, 20 new per month.

von Wietersheim: Infantry Assault Badge for mot. troops. OdH.

(In accordance with Reinhard's views on the role of the Inf. contingents of Armd. Divs.)

Jodl wants for Weserübung. 784th Static Btry. (15 cm Gun Czech), of three guns, originally intended for Agp. C. In its place the Btry. of 15 cm Gun 1916 (German) earmarked for Weserübung, could go to Army Group C as a static Btry. 784th Static Btry. is unavailable at the moment. It was supposed to be here on 10 May, ready for use, but has not yet left the activating Corps Area. The matter must be investigated.

Conference Greiffenberg / Lies about study on movements incidental to operation "Gelt". Very good and sound job! Envisage attacking tank spearheads appearing on the Meuse on the fourth day, and possibility of enemy attack in force across the Meuse at the end of two weeks at the earliest.
Mieth: Report on proposals of AGp. C and feint attacks at Kadenbronn (one Div. required, if possible 60th), and southeast of Zweibruecken.

Oberregierungsrat Toos presents report on overall weather situation.

von Thom reports on his first acts in the new job. Stress on cooperation with Tng. Sec. and Org. Sec.

OQu IV: Intelligence summary for the West. -- SS recruiting drive uses bait of deferments. -- Foreign Office wants contacts in Rome, also with Pope. To be arranged through Phillip von Hasse.


9 March 1940.

Grafenwoehr: Chemical Smoke demonstration.

Starts 0900. Deficient smoke generation affects success of demonstration. My impression: Smoke blanket is a suitable means to disrupt enemy fire plan. High explosive shelling can do this only imperfectly, as a neutralized gun is easily replaced, and moreover there is still the damaging effect of MG fire to be reckoned with. A smoke blanket on the other hand disrupts the enemy fire plan permanently. Sustained fire is the only course left to the enemy. Since he does not know when to fire, that method is of uncertain effectiveness. He will accordingly be compelled to change his defense originally based on flanking fire to frontal defense and bring more fire power to bear. This confronts him with an entirely new situation which he probably will be unable to cope with under the time pressure of battle. On this feature rests the prospect of success, as long as the enemy has not gained sufficient experience and adjusted his pattern of defense accordingly. Employment of tanks requires more special study.
Once "blanket smoke" is recognized as "instrument" of success, we must improve upon it and study and train for its combination with other methods. The necessary organizational preparations must be made to the end of ascertaining the appropriate number and disposition of smoke units and to organize the supply of smoke ammunition in order to insure effective application of this weapon, when needed. Radio direction beam and other devices for orientation in blanket smoke must be further developed.

Greiffenberg injured in accident; one man killed, six wounded.

1500 Review by Gen. Kuntzer in charge of the demonstration, afterwards by ObdH.

1700 Conference with ObdH in special car:
   a) ObdH discusses the results of his inspection tour in the West (XVIII Corps cannot find room in the front line!).
   b) Enemy situation as seen through Swiss reports and his own estimate.
   c) Various current matters.

1900 Talk with Buhle: Initiation of transfer of the Armd. Divs. of XIX Corps to Wahn (regrouping).

Evening Return to Berlin.

10 March 1940.

0715 Arrival in Berlin.

Morning: Study of reading material sent from Zossen.

1100 Leave for the War Heroes Memorial Celebration at the Zeughaus **. Concluded at 1300.

1600 Return to Zossen.

11 March 1940.

1000 Talk with Roehricht on my conclusions about the chemical smoke demonstration. Instruct him to put down ideas.

Heim – Recke: A report from Kossmann indicates that the sudden deterioration in relations between Government-General and High Command East can be traced back to a conference at the Reich Chancellory, which was preceded by a meeting of Gauleiters (most secret). We must try to set a line on what went on.

Tippelakirch: The Finnish Military Representative at Moscow is a close friend of Mannerheim’s.

Coehlo: Notes for report on protective cordon in the East (for ObdH).

Gen Qu (Mueller). Report on tour:

1.) Truck position of Twelfth and Sixteenth Armies. ZI Motor Detachments wholly inadequate! An Advance Branch of the ZI Motor Detachments has at last been set up at Bittburg, Wittlich-Trier not yet; no workers! Over-all truck situation slightly improved.

2.) By reorganizing the 140 withdrawn vehicular Clim, we shall get 80 good ones by 20 Mar. 1940, and another 40 later. The remaining 60 are kept as personnel units. Org. Sec.

3.) Supply of Kleist’s Group will be centralized under QQu. Ammunition and fuel through us, food etc. through Army.

4.) Potential bases for supply by air: Hanau, Cologne, Muenster.

5.) Kretschmer will be ready by 18 Mar.

6.) Course for Ib officers: Lack of tactical background makes things exceedingly difficult! Tactical training necessary (eight days!).

7.) Conference with Army Judges: Uniform procedure! (Death sentence for offenses against Art. 175 ***; Sixth Army.)

Heim: Gauleiter Meeting 29 January. War will be over in six months. The enemy will be defeated with new weapons. Eastern questions were not discussed.
Notes for ObdH:

a) Assignment for Manstein.

b) Air-ground identification (Instructional Pamphlet). - Issued.

c) Infantry Assault Badge (Reinhardt, von Wittersheim).

d) Stuelpnagel will return to duty after Easter.

e) Smoke blanket. -- Ammunition question.

f) Map of Motor Parks etc. (Advanced Parks).

g) "Minor solution".

h) Bock's Memorandum.

i) Sodenstern's Memorandum.

k) Conference with Jeschonneck.

l) Excessive burden of paper work.


Buhle: a) Statement on Guderian's proposal.

b) Redesignation of AT units ("Panzeraeiger" instead of "Panzeraebehrr").

c) BdE wants five more lt. Fd. How. Bns.

d) Field Army 3.3 million, Replacement Army 0.85 million, as of 15 Feb.

e) Flamethrower tanks must be organized in Bns.

f) Regts. Grossdeutschland and SS Adolf Hitler will be expanded to Brigades.

Gercke: a) "Weseruebung". Shipments start about 17 Mar. 20 Mar. is X-Day.

b) Reichsbahn Railroad will have reached normal operational level probably by the end of March.

c) About 600 trains must be set aside for our movement.

d) Waterways position improved (ice-free).

e) Coal for Italy: Now suddenly we can supply and ship one million tons a month.
12 March 1940.

Jeschonneck:

a) Forces detached for operation "Befreiung":
   Only three Groups *, including
   one Fighter Gruppe taken from Sixth Army
   one Divebomber Gruppe " " Twelfth Army
   three AAA Bns.: one " " Cav. Div.
   one " " Fourth Army
   one " " Twelfth Army

b) Shifting of main weight possible whenever needed.

c) Walcheren.

d) Air landing operation - one more Regt.

e) No AAA for Cav. Div.

f) Storch plane operation (150 #) not on the
   southern boundary. 200 Storch planes, two
   flights in Gudrian's sector.

g) Bridge at Cannes #.

h) Air observation. Technical questions. We need
   close-range Recce planes. Cut down on long-
   range Reconnaissance? Codd: not at the mo-
   ment.

Koestring: Report from Russia.

OQu IV: Information on foreign relations.

Gehlen: Hq installations "Lower Rhine" and "Eifel" will
   be integrated into system of permanent border
   fortifications.

Mieth: Problems for the main maneuver to be conducted
   by OQu I soon.
   Leave for Koblenz.

13 March 1940. (Koblenz.)

Conference at Koblenz.

1000 AGR A: Outline of the basic and special features
of operation "Gelb" in line with Sodenstern's Mem-
orandum, designed to ensure unified conception and
action.
Fourth Army: Presentation of plans. Air fields, especially fighters, are a long way off; must be moved forward soon; transfer, if possible, by air.

Twelfth Army: Question of XVIII Corps is brought up.

Sixteenth Army: No special problems.

Group Kleist: On the whole all right. Objectives of airborne operation (Storch planes) not yet decided. — Training of Arm. troops! (Must be so arranged that elements of the Arm. Division are ready for operations at any time.)

ObdH: Long-range Reconnaissance Staffeln? Rundstadt: Area too big; many elements not ready for operations.


(Fourth Arm. Div. ready for commitment, but not for attack. No command tanks. Co. Cols said not to be in a position to exercise control over operations.

Bock (Ninth Arm. Div.: Unusually high number of tanks reported not ready for action. Second AAA Corps will take no responsibility for AA protection of X and IX Corps; protection on the Maas.

Trojan Horse? **) Radio channel to Seventh Air Division must still be clarified.

Eighteenth Army: It would be well to re-examine advisability of moving SS TV ** to the front earlier. (Alert the night before.) Everything apart, it does seem to me that Army is committing too large a force north of the Ijssel.

Sixth Army: Possibility must be preserved to make an instant thrust with Third Arm. Div. on Hasselt.

1600 AGp. C: 60th Div. around Kaiserslautern. Will go into action x plus 2 or x plus 3. Saarbruecken first. The other subsidiary attacks so that impression is maintained for some days after Saarbruecken that they are the preliminaries to a major offensive.
Army Gp.: Submit proposals on timing! Five days after announcement.

Material for obstacle and position construction: Order must be issued.

Right wing: Witzleben! 9 loromeBtrys. have been prepared.

Signal communications after transfer of Sixteenth Army to AGp. C.

Hq AGp. C at Wiltlich??

Dollmann thinks he cannot free the good Divisions before the end of four weeks — Middle of April — .

von Witzleben is 800 men short in each Division.

Jeschonneck*: Sperrle is sending everybody copies of the orders for army operation "Raubvogelknecht" as background for his own orders. Compromises security!

1700  Conference on general questions. See material taken to conference.


Conference with High Command East: Have tank defense ditch built by an organization patterned after Organization Todt. Should not take charge of housing, feeding, etc. Gehlen.

Evening: Talk delivered by Himmler.

Afterwards social evening at the Officers' Club. 2215 return in special train.

14 March 1940.

About 0800 arrival at Berlin-Grunewald.

Gercke: a) X-Day not before 22 March.

b) Target date for "Reserveung": Seven days before jump-off (A) in the West. Cancellation possible up to within three days before. Cancellation automatically calls off all preparations also for A, since the plan is to launch offensive in West on
"Weseruebung" plus 3, unless "Weseruebung" provokes reaction setting in motion plans for operation "Emergency". Should the offensive in the West be done alone, there would be a five-day alert, but only until such time when troops "would have reached level of intensified preparedness; thereafter, three days would suffice.

von Bock 1200:

a) 207th Div. will strike for Arnheim and Dusseldorf.
227th Div. for Zutphen by the shortest route; detaching to Deventer only one Regt., on trucks, to cooperate with the Armored Train.

b) Movement of SS Div. * to the Rhine is stretching like a tapeworm; things there look "all fouled up" **. This makes AA protection doubtfully necessary.

Fellgiebel:
a) Report on completion of signal facilities for Felsenest. (Sketch will be mimeographed.)
b) Report on result of Rome-Berlin conference.

von Ziehlberg: Appointments for O - 1 posts ***

War Journal: Harbug, Rehbau, Schmidt.

Various current matters.

Housinger:

a) Perl #. Assault action, two Companies. AGp. C is notified.
b) Current matters, including transfer of Hq AGp. C to Wittlich.
c) Waldau: 1.) "Group of Storch planes" west of Brestogne (possibly Alzette).
   2.) Fighter fields must be moved forward in Fourth Army.
   Will let us know.
   3.) AAA for X and IX Corps. Will let us know.
   4.) An additional Regt. from the entraining area of 22nd Div.
   Equipment for one Regt. still in Hannover. Take Regt.
   from 46th Div.!!
d) Boundary of Upper Silesia: New delimitation?

e) 60th Div. to be transferred to area north-west of Kaiserslautern. AGp. C! Yes.
Evening talk by Rabenau at the Officers' Club.

15 March 1940.

Planning data on operation Weserübung are coming in.

Timetable.

Wagner: Gas and smoke ammunition.


Flottnitz, QG XVII Corps *. What is wrong there? Central Branch.

Supply Service of Cav. Div. Will be put in order by 20 March. Horse replacement situation very tight.


b) Hannover: Air landing equipment for one Inf. Regt. and one Eng. Co. Transfer of this Regt. from 46th Div. to the Paderborn district.

c) Sixteenth Inf. Regt. will be attached to 22nd Div.


16 March 1940.

OQu IV: Political report. Rome. (Meeting with Mussolini.)


Count Luckner (Tirpitzufer): Schinkel Vase for approval **.

1330 Lunch.


17 March 1940.

Fuehrer conference on 16 as well as that on 15 March produced no new viewpoints.

General impression: The Fuehrer now approves the preparations made and is manifestly confident of success.

Interesting points:

1.) Decision reserved on further moves after the crossing of the Meuse.

2.) He reckons with the possibility that the French and British might adopt a passive attitude in the face of our invasion. This belief, he feels, is justified by the difficulties of prompt communication between the political and military authorities.

3.) He plays with the idea that a mild bleeding of the enemy forces will suffice to break their will to resist.

1100 - 1330 Long conference with Dr.* who, emphasizing the economic problems, stresses the necessity of making peace before outbreak of open hostilities, and points to the possibility of a favorable compromise.

Ruth ill.

18 March 1940.

Mieth: Questions relating to the Map maneuvers.

Hausinger: a) Flow of re-enforcements in the operation. -- Graphical presentation.

b) AGp. B proposal about Holland. ObdH.
1530 to 2300: Mieth map maneuver "Battle of the Meuse".

19 March 1940.

0900 Continuation of Mieth's map maneuver. Battle on the Meuse.

20 March 1940.

Wagner: a) Requests concerning smoke and gas approved by ObdH.
b) Truck spare parts.
c) "Reserveubung" - Order on economic measures.
d) Ammunition production position.
e) Badge for NCOs.
f) Possibilities of supply by air. Available from the fourth day onward a group of 50 planes which can transport one issue of ammunition for a whole Bn. *

In one flight, 100 tons of fuel, sufficient for 75 km for one Arm. Div.

Hammerich: a) Assimilation to status of career of Eng. Officers. **
b) Langendorff. Central Branch.

Suggests inspection of Survey Bn. in the West. Adjutant.


Military decision if Plutocracies do not yield on their own accord.
b) Moscow. We aim at better relations between Italy and Russia.
c) Operational and tactical methods of the French.

Buhle: a) Ammunition reserve.
b) Reduce weight of Infantry equipment. -- Cut down on motor vehicles.
c) Four Landwehr Divs. to High Command East by 15 April, then training. Four more Divs. probably four weeks later. Op., Eng. Sec.
d) 4.7 cm AT guns. 45 guns to personnel units for fortified front of Sixteenth Army.
Dutch 4.7 cm AT guns. What about ammunition? Org. Sec.

e) Organization of the Mt. troops. -- Interim solution.

f) Static organization in First Army sector.

g) Redesignations.

h) Strength of Armd. Divs.

i) Every tenth man of the Field Army drives a motor vehicle.
   In the entire Army of 4.2 million there are 420,000 motor vehicles.

k) Unification of Ren. Bns.

l) Rejuvenation of 44th Div. from Western Divs. and Army in the ZI.

m) 88 Replacement Transfer Bns. for the Divisions of the First to Fifth Drafts will be ready to move by 15 Apr.
   Only 50% armed. Each only one vehicle, no field kitchens.

n) Generals on special assignment (zbV) belong to the Replacement Army for supply purposes.

von Ziehlberg: Current personnel and Gen. Staff matters.

Question of uniform for former Gen. Staff Officers. *

Heusinger: Regular Army Bn. for Godesberg. ObdH.


Gercke: a) Repair of a locomotive takes 6 - 8 weeks.

b) Operational position and organizational matters of Reichsbahn.

c) Waterways and their speedy clearing.

d) Flood damage on Polish bridges.

21 March 1940.

Heim: "Safety valve" question. -- Propaganda matters.

Heusinger: a) Allocation of smoke ammunition. -- Moving up of reserve stocks close to zone of operations.


d) If we do operation "Weseruebung", we must cancel minelaying off Den Helder, Ijmuiden, Hoeck von Holland, and Schelde Estuary in Holland. Assignment of two submarines to positions off Dutch coast unchanged. Minelaying by one submarine off Ostend.

Toussaint: Report from Yugoslavia.

Mueller (Gen Qu): a) Disagreement on jurisdiction of Sixth Army in death sentences against Air Force officers. Field Marshal attacks validity of the sentence. "Miscarriage of Justice".

b) Requisitioning of horses by High Command East will be resumed with greater vigor on 23 Apr. 23,000 horses, less than 30%. 4,000 horses per week.

Jacob - Gehlen: a) Work on fortifications during summer. Must make up for the time lost during winter; will drive up transport requirements.

b) Position at Orscholz and Wincheringen.

c) Construction troops.


Letter from OKW: "Fuehrer requests that C in C AGp. C be directed to draw up a plan for an offensive operation from the Upper Rhine in the direction of the Plateau de Langres". The plan should be based on the assumption that about 30 to 35 Divisions are available for this operation, that parts of the
French armies are already beaten and that the bulk of the enemy reserves is tied down on the main front.

Evening. Celebration in Brauchitsch's home of his 40th service anniversary.

22 March 1940.

Siebert: brings material for the preparatory work on the Vosges operation. Takes political material with him.

Winter (Op. Sec.): Discussion of the factors in an operation in the Vosges Mts., i.e., objectives, strength, and time requirements, and surprise. Participation of an Italian Army of 30-35 Divisions is assumed.

23 March 1940.

Gen Qu.-Weinknecht: Care of wounded, in anticipation of a casualty rate of 30%.

Div. Supply Services and their reduction in the event of heavy troop casualties.

Evening preparations for FWA (72,000).*

Op. Sec. Winter:

1.) Details for the Fuehrer conference on 27 March.
2.) Inquiry to Army Gps. regarding operation "Gruen".
3.) Data for Operation Upper Rhine.
4.) Calculation of time needed for assembly of Italian forces on the Upper Rhine.

Siebert: Work on the Vosges operation. Takes political material with him.


Participation of an Italian Army on the Rhine.

On 25 March Max ** arrived on leave from the front; evening Ruth returns to Ohrfeld.

26 March 1940.

Gen Qu.-Weinknecht: Care of wounded, the evacuation of the wounded.

Div. Supply Services and their reduction in the event of heavy troop casualties.

Evening preparations for FWA (72,000).*

Op. Sec. Winter:

1.) Details for the Fuehrer conference on 27 March.
2.) Inquiry to Army Gps. regarding the situation on the Rhine.

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26 March 1940.

Hollidt: Units possibly fit for operations by 15 Apr.:
221st, 213th, 231st, 218th (?) Divs.,
Corps Hq. (reduced) (Greiff?).
Training all right.
Armament (Inf.) complete. Artillery only one
Br., AT only one Co. in each Div.

Blaskowitz wants to group recruits in Field Replacement
Divs. after the departure of these Divisions.
(For this he needs several Regt. and Div. Hqs.)

Greiffenberg reports back.

Heusinger: Discussion on last-received OKW material for
conference on Wednesday.

Notes for conference with ObdH:

1.) Ask return of political material.

2.) Two letters of Army Group B.

3.) Map for Benito.

4.) Leeb's commanders know nothing about the
decception plan. Strategy for presentation of
the report. "Attended to" written
across points 1 - 4.

5.) Upper Rhine operation.
   a) Forces: 30 German Divs. and initially
      probably not more than 12 Italian Divs.
   b) Time required: Logistical preparations
      at least three weeks; movement to
      the front at least three weeks, a total
      of six weeks. Italian Army not mobilized,
      needs time for mobilization, i.e. at least
      six weeks.
      All in all twelve weeks.
      Not likely to be ready for operations before
      July, and it may be even later if more Divs.
      come.
   c) Object of the operation:
      Two possibilities:
      1.) If the operation is calculated to play
          a part in smashing the enemy fighting
          forces, i.e., to complete or continue
          on another front the job started in
          Belgium and Holland, it must be staged
in sufficient strength, which requires long preparation. It would be pointless, in pursuing this objective, to combine the operation with an operation through Savoie.

2.) If the operation is designed to contain enemy forces, it must be launched concurrently with our big offensive. Inasmuch as in that case it would have to be called on short notice, it would of necessity be a weaker effort, at least in the initial phase. On no account must the operation be allowed to divert our attention from the major operational objective, so long as we can see any possibility of attaining it. That objective is the lower Seine.

Map Winter. Map Heusinger.

d) The suggestion might be made to change over to plan "Gruen" in the event that the results of the Belgian offensive are inconclusive, and to launch a strong Upper Rhine offensive within the framework of operation "Gruen". I have no sympathy at all for this scheme which is reminiscent of Ludendorff’s policy of unceasing attacks in 1918. It would mean the adoption of the strategy of attrition, a policy that is sterile of success. If we reach that point I’d rather pass to the defensive.

e) Meanwhile some more intensive work must be put into computation of strength requirements, especially Artillery and bridging equipment, and into planning the disposition of troops for battle, the initial attacks and the individual missions. Even now we can be sure that the Italians will yet make heavy additional demands for AAA, med. Artillery and Bridge Construction units.

Also take along: Material on preparations for pillbox destruction.


27 March 1940.


1415 - 1730 Fuehrer conference:

1.) Gen. Obst. von Leeb presents reports:

a) General situation, French and German combat tactics.

b) Construction of fortified positions: He emphasizes importance of not stinting in the use of steel on the weak spots north and south of Saarbruecken. Attention is forcefully drawn to weakness of the position north of Saarbruecken. Fuehrer interjects here that his desire to have the main battle line on the dominant heights on the southern bank of the Saar was frustrated by the outbreak of the war.

c) Diversionary attack "Gelb". The claim is made that no feinting operations should be initiated on the Rhine front because of a possible later offensive on the Upper Rhine. Closing of the Swiss frontier is discussed; will be impracticable until the start of the actual attack, on account of coal shipments to Italy. Op. Sec. The question of an alternate route for coal shipments to Italy must be studied. Gorcke.

d) Operation "Gruen".

2.) Gen. Obst. von Witzleben reviews operation "Gelb". The report is accepted without comment. In the subsequent discussion on fortifications construction the Fuehrer stresses the importance of Artillery emplacements. Jacob.


4.) Afterwards the Fuehrer discourses on the general situation, without mentioning operation on Upper Rhine ("Braun"). He emphatically reiterates his confidence in Mussolini, and expresses his understanding for the fact that Italy is too weak to come in before France had been dealt a heavy blow.
While all this is going on he seems to be keeping a wary eye on the situation in the East. French actions aiming at a rupture with Russia are evidently just what he wants. He is pleased with the recall of the Russian Ambassador from Paris.

In conclusion he expresses his satisfaction with the good use made by the Wehrmacht of the forced inactivity of the past six months and acknowledges the efficacy of the preparations effected, which inspire him with faith in full success. (Never since 1870 has there been such a favorable balance of political and military strength.)

5.) Afterwards conference of the Fuehrer with ObdH and Chief of Gen. Staff on continuance of the operation following the first assault, and on an offensive on the Upper Rhine.

Regarding "Gruen": At the moment a decisive major offensive against the Maginot Line is ruled out by a lack of the requisite means. However, as the situation develops and the French forces are inflicted punishing blows, it would be possible to follow up with this attack even with comparatively weak forces reinforced by Italian troops, within the general scope of operation "Gruen".

Regarding "Gelb": We must gain a better jump-off line in the Saar for a subsequent offensive within scope of operation "Gruen". On the Upper Rhine we must drop the plan of a feint attack.

On continuance of the main offensive: It would be desirable to push the offensive all the way to the Seine, leaving Paris aside. Then, when the enemy attacks the front of Twelfth and Sixteenth Armies, we must strike in the direction of the Plateau de Langres and destroy the enemy in northeastern France by an offensive from the sector of Aep.0, using also Italian forces.

Regarding "Braun": For this offensive we may reckon with about 20 Italian Divs. At the outset of the offensive, Italy will be requested to get ready. Italy will need two weeks for mobilization. During those two weeks it will become clear whether or not we have any prospects of a major success.

If the prospects are good, Italy is sure to march. It will take the Italians 20 days to get their troops over to us, so that if everything goes according to plan we should be able to strike on the Upper Rhine about six
Prior to X-Day only theoretical preparations, practical preparations only insofar as they could be taken over bodily, without complications by the Italians.

Road signs; maps must be held in readiness. Prepare ammunition dumps with field railways, quarters, staging areas, etc.

Target dates: Fuehrer tells me that he wants to start operation "Joserubung" on 9 or 10 Apr. "Gelb" will be launched 4 - 5 days later (probably Sunday, 14 April) Gercke. Chief Op.

26 March 1940.

Blumentritt (1000- 1100) reports on preparations by AoP. A. Readying of Armd. Divs.

Kloth, Greiffenberg, Hossinger: Results of Fuehrer conference. -- Target dates.
Assignments: Select planning material that has to be turned over to Leeb.
Order to Leeb: Compute necessary strength. Work schedule for preparations.

1430 Strength estimates:

a) For offensive operation: 72 Divs. earmarked for offensive.
   Added now 16 Divs.
   by May 14 Divs.
   Total about 100 Divs. for the offensive. Enemy: about 100.
   Nothing must be taken away from that force.

b) For Leeb: 4 Static Divs. 29 Divs. of varying value.

For "Braun" we need at least 6 Divs. in addition to the 20 Italian Divs., leaving for "Gruen", 23 Divs. (First Army at present has 13 Divs.), i.e., 10 more Divs. than originally allotted.

With that one cannot make any show in an offensive.

The order to Leeb accordingly runs: He can figure on a total of about 30 Divs. (not counting the static Divs.) and 20 Italian Divs.
With that force he is to conduct an operation for the capture of the Burgundian Gap and the western edge of the southern Vosges Mts., which would permit continuance of the operation in either western or south-western direction.

We must ascertain whether our forces would be sufficient to support this offensive by a drive from the Saarbruecken area. Thought should also be given to planning for extension of this operation toward Baccarat in the event that substantial forces should become available in consequence of failure of the northern operation to push through.

List of demands for Italy.

Notes for ObdH:

a) Request order for High Command East. Change of Mission?

b) OKW: Policy on the Kaiser.

c) OKW: Mine laying by Air Force.

d) Plane landing incident.*

e) Guard Bn. Godesberg. Regular Army? Yes

1700 - 1900 Conference with ObdH.

Preparations for "Gruen" have to go on. Op. Sec.


Assault Btrys to Aop. A, with instruction to assign them to XVIII Corps. Perhaps we had better keep them with us for that purpose. Op. Sec.

Send for Kuebler.** Chief. Org. Sec.

High Command East: Centralize Field Recruit Depots. Eastern Divs. should take their Field Recruit Depots with them! Take one along, (as Field Recruiting Depot). Leave two behind. (Thus 8 would go with the Divs., 16 would remain behind.)

Blaskowitz: Release one Regional Defense unit later.

The whole of East Prussia must be taken out*** and placed under Mil. Distr. CG.# Take Blaskowitz out.##

(Weillwarth, Falkenhausen for Holland, Bockelberg for Belgium).

Draft plans for movements, troop shifting.
Fromm: 1.) Ready for shipment: 6 Apr.; Seven (7?) HV. How. Bns., some with two (2) and some with three Btrys. (5).
   Early May: three Bns.
   Beginning 1 June: Two Bns. per month.

2.) Divisions from the East. Org. Sec.


4.) Don't give Todt any planning figures. ObdH is going to talk with Todt himself on Monday. Gen. Qu.

5.) AGp. C is reported to be sending back all old men. Shortages still open. Org. Sec.

6.) Fieldpost reorganization reportedly will exclude of General Army Office.
   Trauch reported in charge. Gen. Qu.

7.) Promotion Langendorff.

8.) Harnesses critically short. Gen. Qu.

29 March 1940.

Dictate the notes of the Conference of 27 March and a letter to OKW.

Housinger: Material for the drafting of the new directive to AGp. C on "Gruen" and "Braun".

Mieth is skeptical about feasibility of launching offensives "Gelb", "Gruen", "Braun" simultaneously. His criticisms are obviated by the directive (Housinger) to Leeb, which makes "Gelb" and "Gruen" mutually exclusive.

   b) Cooperation with Italy.  
   c) Political affairs: Italy/Russia.

Busse: a) Air Force instructions to its commands on air-ground identification.  
   b) Worries about training program on account of fuel shortage.

Winter - Greiffenberg: Operation "Braun".

Follgiebel: Close-range Reconnaissance. Reorganization of set-up.
Buhle: a) Retrenchments in trucks and horses.
b) Replacement Transfer Bns. for all Divs. of the First to Fourth Drafts by 15 April.
c) Withdrawal of all Tanks I from Fifth Armd. Div. disapproved.
d) Assignment of 400 Reich Labor Service Bns to Army, totalling 80,000 men (Air Force has 300 Bns.). Of these 400, 100 are allocated to the West, 20,000 as replacements for already existing Section West, 20,000 to the East! 20,000 * to reserves for now, could perhaps be relieved in Seventh Draft.
e) First Draft Divs. in AGp. A and GHq Reserve have most of their MGs.
f) As of 1 May 25 4.7 cm Bohler per month (chamber for German ammunition.). Deliveries of 5 cm Guns start 1 June, at rate of two Cos. a month, then progressively increasing to from four to twelve Cos.
g) Reorganization of the Czech 4.7 cm Skoda Btrys; will have nine guns.


Gercke: Floating ice in Polish rivers. — Operational position of railroads. — Operation "Braun" — Coal shipments to Italy.

30 March 1940.

Wagner: a) Change in chain of command when Todt Organization is integrated into our ammunition procurement organization. Confusion must be straightened out.
b) Fuel allocation: Civilian economy, Armed Forces.
c) Training course for Ib Officers. **
d) Operation "Braun".

b) Infantry Demonstration Regt.
c) 900 mortars. For Replacement units.
d) Nine million handgrenades reported on hand, production only 50,000. Gen Qu.
**Op. Sec.: Current matters.**

**Gehlen:** Main battle line of Busch in southern Luxembourg.

**Evening Leave for Frankfurt by special train.**

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**31 March 1940** (Sunday).

**0930 Conference with Gen. Obst. von Leeb (Frankfurt).**

a) Target date for operation "Gelb".

b) "Braun" with emphasis on effort in northern sector *.* Drive across the Rhine north of Strasbourg appears to be less advantageous.

I. Proposal: von Leeb bases plan on twelve assault crossings of Rhine. Main Group south of Strasbourg:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Divisions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Burgundian Gap</td>
<td>6 German</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2 Alpini</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5 Divs. in reserve</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>13 Divs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central Vosges Mts.</td>
<td>6 German Divs. for Rhine crossing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2 German Divs. to cover flank against Strasbourg (including 1 Static Div.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3 Divs. in reserve.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10 Divs. plus 1 Static Div.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supporting Group, north of Strasbourg, later north of Vosges Mts.:</td>
<td>3 German Divs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2 Divs. in reserve</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2 Static Divs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5 Divs. plus 2 Static Divs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operation &quot;Kleiner Falke&quot;:</td>
<td>75th, 94th, 98th Divs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5 other German Divs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1 Static Div.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3 Divs. plus 1 Static Div.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total:**

- Burgundian Gap 13 Divs.
- Central Vosges 10 Divs.
- Northern Vosges 5 Divs.
- "Kleiner Falke" 8 Divs.
- Res. Reserve 6 Divs.

**Total:** 42 Divs. plus 4 Static Divs.
II. After discussing the role of operation "Kleiner Falke", the following modifications are proposed:

**Burgundian Gap:**
- 4 German Divs. (southern sector)
- 2 Italian Divs. (northern sector, Neuf Brisach)
- 2 Alpini (behind right wing)
- 4 Italian Divs. in reserve
- 1 German Div. in reserve
- 5 German and 8 Italian Divs. = 13 (as before).

**Central Vosges:**
- 3 German Divs. (northern sector)
- 4 Italian Divs. (southern sector)
- 3 Italian Divs. in reserve
- 3 German Divs. and 7 Italian Divs. = 10 Divs. (as before).

AOp. Reserves:
- 6 Italian Divs. (as before).

**Northern Vosges:** (Of German Divs. only Static Divs.)
- 4 Italian Divs.
- 4 (Less than before).

"Kleiner Falke": 14 German Divs. (Increased).

Total: 22 German Divs. (2 from AOp. C in addition to those remaining in their positions, 20 from OKH).

25 Italian Divs.

4 Static Divs.

III. Command set-up: Burgundian Gap: Italian Army Hq.

Central Vosges Mts.: German Army Hq.

If needed north of Vosges Mts.: Italian Corps or Army Hq.

1400 General Kuebler, First Mt. Div. Points discussed:


2. Wants allocation of an Assault Btry.

3. Personnel matters: In Officer not adapted to Ib duties /sic/. Roschmann will not develop
above a comparatively low level. His reports are of indifferent quality. He shows good will, but may not have the required aggressiveness. Ia Officer, Degen, receives high praise. Tb Officer, Gartmayr, is rated very good. Suitable as Ia. Any change as late as possible; however.

Other problems and suggestions:

a) Large pneumatic boats (56 on hand). Can be carried on ammunition trailers.


c) Hq. piles him with too many orders, e.g. wet socks should be dried, drainage must be provided for in snow clearing, etc. Central Branch.

d) Corps (Arty. Commander 109) has directed 79th Arty. Regt. to submit efficiency ratings on over 100 Officers and on 300 Technicians down to gun pointers. *

e) Replacements from ZI are of disappointing quality.


g) The Division is 100% ready for operations. Terrain training good. Large number of horses (8,000 horses and pack-animals).

h) Mt. Div. still needs 15 tons of truck capacity. Org. Sec.

1700 - 1800 Inspection of Falsennest.


Evening Leave by special train from Bonn (Col. Rein, Bv. TO# at the station.).

Change-over to summer time.
1 April 1940.

0945 Arrive at Berlin Grunewald Station.

02u IV: Telegram to Rintelen. Conference with Roatta middle of April. Rintelen will come here probably on 8 Apr.

Weinknecht: Economic measures prepared for prospective occupied territories (digest).


Mieth: Proposal to launch offensive across the Upper Rhine north of Strassburg. Reasons: Easier terrain, better roads, better tactical coordination with operation "Falke", left flank can lean on the Danube (Dieg). Forces to be committed in "Falke" 18 Divs., in this offensive 20 Divs.

In my opinion such an offensive is on too narrow a frontage and would produce only tactical results. Moreover, it would not fit into the military-political requirement of the Supreme Command.

Heim: Organization of the Section on "special assignment." (z. b. V.) — Current matters. Guerilla fighting in the East!

2 April 1940.

Brand — von Greiffenberg:

a) Allocation of the newly arrived 75 mm, How. and 15 cm Gun Strys.

b) Two K 3 Guns again serviceable; will be committed near Aachen, within existing Ens.

c) Artillery emplacements in Awp. C.

Mueller (Gen 3u):

a) Rittau case (death sentence against flyer).

b) Balancing of Clms.: Available on 1 April, seven Clms. in Gen 3u 8ear area. On 15 Apr, additional 30 Clms.
In all, we shall be able to form about 90 serviceable Clms. out of 145 Army Clms. Theoretically that leaves 55 personnel Clms., but actually only 30 can be reemployed. (Right eventually be re-equipped with Belgian trucks.)

These estimated 90 GHq Truck Clms. must meet our requirements for Liège, the Eastern Divs. and the operations on the Upper Rhine.


Buhle — Greiffenberg:

e) Artillery of the Landwehr Divs. in the East must be taken away for the first five Landwehr Divs.,

24 Arty. Flats (Polish guns), i.e., 12 Btrys. will be left in the Regional Defense Regts., plus one Bn. in 311th Div.

b) Six additional Corps HQ. Starting June, two more each month. Release XXX Corps? XXV Corps will get new CG and will be released. (Praeger).

c) Reorganization of High Command East.

1.) Ulex HQ becomes HQ High Command East (old Army HQ 14). Ulex in turn becomes CG, All. Distri. (Zieckelberg becomes available). Slaskowitz HQ recalls the elements transferred to Gienanth and becomes Army HQ. Gienanth's HQ becomes again a Corps HQ (reduced). (New CG!). Gienanth in turn takes over new High Command East with Ulex HQ.

2.) The following HQs become available for reallocation:

- One Army HQ (Slaskowitz).
- One Corps HQ (reduced) (XXXVI, von Gienanth), could be considered for Falkenhorst in Holland.
- One Corps HQ (reduced) (XXXXV) (von Greiff), 5 plus 3 = 8 Landwehr Divs.
- 311th Div. (formerly Loetzen) could be converted to a Field Div. by the end of May.
- One Regional Defense Div.

3.) To remain:

High Command East:

Army HQ South as High Command East.
For time being three Landwehr Divs. (may be assigned elsewhere). Up to eight Regional Defense Divs. from the newly acquired area of High Command East. Two Replacement Divs. (from the Replacement units of the Landwehr Divs.) not to be called Replacement Divs.

HQ Troops.

Mil. Distr. I:

Mil. Distr. Ag.

Border Guard.

Replacement Div. in place of 311th Div.

Offices of the Fortifications Construction Organization (now in charge of actual construction) will be unaffected.

4. Target date 3 Apr.

d) Army will take over operation "Weserübung," soon. Conference 3 Apr.

Points a) - d) discussed with ObdR.

OBU IV: a) Corroboration of our situation maps by agent's reports.

b) Airchen in the East (Warsaw - Graudenz).

c) Foreign Office Special Task Force to secure political documents. ObdR.

von Ziehlberg: a) Attaché Group, Hellenthin -- Section Chief in OKH.

b) von Wyeldenfeld to Stülpnagel's Staff.

c) Gen. Staff Training Course for re-activated Gen. Staff Officers, Grenzen, and other current Gen. Staff matters.


Transport Ministry has been informed that large-scale movements over a considerable period of time might be expected soon.

3 April 1940.

von Tippelskirch: Fuehrer now wants Attaché tour to the West wall.

b) Remote-controlled mine-clearing apparatus. End of May 50, 100 on order.

c) HQ of Elsenbrunn Troop Training Center.

Col. Mueller AGp. C reports on draft plan for operation "Braun."

Oqa IV: Attached tour to the West: Sunday: Journey; Monday: Inspection; Tuesday: Return. For now only conference Keitel - Roatta (to gain time).

Denmark will be taken over by Odaa on May 1, 100 on order. (Friday, 12 April).

4 April 1940.

Wagner Gen Qu;

a) AGp. B is forming one 30-ton and four 60-ton truck Clns. (total 100 trucks), as AGp. reserve. At the same time Army Gp is 409 trucks short in Sixth Army and over 300 trucks short in Eighteenth Army. According to the orders issued, the trucks released from the Artillery Clns. will be used to replenish the Army pools. Talks with Salmuth to this effect.

b) Conference on preliminary survey in the Black Forest for operation "Braun."


d) Fuel position. Seering has contributed aviation gasoline and Navy Diesel oil to the common pool. Will probably last us until September.

e) Preparations for "enmark: OKW conference fails to give clear picture.

Fellgiebel:

a) Felsenest ready for occupancy as of 12 Apr. 50 outside "telephone lines in addition to the lines to front, and that number increased by 20°. Dial phones.
b) Suspension of telecommunication traffic. Effective 1 - 1 it will be a practical impossibility to telephone to enemy countries.* Only channel left is through Italy.

c) Inspected Signal Regt. for Kleist. Everything all right. Some difficulties about motor vehicles will be straightened out. Number of frequencies barely sufficient.

d) Operation "Geheimsprechung" fully prepared.

e) Clash with ordering** over suspension of work on the 1,000 Kw transmitters. Will now be finished by Jan., 1941. Need 300 - 400 skilled technical workers!

Lt. Col. Muench: Transferred from 45th Div. to OKW, Sec. L.*** reports.

General Thomas: Show him our intelligence material.


von Ziehborg: Transfer of G.Hq: A - 1, arrival of small advance parties (several officers), A - 1, about 1400, departure of the Chief of the Gen. Staff with skeleton Staff, arrival 0600, operative, 0600. When will Odan follow? G.Hq I remains behind with small staff awaiting codeword. "Hindenburg". Follow by air! Bulk of personnel will be alerted on A Day, at 0400, and will arrive in the evening.

Suhle: Odad wants re-equipment of Gav.Div. with 1918 type guns. "ill take 8 - 10 days. Requires entirely new issue of material and ammunition. Inconvenient, but can be done.

Six-barreled "D" rocket projectors: Organization in Regiments next fall. Contingent on availability of ammunition. For the time being test firing.

Dispersion:

Activations: Mine Eng. Sns, will not get ready in time (date set was 10 Apr., now again postponed to 25 Apr.). Reason: Shortage of trucks, because Fuehrer wants mobilization of the Eighth Draft speeded up (15 Apr.)
Fuehrer wants third Btrys. for the "Divs. of Seventh Draft in July. It would be better to let them go with two Btrys. and give some arty. also to the Divs. of High Command East (Sixth to Ninth) (to mid-June).

5 April 1940.

0930 Otdii:

1.) Correspondence with Otdl on operation "Braun".

2.) (Reply) OKW directive of 4 Apr. Discussions with Roatta will at first be through OKW only.

3.) Leeb's proposal and my comments.

4.) Reconnaissance mission for O. Sec.

5.) Stuelpnagel Liaison Staff. Sent Berlin - Godesberg (z.b.V. - Otdl - Mieth, OQu - OQu I)*

Gyldenfeldt to Stuelpnagel, Stitil.

Stuelpnagel present at first conference. Reply OK W.

(Ponts 1.) -5.) are bracketed by / Braun OKW.

6.) Reorganization of High Command East. See 2 Apr., 1940. Draft proposal O. Sec.

7.) Code word "Weser" has been issued. Radio statements on plans against Norway, "Blucher's inquiry". We are to take over Denmark on 1 plus 3 Day.

8.) Organizational matters. Org. Sec.

a) Artillery for Landwehr Divs. East (See 2 Apr.) Yes, 5.

b) Six more Corps Hqs. (Two each month, as of June). Yes. Perhaps release XXX and XXV Corps, new CG for XXV Corps.

c) Field Gun 18 for Cav. Div. See 4 Apr. Send down materiel; if practicable, troops could then be re-equipped.

(Ponts a) -c) Org. through O. Sec.
d) "Do" six-barreled Rocket Projectors to be organized in regiments only if ammunition available. Demonstration before ObdH soon (18 Apr.).

e) Third Btry. for Seventh "raft"? Better let High Command East Div. (Sixth to Ninth) have some artillery!


8.) /sic/ Transfer of GHq; see 4 Apr. Report on Felsennest.

9.) Weather forecast.

10.) Miscellaneous.

g) Molchthin Sec. Chief. Central Branch.

h) Foreign Office: Task Force for securing documents. GQu IV.

c) Gen Qu Conference with Suerkel* AGREEMENT. Wagner will go to see "Witzleben."

Gen Qu... /one symbol illegible/ possibly military administration.

d) Hundtaldt has requested another Corps Hq. No. 4.

e) Employment of 24 cm Guns in AG C.

f) Eyle No! /Two symbols illegible/ Thomas.

Franz: Plans must be based on minimum force.
Possibility of Armd. Operations must be kept open. Major and minor solution!

Chief Personnel Div.: Commanding Generals and Divisional Commanders.
Officer replacements: 5,000 in schools, 3,000 still in ZL (picked), plus 8,000 to 10,000 who now come back = about 15,000.
Personnel Div. to Koblenz?

OQu V: Manuscript of Ludendorff's memoirs.— Papers of the late Gen. Groener.


b) Present contingent of Armor must be moved up by 10 April; next contingent will not be sent off before 15 Apr. Op. Sec.

c) As of 9 Apr., evening, all offices must be fully staffed.
d) 9 Apr., morning, notification of the Cs in C.


g) Schmidt - Dankwart. Training course at "ahn badly managed. /Two symbols illegible/ Brand.

h) Activations: From: to see the Fuehrer on Sunday. Regional Defense Bns., one after another. COrG. Sec.

1) AAA. Eighteenth Army has one bn. for X Corps. Not yet clear: a) Whether AAA units will follow our troops into Holland when airfields are moved forward. The same about AAA of Cav. Div.

b) Air defense on the Meuse must be taken over by Luftkau**, so that all forward corps may take their AAA with them.


l) Arguments to use: Where would we get the material that we could use tellingly?  
(Thomas)***

1600 - 1700 Briefing of Rintelen.

Evening 1930. Air Force film on Poland "Baptism of fire" (first showing at the Ufa Theater).

6 April 1940.

0845 back to the Camp"##.
0930 Greiffenberg: Current subjects discussed at yesterday's conference with ObdA.

1020 Gercke:

a) Railroads must maintain state of alert for operations.

b) Transfer to Godesberg,— where will Transport Chief's personal office be after moving?

c) Reorganization of High Command East.— Preparations for "Schaum".

1120 GQu IV Tippelskirch:

Rintelen on Brenner conference: Mussolini: Italy can wage only a short war. Prepare Raetta conference.

GQu IV: a) Effects of our preparations in Scandinavia. Reaction so far only in southern Sweden. British attack on Norway is not expected.

b) British motor torpedo boats off the Danube Delta; 5 - 7 boats, British or French have gone up river.

c) Conference at Wiesbaden, 9 Apr. (Ic Officers).

Gen. von Stuelnagel reports back after illness. Briefing on new assignment as Liaison Staff with Italy.

Lt. Col. von Wumb reports out on leaving the Gen. Staff.

Gen. von Falkenhorst, XXI Corps, reviews preparations for operation "Weserubung" and reports that everything is ready for start.

von Greiffenberg:

a) Conference with Army GpS. on "Weserubung" and "Sofortfall".

b) Reorganization of Kleist's Group is to be called off. Gen in C A Gp. A, thinks the present organization is better and, what is more, he could not guarantee completion of reorganization within the time available. ObdA.

c) Points to be discussed with the Army GpS. (leaves on Monday for the Army Groups to
orient them on "Wehruebung" and to discuss "Sofortfall".

Thoma: Tank reserves: M III 26; M IV, 4 (3 more, needing minor repairs), weekly deliveries of new tanks: M III, 8; M IV, 4.

Mine clearing devices: Concentrated charges, "carpets", "harpoons"* electric detectors.

Buhle: Report to OKW on "Required monthly arms production rates for all branches of the Service". Based on very uncertain data.

von Zichlberg: Current personnel questions: Reinforcements in AGp. 0 for new operations!

7 April 1940.

Sunday In the morning, current business, with none of the Section Chiefs reporting.

Afternoon and evening, Berlin (no visitors). Saw Gerti***

8 April 1940.

Mieth: Estimate of forces needed for the offensive on the Upper Rhine, based on original plan (over 60 Divs.).

Estimate of forces for offensive if we cut out operation on southern part of Upper Rhine and limit ourselves to attack on the front north of the North Forest, attacking from five bridges at once. Computations indicate we should need 40 Divs. The proposed plan takes good advantage of all tactical possibilities, but it leads the operation against the front Aetz - Rosellã© river - Espinal.

von Stueben: a') Allocation of Italian troops:

From Army Gp. of Crown Prince (22) 12 Divs.
from the eastern frontier*** (14) 6 Divs.
In home garrisons 14 Divs.
b) War strength of the Italian Army, low, no modern GHq artillery.

c) Points to be discussed prior to conference Roatta/Rintelen.

1000 OQu IV reports that everything connected with "Weserubung" has been going according to plan. The impression is gained that the enemy is not aware of anything as yet.

Rochricht:

a) Furloughs at the start of the operation. What are we going to do about the furloughed men? Have them report to their Repl. units. Don't have all of them sent to the front. (150,000).*

b) The armies are keeping inf. squads way back with the field kitchens, so as not to have too many men at the front.

c) Training under Bde jurisdiction apparently needs to be controlled more closely by us. (Olbricht will look after that).

Winter, Op. Sec.: Operational study on Romania. Result: The enemy coalition, using Saloniki as disembarking point, could start operations at the Romanian border with not, forces after six days, with inf. after about 23 days, that is, in the wholly unlikely eventuality that Bulgaria stands by without intervening.

Staff reports after recovery from illness. Wants to talk with the Field Marshal as to whether in future it would be necessary to assign Liaison Officers, considering that the Op. Secs. were maintaining very close contact with each another. To me it would seem desirable to retain this institution, not the last for its extra-military usefulness.

von Etzdorf:

a) Orientation on the diplomatic strategy in connection with operation "Weserubung".

b) Anglo-French note on mine laying in Norwegian waters. Unconfirmed report that Sweden has posted first preliminary stage of mobilization (von Puttkamer).

c) Radio silence in England; indication that the British Fleet is putting to sea.

d) I brief him on target dates in immediate future.
and on military conversations with the Italians.

Jacob - Gehlen:

a) Action taken with respect to request by AG. C for allocation of construction material (steel) so that work on construction projects for Infantry would not have to be neglected over construction projects for Artillery.

b) Orscholz defense system. Pending questions will be settled by Jacob in personal interviews on the spot.

c) We must requisition from Chief of Army Armament 16,000 tons of steel for the next four months.

d) Steel turrets earmarked for East Prussia must be kept available for the west for time being.

e) 15,000 km of copper cable in the Pomeranian and Oder fortifications must be released for dismantling.

f) Experiences with mine detonating nets.

g) Problems of Rhine crossings. Special training of Engr. NCOs to familiarize them with water conditions on the Rhine.

Hausinger 1900:

a) Two ships in our convoy to Narvik have been sunk by British submarines.

b) British naval formation sighted 120 miles west of Trondheim. Our convoys have arrived outside their ports of destination.

Evening Lecture by Professor Dr. Meniger: "Goethe and the Prussian General Staff".

9 April 1940.

Since 0515 hrs our troops have been landing in Norway and marching into Denmark.

a) Trondheim, Bergen, Narvik occupied.
There is still action off Christiansand. Fighting at Oslo. Landing at Moss and Froebak.

b) Denmark under protest has accepted the German conditions. Troops have been ordered not to resist. Occupation of Jutland and of the islands entirely according to plan.

c) Air Force commenced operation at 0730, as scheduled. Order has been given to attack military targets at Oslo.

d) 0515 SS Scharnhorst and Gneisenau in action west of the Lofoten Islands. No new reports up to now, engagement apparently broken off.

1000 talk with Col. Wagner on preparations for taking Denmark under our administration." (Gen Qu).

Gercke: 198th and 214th Divs. which will be used as reinforcements for Norway, instead of Denmark must be directed to the Baltic ports between Luebeck and Stettin.

von Brauchitsch: New man to replace Becker. -- Activate new Corps Hqs (middle of April), but leave appointment of Commanding Generals open. I suggest Col. Hulse (or also Staff and Geib) to replace Becker. V. Br. has Noelleberg in mind.


b) Becker rather than Sprenger as Civil Admin. Chief in First Army or we shall never see the end of that tug-of-war.

c) Supply base Vienna (fuel, ammunition).

d) Steps to preclude careless destruction of economic assets (collection of booty, propaganda, order through Gen. Staff channels).

Gen. Jacob: Friction with Todt (Orscholz barrier position).

Kinzel: Report on tour:

1.) Hungarian ideas on Romania. Hungary requests early conference of experts, to enable her to start preparations. Budapest. Hungary would have to appear as the liberator in Transylvania. --
Horthy insists on role of Commander-in-Chief. Demands Italy must be informed if such conversations are going to take place. (Not of substance, but of the fact.)

We would have to look after our own logistical arrangements. — Hungarians will mass forces against Northwest.

Reply by OtdH.

2. Exchange of views on Yugoslavia. Agreement.


4. Disappointment over our failure to deliver arms.

5. Hungarians are not going to fortify Carpathian border.

1630 All landing operations completed, except at Oslo.

1800 Oslo in our hands; proclamation asking population to return.

1900 Gen. Jodl:

a) Occupation completed. Completion of defensive preparations not yet assured, owing to delay in arrival of transports with requisite forces. Air Force will help out.

b) Four Air Transport Gruppen scheduled for cargo lift will be used for shipment of additional forces to Norway instead. Op. Sec.

c) Losses: S.S. Blucher sunk. One transport vessel sunk with one 10.5 cm. Etery., ammunition, bombs, horses, and Inf. elements of 69th Div.** Combat casualties highest at Christiansand and Oslo; elsewhere light.

d) British Fleet attacked by Ju 88*; serious hits scored on three ships.

e) Rumor of Swedish mobilization unfounded.

1915 Buschenhagen: Denmark landing went smoothly. At the very beginning some MG fire on the border. Casualties light. Air landing came off smoothly.

Norway: Narvik without losses, only weak resistance. Trondheim taken without losses; weak resistance. Bergen and Stavanger, the same.
Christiansand: Heavy fighting, losses.

Egersund and Arendal: Slight resistance.

Oslo was alerted. Opposition of the shore Btrys., especially in the Droebak strait. S.S. Luetzow sunk. She carried the Hq. of 163rd Div., parts of Hq. of XXI Corps, and 600 men. Bombers silenced shore Btrys. with two Bns, we now are in full control of the city. A third Bn. will be moved in yet today (of 163rd Div., Engelhard). Tomorrow four to six additional Bns.

Norwegian Government has fled to Hamar. Para troops have been sent after it. Losses: S.S. Luetzow, some mine sweepers, one transport vessel, 9 Junkers, two Heinkels. Coastal fortifications are all in our hands.

Troops: 196th Div. is now in transit in the Belt. 196th Div. will embark in Hamburg tomorrow. Will go through the Kiel canal to Norway.

1930 Bogatsch again raises the question of Long-range Ron Staffeln.

The Air Force does not want to give us the required number of Staffeln, unless we release Long-range Staffeln (Army Gs., and GHq.). Bogatsch states that this obstinacy is without any reasonable foundation. The close-range Ron. Staffeln could be activated (four weeks) also without cutting down on the Long-range Staffeln.

10 April 1940.

von Stuelpnagel reports on preparations for joint operation with Italy.

Hollidt reports on progress of the reorganization of High Command East. Attempts are again being made to pull off some deals on the remainder of the area of High Command East (exchange 311th Div. against 228th Div., etc.) High Command East is still trying to exercise some sort of military rule. Ordi.

Frictions over Police activities and failure to inform the Army.
Buhle: a) 3.7 cm AP shell 40 for tapered-bore tubes are very effective against tanks, also in conventional guns. Delivery in May: 30 000 for tank guns. (50 rounds per tube.)

180,000 for Division AT units. (Initial ammunition issue comprises 20 per gun)

140,000 for Fortress AT guns (70 per tube)

Remainder, amounting to four issues, into reserve.

b) Fuehrer's demand concerning increased ammunition production.

c) Provisions made for occupation troops. Components left behind by the Divs. going to Norway.

Gen. Brandt:

a) Recent deliveries of Lt. Fd. hows. show unaccountably great drop of muzzle velocity.* Matter is being investigated (Baumholder)***

b) Artillery course for non-Arty. Officers in Artillery hqs unnecessary for time being.

c) Very good impression of Flettner helicopter seen at demonstration at the Reulin Testing Station. (we should have this model built for us under Army contracts!)

Joel (1650): Radio Paris has announced that in a few hours it will put on the air an Allied statement indicating that the Allies would now take the initiative, employing means whereby the war would be shortened by one year. Intensified alertness at the front and of the Air Force! Order putting into force the three-day transport, goes out at 1700. ObdH. This fixes A-Day on Saturday, 13 Apr.

von Etzdorf - Oqua IV: Norway: Our Envoy (Breuer), saw the King at 1100. Government services continue to operate.

Denmark: All went smoothly. Negotiations conducted by our Envoy. Reply by Sweden: we reserve all measures to preserve Swedish neutrality.
Italy:

Mussolini receives our Ambassador: "German action justified and necessary".

Moscow: Similar tendency, understanding for our action.

USA, no report yet.

Belgium: Strict neutrality, as before. Press aggressive.

Holland: Vague.

France: atmosphere depressed. British units show nervousness.

Britain: All leaves canceled.

Belgium: Leaves canceled since today noon; demolitions near the frontier (?)

Holland: Leaves canceled yesterday; frontier closed; public transportation services suspended; empty trains stand by.

11 April 1940.

Winter: Briefing on preparation of an operational report on Southeast. (written instruction to this effect to Op. Sec.)

Unold (Gen Qu):

a) Smoke ammunition over and above initial issue can be supplied only on specific request.

b) "Do" Rocket Projectors, Demonstration for ObdH in the week following 17 Apr.
As of 1 Oct., 1940: "Do" Rocket Projectors for 10 Bns. (of 3 tptys. of 8 six-barreled projectors each), - 240 pieces.
As of 1 Oct., 1940: 100,000 HE and 80,000 smoke projectiles.

One Bn. fires 3,000 rounds in two minutes.* Starting 1 Oct. production will be 30,000 HE and 15,000 smoke projectiles per month. No increase possible.

c) AT rifle grenade 40

d) Mine detonating "carpets". We cannot manufacture new mine-detonating "carpets" without curtailing supply for Engineers.

e) Fuehrer decisions on ammunition.

f) Ammunition difficulties with 15 cm Gun 39 (Turkey!)
Wagner

b) Denmark transferred from OKW to OKH control.

c) Clothing situation only fair.

OdBH: a) Situation: Many British submarines in the Skagerrak and Kattegat. British report 13 steamers sunk; we know only of seven, mostly close to the coast. Continuance of troop shipments by the sea route is possible only if the submarine threat is eliminated. S.S. Luetzow was sunk off the Swedish coast. Had put out against Fuehrer's orders. Situation in Norway difficult. Communication link only by air. Supplies dropped from air. The King of Norway has refused any negotiations on formation of a Government on the lines of the German proposal; has issued proclamation calling for resistance. Army signal equipment lost on sunk transports. Telephone communications via Sweden. Railroad transit to Norway through Sweden authorized only with sealed cars.

b) Eleventh Rifle Brig. to go to Norway as soon as possible.

c) We must find out what Air Force took away from forces earmarked for "EB". will be ascertained also by agencies in the field. OdBH.

d) Buschenhagen must keep us continually informed on the distribution of our forces in Denmark. OdBH.

OQu IV -- Etzdorf:

a) Situation report. Proposal to form a Cabinet headed by Quisling.

b) Request to pass on to the State Secretary* my questions concerning Romania. (War not against Romania, but for Romania.)

1700 Funeral service in Berlin for General Becker, at his home.

1800 - 1900 Foreign Office, State Secretary Weizsaecker.

a) Situation in Scandinavia. Blunder with Quisling.
We have made an official request to Sweden for permission to use the Swedish railroads in connection with our occupation operation. No answer yet.

b) Romania: Weizsecker believes the only way to impress Romania is by making her realize that we would act with greater dispatch and vigor than the British. In any event he is partial to the formulation "against Romania" rather than "for Romania".

Russia has some unsettled scores with Romania, e.g. Bessarabia. We cannot prevail on Russia to give an official promise to maintain a hands-off policy. Russia will not start anything, but neither will she make any promises which we could exploit in negotiations with Romania.

Bulgaria will keep quiet of her own accord, and moreover we would always be able to control her. Hungary pursues a policy of doing nothing without our approval. If we want to induce Romania to adopt a negative attitude toward a British landing, this could be most readily accomplished through the Military Attaché, not through diplomatic channels.

As to Bulgaria, it is believed that any Anglo-French invasion attempt from the South would meet real opposition.

Italy will come to the support of Romania in the event that Russia should disturb the peace on the Balkans; in case the British break the peace there, Italy will probably consolidate her position in Albania and perhaps occupy Croatia, without declaring war on anyone or taking the side of the one or the other party.

Turkey is positively against war, but she may tolerate a march through her territory, under protest. Commitments arising from her alliance with the allied powers become operative only if hostilities involving Italy spread to the eastern Mediterranean.

c) Situation in the West: France has offered her protection to Belgium. The King and the Cabinet have declined.

Holland is reported to have closed her frontier today.
OQu IV: Franco-British semi-official step in Brussels confirmed (offer of protection).
In Holland doubtful.

Nolte: OKW has not yet alerted 214th Div. — Air raid on small station in the Fehmarn* area.

1100 - 1200 State funeral service for Becker at the Technische Hochschule** and burial in the Invalids' Cemetery.

ObdÄ (Southeast Study):

a) Janaris must mobilize his Near East sources to get us advance notice***!

b) Five to six days before they land, a mot. force takes two, Inf. three weeks to advance across the Danube. South, Could have one Div. at Constanza, Braila, Galatz within 48 hours. East Crossing from Bosphorus to Constanza 48 hours at the most.

c) Preparations for movements normally 5 days, movements 8 - 17 days (completed). Preparations if operation "Gelb" has not yet started##, 7 days. Movements then could start at the end of 10 days.

d) Shipment by air.

e) For ObdÄ: Sliding scale Airborne Forces/Air Combat Forces. Two possibilities: West is already on fire or the West is quiet. Timetable: a) If there is no agreement with Hungary, b) If there is an agreement. Same for Russia. Supply base: Vienna.

Send for Radke! Heim: Must carry on during operations: Daily bulletins. Relations with OKW, we must keep at it! Not Liaison Officer with OKW##. Film for Army: Godesberg/Felsennest.
also discuss: political situation (Talk with Weizsecker). -- Close-range Bom. Staffeln (letter to Goering). -- Official designation of battles*. -- Furloughs in the event of operations. -- Mail embargo in the event of operations.

after return from Berlin

von Greiffenberg: a) Liaison officers to Armies. (Bock objects).  
 b) Alerting of reserves for Southeast.  
 c) Liaison** with Copenhagen and instructions for XXXI Corps.

Gen Qu: a) Sixteenth, Twelfth, Fourth, Sixth, Eighteenth Armies: Truck strength satisfactory.

b) 50% of skilled workers for ZI MT Depot have arrived. Situation improved.

c) Rubber assured for six months. Rubber blocks*** remain a headache.

Trucks: By the end of July a total of 3,000. (1,000 for the Field Army; requirements 5,000.)

Fuel: Probably sufficient until fall: Production plus 120,000 tons from other sources, will be sufficient. Our reserves (75,000) will suffice for three weeks, only after that need we fall back on the central reserve.

d) Discuss mail embargo in the event of operations. -- Vienna Supply Base.

13 April 1940.

Reported British landing at......#

Transp. Chief:

a) Agreement with Sweden on supply shipment to Narvik and Trondheim.

b) Planning more efficient utilization of Reichsbahn. Hannecken is opposed to plan.##

c) Ammunition and tank trains west of the line
Weser — "uerzburg get anti-aircraft protection from Transport Protection Command equipped with 2 cm AA Guns.

d) Führer has disapproved cancellation of the preparations (concentration) for "Gelb". Now 24 hours' notice for jump-off.

ObdH: a) Responsibility for coastal defense in Denmark.


c) Suerkel; Stuckart protests.


OQu II. OQu I; Planning data for "Braun". Conclusion: We do not have enough artillery to extend the offensive by an attack from the Saarbrücken sector.

a) Such a plan would require additional 360 med. Btry., i.e. the entire GHq Artillery. If we drop operation "Tiger", we would have enough with 60 med. Bns., of which 55 can probably be furnished by the Italians (20 Bns. Corps Artillery, 15 Bns. GHq Artillery). This would be feasible, we would then have to take care of the pillboxes while the Italians attend to counter battery fire.

b) Without "Tiger": Bridging equipment: For eleven bridges we need 68 Bridge Clms., or 66, if we use "Sirago" bridging equipment. (We have on hand a total of 150.) Of these 30 could then be freed to go along with the advance. Fortunately we are from now on getting about 50 new assault boats each month. Italy would be able to furnish an estimated total of 10 to 15 Bridge Clms.

c) Without "Tiger": Eng. Bns. available 32 GHq Bns; we are running very low.

d) Signal units: We must help out from GHq reserve. That requires trucks and raw materials.

e) AAA. Very difficult! 14 AAA Bns. (mixed) necessary.

f) Maps will be ready early in May (Our 1: 1 : 25,000 are merely enlargements of 1 : 80,000 maps).
g) Question of separate Commands for all combat echelons.

h) Possible complication by summer-floods.

von Greiffenberg: Current matters.

Jacobi: Steel shutters of pillboxes on Upper Rhine reported pierced by enemy fire. Apparently new French weapon (2-2.5 cm caliber) penetrating 10 cm armor plate.

ObdH 1430: Situation report. Check whether any Railway Troops are included in the Norway force. Tank Command 40* must be pulled out as soon as possible. What has been taken away by Air Force**?

Chief, Central Branch: Current Gen. Staff matters—Authorization to wear uniform of Gen. Staff**.

14 April 1940. (Sunday, Berlin).

Molte: Situation at Narvik confused. "Has held so far" (OKW). German destroyers out of action. British have penetrated into the side fjord. Pack Btry. has arrived; all transport planes cracked up. 181st Div. is coming. J/2 5018. #

Patrol strength raids beaten off by 257th Div.

Airfield situation the same as yesterday.

British Fleet is reported to have left the Mediterranean on 11/12 April.

Gercke: Transport routed through Sweden has left.

Greiffenberg: Yesterday's conference: Map.—Plans of Navy: Three Btrys. will be taken to the west coast! MG, Armd. units and Air Bn. to Norway.


Question of police: OKW has no intention to show its hand.
Agent report from Luxembourg. Fragile troops: An
Deutsch Oth, south of Ech, alerted yesterday
afternoon. French planes over Luxembourg terri-
tory.
Luxembourg: All railroads on weekday schedule
today. Jews have started running away.
(Through Army Group!)

Yesterday's strategy conference: If things get
ugly up North, we won't force the issue, but
turn to the west! In eight or ten days.

AGp. A: Three Bns.* have not completed their
firing program. AGp. A will send one to Wahn,
one to Schwetzingen.*

AGp. B: Two Bns. have not completed their firing
program. AGp. B will sentence unfinished.

Troop Training Centers. All filled up.

Talk with Gen. Obst. von Brauchitsch wants to see the Fuehrer at 1200.

1400 Gen. Obst. von Brauchitsch comes back from the
Fuehrer. Results:

1. Hopes have been abandoned to hold Narvik.
"We have had bad luck." The British apparently
penetrated into the fjord and effected a
landing. The destroyers in there must in all
probability be written off as lost. The
Fuehrer does not intend to throw more troops
into the northern operation. It is a question
what Sweden's attitude would be in the event
of a British advance on the Swedish iron
ore region, which certainly is intended.
Goering believes the Swedes would resist, the
Fuehrer does not think so.

2. "Gelb." With paratroops and transport planes
diverted to the north, it will be several
days before the air force can be ready again
for operations. In consequence, we shall
have to wait until the 21st or 22nd. Goering
pleads for the 22nd. von Brauchitsch has put
up a strong argument to the Fuehrer that long
waiting would not improve the situation. (En-
emy blocks increase, level of training of
troops cannot be improved, morale mediocre,
the high pitch reached cannot be maintained
indefinitely.)

Central Branch.
Interval to 20 evening must be utilized. Tanks
of both AGps to Wahn or to other Training
Centers.

Op. Sec. Arm. Forces
Chief.

Transp. Chief:

Start Field Replacement
units rolling!
3.) Southeast: Fuehrer has been informed on the over-all timetable. Also was told of Werth's message. Fuehrer approves direct contact with the Hungarian Gen. Staff. Keitel will forward us written directive, which will be based on the assumption that the Romanians have allowed the British to land and so will be regarded as hostile. In that event Hungary's claim to Transylvania will be automatically recognized by us. Railroad preparations under high priority. Adjutant, Central Branch.

Must urge Keitel to give us directive in writing. Then advise Fuehrer office middle next week that we are ready to present report. Adjutant.

4.) Transfer of Hq. Fuehrer approves our plans. He, too, will move his Hq. Central Branch.

5.) Leeb successor of Becker*.  

1830 Heusinger:

AGp. A: One Arty. Bn. to Wahn  
One or two Fls. to Baul.  
4 full days of training holder  
One to Schwetzingen, 3

AGp. B: One Bn. to Wahn  
Two Bns. to Senne  

Gen Qu: Directive "Commanding General of German Forces in Denmark".

Transp. Chief: Discuss efficient utilization of the waiting period to 21 Apr. Movement of the Field Recruit units. No change in embargo on shipments by individual units.

15 April 1940.

von Blaskowitz: 1.) Don't take away Jaehnicke. C of S, Brauner. OQu, Kriegsheim.
2.) Plan to turn area east of the Vistula over to SS. I advise against it.

von Greiffenberg: Conference with Halldau. Gen. Staff of the Air Force has not yet given any attention to planning for the Southeast. All work has been left to Fourth Air Fleet. Exchange of views on division of labor between OQu I, OQu II and Op. Sec.

Gen. Fellgiebel: Report on flying visit to Oslo.

OQu II: Division of labor between OQu II and OQu I. -- Preparations for Southeast.

Buhle: Truck situation (demand of Signal Corps for "Braun"). Tabulation of the Divisions (E&O chart). -- Current organizational matters. -- Trends in the development of the SS.

ObdH: a) Review of the situation. OQu IV: Whereabouts of the French and British forces, supposed to be en route to Norway.

b) Get in touch with the Foreign Office about the situation in Sweden: Foreign Office must protect our interests in iron ore mines. Pressure can be exerted on Sweden by reminding them that we might destroy the iron ore mines from the air. -- Have Mil. Attaché get busy. -- We must come to an understanding with Koth.**

c) Several Divs. still need some time in Training Centers (Sixth Draft).

d) Railroad matériel for Norway.

Jaehnicke: 206th Div. only one-third of will go to Stabplak. XXXVI Corps will first be moved to High Command East. Op. Sec.

Equine pneumonia in 231st Div. -- Horse replacements will be furnished if Div. is alerted. Monthly delivery of 4,000 horses could be stepped up; 225,000 horses available in all.

ObdH is told by Keitel that Narvik will be evacuated. We must not allow that. Talk with Jodl.

Jodl: Town area of Narvik cannot be held. Mt. troops are taken back to surrounding mountains.
Question of the evacuation of the Narvik area not yet decided.

OQu IV: Sweden's role in the Norwegian conflict.

Yugoslavia: Prince Regent has pro-German sympathies, is distrustful of Italy and Russia. Molotov wants iron ore from our mines.

State Secretary von Weizsaecker (1800):

1.) We must insist that the Foreign Office do something to protect our interests in the Swedish ore mines. State Secretary informs me that a note concerning "British stragglers" has been handed to Sweden. I demand stronger pressure, for they may be regular British or French troops. We come to an understanding that, if necessary, we are going to put on pressure through the Mil.Attaché.

2.) Southeast. Reports of Russian reinforcements on German and Romanian borders. Request him to restate on top-level the essential military importance of having peace in the Southeast.

3.) So far no confirmation of report that the British Fleet has left the Mediterranean. Presence of French naval forces is being felt in Eastern Mediterranean.

ObdH (at his home, 1900): Talk on the situation and my conversation with Weizsaecker.

16 April 1940.

OQu IV - Canaris requests authorization for Chief of 12th Branch* to fly to Oslo. Inquire about disposition of Swedish forces. -- Unconfirmed, reports of regrouping of Russian troops? Arrangements are made to insure warning in ample time on movements in Southeast. -- British power attack against Norwegian coast is expected. -- Attack against Danish coast possible, but not likely in immediate future.

Rohricht: Occupancy of Troop Training Centers.

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Gen. Gercke: Railroads in Norway. — Has to go to Oslo to set things right.

Bogatsch: Summary report on activities of Air units attached to Ground Forces on the Western front during the last six months. — Flettner helicopter.

von Ziehberg: Falkenhorst has complained that security was poor in the issuance of war maps. — Transfer of former Gen. Staff Officers to the Gep. Staff. — Current matters.

Wagner: a) Difficulties in fuel allocations. The Army CGs have been thrown into a pother by ObdH.
   b) Maintenance of supply to Norway.
   c) Staff on special assignment (zbV). Rehabilitation of materiel of OKH Supply units.

17 April 1940.

Gercke: Bv. TO* Norway: Norwegian railroad offices are cooperating. Three armored trains.

Status of railroad lines:

Oslo to Sweden in operation.
Oslo to Christiansand intact, but not in operation.
Oslo to Bergen intact all the way to Voss. Minor disruption at Voss.
Oslo to Andalsnes – Trondheim interrupted as far as Eidsvold (bridge destroyed, work in progress).

Two Cos. (partially mot.) stand by for call.
Tippelskirch: Fuehrer does not like the idea of a Resident Representative of Reich Supreme Court; would make German influence too apparent.

Admiral Tamm (Sweden) has gone to the Fuehrer. Good!

Supply movements through Sweden will probably start today.

Three British cruisers are shelling Stavanger.

Gercke: N - 3 not yet.

Thomas: Report on gunnery equipment and combat efficiency of German and enemy tanks, and on the effectiveness of AT weapons on both sides.

Heusinger: Reports about Narvik from a Naval Staff Officer evacuated by plane. Destroyers had fired all their ammunition, and so their Artillery was of no use any longer. Have been beached. Crews of destroyers are almost completely on shore. They have taken over operation and protection of the ore railroad line. Railroad bridge on Swedish border blasted. Transhipment possible. Morale of troops good.

Noon Farewell to Finnish Attachés.

Afternoon Mieth submits draft of his plan for the offensive on the Upper Rhine.

Kosmann: Report from Denmark.— No one is cooperating with Kaupisch.— Internal order maintained by Danish Government.— Army demobilized, one Company left in every garrison.— Bulk of arms deposited at Aalborg.— Police service maintained by Denmark, no German Police.— Replacement units can be stationed in Denmark. Op. Sec.

Gehlen: Current matters.— Also ammunition for Mil.Distr. XVIII* Labor for High Command East.

Gercke: Dates for return of Arm. units a few days after 21 Apr. "Cannot be expected before Tuesday". One train to Narvik, medical supplies (Red Cross). ObdH.

Heusinger: a) Clear target dates with Transp. Chief once more.— Tanks must be left in Training Centers.

b) Clarification of situation in OKW.
18 April 1940.

Lt. Col. Winter reports on plans for Southeast.

Col. von Greiffenberg: Predictions on weather.— Report to OKW on ground conditions.

Heusinger:

a) Jodl: Old views on Narvik must be given a hearing.— Repercussions on Army. Get copy of orders.

b) Führer: Narvik cannot be held in the long run (several Divs.). Führer wanted to withdraw all troops from Narvik yesterday, but has deferred decision for the moment.— No orders have been issued.

c) Preliminary alert (Jodl-Gercke).— Start of operation "Gelb" not before middle of next week. — Führer does not let himself be hurried. The three-day preliminary alert will be dropped after next Sunday.

Noon: Farewell luncheon for Hungarian Attaché Hardy, and welcoming of the new Attaché, Honlok.

Wagner: a) Order to Kaupisch on his functions in Denmark.

b) Difficulties in the supply organization for Norway.

c) Logistical preparations for Southeast (Ammunition: Stocked for one month). Establishment of dumps will take 10 days. Food rations on hand for 75 days. Fuel: 25,000 cbm required; 33,500 cbm will be stocked. Seven fuel quotas. "Daily supply requirements: 6,000 tons, i.e. 14 railroad trains; if one-third goes by river, we need, per day, 2,000 tons of water craft and 4,000 tons of railroad transport (9 trains)."


b) Filling of posts at High Command East after reorganization.

19 April 1940.

0830 – 1200: Demonstration of bridge launchers at
Klausendorf.
Demonstration of remote-controlled mine demoli-
tion apparatus.
Schlaraffia mine bridges*.


1330 von Ziehlberg: a) Young officers for Oslo.
b) Late hours of celebrations at the officers' mess.


1500 Report to Oddi:

North
1. Norway—Young Officers—Storch planes**
2. Denmark: Report by Kossmann:Eleventh Rifle
Bag, for XXI Corps, No police! Bridge
3. To Narvik: Only one train with medical
supplies and food for beached naval crews.

East
4. OKW has been informed of reorganization
in High Command East. No objections.
Successor for Gliennath: Bberth-Mittel-
berger. Koerner must be taken out, together
with Sockelberg. Vogel, Deputy Chief of
Staff.

South—east
5. OKW directive not yet signed by Keitel,
because of Hungary. Winter's Memorandum.
Vienna Supply Base.

South
6. Italy: First delays.

Op. Sec. a) Falkenhorst has not got a single plane. Has
to depend entirely on Vassberg—Lueneburg.***
He wants to have a) bombers, b) Storch planes.
Eight out of 22 steamers sunk!

b) Thielke: Teletype communications with Oslo
often interrupted.

c) Air Force officers wear Army uniform while
attached to Army.

d) Situation of Romania is friendly. Air base
in Bulgaria.


OQu IV: a) Sweden determined to defend borders. Crack
Swedish troops in ore district.

b) Fuehrer's view on negotiations with Hungary.
Gen. Staff conversations approved generally,
but must be preceded by political talks to obtain clarification of the partner's position.

c) Liss: Report on road blocks on the Belgian border in sector of Fourth Army.

20 April 1940.

0745 Celebration of the Fuehrer's Birthday on the athletic field. Address.

0915 Gen. Staff Officers recently transferred to OK: report.

Wagner: Reports from Norway.—Results of spot checks on supply arrangements for Kleist's Group. Supply dumps are being established.

Redke: Telegrams to Oslo and Copenhagen expressing our recognition of the achievements.

Gen Brand: Result of investigation of muzzle velocity* (powder believed the cause). Explains incidents at exercise where casualties resulted from own Artillery fire.—Results of training courses.

Wagner: Terboven** reported going to Oslo as Representative of the Reich Government.—Question of Executive Power.

Heim: Slunders of the Commander of 28th Div. in the treatment of Sudeten Germans.—Procedure for reporting acts above the call of duty.

OQu I: Developments in relations with Italy. Present: OQu IV, Keyer—Ricks.

Evening Thwarted drive to theater in Berlin ("Measure for Measure").

21 April 1940.

Morning in Berlin. Noon return to Zeppelin.***

Buhle: a) Prior to 1 August the Field Army will receive 1,000 trucks each month, (3,500 in all;
the remainder goes to new activations in the Zr. Of these, the first 800 or so will be sent to new activations at the front (Signal units for "Braun", Gen Qu, etc.).

b) Requisitions for more activations for "Braun" and Supply Services.

c) Fuel, full operational quota for 4½ months, thereafter only 50%.

d) 82/.02 AT rifle.

e) Requisition to BdZ for three Regts. of six-barreled Rocket Projectors.

f) Arms production program.

g) Division Staffs on special assignment (zbV).

Thoma – Fühle: Arm. Rail. cars. (are to remain with the troops, but ruling will be issued on their employment.)

Schmidt (Captain in the Gen. Staff) reports on flying visit to Oslo.

22 April 1940.

Winter (Op. Sec.): Revision of the strength estimates for Southeast.

Kinzell: Rumors of naval movements in the Eastern Mediterranean are not confirmed. Apparently false report launched by enemy.

Gercke: Talk with Jodl has produced no concrete clues to intentions for "Gato". Three-day preliminary alert period in force again. Coal trains from Ruhr and Silesia, potato trains; **backlog of 15 trains.

Gen Qu: a) Gas protective equipment: 75% of the troops have been issued protective sheets in pouches. Issue will be 100% within a few days. Light protective clothing: 25% short; heavy protective clothing: 100% issued. Decontamination agents not yet on hand; lack of containers. Decontamination canisters 50% short; arrive within the next few weeks.
b) Six-barreled Rocket Projectors good only for area fire; large dispersion.

c) Court-martial questions. Desertions are increasing.

d) Miscellaneous current matters.

**Erfurth:**

a) Sequence: The great strategic picture. — Individual studies (Azura, etc.) — Official History of the War.

b) War Journals. — Activity reports. **(New directives).**

c) Promotion of military studies at Universities (Friesner).

Mieth brings draft plan of AGp. C for offensive "Braun".

von Greiffenberg: Jodl says that "gelb" will not be launched before Friday.

Ochsner: reports on gas protective equipment and on French phosphorus shell.

Roehricht: Revised assignment of missions for CGs in Rear Areas.


Jacob: a) Fire on pillboxes on the Upper Rhine # was from Hotchkiss 2.5 cm AT gun. Gun and projectile have been known all along!! Org. Sec. OQu IV***.

b) Construction on Spicherer position — Link-up with the Sein to the west.

c) New High Command East: Reorganization in Eng. Corps Command, #7 to "fit into new system.

d) BridgeCNs.: One immediately, one early in May, three during May, four in June, five in July, and five in Aug., totaling 19; no traction.

e) Training in river operations: Sarge nemen to be taken out of Inf. Cos.

f) Misuse of Construction Engs. to help out in Supply. (Issue order!)**

**Gehlen:** a) Organization of defense in Military District XVIII **#**
b) Assignment of Labor Service units to High Command East.

von Greiffenberg:

a) Polish Artillery for the Upper Rhine will be ready this week.
b) Sponeck is authorized to brief his officers down to the Regtl. COs.
c) Reported plan of the Fuehrer to send the Divs. from Denmark to Norway in exchange for Police.

von Ziehlberg: Current Gen. Staff personnel matters (Heim).

23 April 1940.

OQu IV: a) Situation in the North. — Dalmatia not until we have field to ourselves. Also Russia (Bessarabia). — Threat from Dardanelles greater now, but the British have no jump-off base.
b) Hungary, latter part of May.
c) Ciano? Mussolini wants to take over Foreign Ministry himself.

Ulex: a) Question of Training Centers in the San-Vistula triangle. (Camp and Training grounds constructed by the Army are to be kept by Army.)
b) Redistricting of the area of High Command East. The submitted plan seems to be more adapted to administrative than to defense needs. Must be talked over with High Command East.
c) Regional Defense Ene. Difficulties in Officers replacements.

Gen Qu: Food allowances: Cuts in meat and bread. Reduction of meat ration, effective 1 June. Soldiers' pay in Denmark: Proposal to credit part of the pay in German currency to soldiers' accounts at home, is disapproved.
Ger. Obst. Keitel:

1300 Only Mountain troops are suited for fighting north of Oslo. Accordingly, the Führer has ordered Second Mt. Div. to be moved north through Oslo, at the earliest. Report requested as to when Second Mt. Div. would be ready for shipment. Destination (Stettin or Aalborg) will then be decided by the OKW.

In its place, 170th Div. is released as of now (or else substitute Police troops).

1320 Discuss matter with Chief, Op. Sec.

1400 von Brauchitsch:

a) Replacement for Second Mt.Div.? Op. Sec. suggests 86th Div., and in its place 88th Div. in reserve to Grafenwoehr.

b) Then 170th Div. would for the time being remain where it is, so as not to aggravate the transport situation.

c) Eleventh Rifle Brig. reverts to us.

d) If a Corps Hq is needed, assign von Manstein's.

1410 von Greiffenberg: Second Mt. Div. can be moved between 25 Apr. 2200 and 27 Apr. noon, allowing 28 hours for journey.

1700 von Greiffenberg:

a) To replace Second Mt. Div., Fifth Inf. Div. will will be moved to the front, with 25th Inf. P. Div. taking its place; details must still be discussed with A.Gp. C. (Exchange of 169th Div. against 257th Div.)

b) Second Mt.Div., takes along equipment in full war strength (but without attached horse-drawn Artillery***) and mountain equipment.

Wagner - Stüelpnagel - Finkh: Supply units in operation. "Braun". Arrangements for establishing ammunition, food and fuel dumps. Fairly large supply base near the front, with enough supplies to maintain the follow-up echelons east of the Black Forest for as much as ten days. Order issued to initiate preparations.

Wagner: a) Succession of Terboven****

b) Equipment of Second Mt.Div.

c) Establishment of fuel dumps by Vienna Supply Base.
Gercke: Reports on conferences at the Reich Chancellery. Complete muddle. "Gelb" evidently not acute at the moment.

von Ziehlberg: von Buttlar proposed as Ia officer to Falkenhorst, who says that his present Ia is no good.

24 April 1940.


von Brauchitsch:


b) OKW order on assignment of six Police Bns. to Denmark.

c) Tank trouble. (Tank III reported unserviceable after 1500 - 1800 km.)

d) Next Assault Stry. due to be delivered on 1 May, to Oslo!

e) Activation of new Mt. Inf. Regt. is said to take six weeks. OktH will take matters in hand himself.

Roehricht: Training program for Eleventh Rifle Brig. Hannover. Training program in the event of a prolonged lull on the Western front.

von Greiffenberg - Buhle: OKW order on additional units to Oslo.


1530 Fuehrer conference:

a) Review of political situation: Teleki has sent Fuehrer a letter: "Heretofore Hungary had to make all the sacrifices, That must change. Suggests a three-power conference."
Fuehrer is afraid Hungary might want to use force against Romania. That certainly would not fit into our policy of maintaining peace on the Balkans, but we are sure, Hungary could do nothing of that sort by herself, would get a licking. The state is ripe for internal collapse. Last summer he was assured Hungary could not wage war for more than three days, for lack of ammunition, etc. Accordingly, they would immediately pile us with enormous demands.

Il Duce has done his best to keep Hungary quiet, but evidently has not been completely successful. Fuehrer therefore has got in touch with Il Duce through Mackensen, and will make his decisions dependent on Il Duce’s. He wants to leave the Southeast entirely to the Italians.

It is not unlikely that the Hungarians are being egged on by the British. Press rumors on German troop concentrations on the Hungarian-Slovak frontier are evidently launched by Hungary to get the Balkans stirred up. It would serve Britain’s interest very well to have the oil fields blazing, and it would not matter who puts the match to them. We vitally need the oil deliveries from the Romanian wells, at least until next spring. After that we should be freer.

Fuehrer has advised Il Duce: a) Hungary has made no sacrifices at all to date. b) Hungary must be restrained from acting alone, if only because of Yugoslavia. c) Precipitate action by Hungary might draw Russia to the Balkans, which would be a most serious business. Initiative is left to Il Duce.

b) Gen. Staff conversations with Hungary would not be expedient at this time, we might go as far as very discreet talks (with Werth) on railroad questions. (England and Hungary one heart and one soul, Koroscow, the man who played with us, has disappeared.)

Italy’s attitude on the Balkans questions will determine the character of our conversations with the Hungarian Gen. Staff. Gen. Staff conversations on a broad basis are ruled out. “Only normal exchange of views and no three-power conferences, which might be misconstrued and start interpret rumors.” (The Fuehrer has not yet forgiven the Hungarians for not letting him in the Polish campaign use the Kosice railroad, which they owe to him.)
c) Italy: Il Duce has informed his provincial chieftains that it may be only a matter of a few weeks before Italy enters the war on Germany's side. (Report from U.S.)

d) Basic military factors of a campaign on the Balkans are discussed. Führer approves our outline and expresses appreciation that we have been thinking ahead. Suggests that the Dardanelles and the Bosporus might be closed by air action from a base in the Brindisi area. Fails to question of surprise attacks on Greece and on British shipping in Gibraltar.

25 April 1940.

Greiffenberg: Situation in Norway. Important advances on the right wing (Tynset).


Wagner: Danish problems. -- Frontier crossing. -- Closing of the Swiss frontier.

Greiffenberg: Hungary. -- Italy. -- Launch rumors for benefit of French Intelligence Service.


"High Command East: Rembertow: - Schenkendorf, Cracow: - Kayser,** make good impression.

82/60 AT rifle***. -- Instructional Pamphlet for Med. Inf. Fnn, SPA.

Thoma - Buhle: Instruction regarding development of tank design: Tank III (Czech) and Tank III (German).

OQu IV: a) SS Regt. Nordland: Start with one Bn., one-half Germans and Norwegians, one-half SS. To be activated at Klagenfurt. All members are to be made into champions of the Germanic Empire idea.
b) Report by Liss on the British in Norway.

c) General political situation (Fuehrer conference of 24 Apr.).

Roehricht: current matters of Eng. Sec.: Administrative care of G.Hq reserves. — Security regulations for wartime field exercises. — Gaunholder, etc., must be declared "essential for war effort".

OQu I, II, Chief Op. Sec.: Presentation of plans for operation "Braun" and issue of orders to AGp.C.

2100 Belgian Cabinet has resigned.
Reich Chancellery states on inquiry that this does not change the situation.

26 April 1940.

OQu IV (on phone) reports resignation of the Belgian Cabinet and arrival of British prisoners from Norway, who are to be shown to the Fuehrer.

von Witzleben (Gen. Staff Tng. Course) report on current Gen. Staff Training Course.

Buhle: a) Thicker armor for our tanks (including M.IV) and re-equipment of units with improved M III tanks.

b) Corps Hqs: "We now have 40 (counting six completing activation in June, July and August) for 157 Divs. Ratio between Corps Hqs and Divs. 1:3.3. With ten more Divs. and the number of Corps Hqs unchanged, the ratio would be 1:3.5. For the time being we could get along on that."

c) The plan of giving us 120 Labor Service Ens. for special jobs is jeopardized by anticipated replacement requirements for casualties, which in fact would threaten the very existence of the Labor Service.

d) 82/02 AT rifle. Initially 60 until July; organize in G.Hq unit.
e) Nine Regional Defense Divs. will be ready in the East by 1 June; artillery: only one Btry. Short on complementary services!

f) Light Artillery Clms.* of Sixth Draft Divs. will be taken out, giving us 20 Clms.

_Gen. Obst. Keitel:_ I warn him against doing anything with British POW's, that might boomerang on German officer prisoners (interrogation in presence of journalists).


_Hungarian Qm IV, Ujazsy:_ Walk on the Balkans.


_Gehlen:_ Construction workers for the Upper Rhine Sector. Construction Bns. will carry on with fortifications; 40 Labor Service Bns. for preparations for "Braun".*
27 April 1940.

0930 (with Mieth): Present report to ObdH on "Braun".

No new viewpoints; only suggestion to use tapered-bore AT rifles on Upper-Rhine front.

Later alone I inform ObdH on current matters, including specifically:

a) My endorsement in his absence of the choice of Maier-Westfalen as Terboven's successor.

b) We shall leave them * in High Command East until needed.


Thiele: Possibilities for disrupting telephone connection between OKW and ObdH in Felsennest. **

von Greiffenberg: Order to detach mot. Engineers for Norway. I stress that this would hamper our effort in the West.

von Ziehlberg: Current Gen Staff personnel matters (Trierenberg).

28 April 1940 (Sunday, Berlin).

von Tippelskirch:


b) Trade negotiations between Germany and Sweden are running into snags, with Sweden insisting on freedom to carry on her foreign trade within existing treaties also outside the Baltic Sea.

c) OQu IV tour to Bucharest - Sofia - Belgrade. Mission for Sofia.

Weinknecht: Letter from Kaupisch regarding activation of SS Nordland in Denmark. Instructions for letter to Keitel, OKW: 1) Acknowledgement. 2) Mission. 3) Regulation of relationship with the political and military representatives.
Liss: New intelligence on the British Army extracted from documents captured in Norway: The five Divs. of the Second Draft which were thought to have been activated do not exist yet. Apart from those in France, in Norway they have two Brigades made up of independent Bns., and the 49th Div. (the former at Andalsnes, the latter at Namssok and Narvik). In addition, four French Bns. of Chasseurs Alpins have been identified.


von Stuelpnagel: Status of Italian preparations. Have made no progress. — Marraz. — Proposal to launch the offensives against Holland and Belgium not at the same time. (Rejected)

Walda: Report on Norway. Transfer of air units to that theater affects AGs B (units remaining have only two-thirds of their striking power). An alert period of no less than three days will be needed. — Aerial photographs.

Neyer-Ricks: Report on his trip to Italy. On the whole very cheering, general atmosphere favoring participation on our side, but slow progress in the preparations for the conferences.

OFe: Appointment of CGs for Corps Hqs now being activated. Speak for one, Koch (254th) for another (arrangements for a successor must be made expeditiously).

von Greiffenberg: Six Replacement Bns. to Denmark; in return 170th Div. will go south. In anticipation of possible demands for additional Mt. units, we must by mid-May complete current activation of the Repl. Mt. Regt. There would be no shipping space available before that time. If a Corps Hq (reduced) is wanted, give them Greiff.


Denmark: CG is complaining about interference by OKW.

30 April 1940.

Jodl: (in reply to inquiry): Perhaps another five days or so. *

ObdH: Situation in Norway. If a Corps Hq (reduced) is needed for Norway, send XXXXV (Greiff). SS Nordland still has no armament; we cannot give them any. Inquire at OKW as to mission and powers for Denmark. --- Denmark: Are two Replacement Regts. necessary? Is 196th Div. to be relieved by Replacement units?

von Greiffenberg: Distribution of situation maps and situation reports. --- Current matters.

von Etzdorf: Next target date: Sunday, 5 May.

Rochricht: Instructional Pamphlet for "blanket smoke". "Acoustic battle background". New invention to simulate combat noises.

Brand: Proposal Agp. A:

a) Appoint more Army Artillery Commanders (Liege, Heinemann: "Braun", John; staffing of Regts. no difficulty).

b) School for Artillery tactics and methods. (Not now!)

c) Artillery firing programs.

1 May 1940.

1000 Conference with ObdH.

a) Wagner: Report on logistical preparations for "Braun".

Suggestions:

Talk with Gercke about field railways.
Repair workshop for the Upper Rhine front.
Air Force must be informed!
Signal network (what cable stocks).
Bridge launching vehicles.

Conduct of offensive and logistics: Get a clear picture through a map maneuver!

OQu I.
Smoke to cover crossing; troops must get smoke candles! (With Roehricht.)

Roehricht: Technique of the Rhine crossing (tactical questions). Employment of smoke to cover the crossing; what is to be done after we are on the far bank? OQu I, Eng. Section.

b) Terboven must release Raeder.* Gen Qu must talk with Ministry of Interior and Party. Gen Qu.

c) BdE has been directed by ObdH to draw up a development program for all weapons, with a view to reducing the number of types. Afterwards joint conference Gen Staff and BdE. Org. Sec.

d) Hungary, Sweden: Ask Jodl.

e) Current questions: Who is responsible for rehabilitation of depleted Divs.? -- SS Nordland. Letter to Jodl. -- Additional Generals on special assignment (zbV) (Fochrenbach, Weihen). Team III. (Progress of reconditioning work at Baumholder.) Mundsteedt's recommendation concerning Artillery. (ObdH approves appointment of small number of Corps and Army Artillery Commanders.)

1230 Canaris: Review of current matters; SS in Norway. -- Women will be excepted in attacks. -- Southeast. -- Boetticher.

1600 Buhle:


b) Operational mobility of Armor (divided by railroad). ***

c) Mobility of Divs. equipped for operations in hill country. ObdH.

d) Cooperation with Ordnance Office (e.g., magnesium charges# -- amphibious tanks). ObdH: They don't let us in on what they are doing! Activation of a Mt. Div. in M11, District XVIII. Adverse effect on mobility of the Divs. in the Vosges Mts.

e) High Command East Divs. (Second Instalment) will not be ready before June.

f) Med. Artillery. (Fuehrer wants one Med. Artillery Regt. one High-angle Fire Bn., one Flat-trajectory. sn., one AAA sn. per Division.)
We have at present 103 Divs. with one, 20 Divs. without any med. Bn. GHq has at present:

- 33 10 cm Gun Bns.
- 21 Mixed Bns.
- 42 m/1 Fd. How. Bns.
- 6 med. Gun Bns.
- 118 Bns., excl. of Railway Artillery.

Deliveries from production between May and August:

- 2 10 cm Gun Bns.
- 24 Bns.

In addition, 10 med. Fd. How. Bns., horse drawn, for Inf. Divs.

Heimg: Current matters: Relaxation of rules for training exercises prior to commissioning and promotion of Party Leaders, similar to procedure in the Sl. -- Radio broadcasts on Army Leaders, etc.

Hausinger: Alert to be ready for attack order as of 4 May, noon. -- Current matters.

2 May 1940. (Berlin, Ascension Day).

von Puttkamer: Communications between Bergen and Oslo restored: Norwegian General in Andalnees has initiated surrender negotiations.

von Etzdorf: Britain: Shipping detoured around Mediterranean. "Precautionary measure!": Italy: Ciano speaks to the Yugoslav Envoy "shaking his forefinger at him".

Allies: Report through the Hague: Latest War Council meeting discussed the question of removal of British Government to Canada. Spanish Minister in Rome reports "spreading gloom" in the enemy countries, caused apparently by disappointment after announcement of initial victories in the North.

Sweden: Negotiations on arms transit to Harvik. Authorization of arms transit in exchange for AAA! Foreign Office has given instruction to Uthmann * and German Minister. Introduction of the subject of AAA deliveries has restored the interrupted negotiations. Earlier informal inquiries regarding arms transit had not registered in Sweden.
von Etzdorf is asked to keep ObdH currently informed on instructions sent to our Minister in Sweden.

3 May 1940.


von Stuelpnagel: Talk with Marras. — Railroad agreement with Italy concluded. — One or two Regts. of five or six Divs. must get special equipment for operations in the Vosges Mts. (Pack Clms., alpine knapsacks.)

von Brauchitsch: General exchange of views.

Detlefsen: Falkenhorst wants to attack Narwas — Woytasch, Pellengahr and Second Mt. Div. Needs also a Corps Hq (reduced) with Corps Signal Bn. for Oslo and Labor Service Bns.

1200 - 1300 Führer addresses officer candidates in the Sportpalast.


Gen Qu (Wagner):

a) Evacuation (care of property in the evacuated zone). Kossmann.

b) Columns: of total of 148 Clms., 120 are now fully replenished, 18 reduced to personnel units, 10 deactivated.

c) Assignment of SS to Denmark.

d) Raeder remains in AGp. E; acting deputy for Terboven appointed.

Canaris: Assigned for duty in Norway:

a) Two SS Regts. (including one Bn. at sec, one Bn. leaving Friedrichshafen on 7 May), consisting of Recruit Bns. Prague, Bruecn, Strausun.

b) Six Police Bns. (five from Berlin, one from Bremen). Two have already passed across. The units will receive their assignments from the Military Governor.
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Lipison Off. at Army Hqs: Briefing for A-Day.

Rochricht: Reassignment of the Generals on special assignment (zBV) after departure of the Corps Hqs that were in charge of training.

von Greiffenberg: Current matters.

von Stuelpnagel: It appears from a remark by Marras that the U.S. are trying to exert pressure on Italy; we may expect a lively diplomatic offensive and an exchange of important notes between Rome and Berlin in the next few days.

4 May 1940.

von Stuelpnagel: Talk with Marras: Italian Gen Staff is sceptical about success of an offensive on the Alpine front or in Libya. On the other hand, they are obviously interested in the Balkans front, for which the deficient equipment of the Italians would suffice. Von Stuelpnagel is instructed to inform Chief OKW. Attention is to be called to Crete.


Chief, Op. Sec.: 96th and 260th Div. (in addition to 78th) have equine influenza epidemic. Air reconnaissance for ObdH on A-Day. Fuehrer reported wanting. Replacement Bns. kept out of Denmark.

von Etzdorf: Exchange of letters Il Duce - Fuehrer occasioned by verbal communication of the U.S. Government: Extension of war is Germany's fault. Further extension is feared. In that eventuality, the U.S. will not be in a position to keep out any longer. President hopes that Italy is aware of that. Il Duce: Allies to blame for extension of the war. Germany is against any extension, as is Italy. "No peace is possible without solution of the basic problems of Italy's freedom. Italy is prepared to cooperate in a better organization of the world as the situation permits and on condition that the reality of accomplished facts is recognized." Fuehrer: (Letter of 3 May): Reviews the developments in Scandinavia.
Operations completed in southern and central Norway; now northern Norway is being cleaned up.

Concerning the American statement: "I think the undertone of threat ringing through all of Roosevelt's utterances is sufficient grounds for us to be on our guard and bring the war to a close as quickly as possible."

Sweden: We deliver AAA in return for arms transit to Narvik. In the negotiations with the Military Attaché, Sweden at first gave an evasive answer pointing out that the problem was one involving the entire complex of neutrality, but conversations will be resumed after examination of the question by the Cabinet. Meeting Ribbentrop - Guenther?

!! Italy: The State Secretary believes, that Italy is determined to attack Yugoslavia in any case, once she enters the war. Attolico has corroborated that interpretation.


Jacob:

a) Rosenheim: * The necessary number of "Rhine Engineers" from OKH will be collected from home units (Special Training Bn). Bn. will be activated on 10 May and start training after Whitsun.

b) LZ bridges,** Ten have been prepared.

c) Penetration of armor plates and turrets by 2.5 cm projectiles. Additional protection ordered.

d) Cracow.

e) Labor Service wants to be sent to the frontline!

f) 34,500 tons of steel for period 1 July - 1 Oct. (against 78,000 tons in the last quarter). 21,000 tons required for wire obstacles alone. -

Buhle: Organizational matters. — Equipment of Inf. Divs. for operations in hill country: 100 cars and pack animals for two Regts. of each Div., i.e., 200 per Div. Equipment available for four Divs. In addition, each one of these Divs. could be supplied with a Mountain Vehicle Clm. from Mtl. District XVIII, and two Pack Clms. from the Pfcelzer Wald.

Chief Op. Sec.: A-Day: Earliest date 6 May, postponement to 7 May probable; if the offensive starts on 6 May, order will come not later than 5 May.

In the evening we learn of the passing of Frau Major Srl, my mother-in-law.
5 May 1940.

von Stuelpmagel: Report on plan for operation "Braun". Apart from a few minor points (estimate of forces for Luxembourg, only German troops committed on front of left wing,) the proposal of Adm. C is absolutely sound.

von Ziehlberg: Request of Army Hq that von Vormann be relieved. Will be replaced by Faekenstedt, Pohlmann in Central Branch.

Fuhrer conference: Review of the Italian situation: Il Duce has forwarded three letters to the Fuhrer:
1.) Reynaud's letter "a piece of craven whining", to which Il Duce replied in a manner which formerly would have been grounds for war.
2.) From The Pope, preaching a peace of justice. Reply; The Allies had a chance to make such a peace, but they chose Versailles and so caused the conflict.
3.) On Roosevelt's steps in Rome (covered by earlier information from the Foreign Office).

Military preparations: Another age group will be called up by 15 May. Additional forces by 24 May. The target set is 2 million men under arms. QQu IV, QQu I.

Internal situation: Mussolini has on his hands a though struggle against the Crown, the nobility and the Church. Also finance and industry are for the most part against the war. In the Army, large sections of the Officers Corps oppose the war and side with King and Crown Prince (who is the most vicious German hater).

Balkans: Hungary is still causing concern (QQu IV). Mussolini, just as much as the Fuhrer, is against three-power talks; such talks would only attract the attention of the whole world. A new possibility suggested is that Hungary might work together with Russia. If Hungary strikes alone or only with Bulgaria as an ally, defeat is certain. Italy admits that the "laborers" sent to Albania are really soldiers.

North: Norway as far north as Namsos will not be given out of our hands. There has been no decision yet as to the form by which Denmark is to be incorporated into our national territory.

Allies: Atmosphere is pessimistic. In the event of serious military reverses, we may expect either a complete change-over or extensive alterations. Chamberlain's Cabinet will not be overthrown at the present moment. Only when Britain will have to bear
the brunt of the war set off by him, will an anti-
war party rise in the country.

Russia: The antagonism between Italy and Russia
affords us excellent opportunities in the political
field.

6 May 1940

Mieh: Conference with Leeb on "Braun". Results. --
Southeast Studies turned over to GHQ I. -- Courses
of action opening in the event of a peaceful
settlement with Holland. -- Plans for the event
that we must do "Braun" alone.

von Etzdorf: Weizsaecker: Italy's entry into the war
will set the Balkans ablaze. Italy must secure for
herself the basin of Greece. This would bring Turkey
into the conflict. The Balkans will be on fire.

Italy's attitude: Mussolini will come after we have
gained one or two spectacular successes in the West.
British preventive action against Italy is not
feared, because Britain does not want to force an
Italian decision.

Moscow: Russo-Italian relations. Molotov has sound-
ed our Ambassador as to whether the Italian Govern-
ment has expressed any readiness to exchange envoys.
Schulenburg: Yes.-- The Russian Government evidently
is in no hurry. Schulenburg: The tension between
Russia and Italy is caused by Italy's objection
against the projected understanding between Russia
and Bulgaria.

At the moment, economic negotiations are in progress
between Russia and Yugoslavia. The press in Rome and
Berlin differs in the interpretation of British
naval concentrations in the Mediterranean.

Kaupisch: a) 198th Div. Proposal regarding withdrawal,
timing, replacement, etc. will be submitted.
b) Admiral Carl thinks that a landing attempt
by motor torpedo boats on the Danish coast
must not be ruled out (Jæmmerbugt). We con-
sider this unlikely, at this time. It may
not be impossible later on, when the military-
political situation has changed; hence, we
must organize defense of the coast. Mobile
forces!
c) Danish weapons: Will eventually be removed for use elsewhere. Ordnance Teams must be provided in time.

d) Danish Officers Corps must be given something to do. OibH has been weighing the idea of recruiting volunteers for German Army, that is, theoretically. My standpoint: Can be done only after preparatory propagandizing; severance of inner ties to England.

e) Utilization of workshops, shipyards, etc.

f) All sorts of dubious characters are arriving from Thomas' office (black market operators).

g) Handling of press releases through the Foreign Office takes too much time. Cultural propaganda?!

von Brauchitsch informs me on his talks with Keupisch, which are substantially the same as mine.

von Greiffenberg - Buhle:

a) Discuss possibilities of relieving 198th Div. in Denmark by Regional Defense units (8 Bns., possibly Staff Fclmy) as of 1 June.

b) Requisitioning of armament and factories in Denmark.

Jeschonneck: a) Operation Southeast, b) Narvik, c) Liaison at the start of the operation.

Wagner: Major not Chief of Civilian Administration. Raeder Chief of Civilian Administration (in addition to his role of Administrative Chief); Terboven's deputy will be a high-ranking civil servant (Vicepresident).**

Buhle: Means for achieving mobility in mountain warfare.——


Brandt: Heinemann, — Eberth, Army Artillery Officers;

Eismannsberger to the East, to replace Heinemann. — Flat fire — high-angle fire.

OibH: K 3 and K 5. K 12 Gun?
Homlok (Hungarian Attaché): Outline my ideas for the orientation of Gen. Werth.

a) Political foundation still lacking. No three-power talks. (He mentions political visit after 20 May.) We have a vital interest in peace on the Balkans, and so has Italy.

b) Preliminary planning can be only of theoretical character. It should be done on the following basis:

1.) Each partner works with his own resources.
2.) Hungary furnishes covering force for assembly of troops.
3.) Hungary in the North, we in the South. (Aid to Bulgaria, cover against Yugoslavia on Romanian territory.)
4.) Demarcation line: Bihar Mountains.
5.) Exploration of utilization of railroad, road, signal communications and airfield facilities against the event that we should have to move swiftly into the southern assembly area. Will be the subject of special conversations.
6.) No planning data in writing.

von Greiffenberg: Stopping possible at 1200. Order for the event of postponement of A-Day: (automatically 9 May, same x - hour).

Survey Bn. (partially mobile) assured for 15 May. Delay in conclusion of German-Italian railroad agreement.

Mith: Review of changes in assembly order for Eighteenth Army in the event of surrender of the Dutch Army.

Keitel 1213: Augsburg. **


OQu IV: Balkans unanimously against war. — Romania: Much German spoken. — Oil: 120,000 tons a month.
Morocco: Not afraid of England and France, but all the more of Russia. — Bulgaria: Frightened. Prime Minister sensible, Foreign Minister not military-minded. — Yugoslavia: Masses sympathetic, made so by experiences of the last war; they want no war; afraid of Italy, barrier against Hungary. —
Railroad Belgrade - Nish not out of question.
Defenses in good shape. They resist no British military operations in their country.

Foreign Armies West: Dutch radio at 1700 recalled military personnel from furloughs.

Buhle: Activation of Mountain Corps. (Only XII Corps can do it.)

6 May 1940

QU IV: Recall of furlough personnel in Holland apparently unrelated to our abortive start. Railroad traffic reduced. Air observation yields no results (ground fog, deep ceiling).

Voroshilov has resigned.

von Graffenberg: -- -- **

von Ziehlberg:

a) If railroads are not notified until 1200, we will not be able to leave before 2000, and so arrive at Godesberg before 0700.

b) By air: Tomorrow 35 officers (four planes); beginning day after to-morrow, 47 officers. (Will take off and land on several fields.) Flight will take 3 hours; arrival at 1700 at the latest, if order is given at 1200.

c) Special trains remain where they are.***

d) If trains are used: Tomorrow just as planned; beginning day after tomorrow two trains will stand by to leave at 2000 (without AAA and automobiles). Would arrive 0700 - 0800. --

Tentatively: Tomorrow either rail or air, after tomorrow both railroad and planes. ObdH.
Train D 9. Train FD 7.*

1) ObdH: Fuehrer nervous. Leaks? Complication for political strategy if bad weather delays start.

2) Mountain Corps. Will Second Mt. Div. remain in Norway? Will newly activated third corps stay down here? Can be decided only by Falkenhorst. Harvik? take over anything that is left. Clear instructions
5.) OQu I. Führer has vetoed sending of any arms to Italy (exception; one Experimental AAA Bn.).
7.) AT units for Dietrich. Org. Sec.
8.) Roehricht.
   a) Analysis of British reports.
   b) Defense in blanket smoke:
   1.) From defense line as far forward as possible (in anticipation of a coordinated enemy advance). Flanking fire must replace frontal fire.
   2.) Counter thrust taking advantage of our knowledge of the terrain and of the superiority of the German Infantry man. Tng. Sec.

Notes for ObdH:
   a) Teletype from Bock: "Keep Falkenhausen ready as representative". Führer: Course of action if Holland does not offer any opposition.
   b) Gercke - 3000 --.
   c) Roehricht: Liaison Officer Army Hq. left Tuesday morning, wanted to be there Tuesday night.
   d) Maier not Chief of Civil Administration.

9 May 1940.

Hueller (Gen Qu): Action on Bock's proposal concerning centralized administration of occupied territory under OKH.

von Brauchitsch: Teletype Bock - Roehricht.

OQu IV: Alarm reports from von Neuhausen (Yugoslavia): Toussaint is burning files. -- Atmosphere tense. --

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Mobilization continues. — Rumors that French and British tanks have landed. — Leaflets dropped by planes. — Rumors that three Corps are deployed on Albanian border (in reality three Divs.) — The facts are that the Serbian Army has been brought up to war strength, but Reserve Divs. probably have not been mobilized.

Jodl:

a) Inquiry re Ley’s Training Course (Hauptschulsungsleiter* Schmidt) at Burg Wannsee School: Schooling for administrators of territories to be occupied in the West, which will be the prospective Reich Gaue 43 – 45.** 120 Kreisleiter*** attend first class, closing on 9 May. New Class starting 18 May.

b) Holland — Belgium: French — British operation to mine Dutch river estuaries "Egmont" minor naval forces, both surface craft and submarines 7/8 May.


Yugoslavia: Foreign Office (Weizaecker) expects military action by Italy against Yugoslavia. "Essential" measure of Navy to safeguard the Adriatic Sea.

von Greiffenberg: 10 May. 0635.###

Keitel Pers. Div.: Cochenhausen (Nuernberg) disapproved for Soldan’s post; Erfurth is to do it.
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Notes on 1940 Calendar inserted at end of vol. III

Geheime Kommandoaboshe

January

23.) Armor
24.) Org. Sec.
25.) Godlesberg

28.) 50 and 60.
29.) Org. Sec., Transp. Sec.

February

2. Plus two Divs.
3. 
4. 
5. 
6. 
7. Map maneuver at AGp. A.
8. 
15. (Conclusion of regrouping?
16. (Detached personnel units replenished.
17. (Landwehr MG Bn. reorganized.
18. (Sixth Div. Sixth Draft activated.
20. Command set-up Upper Rhine operational.
25. K.L. reorganized. */"K.L." */ unidentified/

March

1. Completion of Artillery program.
( 28 5 cm Bys.
( 21 8.8 cm AAA Artys( Czech) static ) Guns only.
(Personnel, trucks not yet allocated.

10. Commitment of static units on the Upper Rhine, Relief Divs.
( 161st, 167th, 168th, 161st (Seventh Draft) ###
15. ( XXXVIII, XXXXI Corps. 4 Fortress Divs.*###

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20. 168th, 183rd, 196th, 197th (Seventh Draft).

31. 82nd. (Strangles!) (Sixth Draft.)

(April.

No entries after 30 April 1940/