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Volume V

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THE PRIVATE WAR JOURNAL
OF
GENERAL OBERST FRANZ HALDER

**Chief of the General Staff
of the
Supreme Command of the German Army (OKH)**

14 August 1939 to 24 September 1942

VOLUME V

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VOLUME V.

31. October 1940.

Morning 1030 hrs. Arrival at Zossen. Staff ready for work.
Accommodations very well prepared.

von Stuelpnagel (Armistice Commission):

- a) Conference with Laval and Huntzinger in Abetz' office this afternoon. French proposals, based on the Fuehrer/Pétain conference. Speidel will be there. Abetz will immediately take the French proposals to Berlin.
- b) Greece: Progress seems to be very slow.
- c) Chemical warfare documents: The matter is getting under way. Lt. Col. von Horn has been detached to the French Laboratory at Bourges. According to the French specialists, they have no new gas, nor have the British.

von Ziehlberg: Progress report on construction work on Ghd. East.
Baurat Henne* waits trucks from us. (Have not got any!) von Ziehlberg will go there himself.

Heusinger:

- a) Fuehrer wants to talk to von Thoma.
- b) Organizations requested by us for Spain: At the moment the Reichsmarschall won't let us have the Reconnaissance Staffel and AA Bn., which were to participate in our exercises; he wants to speak to the Fuehrer first.
- c) Army Hq. 1, Fontainebleau.
- d) Capt. Koch (Navy) will be in charge of loading operations at Naples: "39 German ships available in the Mediterranean, 21 of them have been put in dock by the Navy." One ship ready on 10 November.
- e) Greek situation: Little progress.
- f) Preparations for Spain: Readyng of the reconnaissance parties in civilian clothes with camouflaged (French) cars and a truck column for supplies and fuel. Assembly at Bordeaux is being prepared. Application of "gas explosion"*** still requires further study on the spot.

Wagner (Gen Qu): Huntzinger at the Paris conference submitted a Memorandum containing demands concerning the Army, Air Force and Navy. Huntzinger is pressing. The French seem to be genuinely anxious to fight England and De Gaulle. At this conference the following questions were raised: POWs, Demarcation line, question of the Northern Departments. These questions cannot be handled by the Armistice Commission and the OKW alone, the Army must be called in. In the following

phone talk with Jodl. I make it clear that an Army representative must participate in negotiations dealing with questions and demands affecting Army interests. The Armistice Commission is not in a position to understand all implications. (ObdH has been informed.)

Oou IV: 10 - 15 November: Conference with Italy in Innsbruck with the Military Attachés of both countries present. (Not the Military Commanders).

Question of sending an Armd. Div. to Libya will be deferred till then. Badoglio suggests we should send larger forces to Romania. (Nonsense! He probably wants to have us ready for "Bulgaria"). Greece expects from England only material aid for the time being. Bulgaria is quiet.

ObdH: a) Florence Conference went off smoothly. Mussolini is not opposed to our relationship to France. Greek question was not even touched upon; only mention was made of the "Note", which has been sent to Greece(!). Extension of the war on the Balkans is to be avoided.

b) Talk on future assignment for von Stuelpnagel. ObdH wants to keep II Corps open only till 1 December. If by that time von Stuelpnagel has not been released from the Armistice Commission, he will get IX Corps; should peace be concluded, he becomes Chief of Army Equipment.

1 November 1940.

Talk with von Stuelpnagel (Armistice Commission) on OKH participation in studying Huntzinger's proposals.

Radke: Party Propaganda speakers to the troops during winter. --- Langemark celebration. --- Current matters.

Capt. Buerkner (Navy): Information on situation in Europe. Adds nothing new of any importance. Our impressions on the conversations with Franco and Petain are confirmed. Apparently our views on what is and is not possible in Egypt seem to be new to OKW. Admiral Canaris wants to be the go-between in initiating negotiations with Spain. (Gathering of information).

Buhle: a) Czech-equipped Division. Exchange of trucks already ordered. Drawbacks of any changes introduced now outweigh benefits.

b) Allocation of tanks to Armd. Div. Tanks from Fourth Armd. Div. to Fourteenth Armd. Div. Amphibian tanks: Four weak Bns. to Eighteenth Armd. Div.*
Conversion of mot. Inf. Div. to Armd. Div.
Personnel Replacement Transfer Bns.

c) Reports back from leave.

Heusinger: Order regarding Gibraltar reconnaissance is being prepared.

Qu IV: Buzzings from the Reich Chancellery (Engel).*

- a) Conference with Laval was a success. The Fuehrer wanted the French to state officially that England is the trouble maker. The sooner this Power is removed, the quicker will peace be restored in Europe.
- b) Conferences with Franco did not satisfy. "Jesuit swine", "misplaced Spanish pride".
Fuehrer's line of argument: Joining the Tripartite Pact is not primarily adhesion to the Anticomintern Pact, but joining a combination to overthrow Britain's preponderance. Germany wants base on the Canary Islands and the Azores; the latter should be arranged with Portugal by Spain. This demand apparently has severely disillusioned the Spaniards, who are out only to gain their own ends without making any sacrifices. Spanish desire for active participation is very weak. Regaining Gibraltar is one of their national aspirations, but the material chances to do so are slight. They are still carrying on a brisk trade with England, e.g. ore against fuel. If we want Spain to come over to our side, we would have to supply her with all her needs. Navy (Doenitz) demands Spanish ports for submarine warfare.
In consideration of Spanish participation in the war the following stipulation has been made: Gibraltar will be captured by us and turned over to Spain, together with a part of French Morocco "provided France can be compensated elsewhere."
We have not succeeded in inducing Franco to enter the war right away.
- c) Pétain. The personality of the old Marshal has made a strong impression on the Fuehrer. Both Pétain and Laval are trusted by him. The Fuehrer has handed Pétain a Memorandum defining Germany's claims. It is very moderate as far as colonial and economic demands are concerned. France will retain her Colonial Empire. We need France in the fight against England. Pétain needs time for re-adjustment. Even the cooperation of the French Fleet against England appears possible eventually.
French attitude toward Italian demands: They are prepared to cede Tunis. Corsica still opposed; Nice was not discussed.
- d) Conference with Leopold** on Obersalzberg scheduled for the near future.
- e) Molotov has accepted the invitation for conversations in Berlin. (This is still not definite!) Fuehrer hopes he can bring Russia into the anti-British front.
- f) Il Duce: After the conferences with the French, Il Duce wrote an excited letter to the Fuehrer, in which he expressed alarm over a premature recovery of France (Dis-trusts military measures in her Colonies, etc.). The result was the Florence conference, where Il Duce became fully convinced that the Fuehrer is following the right policy toward France.

Il Duce: Italian Monarchy is playing a double game (keeps up its sleeve the possibility of going over to the other side); Italy has no outstanding Generals!

- g) Fuehrer very much annoyed at Italian maneuvers in Greece. Right now he is in a mood not to send anything to Libya and to Albania. Let the Italians do it by themselves! Diplomatic relations between Italy and Greece have not yet been broken off. A rupture of diplomatic relations between Greece and Germany is out of the question.

Evening to Berlin. (Air raid alarm).

2 November 1940. (Berlin).

Several talks with Admiral Canaris. Apparently he feels hurt that we thought he wanted to meddle in the business of the OKH. At my request he recalled Major Kautschke from Algiers. I call a joint conference with Op. Sec. Arty. Off. and Abwehr.

1600. Conference at OKH (Berlin) with Canaris, Heusinger, Ehlfeldt and Kautschke. The following arrangements were made:

- 1.) Kautschke turns over to Op. Sec. and Arty. Off. his material on Gibraltar (on Monday) and then goes to Kuebler, where he will receive additional detailed instructions. (Steinbauer).*
- 2.) Canaris will be at our disposal to get the necessary intelligence work under way and to make arrangements with Vigon and Franco for the shipment of our troops. His organization will also provide cover for our reconnaissance work against British intelligence. Overall impression on Spain: They are afraid of a conflict with England, and so are very much worried about a possible British landing in Spain or Portugal and an occupation of the Canary Islands by the British.
The internal administrative machinery has completely broken down: They are wholly dependent on England for food and fuel and deliver ore in return. Franco's position difficult, as he has nothing left to bolster him up and so cannot afford to take risks. His position is weakened rather than strengthened by Sener who is easily the best-hated man in Spain. Mutual understanding is handicapped by unwarranted hauteur and their morbid sensitiveness. To this must be added Franco's shyness. Canaris' conference with the Reichsmarschall: He has an impression of absolute lack of planning in the air operations against England.

3 November 1940.

(Berlin, Sunday).

Von Thoma saw the Fuehrer. Described his impressions in Libya.
Fuehrer stated that he has "written off" the Libyan affair.

Max, Gerti and Ruth for noon dinner.*

Reports are coming in from Paris on Huntzinger's demands which are calculated to prepare France for defense against England. (Conference of 31 October). The demands are grouped under the headings "Army" - "Navy" - "Air Force". Demands relating to the Army are quite moderate: Permission to carry on recruiting for the transitional Army ** also in the Occupied Zone. Increase in the strength of the North African Army by 20,000 men, to 120,000. Release of Officers and NCO's with North African experience from PoW camps. Permission to activate one reinforced Inf. Regt. with MG unit, Artillery, Engineers and Transport.

4 November 1940.

(Monday, Berlin).

1415. Meet ObdH at the Reich Chancellery. I outline to him my ideas on Spain. The Rock alone won't do it. The following questions present themselves:
Spain is exposed to a British attack and therefore relies on constant support. Economically she is on the verge of collapse and therefore also needs continuous economic assistance. Internally she is racked by the gravest tensions. We might as a result be forced to take sides in internal disputes.

Portugal: Military and economic dependence the same as Spain's.

North West Africa: Tangier, Morocco together with the Canary Islands may become British objectives (later perhaps in conjunction with U.S.). Northwest Africa together with Equatorial Africa may become the object of a great struggle between the European and Anglo-Saxon Powers.

1420. Fuehrer (present Keitel, Jodl, Deyle, Schmundt, Engel, ObdH and myself):

1.) Libya: Fuehrer has formed for himself the following picture:

a) More time is needed than was thought at first. We can no longer count on the Italians to start their thrust on Mersa Matruh before the end of December. This will be again followed by a delay for preparing the water supply, road building, etc. (Three months). Then comes the hot season. Nothing can be done before fall 1941.

b) Italy has informed us that she needs Tripolis herself as a supply base and would like us to take Tunis as our supply base.

- c) He has little confidence in Italian Generals. Italy wants us only "to save the blood of her own soldiers".
 - d) From the operational standpoint it is dangerous to use German troops in operations across seas which we do not control, and with an Ally who does not put in his last ounce to keep these seas open.
- 2.) Spain: Franco has promised in a letter to the Fuehrer that he would faithfully uphold the verbal agreements, viz. that he would enter the war on our side. Fuehrer now wants to hasten Spain's entry into the war.

Possible British reactions: The British might establish a foothold on the West African coast, or make landings in Morocco or on the Spanish or Portuguese Islands.

France has the will and the power to defend her territories unaided.

If necessary, Spain will have to be supported in defending her Islands.

- 3.) Question of the Islands: At present OKW is still weighing the question which islands are to be occupied and with what forces this should be done. OKH representative must be called in! (Heusinger).

4.) Gibraltar.

- a) At the same moment as we cross the Spanish frontier, our planes must be attacking the British Fleet in Gibraltar. An air base must be prepared in advance.
- b) Troops must be kept standing by to march into Portugal.
- c) Artillery must be shipped over to the southern shore of the Strait as soon as feasible.

5.) Greece:

- a) British attempts to establish air bases at Lemnos and Saloniki. Air defense service * has been advanced to the southern border of Bulgaria. Turkey's attitude probably noncommittal. (Attempt to mobilize Russia against Turkey).
- b) German Army must make preparations to support a swift march into Turkish Thrace.** Recommendations to OKW (Strength, time required).
- c) Air Force must make preparations for smashing the bases on Greek Islands.

- 6.) Turkey: This brings up the problem of Russia. The question cannot be tackled before Russia has been eliminated. With Bulgaria pressing in the South, Turkey can be kept quiet with the help of Russia.

- 7.) Russia remains the great problem of Europe. We must do our utmost to be prepared when the great showdown comes.
- 8.) U.S. If at all, not before 1942.
- 9.) "Seeloewe". Not before next spring. Preparedness must be maintained. (We seize this opportunity to stress the "improvements" achieved.)
- 10.) France: Will be helped to the extent of her contribution. Details of the new agreements which the Foreign Minister is going to conclude with Laval. First off the internees in Switzerland will be returned.*

Engel: 1.) French 7.5 cm guns. Air Force must get only as many of them as they can actually use. Org. Sec. What can we use them for? Several hundred are reported still unallocated.

2.) Population transfers in the East:

Danzig-West Prussia 50,000 - 60,000 Bessarabia Germans.

District of Zichenau 40,000 Lithuania Germans.

Warthegau - Posen 10,000 Bessarabia Germans.

Additional 150,000 - 160,000 Poles and Jews from the liberated Eastern territories will be transferred to the Government-General.

Our troops should have nothing to do with these movements, but should know what is going on. Nor must they be used for evacuations. Officers should be made aware that these movements have to be completed before the end of the war. Chief of Transportation.

1630: Conference with ObdH on the results of Fuehrer Conference:

a) Preparations in the East continue.

b) Preparations for "Seeloewe" continue.

c) Preparations for Spain:

1.) Heusinger must get in touch with Jodl for a conference regarding the Islands.

2.) Against Portugal: Corps Schmidt, consisting of Fourth Armd. Division and SS Deathhead..

3.) Over Schmidt and Kuebler: Command Staff Reichenau.

4.) Find out whether the Spaniards themselves will take care of coastal defenses. (OKW/Op. Sec.).

5.) If additional forces are needed for Northwest Africa: Third Armd. Div. and SS Adolf Hitler.

d) Bulgaria/Greece.

1.) Ascertain what forces are needed. Two Armd. Divs. (Second, Ninth) under XXXX Corps.

2.) Mt. or Inf. Divs. under another Corps, plus Engineers, Artillery, Signal troops.

3.) Over these two Corps: Group Kleist (Org. Sec. make arrangements).

e) Sponeck: Must get ready for air transport by the beginning of December.

f) Artillery: Captured enemy guns with personnel batteries from 13th Draft for Spanish and North African coast.

Spain: Get ready 15 cm and 10 cm guns; initially we may lend them some mobile batteries. Org. Sec.

Islands: Some captured enemy guns, with crews.

g) Explore methods for crossing of the Strait of Gibraltar.

h) Operations in the East: ObdH wants to put off presenting ~~plan~~ until 18/20 November. (Would that leave enough time?)

1800 Conference with General von Salmuth:

- 1.) Information on situation and movements in the East.
- 2.) Hasse to Kuechler, Tresckow for Hasse. Central Branch.

5 November 1940 (Zossen).

Took Ruth* to the station.

0930 at Zossen.

1100. Conference with OQu IV, Bogatsch, Gercke, Buhle, Heusinger, Baentsch and Kahlden.

Orientation on the Fuehrer Conference. Assignments (see notes of 4 November.)

1200 Heusinger:

- a) Makes report on his conference with Abwehr and Kautschke on 4 November.
- b) Facilities for Lahousen in Gibraltar must still be created.
- c) Mieth's report on French demands.
- d) Various current matters.

1300 Baentsch: Readying of rear services for special mission. Guards needed for Air Force installations in the West (AGp.A). Various current matters.

Reports from Bucharest:

- a) Russian Odessa Fleet has sailed for Batum. Russian officers in Istanbul.
- b) British troops have landed at three points in the Gulf of Saloniki.

OQu I reports back from Fontainebleau. Informs me on how the situation is viewed in Paris.

- Buhle: a) Third Armd. Div. also made available for use in colonial theaters. 25% of trucks are released for other uses. Release of 250 trucks for drinking water supply will be decided only after talk with Gotsche.
- b) Supply organization: Examination of supply columns personnel for fitness for tropical service will be dispensed with.
- c) Readying of Armd. units for Portugal: Sixteenth Armd. Div., Sixteenth mot. Div. not yet ready; investigate.
- d) Coastal artillery for Spain: About 40 Btrys needed.
- e) Heavy mortars, allocated for operation "Seelowe" above T/O requirements, will now be taken away for training of the Eastern Divisions (66 platoons)
- f) Fifth and Sixth Drafts must be equipped with German Field How. 18, instead of Czech guns!

OQu IV: Appointment of a Military Attaché to Portugal .

Current information: It seems that Mussolini is now prodding Graziani into action (Letter!) .

Gercke: Data about Bulgaria (Can at first only be done through Romania). -- Transportation situation difficult: Backlog of 650 trains. The trouble is mainly in the East, especially in the Government-General. (State within the State!). -- Trouble with French materiel taken over by us (Locomotives). Only 35 - 45% of the cars ordered for coal, potatoes and turnips can be furnished. -- The 3,000 locomotives and 100,000 cars, turned over by us to the State Railroads, cannot be returned.

6 November 1940.

von Bernuth: Discussion of the General Staff Training program during winter. A training Manual for Mountain warfare must be compiled. Current training questions. (Subjects for lectures during winter)

Heusinger:

- a) Next week conference Fuehrer/Mussolini.
- b) Gibraltar: Preparations for Lahousen's mission have been initiated. Twentysecond Div. fit for operations (also signal communications). Furlough restrictions in the units earmarked for Gibraltar.

Units for Portugal: XXXIX Corps Hq)
 Sixteenth Armd. Div.) Complementary
 Sixteenth Div. mot.) units still to
 SS Deathhead Div.) be allocated.

Army Command Reichenau (C of S Funk).

- c) Libya: Third Armd. Div. must be notified. No cancellation of Air Force Shipping space to Italy.
- d) Balkans: XXXX Corps Hq.: Second Armd. Div., Ninth Armd. Div. 60th Div. (must start moving!)
 SS Adolf Hitler.
 Sixth Mt. Div. (can give up its cadre, recruits can be trained somewhere else).
 164th Div. (Foltmann) and 100th Inf. Regt. (Reinforced) of Fifth Mt. Div. (in place of 78th Div., Gollenkamp) will be temporarily converted into Light Dibs.--

XXX Corps Hq. (must be talked over with AGp. B).

- e) General questions: Cut in activation of close range reconnaissance Staffeln (10 less). Complications in long-range reconnaissance.--
 Units ready to move 20 December or sooner.
 Apart from Armd. units only Furlough Divisions or "Light Division".

Talk with ObdH: a) For Spain Reichenau (with Funk) as representative of the Armed Forces. von Stuelpnagel gets Army Hq. 12.
 b) 18 ton flatbed trailers: - 86

Afternoon: Lt. Col. Rasp, Ia, Army Hq. 7, reports for briefing on operation Spain.

von Ziehlberg:

Report on East Prussia.
 Question of papers of the late Gen. Groener finally settled.
 Personnel matters (Tresckow, Hasse; Hasse to Kuechler - Kemmerich - Schoch).
 Library, etc. Organization in the future peacetime Army.
 Result of talk with OQu V.

7 November 1940

LOOO Ulex: Fortifications Section:

- a) Has a force of 28,000 laborers; also Guard Bns. (from deactivated Divisions) and Engineers working. In addition, 50 Reich Labor Service Bns.
- b) Narew bridgehead: Only local defences.
- c) Tank ditch continuous Ostrołka, Narew, Pisa, Suwałki.
"Chord" position* to Ostfluss river, but excluding Suwałki salient position.
- d) 120 completed pillboxes; Majority pillboxes (3 and 6 loopholes) over casemates. Internal furnishings still lacking; also arms.

Memel: Naval fortress. -- Submarine port. -- Direct inquiry from OKW about defenses against land attack.

Agriculture: Crop only 42%; horses badly fed.

Col. Ochsner: Army-Gas Defense Training Schools are now running. (Sixteenth Army: Lille, Sixth Army: Rennes). Two classes of 40 men -- one week.

Report on Army Gas Defense Depots. (All right!)

Report on French Chemical Warfare Center at Bourges (Stop Gas experiments).

Mortar fired Adamsite shells** Ready in spring. Our gasmask gives full protection.

Use of smoke against Gibraltar. (AA batteries and fire direction centers will be blinded by the Air Force at outset.)

Housing: Gohlen presents plan of operations against Northeastern Greece from Bulgaria. Time required for preparations: Movement of troops to the Theater and assembly. If railroad through Yugoslavia (Nish) available, six weeks. If railroad through Yugoslavia not available, ten weeks. XXX Corps Hq. can be freed in AGrp. B.

Demands on Air Force: The Reichsmarschall will see the Fuehrer on Tuesday to discuss our demands. We have asked the Air Force to see to it that ObdH at the least gets a reply from the Reich Marshal.

Gibraltar: Richthofen, Two divebomber wings, each of three Staffeln, total six Staffeln. One fighter wing of three Staffeln, total three Staffeln. XXXIX Corps will get two close-range Reconnaissance Staffeln, one medium and two Light AAA Bns.

Points to be discussed with OKW: "Seeloe", Eighth and 28th Div. must not be taken away now.-- Bulgaria Rowehl, long-range reconnaissance.-- German ships in Italy must be set aside for crossing of the Strait of Gibraltar!

Hauser: We discuss the manner in which* the work of the General Staff in preparation and conduct of this war, should be presented. Stop to lunch.

1500 - 1630 Fromm, Chief of Army Equipment (with deputy) and Chief Personnel Branch. Orientation on situation and plans.

1700 Buhle:

- a) For Spain: Sixteenth Armd. Div. Ready 25 November. Sixteenth mot. Div. Ready 5 December.
- b) For Southeast: Signal Regt. for Kleist ready 5 December.
Sixth Mt. Div. immediately.
164th Div. (Foltmann) immediately. (Detached elements must be stopped.)
Reinforced Mt. Inf. Regt. 100 (from fifth Mt. Div.) immediately, but this precludes detaching of Rifle Bn. for Romania.
Fifth Mt. Div. will be ready late in December.
Might be sent after the other units.
- c) Final designation: "Armd. Group 1, 2, 3".
- d) First, Second, Fourth and Eighth Drafts could be equipped with medium Field.
How. 18. Will be standard equipment for Eleventh and Twelfth Drafts.
For six Divs. of Seventh Draft we also have medium Fd. How. 18.
For four Divs. of Seventh Draft we must take Czech How.

Baentsch: We can dispense with "fitness for desert service" in the rear services earmarked for Libya.-- Drinking water columns will at first be limited to four. -- Southeast questions. (Men who served on the Balkans in World War I should be canvassed on their experiences.)

Wagner: East: We have stocked one-half of a First ammunition issue for the combat elements of the build-up in the East. To stockpile an entire issue, we require additional 46 ammunition trains stockpiling of a second issue would take 170 trains.
In addition we need 68 trains to set up fuel depots, and 600 trains for the supply build-up.

Fuel dumps cannot be set up now (shortage of drums); 50 trains can run now to set up ration dumps.

"Directive No. 18", digest of Fuehrer Conference on 4 November.

von Thoma reports on tank situation. At present we have 3,000 tanks, by Spring they will have increased to 5,000.

Amphibian tanks:

at Eutin, Putlos, Bremen, Hamburg.
Bulk to Eighteenth Armd. Div.

Some amphibian tanks will remain in each Bn. To convert a tank for amphibious use up to 12-14 m depth, takes four weeks. If a depth of only 6 m is required, which is sufficient for river crossing, waterproofing takes only a few days.

Experiments are in progress. It will be possible to convert tanks into field workshops.

Ruling on arm, to which the Riflemen of the Armd. Divs. belong. (Green color patch).*

Ehlfeldt: The Observation Bns. will be divided into light detachments and wire detachments. In the Campaign in the West Observation Bns. located 3,528 enemy batteries and adjusted 1,235 artillery barrages.

Divl. Artillery Commander 131 (Mueller, Angelo) will make a tour of inspection to all Observation Bns.

Report on results of trials with R-projectiles** fired from medium Field How. Recoil trouble, limited burst effect base of the projectile drops out; dispersion pattern satisfactory.

8 November 1940

Jacob: a) Reallocation of Eng. Regimental Commanders:
- One Eng. Regimental Commander will be left for each Army Hq. and Corps of AGp. A.
Elsewhere, one for each Army Hq.

b) Organize 60 Auxiliary Eng. Bns. and 30 Bridge-construction Bns. from existing.

c) SS, Herbert and LZ bridge equipment.***

d) Questions of organization and armament.

Wagner: a) Army doctors. -- Organization of the Medical Officers Corps.

b) Map exercises on supply for operations: Middle of December theoretical phase, January

practical phase.

- c) Supplies for the Spanish operation in the event that we must provide for flank protection against Portugal.
Jaehnicke will be detailed to Reichenau's Staff.
- d) Field Police; Requirements, replacements from the Police Force.
- e) Don't get entangled in Military Government France!

Ogu I; Long-range air reconnaissance.

Work program for the Eastern project: Definite objectives*

Major Seiderer** comes in and stays for lunch.

Housing: Talk with Jodl:

- 1) "Seeloewe": We must draw on earmarked units for other projects. Deadline is being put off. -- Navy does not take "Seeloewe" seriously.
- 2) Twenty-eighth and Eighth Div. must not be taken away now.
- 3) Gibraltar: Fuehrer wants to meet Franco once more before the order is issued.
Protection for Lrun during assembly for the Spanish operation.
- 4) Bulgaria: German High Command. -- An Armd. Div. will be sent to Rumania as a preparatory measure. -- Air reconnaissance over Bulgaria now authorized.
- 5) Air Force proposals on long-range reconnaissance.
- 6) Conference Badoglio-Keitel 14 November (Third Armd. Div. snatched away again, Greek-Italian war); pressure on Egypt must not let up 12 November, Molotov in Berlin, afterwards Molotov will have a meeting with the Japanese.

*
Fricke on phone: Tangier-Ceuta not a possible alternative base for England if Gibraltar is lost. British Fleet will probably want to use the Atlantic Islands as base.
Coastal defense#: Battery Gneisenau, together with some Army batteries.

Seeloewe: Navy thinks conditions will be unfavorable in spring. --

200 new flat-bottom barges (45 m long, 3 engines, 12 km per hour) are now under construction.

General Gericke:

- a) Roadbuilding section of program not fully assured. Stockpiling of roadbuilding materiel compromised by constructions for Askania.*
- b) Train backlog (East).--- Overall transportation situation difficult, tasks are enormous.
- c) Romania: Development on the whole satisfactory. 50 troop trains can be run daily for buildup of troops on the Romanian border against Russia.
- d) Extension of the ian and Romanian railroad networks.
- e) Christmas traffic ave traffic will not be changed.
- f) Meuse Valley Rail interrupted by bridge washout. --Flood ew bridge will be built two weeks after subs f floods.
- g) Cut in trains standing y for "Seeloewe".
- h) Trains with captured enemy materiel cannot go to the Z.I.**
- i) Assembly of troops in Bulgaria (If Nish railroad not available, it will take one day longer, since troops must be unloaded on the Danube; this means a very long march)***
- k) Technical questions: New Henschel locomotives, road-rail trucks, locomotives with adjustable gauge for armored trains (six now under construction for the Baltic States, would suffice for our six Armored trains).

von Bernuth:

- a) Order on training of General Staff Officers.
- b) Training manual for Mt. troops; order to Dietl to compile draft.
- c) Miscellaneous current questions (reconnaissance fliers without missions) Participation of Replacement Army in Training Courses for Company Cos. on Field Army, etc.

9 November 1940

Bruckmann (Attache at Sofia): Report on Bulgarian Army, terrain, railroads and road and weather conditions: On the whole confirmation of the picture we have: Important points: Narrow roads which make traffic control indispensable, turn-outs.

OQu IV: Antonescu's situation not easy. Danger presented by Legionaire movement. Food shortages, high prices. Internal dissensions within the Embassy: Fabrizius hostile to the Iron Guard, Neubacher is Democrat, Hansen gets along with everybody.

von Ziehlberg: Heim's letter on the Knight's Cross question.--Attache Portugal. Appointments in the Thirteenth and Fourteenth draft.

Thiele: Signal Regt. for Kuebler is ready, that for Kleist will be by 1 December. Women Signal Corps auxiliaries have done a good job in West and East.-- Organization.

Phone talk with ObdH: Approves disposition of troops in Southeast and South.--Brief orientation on current business.-- Model and Third Armd. Div.

10 November 1940

(Sunday, Berlin)

Nothing of consequence. Current business. Correspondence. Roh and Baron von H-Gelting call.*

11 November 1940

(Monday, Zossen)

Heusinger:

- a) Recommendation of AGp. B on reorganization to meet the increase in number of Divisions main lines approved.
- b) Comments on "Directive No.18".
- c) Gibraltar: OKW notified that three weeks' alert notice will be needed.

Air Force is again balking and does not want to place its organization (including short-range reconnaissance and AAA) under Army Command.

When should Reichenau take over?

Additional Artillery and Signal units will be assigned to the Artillery Groups.

Order for Reconnaissance Party (Assembly, camouflage etc.).

Eleventh Armd. Div. will come under AGp.B (Schweidnitz).*

Kinzel: Trip to Romania and Bulgaria. Missions for Hansen and for Bulgaria** (in Romania in particular he has to arrange for exchange of information on Russia).

Capt. Koch (Navy), formerly assigned to Op. Sec.

Canaris with Piepenbrock and Buerkner. Discusses his impending trip to Spain.

Nothing new. (Heusinger present).

ObdH on phone: Model (Third Armd. Div.), in his place Wuthmann by 15 November.

Stumpf Twentieth Div.

von Greiff will be Haase's deputy. Army Hq.1 will select his deputy in his section.

Exchange of 26th against Sixth Div. is not approved.

Conference with Ziehlberg on these personnel matters.

Col. Gen. Strauss 206th/Sixth Div. Keep an eye on replacement in 206th Div.

Something must be done to cover Foerster.***

von Stuelpnagel: Personalities.-- No further progress in our relations with France; the Italians are making difficulties.

Gauleiter of Lorraine evacuates 2,000 Lorrainers to France daily.

12 November 1940

Schulze-Hinrichs reports out.

Heusinger: Guard Bns.-- Rundstedt's request. Third Armd. Div. under AGp. C (Vietinghoff).

New Flame-thrower Tank Bn. to XVI Corps.

Kuebler will get 30 concrete mine detonating wagons (in the Assault Eng. Bns.).

Romania: Fuehrer reported planning to allocate up to 10 Divs.

This raises difficult questions for non-motorized units.

Konrad reports as Liaison Officer with ObdH. Briefing on general situation and on his mission.

Gen Qu presents statistics on supply organization for the event of a campaign in the East. (Lt. Col. Wagner).

Organization of "Supply-Districts" for 2 Million men, 300,000 horses, 500,000 trucks. Establishing of quantities; setting up of dumps. Maintenance of motor vehicles, fuel supply for 700 - 800 km.

Ammunition: Two issues per Division. (Three for Arm'd. Divs.); enough for ten days on the basis of an expenditure of one-fifth, and in Arm'd. Divs. for 10 more days, on the basis of an expenditure of one third.

In addition a GHq. reserve for 20 Divs. Part of the ammunition will be in static*.

Rations: 20 days.

Trains needed: For all shipments: 960 trains.
So far dispatched: 180 trains.
To reach the intermediate target additional 330 trains must be run.
To reach the final target additional 748 trains must be run.

Motor vehicle supply; equipment, parks.

Gen Qu will start on an inspection tour of the East on 24 November to check up on dumps.

Personnel: Weingart-Trauch; Ott-Holm.

Personnel policy in the Army Medical Officers Corps.

Constructions in "Military Administration", reduction of personnel on the intermediate level.

OQu IV: Reports latest news from the East. -- Italo-Greek theater of operations.

Evening (Kaiserhof): Banquet in honor of Molotov (Talk with Ritter, Schnurre, Weizsäcker).

Overnight in Berlin.

13 November 1940

In the morning return to Zossen.

OQu V: He submits the draft on "The General Staff of the Army in the British War".
Publication of studies on the Polish-Russian war.
Release of war documents for processing copies.
Archive for Captured Documents (Hannover).

Ambassador von Papen: Review of the situation in the Eastern Mediterranean and strategic objectives of our war policy.

Meyer-Ricks: Spain:

Army: 27 Divisions of 9,000; peacetime strength, each.

Warstrength of Army 500,000; armament on hand.

Lacking AAA.--- Armor consists of a great variety of models, as does aviation.

Armaments industry: Meets only peacetime requirements; coastal artillery.

Ammunition stocks very low.

Officers Corps severely depleted: 50% were massacred.

Morocco:

Border has only field fortifications; Ceuta obsolete harbor fortifications: 2-3 24cm Btrs. Tangier open roadstead.

Canary Islands:

25,000 men. Little is known about artillery defenses. No air defense.

Rio de Ore: Only weak police force.

Army not free from political tensions. The men to be looked to as leader personalities are: Franco, Varela, Martinos-Campos (deaf), Vela (Under-Secretary of State in the War Ministry), Vigon (Minister of Aviation, former Chief of General Staff), Assentio (Morocco).

Morocco:

Seven Divisions (including five crack Divs.) with full complement of Divisional Artillery Regiments, plus three Corps Artillery Regiments of six Bns. (10.5cm and 15.5 cm.)

Portugal:

Five very weak Divisions in the home country.

Azores: 3 - 0 - 3* and a few 15 cm guns.

Madeira: One Bn., one Btry.

Cape Verde Islands: One Company (completely insufficient.)

Paper strength of Wartime Army is 100,000.

Time needed for mobilization cannot be estimated.

Army deliberately neglected.

Coastline; The Army is not in a position to defend the home country, the islands and the colonies. Intention to defend them against Britain at least doubtful. Porto and Lisbon are fortified. Obsolete installations, projected modernization has not been carried out.

No Officers Corps in our sense of the word. Officers have part-time civilian jobs. Armament being modernized, but process interrupted by the war. (Our deliveries, too, were stopped.)

Armament industry practically non-existent.

Lt. Col. Siewert: Program for Fuehrer tour:

- 14, Evening, arrival on the Obersalzberg.
- 15, Reception of King of Bulgaria.
- 16, -18, Serrano Suner.
- 19, King of the Belgians.
- 19, evening, Vienna: Teleki - Csaky.
- 21, noon, return to Berlin. (Perhaps opportunity for presenting report)
- 22/23. Antonescu. (Place undetermined.)
- 24. Tuka.
- 25. Bulgarians.

OQuI: Basic data for Eastern operation; notes for Fuehrer report.
Planned objectives in the Eastern operation.

Org. Sec.:

- a) OKW reply on activation of SS Divisions; trucks could be obtained by cutting down on ammunition vehicles.
- b) AGp. A.: 10,500 men are now detailed for guard duty.
10,000 men can be freed by Guard Bns, including 6,000 in AGp.A.
- c) The 250,000 men with two months training set out in the General Army Office estimate actually do not exist.
(170,000 men have been inducted, X and III Mil. Districts have not called up enough recruits.)
- d) Deadline for completion of training of recruits must be postponed to 15 March.
Alert groups,* (one-third) Op. Sec.
- e) Section "Study of fortifications in foreign countries" under the Eng. Corps Officer.
Good idea!

f) Release Schmitt for...// Omission.- Ea.7

Gen. Mueller: Dr. Lattmann: Various juridical problems; e.g. of sentences which must be confirmed by the Fuehrer, clemency appeals. Mueller will go on a tour to look into the guard situation (requests of AGps A and D.) On way back he will visit XXXIX Corps* to check on progress of the training program.

14 November 1940

Work on the draft submitted by OQu V and for radio broadcast on the military science work of the Army during the war.

OQu V's paper once again shows up the gulf between the formal academic point of view and the hard facts of practical military leadership.

Housing: (Gehlen): Operation Southeast -- Basic data.

"Directive No. 18" is now in our hand. Third Armd. Div. will continue to stand by for Libya. About 10 Divisions are set down for Southeast. Preliminary phase: German troops in Rumania will be reinforced.

Hoeppner: Report on units: 60th Div. has turned in trucks. Sixth Armd. Div. is all right. First Armd. Div. will be completed later.

Difficulties: Delivery of spare parts too slow.-- Maintenance NCO's and technicians lacking.-- No tire replacements.-- Troops are overburdened with construction of lean-tos and shelters. (Will not be ready before 1 December.) Moving to new quarters makes much work.

Housing:

- a) Air Force declines envisaged mission against Cape Verde, the Canary Islands and the Azores. (Goering.)-- Fuehrer has turned down Goering's demand to give Richthofen full control of the entire Spanish operation. Goering's proposal to the Fuehrer regarding an airborne Corps.

b) Gehlen -- Romania.

von Bernuth:

- a) Letter of AGn.B. Reply to the inquiry concerning Division for Company CO Training Course (von Salmuth).
- b) Winter refresher program for sections of Arms Chiefs.
- c) Lessons of the campaign in the West.

Gericke: Coal runs smoothly.-- East makes very high demands on construction workers and railroads.-- Coal shipments in the West are on the whole running well.-- Difficulties in the German West. Deliveries of raw materials are not coming in right: reasons not yet clear.-- Shipments of industrial materials must be treated as military shipments.

OQu IV: Molotov: No binding agreement. Fuehrer not dissatisfied. Tripartite Pact: Statement of concurrence is not equivalent to joining. Inclusion of Italy and Japan in the discussions for the present opposed.
Molotov: What is the Greater Asiatic Area?
Molotov: What is Germany's attitude on a Russian guarantee of Bulgaria? (Romania called us in).
New statute offered for the Straits-Privileges, but no bases. No such offer was made on our part.
Evasive answer to suggestion of a Non-Agression Pact with Japan.
Heavy Russian demands for machinery.--
Can be met.
The Fuehrer apparently has talked the Russians out of Finland.

Program: 18 November, Ribbentrop with Ciano and Suner.
Sometime around 18 November, Leopold.
20 November, Csaky (Vienna).
22/23. State visit Antonescu to Berlin.
25/26 Boris on Obersalzberg.
? Tuka (Tiso?)

Accessions to the Tripartite Pact: Romania, Hungary certain, Bulgaria uncertain.

Greece: They are looking for the culprit in Italy and Germany.*

15 November 1940

0900 -- 1200 : Presentation of report by Gen Qu on supply organization for the Eastern operation (Balutsch, Rueckert):

The operation will be directed by the Army Groups. Accordingly they must also control the supply services. The question remains, to what extent this control should be delimited. The alternatives are limiting the role of the Army Groups to the issuing of orders for supply, or, limiting them in this way but letting them determine the allocation of transportation in the daily movements or in overall planning, which, in turn, would mean that Army Groups take over Army functions.

Another question to be cleared is whether the Armd. Groups should be made independent, like Armies, or whether they should be tied to Armies: the latter would be the desirable alternative.--- Getting the utmost out of engine capacity by using trucks only for long hauls, while keeping storage on immobilized trucks to a minimum, is a sound idea. Basic consideration: The organization must be supple and should not attempt to deal by rigid rules with situations which call for broad policy decisions.

The problems will be worked out in a Map Exercise conducted by Gen Qu, to start on 15 December.

Supply of the occupation troops in France will be taken over by static organizations.

Col. Wuthmann: reports as C of S, Sixteenth Army.

Buhle: Priority scale for the activation of GHq. troops in three stages, is needed in view of fact that activation by 1 April is impossible due to shortage of trucks in consequence of activation of a new SS Division. Current matters.

Hauser: We review the work assignments for the history of "The General Staff of the Army in Preparation and Conduct of the War".

von Ziehlberg: New man to replace Wuthmann (C of S, Sixteenth Army) in Army Hq. 4, and other current matters.

Phone talk with ObdH on general political situation and progress of work.

Will come here on 19 November to hear reports.

Heusinger: Report to OKW on Spain and Bulgaria, to give the political leadership the overall timetable.-- Also various current matters.

16 November 1940

Keitel (Personnel Div.):

- a) Appointments in Divisions and Corps coming out next (Twelfth Draft).
- b) II Corps, Brockdorf; XXVIII Corps, Viktorin; LI Corps, Reinhardt; II Corps, Brueckner.
- c) An Army Officer as Personnel Chief for the SS.
- d) Out-of-turn seniority promotion also for captains.
- e) Medical Officer Corps.-- Young medical officers.-- Promotion of outstanding civilian physicians.
- f) E-Officers Corps* -- Promotions.

von Etzdorf:

- a) Molotov -- Fuehrer: Second conversation with the Fuehrer: Finland.
No new shipments scheduled. Finland must not, however, become the subject of a conflict. Danger of British air operations, new theater of war. We maintain a hands-off attitude, economic interests only. Remains within the Russian sphere of interest.

Molotov, third phase: Repercussions of German successes in the West on Russia. Germany has given no reply to various questions. Mariampol. (We shall presumably let the Russians have Mariampol for 14 millions.)

Fuehrer: Wants peace in the Baltic area!
"The Baltic Sea is the last area left where we can move freely."
We are engaged in a life-and-death struggle and expect Russian understanding for our situation. A war in the Baltic is ruled out.
We must come to a decision, whether we want to stand back to back or breast against breast.
Historic decision! Concepts on the big scale!

Molotov: Complains about Finnish provocation and about German-Finnish relations.

Fuehrer: A war to conquer Finland would put a severe strain on German-Russian relations.

Molotov: Russia demands the same freedom in her dealings with Finland as in her dealings with the Baltic States. (Moscow Agreements).

Fuehrer: Britain must be crushed; divide up the left-over pieces.

Anything that distracts from the crushing of the British Empire is undesirable. This includes question of Saloniki.-- Powers intested in division: Italy, Russia, Japan, Germany.

Molotov: German-Russian relations in the first place; Japan and Italy after that.

Fuehrer: Turko - Russian relations. Greater Asiatic Area - purely Asiatic territory.

Molotov: Russian dissatisfaction about our Romanian guaranty. "It is in fact directed only against us."-- Revocation!

Straits: England has twice succeeded in penetrating into the Black Sea. Now the situation is more menacing. Suggests to give the Bulgarians a Russian guaranty.

Fuehrer: Projected revision of the Montreux Agreement concerning the Straits.

Molotov: In giving a guaranty to Bulgaria, we would not alter the internal order of the country by one hair's breadth. "Tangible guaranties for our key position on the Straits." Russia will come to a direct understanding with Turkey. Requests provisional reply: "Would you let us put Bulgaria under our protection?"

Fuehrer: Fuehrer sidesteps with reference to Il Duce. "If we ever want any frictions, we won't have to bring up the issue of the Straits."

Molotov: Relations between Russia and Japan have improved. Quicker pace possible. Concern about China. Ought to be shared by Germany!

Fuehrer: Settlement of the Sino-Japanese conflict.

Molotov: Not averse. Peace with honor necessary for China. Japan is reaching out for Indonesia, and so might be willing.

Result: Constructive note; Russia has no intention of breaking with us. Impression on the rest of the world.

Finland: Any further Russian action *casus belli*. Accent on economic interests. The Russians will do the Straits alone. They are pursuing a policy of their own toward Turkey. Readiness to come to an understanding with Japan.

As regards the Tripartite Pact it is clear that Russia wants to be a partner, not its object. Pact must be reframed!

- b)* Straits question: British efforts to support Russian claims.
- c) Thailand raises claims on Indochina. Not until after the war.
- d) Spain's entry into the war?
- e) Laval's talk with the Axis partners postponed.
- f) Csaky will be requested to grant transit for 8 to 10 Divisions (20 Nov).

Gen Qu: Cantonments in the East. (Intendant) By 1. January prefabricated stables for 34,000 plus 12,000 ready for shipment in training centers. Cannot be set up before 1 February, at the earliest. Cantonments for men are less difficult.

Wagner: Promotion for Dankwerts. War Service Cross for Military Government personnel.-- Simplification of Military Government set-up. Transfer of POWs from France to Germany.

Evening: Conference with State Secretary von Weizsaecker. No important new points. Noteworthy:

- 1.) His appraisal of the effects of our operations against the British Isles is not very optimistic. Von Weizsaecker was evidently surprised by information on our production losses and the presumable production losses on enemy side; he had not been aware of these facts before.
- 2.) His views on the prospects of an operation in Spain are similar to ours. The implications of an extension of operations to North Africa were likewise new to him.

- 3.) On the Balkans he expects Turkey to maintain neutrality, even in the event of German intervention against Greece.
- 4.) It is hoped that an understanding with Belgium will be achieved which insures her inclusion in a German dominated Central European Union.
Policy toward Holland will be equally circumspect because of her colonies, which are moreover believed to be reasonably safe because of the mutual distrust of the powers interested in them (U.S., Japan).

17 November 1940. (Sunday, Berlin)

No official conferences. Desk work. Gerti comes with the children.

18 November 1940.

Heusinger: Report on his talk with OKW (Saturday, 16 November).

- 1.) Portugal will be included in operation Felix only if absolutely necessary.
- 2.) The Islands must be taken in hand by the Navy. They hope that Raeder would be able to do that, since the Air Force has declined. We are mainly interested in the Spanish Canaries. But the Fuehrer is also eyeing the Portuguese Islands.
- 3.) Shipping for the crossing of the Strait has been set aside.
Coastal artillery prepared:
One Btry each of 28 cm and 15 cm guns for the European shore.
One Btry each of 24 cm and 15 cm guns for the African shore.
- 4.) We have notified OKW of the time restrictions imposed on the Spanish and Bulgarian projects by the Eastern operation.
- 5.) Restrictions reported imposed on General Hansen by a direct Fuehrer order will be clarified.

- 6.) Innsbruck Conference: Was evidently in an atmosphere of great frankness. Attack on Egypt is ruled out entirely at this time. The plan is to take Mersa Matruh and later to attack Alexandria and the Suez Canal with the Air Force. For this purpose they have asked us for Ju 88s and Ju 87s. The Italian High Command expects to attack Mersa Matruh early in December.
- 7.) Albania: There had been two opposing conceptions. Badoglio wanted to wait until he had 20 Divisions in Albania. The Governor of Albania on the other hand, expected with certainty a political movement favoring Italian aims in the part of Greece inhabited by Albanians. Ciano forced through the latter view, which turned out to be wrong. Badoglio is very incensed. Now they will commit a total of 20 Divisions. Beginning of the offensive set for latter half of February.
- 8.) The Italians would like us to attack from Bulgaria. Could the two offensives be synchronized?
- 9.) Italy was informed of our intentions in Gibraltar; Also of the fact, that they will be carried out without Italy's cooperation. Badoglio does not seem to be interested to join, in any event.
- 10.) France: Badoglio keeps emphasizing that we must be very careful in our dealings with France, if we want to avoid serious trouble in North Africa. The Italians are very suspicious of Weygand and Nogués. Italy promised that no demands will be made on France without prior consultation with us. However, they are interested in a speedy demobilization in Tunisia. Early clearcut agreements with Laval are necessary. (Can not be expected before 10 days.)
- 11.) Yugoslavia: Germany is asked to exert pressure to relieve Italy. (Scared rabbits!) The OKW has not yet considered the question of getting Yugoslavia interested in Saloniki.
- 12.) The Hqs slated for Bulgaria will not yet be briefed. OKW has no objections against transfer of the earmarked Divisions to start training.

von Stueelpnagel (Wiesbaden):

- a) Originally the Fuehrer had an idea to negotiate an understanding with England at the expense of France.--

Did not come off!

- b) Italian economic demands on France without our knowledge. 50% of the raw material shipped from North Africa. A 250 mill. Francs credit for Italy.
- c) Realization that the situation is not yet ripe for the final defeat of England produced a new European conception.
This led up to the conference with Mussolini, which was interpreted very differently on the German and on the Italian side. The report that Mussolini concurred with the Fuehrer's ideas is probably only a subjective impression on our part.
Conferences with Spain (Serrano Suner) did not go well.
- d) The Brenner Conferences resulted in a welter of confusion in the two Foreign Offices. Report of the Forschungs-Institut.* Italy wants to keep France as weak as possible, especially in North Africa. Italy is annoyed at our measures in Romania. They are looking for ways to demonstrate that they still retain full freedom of decision. Hence the Greek adventure.
- e) Italy's attitude gave a new turn to the Fuehrer's thinking. The result was the order to go slow on France.
- f) Eventually, the conviction that Italy is an unreliable partner became the determining factor in the decision to continue in our original policy toward France.
We will continue our efforts to coax Spain into the Axis orbit. Up to now she has been treated rather coolly, but with this objective in mind we shall have to be more friendly. Result is anyone's guess.
- g) Innsbruck Conferences did not result in any binding agreements. Abyssinian situation apparently less difficult than expected. (Import of rubber from the Dutch East Indies, fuel stocks will last till spring).--
Offensive against Greece will not be resumed before the end of three months.
- h) Italy has no interest in preserving France's economy. A contraction would not be welcome.
- i) Partial military solutions must be worked out with France (base in Northwest Africa), before the conferences with Laval on the bigger issues can be continued.

Оба!

- Central Branch.

Radke:a) Langemark Celebration. Report.

- b) Lectures at the Infantry Training Division (71st).
- c) Ideological training in the Army. Rosenberg indoctrination course. Has been given the assignment by the Fuehrer.
- d) Satisfactory result of an inspection tour in the East. (Coal supply to the units all right; Field Post works well; newspapers; films; Strength through Joy theater troupes are doing good work; (general cleanliness, good).
- e) Question of officers' food rations. (Reports that Officers get better food than men).
- f) Question of rural resettlement. Finding civilian jobs for veterans. (Campaign to counteract movement of rural populations to cities).

OQu IV:a) Situation Italy - Greece. British reinforcements in Greece. Italy's difficult situation.

- b) General gloominess in Italy about the military reverses.
- c) Spain: Assentio: Suñer is opposed by Army, police and officials. General Muños Grande, also against Suñer!
The new Falange is a caricature of the old!
Is Suñer's main support.
War unpopular among the people; also among Generals!
- d) U.S. ambassadors and Navy are imperialist. Career diplomats and the General Staff are against war.

- e) Fuehrer is opposed to any sort of special courtesies for the U.S. and Switzerland, but approves accommodating treatment of Finland, Bulgaria, Romania.

Sarnow: Orders to Military Commander Belgium regarding transfer of Belgian gold to the Reichsbank for Belgium's account. (A disguised extortion which is difficult for a soldier to cover with his signature).

Paulus: (OQu I): Report on the Russian operation.-- General Staff Training during winter 1940/41.

von Ziehlberg: Ia officers to act as deputies for Cs. of S.-- Efficiency ratings.-- Disciplinary matters.-- Matters concerning official correspondence.-- Future organization of OKH.

Heusinger: has talked to Jodl once more. (Instructions from the Berghof).
We are to send another Armd. Div. to Romania, which will not be used against Macedonia. We have to keep 12 Divisions ready for Macedonia. (Apparently the Russian operation has been pushed in the background).
Bulgarians assert that the terrain prohibits any action before the end of February.

Gercke: Railroad situation still tight. Backlog of 547 trains in the East and in Berlin.
Coal: Running well in the West. (Lorraine mines damaged during war not yet back in production). In the East, output is still lagging.

19. November 1940

ObdH: Zossen.

0900 - 1200 : Report on Russian operation. Afterwards review of current matters. Nothing important to note.

von Bernuth:

- a) Reports on training difficulties in AGps. A and D relative to future unit training. (Too heavy strain on the troops; lack of training centers). These difficulties can be overcome if we equalize the areas of A and D for training purposes.

- b) Variations between Divisions in the allocation of recruits (trained and untrained).

Buhle: Conference with ObdH.

- a) All GHq troops before the last five Divs. of the ~~Twelfth~~ Draft.* The last five Divisions of the Twelfth Draft will have to get horse-drawn trains.
(Occupation troops in the East).
Report of Chief of Army Equipment to OKW.
- b) Coast Defense Artillery for Spain.
Available immediately: 10 Btrys 10 cm guns, Polish
9 Btrys 10.5cm guns, Czech
Material available by 15 January: 500 rounds per piece.
Also 21 15 cm guns, French, will be coming in.
As an interim measure we could take 10 cm gun 18 in the required number.
Personnel: For every three Btrys, one Btry will be released from the Divs. of the Third Draft**
- c) Divisions which have received trained replacements and will be ready earlier;
- | | | |
|--|-----------|--|
| 50th Div. (Hollidt) | 1 Jan.) | |
| 72nd Div. (Paris, Mattenklott) | | } for South |
| (Must be promptly relieved!) | 1 Jan.) | |
| 73rd Div. (Biehler) | | |
| 294th Div. (Eighth Draft) (von Gabke) | 15 Jan.) | |
| (Must be relieved!) | | |
| 56th Div. (East) (von Oven) | | |
| (Demarcation line) | | |
| 198th Div. (Seventh Draft) (Roettig) | | } Have no heavy mortars |
| (Demarcation line) | | |
| 183rd Div. (Seventh Draft) (Diepold) | | } Must be converted to lt. Ed. How. 18 |
| (Protectorate). | | |
| 76th Div. (East) (Angelis) by 1 February | | |
| 46th Div. (South) (Kriebel) by 15 January. | | |

CQu IV: Serrano Suñer, 17 and 18 November. Conference said to have gone well.
King of the Belgians, 19 November.-- Teloki and Csaki 20 November.

Heusinger: Conference on "Felix" with ObdH: Infantry cover for Artillery?-- Flatbed trailers for Sixteenth Armd. Div.-- Shortening of transit?
Balkans: Approves recommendations.
Training: No transfer of Divisions till the situation is clearer.

Fellgiebel:

- a) Armd. Bns. 18 and 20 have activation troubles. 35% must be replaced by recruits.
- b) Radio equipment program will be completed by spring; cable program will go on into summer.
- c) Return to their units of personnel furloughed to industry may run into snags because of continuing shortage in skilled workers.

20 November 1940

Model: (Ex C of S Sixteenth Army) reports as Commander of Third Armd. Div.

Hoeffner, Stange, Treske report transferred to Chief of Transportation.

Baentsch, Deyle, Zimmermann: Stockpiling of chemical warfare agents and projectiles. First stock 1.3 mill. Lt Fd How and med Fd How will be completed 1 April.

Three months after start of gas warfare, a new supply of the equal volume could be ready (including filling). Hereafter, same quantity every three months.

Total capacity of chemical warfare depots 10,000 tons. Of these 3,000 are for us, 7,000 for Air Force.

Ratio of attack lost to defense lost 4:1 should be kept. T9 - Uplost odorless makes up 10% of the total production.

Paulus-Bogatsch: Reply to Air Force statement on long-range reconnaissance. We reply with an inquiry designed to clarify the situation once for all.

Heusinger: Coastal Arty (personnel and materiel)

- a) By 15 January, 19 Btrys Czech and Polish 10 cm guns.
By 15 February, 10 Btrys French 15 cm guns.

- b) Shipping in the Mediterranean ready by 15 December (about 20 ships, we need about 14 to cross over to Tangier).

- c) Expulsion of Lorrainers stopped. 40,000 have been expelled, 200,000 remain.

Gehlen: reports on assembly of forces and dispositions for Bulgaria.

- OQu IV: a) Situation report. Morale in Italy was good till 28 October (Florence). Since that time marked depression.
- b) Report on conversation with Marras. Italy wants from us 3,000 trucks via Yugoslavia.
- c) Conference with Bulgaria in Berlin on 25 and 26 November. Antonescu 22 Nov.

Baentsch: OKW demands 5,000, later perhaps additional 10,000 tons of truck capacity for air shelter construction in Berlin. (5,000 immediately, 10,000 perhaps by 1 Dec.)

von Bernuth: We discuss the draft of the manual on deployment and operational control of the Armd. Div.

21 November 1940. Trip to Munich to visit my mother.
21 November leave from Zossen. 0700, arrival Berlin 0830., Munich 1700.

22 November 1940. Spend day in Munich.

23 November 1940 Return. Leave 0030., arrival 1630.
(Stop over at Pottenst.)

24 November 1940 (Sunday, Berlin).

Work on the more important papers accumulated during my absence. Interesting points:

- 1.) Again liaison between OKW and us is deficient, this time relative to the Balkan question. The matter seems to be developing further, i.e. in the direction of a possible German attack on Turkey. This of course changes radically the picture. We must not lose sight of the fact, that our chances against Russia diminish if we commit forces against Turkey. At the last conference I was told by the Fuehrer: "we can do the Straits only after Russia has been beaten". This idea necessarily implies another one: We must avoid war against Turkey as long as Russia is not beaten. For this reason we have based all our planning on the assumption that our political leadership is doing its utmost to avoid a conflict with Turkey at this time. If this viewpoint has now been abandoned for another, namely, that we can afford the risks of an attack on Turkey, and that we would throw her out of Europe if she does not keep still while we attack Greece -- then we must postpone the Russian project!

- 2.) An intercepted British radio signal speaks of a transfer of "Headquarters" to Ireland on 22 November. It is doubtful whether this means that the British High Command agencies are pulling out. For my party I do not believe it. It probably refers to a British Expeditionary Corps which will use Ulster as a base for the occupation of the whole of Ireland, in order to open the ports on the West Coast of Ireland to the British Fleet. In any case the report warrants our attention.
- 3.) A report by the French General Staff on conduct of the campaign of the French Army from the beginning of the war through to the conclusion of our Western operation. The absence of any big conception is striking. Total inability to get away from the concepts of position warfare, which on the one hand led them to allocate enormous forces to the fortress front, and on the other hand confined their operational thinking within purely defensive lines after entering Belgium (first middle course of Scheldt river, later line Antwerp - Namur).

25 November 1940

Berlin: 1000: Conference with Ambassador Abetz:

Review of the political situation in France.
Laval, Weygand. -- Situation in North Africa. --
Conference with Laval end of this week. --
Demarcation Line. -- Northern provinces.

1100 • Conference with Admiral Canaris:

He reports on the outcome of his trip to Spain and of his conference with Vigon. Warns about Etscheit, who seems to have been talking nonsense again in Switzerland (Richthofen).

Return to Zossen:

Altenstadt: Question of guard personnel in the West.
Division of responsibility between Military Government and Army Hq.
"Tourist parties". Complaint by the Military Governor.

Baentsch:

- 1.) BdE's report to Fuehrer.

- 2.) a) 600 Italian Benz trucks with Italian drivers to Villach, where we put on German drivers and take them to Skutari.
- b) We must furnish also additional 800 more trucks with drivers, to go to Skutari via Bulgaria. One-third 5 ton, two-thirds 3 ton, total 3,000 tons. Trying to get Army off from making any contribution.
- 3.) Cuts in transportation furnished for routine business. (Order).
- 4.) Turn in vehicles to OKW.
- 5.) Spain.

Gehlen: Draft of assembly plan for the Southeastern operation. This draft must be revised, because the political command will demand stronger security against Greece. It is based on the assumption that we detain in Romania and group for operations after that.

Preparation: 7 - 25 December.
 First echelon: 26 December - 15 January.
 Start of March: 16 January.
 Mot. unit on the southern border: 23 January.
 Two Inf. and two Mt. Divs. on the southern border: 4 February.
 Start of offensive: 11 February. (Bear in mind Eastern operation!)

Heusinger:

- a) 72nd and 73rd Divs. will be assembled in the Vosges Mountains by 29 November, 164th Div. can arrive in the Vosges Mountain by 3 December, Sixth Mt. Div. on the Semmering by 7 December.
- b) If replacement is needed for XXX Corps Hq. in the East, we could take XXXXIII Corps Hq. (Henrici).
- c) Training Divisions for Romania: Sixth Armd. Div., possibly Sixteenth Armd. Div. in exchange for Third Armd. Div.
- d) Gibraltar: 15 German ships are being readied in Venice, Trieste, Livorno; this means that the larger part of them must first sail round Italy (Strait of Otranto!). Scheduled to assemble at Genoa by middle of December.
- e) Coastal artillery in the Biarritz area to protect the assembly of troops for "Felix".

f) Flatbed trailers available: 28 20-ton.

86 10-ton (distributed among all Armd.Divs.)
For Sixteenth Armd. Div. we need 67 20-ton.,
4 10-ton trailers. Prime movers are more
critical and are harder to replace than tracks
(except for the rubber).

The flatbed trailers are organic equipment of
the repair columns of the Armd.Divs!

g) 22nd Div. will be converted into an Airborne
Corps of the Air Force.

h) Miscellaneous: Substitute for 44th Eng.Bn. in
"Felix" disapproved.-- Iron bridge, no decision
yet*. Our personnel is standing by.--
Construction Bns. for Todt? (No!).--
Waffen SS Div. detaches one-third for new SS Div.

Sarnow: Gauleiter Wagner's telegram to ObdH about two
trainloads of house furnishings from France pro-
mised to him by ObdH. Obviously this promise
cannot be kept, since the allocation of these
articles is subject to the regulations of the
Four Year Plan.

Taken as a whole this day shows again the vast amount
of unnecessary work imposed on the General Staff
in consequence of the failure of OKW to furnish
any positive leadership. No directives have been
forthcoming on what they really want in Bulgaria,
but there is endless talk about troop strength,
even about individual units.

Any way we look at this Bulgarian business, it is
nothing that would really hurt Britain. But that
after all is the only thing that should count.

In this connection it is heartening to see that the
Fuehrer is again taking an interest in "Seelowe".
That is the surest way to hit England. But then
again, the Spanish question does not seem to be
getting anywhere. Neither Bulgaria nor Spain are
to let themselves be dragged into the war. They
know that they would have to pay the piper even
after German victories.--
England's plans against Ireland seem to be near
realization.

26 November 1940.

General Buhle:

a) Cav.Div. Horses for AT guns (two requested for
each Regt.)

Have we got any tanks? Light Inf. guns available only for two Regts. -- motorized. Other requests fulfilled.

- b) Hq for Armd. Group:* Command authority; judicial powers.
- c) Estimates of motor transport experts: Capable of operations with distant objectives if good care is taken during this winter.
- d) 150,000 PWs, plus Engineer and Construction Bns. requisitioned for air shelter construction work.
Divisional Engineers are out of the question. We have a total of 31 GHq. Engineers Bns. Of these, 8 are detailed for special projects. Of the 23 remaining, 12 must furnish cadres for six new Bns. That leaves seven mot. and four horse-drawn Bns. -- Of the Construction Bns, 28 are working for Air Force, 20 for Navy. Altogether we have 115.
- e) Mountain equipment for Bulgaria will not be possible.
- f) "Chief of Army Library", as of 5 December.
- h) Military-Geographical Institute will be activated in Warsaw during of December.

Kinzel: Bulgaria.

Troubles:

- a) Are afraid Turkey will attack)
- b) Fear air raids) Their demands are put aside.--AAA!**))
- c) Russian landings at Burgas and Varna; say they have reports; want heavy artillery.
- d) Country is poor. Could not stand a prolonged war.

Road network: Five practicable roads across the Balkan Mountains leading to the South. One-way roads; narrow; many curves. Bridges partly very weak. Only wide enough for one vehicle, sharp curves at bridges!

Weather: From 15 December to the middle of April, snowdrifts.-- No snowploughs!

Frontier: Runs on foothills. East of the Struma river. May be compared with Garmisch.

Fortifications: Reported to have some pillboxes, light MG emplacements, otherwise field fortifications.

Food: For cash they would feed 100,000 men for four weeks. No gasoline, no repair facilities.

Housing: Very difficult. Staffs can be accommodated, but not troops.

Bulgarian General Staff: Ponderous, antiquated, unimaginative.

Romania: Hanson, Enemy propaganda. Size of his Staff. Party agencies with women (Party, SS) have made an embarrassing impression. Officers Corps partly in opposition. General Staff makes good impression.

- Juchter**
- a) Start of postwar training only on approval by ObdH.
 - b) Wants us to stress to OKW importance of premilitary training. Training Sec. ObdH. Specialists, such as radio operators, etc.
 - c) Knight's Cross SA. (Mantey) ObdH?
 - d) Service in Feldherrnhalle** to be credited as military service! Buhle --von Bernuth.
 - e) Recognition for SA. Knight's Cross, War Service Cross for SA leaders. ObdH.

OQu IV: Roenne: Roads and trails in the Sahara. Conclusion: large-scale operation impossible, at worst harassing raids by a few Bns., striking in northern direction, from Central Africa, against French and Italian North Africa.

- von Toppelskirch:
- a) Albania: So far Italians have at most 15 Divs.
 - b) Our Foreign Office is now striking a very friendly note in dealing with Yugoslavia. Apparently they are playing with the idea of selling the Yugoslavs on Saloniki, in return keeping their hands off the Adriatic (Vienna).
 - c) Also Hungary is receiving very friendly treatment at the moment.
 - d) Molotov: Talk with Bulgarian envoy. Offers guaranty provided the Axis does the same.--

Help in extension of the frontiers!

- e) At the moment, Bulgaria declines guaranties from any side. Joining of the Axis is under consideration.
- f) Leopold: Friendly mood toward Belgium. The possibility is left open that the country would retain its sovereignty.
- g) Antonescu has served notice that he will demand revision of the Vienna Decisions.
- h) England's difficult situation is becoming increasingly apparent. Roosevelt reported to have stated that England will be finished within six months and that there is no sense in dragging the U.S. into the war for England.
- i) Spain under heavy German pressure to join us against England; Fuehrer thinks the military problem is simple and expects complications only in the Canary Islands. Economic difficulties. War unpopular. English propaganda is strong! Morocco question is left open. No decision yet on Spain's participation. Decisions up to France. On the economic side they want 60,000 tons of grain.
- k) Reported landing of Canadians in Greece. I doubt that. Probably only Air Force.

General Mueller: Report on tour to AGp. A.

- a) Army Gp has resigned itself to strength reductions.
- b) Coast Defense is a greater burden than is the Demarcation Line. The bulk of the troops are assigned to Coast Defense. Recruits are being trained in the dunes. Unit training above Bn. level not possible while troops are in Coast Defense assignments.
- c) In some Divs. no replacements can be found for armament workers.*Occasionally the assertion is voiced that armament workers will not return even next spring.
- d) Replacements for detached cadres have not yet arrived; every delay in their arrival postpones completion of recruit training.

- e) "Seelbore" program is pursued with great energy, as though operations might start any time.
- f) Training program is overdone in the Regional Defense Bns as many as one-third of men engaged in training.
- g) Personnel detached for guard duty: Complaints by High Command West are true only for a few Divisions, in the others the situation is much better. Much nonsense! (e.g. lines of sentries round coastal towns; guards outside soldiers' clubs). Continually changing demands make things more difficult. Blocking off of big cities cannot be kept up. Busch has rescinded the order.

Report on Corps Hq Kuebler: Satisfied with training facilities. No complaints or suggestions. They need a Liaison Officer for Air Force and the Spanish High Command.

- Gorcke:
- a) Report on meeting of advisory board at the office of the Director General of the State Railroads, 26 November. Minister of Transportation admits that the State Railroads will in future be unable to meet our requirements on the level of present demands.
 - b) Bridge Hendaye - Irun: Matter is under "friendly consideration" by Madrid Foreign Office.
 - c) Mining of railroad bridges in Franco.*
 - d) 2419 m of military bridges tied up in bridges, 2990 m available for use. New production to 1 January: 207 m, to 1 April 666 m, so that we would have 3,860 m on hand, plus built-in bridges, total is about 5000 m. 15,800 m steel girders for temporary bridges (bridge launchers), 9,500 bridge piles.
 - e) Officer Corps of Railway Troops will be built up by bringing in university-trained men; Provision for out-of-turn seniority promotion; will be taken into the active Officers Corps during war.
 - f) Railroad bridges under construction. Progress made.

Sarnow: New basis for the negotiations on the question of Belgian gold: Gold will be placed into a custodial deposit at the Reichsbank.

Reeder is to continue negotiations on this basis (acceptable!). Hemmen, Neumann and Sarnow will go to Brussels.

Major General Mueller: Confirmation of a number of sentences (death sentences):
Desertion, attack against the occupying power.
Statistics of military offenses during October.

27 November 1940

Col. Breith (Thoma's deputy) reports. Mission to inspect the Armd. Divs. earmarked for early commitment.

von Bernuth:

- a) Training of recruits.
- b) Revision of training manuals. Manuals for Regiments must be issued before those for Divs.
- c) Officer candidates: There are still 20,000 peacetime candidates who have not yet been commissioned. One training course turns out over 4,000. It is therefore useless to start new training courses, since the Personnel Division could not process their graduates. What matters alone at present is that the remaining trained candidates in the units get their commission.
- d) Miscellaneous: Tour by the War Academy. - Visit to the Training Divs.

General Ott: a) "Lessons of the Infantry in the Western Campaign". (Must be put into the hands of troops).
b) Doerberitz Training Exercise.-- Results must be put on maps for mass distributions to troops.
c) Koenigsbrueck Training Div.-- Too much theory!
d) Rifle Regts. in Armd. Divs. must be led by Inf.-trained officers.
e) Organization of the Infantry squad.

Housing:

- a) (Gehlen) Result of the map exercise on the Bulgarian operation:

From the start the weight must be on the western wing. The central group is of no importance. The eastern group is important, but will not be effective operationally.

- b) About six Divs. may be used as a defense screen for the march to the South. As against our original plans, the movement will take no more than four days longer. Additional forces for current requirements may follow behind, at a rate of one Division every two days.
- c) Effects of possible operations in Spain and on the Balkans on the Russian problem. The diversion of strength to these operations would compel us to give up "Seelowe" and to confine ourselves to reaching the first objectives in the Russian offensive. They would certainly give us a jump-off base for a pincer operation, but such an operation does not look promising in these immense spaces.

Rhode: a) Increased anxiety in Turkey.

- b) Demonstrative rejection of a break with England and of transit for our troops through Anatolia.
- c) State of siege in Thrace.-- Condition of the troops in Thrace.
- d) Turkish Army and Air Force.-- Defense.-- Arms.-- Morale.-- War industry.

von Ziehlberg: a) Report of tour in the East. Heartening impressions of the General Staff work.
b) Current General Staff Personnel matters.

28 November 1940.

Sarnow: We agree that there are two ways: a) through Brussels, or b) through France.

- a) Alternative is possible only if we make concessions (Restrict scope of order and negotiate on an equal basis.)
- b) Alternative, to talk to Hemmen and the Governor of the Bank of France, which would put the gold of the Belgian National Bank at our disposal. (Same evening): Hemmen will see Laval. Power to dispose of gold will be vested in Becker by an order of Military Government Belgium. It is thought that Laval must honor such a signature as legal and turn over the gold.
- c) The whole affair, of course, is nothing but a legal form of extortion. Still the form is tolerably acceptable.

The Governor of the Belgian National Bank will probably resign. This we can put up with, unless also the Belgian General-Secretary of Finances resigns; he is really irreplaceable. Moreover, France seeing what happened to Belgium's gold will of course draw her conclusions on what she may expect for her own gold.

Pomsl, C of S XVIII Corps, reports. Wants our help in getting replacements for officers with mountain experience.

Chief Personnel Division: New man for Weingart (Trauch ? Gutzeit).

Medical Officer Corps: Two-thirds of civilian doctors and one-fourth of hospital doctors are still in the Reich.

Representative of ObdH to Frank (Governor-General)? Officer replacements?

The following CGs have Balkans experience: von Stuelpnagel (Armistice Commission), Manstein (XXXVIII Corps), Kienitz (! XVII Corps), Lindemann (L Corps), Hartmann (XXXX Corps), Brand (XXXIII Corps), Fahrmbacher (VII Corps), Kortzfleisch (XI Corps), Kuntze (XXXII Corps).

Divs. available for assignment: 46th, 56th, 183rd, 198th, 294th (15 January), 76th (1 February).

Buhle:a) Replacements are now being speeded to the "Seelowe" Divisions; in the other Divisions they have already arrived.

b) Impossible to use recruits to replace the armament workers on furlough, as doing so would preclude forming Field Replacement Bns.

c) Calling up of armament workers takes 20 days. (10 days to get them out of the factories, 10 days to return them to their units).

d) Carts and horses for Infantry (Five for each Company).

e) To get Amphibian tanks (Eighteenth Armd. Divs.) ready for amphibious operations takes 3 to 10 weeks.

f) Report on truck situation. CGs of First and Eighth Armd. Brigade fairly satisfactory.

g) ObdH wants to supply only the trucks for the 20 short-range Ren Staffeln.

Heusinger:

a) Guard troops problem in AGp.A.

- b) More Divisions for Romania.
- c) Two-thirds of the ships in the Mediterranean (10) will get 50 ton loading cranes, one-third (5) 12 ton cranes.

von Etzdorf:

- a) Conferences of the Reich Foreign Minister with the Yugoslav Foreign Minister (Berghof and Fuschl). Mussolini approves. No results so far. Prince Paul must be called in. Yugoslavia to get Saloniki and a guaranty of her frontiers. Demilitarization of the Adriatic coast.
- b) Italy: Anxiety whether Albania can be held. Shift blame on the Army.*
- c) Codreanu-Day. Anniversary of assassination (Morossow). Romania.
- d) Papen to the Turkish Foreign Minister: Axis is willing to respect the territory and the sovereignty of Turkey and to offer guaranties, provided Turkey is willing to cooperate in the new Order of Europe.
"Formation of a British front on the Balkans would be intolerable for Germany".
- e) Bulgaria is becoming the center of interest. Russia has asked Bulgaria about her attitude toward a guaranty pact; "If it is accepted, Russia would draw closer to the Tripartite Pact."
- f) Russia: Conditions for joining a Quadripartite Pact: Finland "Russian sphere of interest", but will not be invaded. Guaranty of Bulgaria; interest in the Straits. Bulgaria is evasive.
- g) Ireland: Show of will to resist. Our Minister will talk with De Valera.
- h) Spain: Reported agreement among the leading Generals that Suñer must be fired.
- i) Japan: New ambassador in Washington, one-time head of a friendship mission. Cutting back of political objectives!

29 November 1940

Morning: Part I of Paulus' map maneuver (Study of the Eastern operation).

Afternoon: Zerbel comes in on completion of his work with Hauser.

Ochsner: Reports on his tours in the West:

- a) Kuebler's Smoke Battalion is continuing training in the Jura Mountains.
- b) Development in the oil flame process.
- c) Must get some publicity for the Smoke Troops.
- d) Service Manual for gas officers.

Phone talk with Sodenstern about reported plan of transferring the French Government to Paris.

Phone talk with von Stuelnegel: it is correct that the French Government would like to move to Paris. So far the Fuehrer has not authorized such a move. Armistice Commission has orders to defer the matter until after the Ribbentrop-Laval conferences. Fuehrer will decide then. Conference Huntzinger/warlimont. French plans in Africa outlined.

30 November 1940.

Phone talk with ObdH on progress on current matters.

von Ziehlberg: Preparation of the conference with Cs of S of Armies, etc.

Visit to the War Academy (9 December)

Correspondence routine.-- Current personnel matters.

Schmidt-Altenstadt: Abetz' position as "Ambassador".

Will become independent of the Military Government.

Far-reaching implications for the position of

ObdH and of Military Government France.

Jewish question in France.

Propaganda in France. Disbanding of the Propaganda Section.

Evening 1700 Long Conference with ObdH. I report on

important matters that came up during his leave.

We have heard that the political leadership wants to drop its plans for the Spanish and Portuguese Islands. Instead, an effort is to be made to bring Portugal into the German camp.

Guest at supper in Berlin; Boehm-Tettelbach.

1 December 1940. (Sunday, Berlin).

No new official business. Work on current matters.

2 December 1940.

Major Dingler reports out.

Capt. Simon (Ib, 246th Div.) transferred to Sec. Foreign Armies West.

General Wagner: Report on his tour in the East.

Current questions in Gen Qu Section: Dihm to replace Weingart? Traffic control.

France: New set-up following the change in Abetz' position.

Noon: Lunch with the Danish Mission headed by Chief of Gen. Staff, General Goertz, which will tour the Maginot Line (Guards Cavalry Club).

Col. Mueller (Angelo) reports.

Heusinger:

- a) Report on OKW Conference on "Felix":
 - 1.) Friday arrival of "Small Reconnaissance Party" at Bordeaux: Lanz, Grosse, Roschmann, Inf., Lucht, Lankau, Artillery; Geiger, Eng., Stahmer, Sig.
 - 2.) 18 trains will be prepared before the start of operations, but otherwise the French Railroad Administration must be kept out of the preparations.
- b) Talk with Schmudt:

Albania/Greece: Duce in low spirits. No leading Generals. Dream of Empire is dreamed out. Guaranty to Yugoslavia, transit of troops, but Saloniki will be taken by us and then turned over to Yugoslavia!
Turkey has been informed, and is getting soft in consequence.
"e shall be in Leningrad in three weeks!!

Ireland: Heinkel planes wanted for four Armd. Divs.*

Gibraltar: Siege guns, gas explosion.**

- c) Romania: A new Armd. Div., 14 December. Will be preceded by Advance Party. For 16 December!
- d) Size of the Reconnaissance Party for Bulgaria. Best in two successive groups.
- e) Creation of a new Armd. Group (Hoepfner): That means, we must recall Hansen from Romania to have him for the Eastern operation.

Gen Brand: (Arty):

- a) "Felix" : Biarritz coast defense: Two batteries from Channel Coast defense.-- Navy preparations for Spain: Eight 17 cm guns to close the Strait of Gibraltar. (will be shipped by sea.), together with light batteries. It takes eight weeks from arrival to get them ready for action! Our contribution for coast defense for Spain: To supplement the supposedly existing 29 Spanish Btrys. with 150 guns (excluding Ceuta and the Islands), which may be in dubious condition, the Naval Operations Staff wants from us: Two 10 cm Btrys., one each for Malaga and Cadiz. Must be taken from our flank!*

Two Bns., = six Btrys; one Bn. of three Btrys for Vigo and for Barcelona. (Must be taken from coast defense against England.)

Two Bns., = six Btrys; one Bn. of three Btrys. for Porto and for Lisbon. (Can for the time be taken out of the artillery earmarked for Portugal!)

Four Btrys. for the defense of the Canary Islands. (Must be taken from the French coast defenses, where they will be temporarily replaced by mobile batteries; later by newly activated coastal artillery units).

- b) Firing efficiency of Artillery pretty poor.
- c) Surveying in the East (Difference of views between the Chief Artillery Officer and Ninth** Section regarding assignment of surveying missions).

OQu IV:

- a) Cinkar Markowitch and Fuehrer: Come over to the Axis now! In three months conditions will be less favorable.
- b) Romania: Nothing new. Romanian Army will be ready by spring. Nothing promised.

- c) Leopold: The closer Belgium's ties with Germany the greater the amount of internal independence she will retain. No objections against the continued rule of the dynasty. Different from Holland and Norway.
- d) Russians have talked with the Bulgarians. If Bulgaria accepts an Assistance pact, Russia will support her revision claims. Then Russia will also join the Tripartite Pact. Open pact, two secret protocols. (Determination of the spheres of interest. The three powers must grant Russia a privileged position in the Straits according to a formula still to be arrived at.)
Five conditions:
- No more German troops to Finland (peaceful settlement!) Bulgaria concludes Pact of Mutual Assistance with Russia; must join the Tripartite Pact.
- Russia will lease bases on the Straits. If Turkey is not agreeable, satisfaction of claims will be forced by German, Italian and Russian military action against Turkey.)
- Japan must renounce her claims to Northern Sakhalin.
- Russians are interested in the region south of Batum-Baku.
- e) Spain has said that two months are too short for preparation; Franco can accept no deadline.
- f) Huntziger-Warlimont: Against Nigeria, through Sahara.*

OQu I: Distribution of Russian forces; fortifications on the Russian side. Review of operational possibilities after the first objectives have been gained.

3 December 1940

Morning: OQu I map maneuver (Eastern operation). Part II of the operation, bringing us to the line Minsk-Kiev.

OQu IV: Romania: Internal situation still very tense:

Antonescu: Illegal movement was armed by Germany (stated in the presence of the Generals). Number of political assassinations exceeds 200.

Truce with Sima will not last. Further disturbances must be expected. His only hope is the German Army.

Romania: Romanian Gen. Staff states in daily situation report: Russians have moved four Divisions nearer to the Romanian border near Cernauti.

Heusinger; Jodl, * Rasp, Baentsch, Bork:

Report on schedule of movements in "Felix": Our Reconnaissance Party (15 strong) goes to Spain on 6 December. They will be followed by a group of Reconnaissance planes, then SS Deathhead, then Artillery etc. An interval 32 - 38 days will elapse between the crossing of the frontier by the planes and the start of the operation. This is plenty long and anything but a lightning war. But the need for rigorous camouflage necessitate this long delay.

1800 : Conference with ObdH: On political situation, "Felix", "Marita" and Eastern operations. No new viewpoints.

Gercke: Steel quotas allocated to State Railroads and Chief of Field Transportation approximately meet our demands.

"Otto Program" ** can be carried out in full.

Wagner: a) Fuehrer directive on "Ambassador in France". "Military Governor" will remain for the time being.

b) 800 trucks for Italy.
Suggests: First instalment: 250, by 1 January,
Second instalment: perhaps 100, by
1 March,
Third instalment: remainder, by 1 May,
Drivers from Furlough Divs.

c) Truck situation. Spare parts quota must be increased. New workshop platoons (16 will be ready). A "Fourth Echelon Maintenance workshop" for each Army.
One-half of new truck production will go to the Field Army (1,600 by 1 February).

d) Fuel situation bad. Tire situation very bad.

von Etzdorf: Report on recent conferences:

- a) Fuehrer/Cinkar Markowitch, 28 November:
Yugoslavia's existence important for us, for economic reasons. We want a strong Yugoslavia. We have no interest in the Balkans.

Fuehrer: "Nothing has ever changed between us. It is our partner who was wavering. Typical example of how a big State can underrate the power of resistance of a small State. Criminal folly".

Unique opportunity for Yugoslavia.

We shall drive England out of Greece with 20 Divisions, but willing to use 180 Divisions, if need be. In connection with this operation, frontier readjustments possible in favor of Bulgaria.

Hungary: boa constrictor. Indigestion.

Russians have offered assistance Pact to Bulgaria and have promised treaty revisions also with respect to Yugoslavia.

If Yugoslavia joins the German combination she would obtain a guaranty for her existence, plus Saloniki. In return she would only have to demilitarize Dalmatia.

Il Duce too, would be glad to confront his hotheads with accomplished facts.

"Events permit us to bring influence to bear in the Italian sphere".

"Three months from now, the situation might be less favorable for Yugoslavia".

Neither Bulgaria nor Yugoslavia need take part in any military action. Naturally, Germany will use its discretion in distributing what is conquered by German arms.

Stalin wants to do business along the lines of traditional Russian policy. If he finds no field for his activities on the Balkans, he will turn elsewhere.

Germany will buy Yugoslavia's production over a long period and at fixed prices.

- b) Fuehrer/Ciano, end of November:

A campaign against Greece is a liability. Fuehrer will attack only with sufficient forces.

In pursuing his policies, he will deal also with countries for which he has little sympathy (Yugoslavia). Insists that Italian Air Force operate over the Mediterranean day and night.

Program for next spring: Gibraltar, Mersa Matruh, Greece.

Program for fall 1941: Egypt.

- c) Franco more unpredictable than ever. Sets no date for his entry into the war. "Completion of preparations cannot yet be predicted". Wants experts also for economic organization of country. Franco demands that operation in Eastern Mediterranean coincide with the Western operation.
- d) Schnurre/Molotov: "Russians want to send us one million tons of grain. ("From reserve stocks.") They expect bigger counter-deliveries. Balance must be settled!
- e) Turks very suspicious about "Personnel policy in the Kremlin".
- f) Laval, Huntziger, Darlan, Abetz, Warlimont: Fight De Gaulle through Nigeria; not before November, 1941. Requires careful preparations; there must be no reverses. Want fewer restrictions for their Navy.
- g) Our proposal to Molotov: An open and two secret agreements, to run for ten years. Russia would join the Tripartite Pact if five secret protocols are accepted:
 - 1.) Concerning Finland, with whom they want to come to terms without force of arms.
 - 2.) Concerning Bulgaria, with whom Russia wants to conclude an Assistance Pact. In return Bulgaria would be allowed to join the Tripartite Pact.
 - 3.) Lease of bases on the Bosphorus.
 - 4.) Turkey must be requested to join the Tripartite Pact; then give a guaranty. In the event of a refusal "diplomatic and military enforcements by Germany, Italy and Russia."Japan must renounce her Sakhalin concession.

5.) Russian sphere of interest south of the line Batum-Baku.

We have not yet replied to these proposals.

h) Fuehrer/King Leopold: Reception friendly. Internal independence of Belgium will be greater the closer she ties herself to Germany. Germany will do nothing against the Royal House, as contrasted with the policy toward Holland and Norway. We shall not let Belgium starve. "Individual treatment" promised. "Statement" refused.

i) Antonescu: Instead of 45 Divisions he wants to activate only 29, including 10 with double cadre.

Antonescu/Fuehrer: Antonescu serves notice of a demand for revision after the war. Romanian Army ready in spring.

k) Fuehrer/Teleki: We must not trust the Russians.--- England already beaten.--- Germany's superiority.

4 December 1940.

Morning: Preparation for the Fuehrer Conference.
(Conference is then called off and postponed to 5 December).

von Stueelpnagel (Armistice Commission):

- a) Transfer of the French Government to Versailles. Fuehrer has ruled, that for the time being this question should be given dilatory treatment. Probably it will be some time before they are allowed to return. First we must wait for the outcome of the conferences with Laval; perhaps also, whether any practical results will follow from them. AGp A notified.
- b) Fuehrer views favorably prospects for cooperation with the French. Has a positive attitude in this question. The French will need time, however. (Foreign Office directive on "line" is different).
- c) Armistice Commission has been instructed to work on the Italians to make them to accept the French requests: 120,000 men in North Africa, easing of restrictions on the Navy.

- d) Troubles: Expulsion of Lorrainers (Himmler is behind that), and in Bordeaux. 267 Jews from Luxembourg.

Chief Signal Officer:

- a) Signal communications for Air Force in "Felix", Vigo, Cadiz, Malaga for Naval Operations Staff.
- b) Raw materials for Signal Communications. Air Force demands four times more from us!! Will have to learn to manage things differently.
- c) Signal communications through Hungary and Romania for "Otto." Authorized by OKW.
- d) Once Marita is getting under way, signal officers to Belgrade and Sofia.
- e) Direct communications with Ireland, Air Attaché.
- f) Japanese Attaché wants to exchange with us Russian cryptographic material.
- g) Foreign Office, Forschungs-Institut and we are doing radio intelligence. Fellgiebel was supposed to coordinate these activities, but has not gotten anywhere.

- Jodl: a) Fuehrer conference on 5 December. 1) Camouflage must not be overdone. The matter must be speeded up.-- 2) Too little Artillery.
- b) Fuehrer report on 7 December, afternoon: Kuebler with Artillery specialist (1500 hrs). Richthofen, Weichenau? Representative of OKH. Subject: Details of the operation.

5 December 1940

Gercke: Assignments for Mittermaier.
ObdH's reply to recommendation concerning Strobl.

- Buhle: a) Trucks for Italy: French trucks, 250 in January, 250 in March. Drivers from Eastern Furlough Divisions.
- b) Reich Labor Service.-- 50 Bns. for the East in March.

- c) Field Replacement Bns. (70 to begin with).
 - d) New Armd. Group: Signal units from the Divisions of the Third Draft; Sixth Draft etc. (February).
 - e) More Rocket projector regiments by reducing the number of projectors from eight to six.
- Approved!!

von Rintelen: a) Progress in the Italian war. He specially stresses the passivity of the Italian Navy.

b) Possible developments and prospects.

Ambassador Ritter: Cooperation between Foreign Office Depts. and the Army.

1500 - 1900 Fuehrer conference (ObdH and myself; part of the time, General Brand):

- 1) He outlines the political situation and his plans. Details see note on the conference. Summary: "Felix" as soon as possible. Latest date for F-day, 10 January, 1941. He wants shortest possible interval between the first air attack and the start of the artillery bombardment. The decision to do "Felix" is final.

"Marita": Preparations must be carried out to the full in accordance with the recommendation, and in such a manner that we can march into enemy territory early in March. The decision whether Marita will be done is still left open.

"Otto": Preparations must get fully under way in accordance with our basic plans. Proposed date: End of May.

"Seeloewe": Can be left out of our considerations.

Libya: No longer contemplated.

2) Details on "Felix":

- a) Tactics: Every inch of English territory must be pulverized. To do this we need much siege gun ammunition. Unlimited expenditure of ammunition; 20-30 ammunition trains through France, or by sea to Malaga. Negotiations with French authorities on transit of these shipments not before X-Day. Workers through Spain.
- b) Insure installation of Coastal Artillery in Tarifa and Ceuta through a sales arrangement with Spain. Must be set up in time to prevent escape of British ships.

- c) Preparations must be completed for ferrying troops to Morocco.
- d) Heaviest tanks; new heaviest type carrying 27 rounds of ammunition.

3) Details on "Otto":

- a) What matters most is to prevent the enemy from falling back before our onslaught.
- b) Maximum objective: Occupation of an area which will render the Z I safe from air attacks. After attainment of this objective combined operations to destroy the sources of enemy war potential (Armaments industries, mines, oil fields).
- c) Aim of the campaign: Crushing of Russian manpower; no groups capable of recuperation must be allowed to escape.
- d) Allies: Finns, Romanians, but not Hungarians.
- e) One Division will be brought up from Narvik by train through Sweden and will strike on the northern wing together with Dietl's two Mt. Divs. Objective: Polar Sea.
- f) Make the Southern Group strong! The Russians must be beaten this side the Dnieper. Concentrate Air Force against Dnieper crossings! All Russian forces this side the Dnieper must be destroyed.
- g) Cut off Baltic area! The rest can be done by Landwehr Divs.
- h) By striking with strong wings north and south of the Pripet marshes we must split the Russian front and encircle the enemy in separate pockets. (Similar to Poland). These two outer wings must be fast and strong!
- i) Moscow of no great importance.

After return in the evening, review of the outcome of the conference with Heusinger.
 Resumé of the conference put to paper.

6 December 1940.

von Stuelpnagel calls up: Negotiations regarding the Demarcation Lines which were at the point of conclusion have suddenly reached a deadlock, because the French now link this question with the question of the Northeastern frontier. Stiffening attitude! They demand easing of restrictions in the Occupied Zone. December instalment of occupation costs has not been paid!

+ inform Stuelpnagel of the outcome of yesterday's conference.

General Paulus: Review of operational problems in "Otto", in the light of yesterday's Fuehrer conference.

von Ziehlberg: Filling of posts (Fourteenth Draft), and current matters.

ObdH (1700 - 1900):

- a) M 60* (Result of today's trial firing at Hillersleben)**: range 4,200 m --- Self-propelled mount.--- weight of projectile: 2,100 kg; explosive charge 280 kg; Muzzle velocity 220 m.--- Blast and flash slight.--- Penetrates 150 cm concrete. Can be shipped by rail.--- On roads in divided loads. Assembly by crane. Shops finished by 10 January, in time to be shipped by rail. Road speed 4 km per hour. Dispersion: 15 x 15 m.--- Effective range: 2700 - 4100 m.--- Ammunition forthwith: 30 rounds; impact fuze.
- b) Roechling projectile for 15 cm guns and 21 cm heavy howitzers. Penetrates 3 m concrete.---Test firing in the Jura Mountains. Let us hope that ammunition will be ready in time.
- c) "Felix":
Order of movement: send Artillery ahead at the earliest to give a flat-trajectory fire against British Fleet.---Infantry security.
Remainder of First Mt. Div. will follow.
High explosives for blasting the Rock; by sea from Genoa. Small craft.
Loading crews at Genoa. Men must not be shipped on same vessels with ammunition.
Assault tanks: Thoma, latest model with reinforced front armor.
Replacements for assault troops must be readied.
Rehabilitation after completion of operations, in Paris.

Third Armd. Div. No change!

- d) "Otto": List will command the right wing. In that case he can also do Marita. Review of the dispositions and missions of the several Army Hqs.
- e) "Marita": Advance Party to prepare accommodations in Romania.

General Konrad (Liaison Officer in Goering's Hq).

- a) Strategy of aerial warfare.
- b) Details.
- c) Operations against England: Britain did not sacrifice her fighter strength over London; is sacrificing London instead. Our fighters have only limited range over England, extending not much beyond London. This enabled Britain to conserve and increase her fighter planes. We were forced to change over to night attack. Selection of targets: emphasis on armaments industry (especially aviation). Next in order, critical port installations. London is under constant day and night attack in order to destroy the city. Defense organization is tied down there. Special missions: Destruction of specified plants of critical industrial importance (Also by day, through clouds). Attack on selected night airdromes (Night attacks). Targets of opportunity: Individual ships and convoys.

At present we do not emphasize attack on supply movements. These operations will be concentrated on only when the main task (destruction of armaments industry) is nearing completion. The attack on supplies will be launched in Spring, in conjunction with submarine warfare.

Determining factors in the selection of targets for daylight sorties: Weather, effectiveness of direction beams, taking-off facilities. In dark nights only flying by instruments possible (direction beams, direction finding). This precludes extension of operations beyond the parallel of Birmingham or at most Liverpool. Farther objectives, e.g. Glasgow, where the British are taking all their valuable stuff for safekeeping, can be reached only on bright nights.

- d) Operations control: Centralized: ObdL selects the targets for the following night and decides what has to be done the day after.
- e) Strength: At present 3,000 - 4,000 planes in operation, including 1,800 bombers. Bombers can go out on missions every fourth night.
- f) Appraisal of overall situation: Personnel show occasional signs of fatigue because no conclusive results have as yet been achieved. If operations are carried on consistently and with sufficient weight, our blows will one day pass the limits of human endurance. At present we have only few positive indications of cracking morale. "One day the bow will break". Fighter opposition is weakening already.
- g) Organization: No new units will be activated, but existing units will be reinforced to 15 planes each.

Heusinger:

- a) Preparations for "Felix".
- b) Preparations for "Marita".
- c) Navy will furnish four coastal Btrys. of three 15 cm guns each, for Gran Canaria and Teneriffe. In addition, they want from us 4 mot. 10 cm gun Btrys. (No!)
- d) Preparations must be made now for the relief of troops in Portugal and Spain after the conclusion of operation "Felix".
- e) Preparations must now be made for the rehabilitation of the Armd. units returning from "Felix"; also of mot. medium Artillery.

- Buhle:
- a) Preparations for "Felix" and "Marita": Recall men on furlough!
 - b) Current activation questions. (AGp. E will not be needed!)

7 December 1940

Morning: Part III of Paulus map maneuver.

Noon: Col. Gen. von Falkenhorst calls: Reports on Norway:

- 1.) Preparation for Dietl's offensive with four Divs. from Norway through Finland: 163rd, Engelbrecht; 199th, Kempf (three Regts.); Second Mt. Div., Feuerstein; Third Mt. Div., Kreysing. Time required for assembly in Finland or on the Finnish border: 6 - 8 weeks. One Mt. Div. will go by road to Petsamo (Second Mt. Div.). One Mt. Div. will move up by rail from Narvik (Third Mt. Div.). One Div. from Central Norway by rail through Sweden (163rd Div.). One Div. from the coast of Central Norway by rail through Sweden (199th Div.). Movements possible as of 1 April.
- 2.) Waffen SS on coast of Polar Sea and in Southern Norway (Oslo) under a Brigade Commander. Cooperation good.

Evening Gehlen: Assembly order for "Marita" (Berlin)

8 December 1940. (Sunday, Berlin)

Afternoon 1800: I see Keitel (OKW) at his home.

- a) Albania: Last night Alfieri informed Rintelen, later the Fuehrer, of critical situation in Albania. The Italian Army has again fallen back 30 km. Fuehrer holds that this time it is not a matter of poor leadership, but rather of bad troop morale.
- b) Spain: Caudillo told Canaris point blank that entry into the war at the time proposed by us is impossible, since no preparations have been made. The reasons are mainly of an economic nature: food etc. The transportation problem defies solution.-- Canary Islands and Spanish overseas possessions would be lost (also the Portuguese Islands would be occupied by the enemy). The Islands would simply starve to death.

Nevertheless Spain will carry on with her preparations. . . Camouflage must be fully maintained. OKW has telegraphed Canaris, instructing him to find out the earliest possible date.

- c) Fuehrer is now examining the extreme consequences: If Caudillo refuses to cooperate, we could not get into Morocco; disaffection would spread in North Africa; Weygand would set up counter-government.
Conclusion: If anything happens in North Africa; we must at once occupy the remainder of France.

Trip to see Il Duce planned for tomorrow noon.

- d) 1 outline a tentative operational plan (Attila)* and stipulate a ten-day alert period.

2200 (Zossen). Keitel (OKW) on phone:

- a) Trip put off for several days. Il Duce does not view situation as particularly dangerous. Wants to await developments.
- b) Fuehrer approves my operational plan.**
Thinks, that not many troops would be needed. Waffen SS and SS Adolf Hitler will be available for this purpose, as will be all units destined for "Felix".
Preparations for "Marita" will go on. The troops assigned to that operation must not be used for "Attila". This conversation was preceded by conference with Op. Sec. (Pistorius) and Sec. Foreign Armies*** on capabilities for assembly of troops, and situation in Albania.

Midnight: Conference with Pistorius, Stauffenberg, etc. on "Attila".

9 December 1940. (Monday).

1000 Heusinger-Pistorius - Draft of plan for operation "Attila".

My estimate that ten days will be needed to get the troops ready to strike is concurred in. If transportation is firmly planned and the Divisions

set up an organization which will allow instant departure of all available forces, the interval between issuance of orders and start of operations can be cut to six days. Should this interval be too long for the political Command, we must immediately start sending the troops to the jump-off areas. It is doubtful whether these movements could be successfully disguised.-

At noon report to Fuehrer:

The Fuehrer approves the proposed plan of operation. The political Command wants a shorter assembly period than six days. This will make it necessary to send the troops to the staging areas now.

Detailed review of the political situation: Spain has finally declined. The Fuehrer is now weighing the possibility of regarding existing agreements voided by Spain's withdrawal; this would give him greater freedom of action in his dealings with the French, with a view to winning their support for his policy by promising to keep their African possessions intact. Italy need not be considered overmuch in all this.

I took the opportunity to draw the Fuehrer's attention to two points: 1) The necessity to continue the attack on the British Isles with every means. 2) The threat from British reinforcements in the Eastern Mediterranean in view of existing Italian capabilities in Libya, and the possibility of a British front on the Balkans. Fuehrer concurs. He will advise the Italians not to advance beyond Sidi Barrani, and to limit themselves to defensive operations in Libya. (Luncheon with the Fuehrer.)

1700 : Heusinger receives instructions based on conference with Fuehrer. Also current matters.

Evening: Hauptamtsleiter Dr. Gross reads a paper on racial policy.

10 December 1940. (Tuesday)

OQu IV: a) Interpreters for Russia.

b) England: Report on strength. Five new Divs. Reorganization: Artillery reduced to spread over more Divs.

c) Fuehrer's letter to Il Duce.-- Milch in Rome. (Divebombers).

d) Mintelen has been given three missions by the Fuehrer: 1.) Go immediately to Albania. 2.) Bring military influence to bear on operations in Albania. 3.) Study question of transport, to see if effective help could be furnished.

e) Bulgaria's reply to Russia: They want peaceful revision. Any other method would lead to complications with Turkey. Bulgaria is not interested in the Straits. Acceptance of an Assistance Pact with Russia would necessarily be interpreted as insincerity toward Germany. In their reply, the Russians offer to guarantee the Bulgarian frontiers. Bulgarian reply still outstanding.

f) Papen has offered Turkey a German guaranty of her frontiers if Turkey joins the Tripartite Pact.

g) Yugoslavia is evasive, but would conclude a Non-aggression Pact with us. No reply on Prince Paul.

h) In Hungary, Italy's military prestige has touched zero. There is a great deal of talk about the necessity for Gibraltar.-- German forces needed in the Southeast. Hungaria-Yugoslav Pact was concluded upon instigation of the Fuehrer.
"Zone of communications Hungary." *

General von Mackensen, C l. Hauffe, Kuebler: Briefing on "Marita".

Buhle: Timetable for "Marita". Recall of men on furlough at specified intervals. Current questions of organization.

Radke: Party will be by-passed in notifying next of kin of deaths of relatives in Army. Other current questions.

Jacob: a) Air shelter construction.-- Manpower.
b) "Seeloewe" improvements. Speeding of unloading.
c) Crossing of Danube in Romania: Construction of bridges and ferries will take two weeks from arrival of troops. Bridge constructed with Danube barges will take even three weeks. 70 -100 trainloads of bridge-building equipment necessary.
d) Gibraltar demolitions -- purpose?
e) Report from the East on construction of roads, housing and border fortifications.

Heusinger: Orders for "Attila".-- Dispatch of reconnaissance teams for "Marita".

von Stuelpnagel:(on phone):

- 1.) Differences between Military Governor France and Railroad Chief.--
- 2.) Demarcation Line: Quite suddenly the French consider the proposed control of the national frontiers intolerable.

Wagner-Handloser:

- a) Conference with Handloser on the question "Chief Army Surgeon".
- b) Preparations for "Marita".-- Pipe-line.

11 December 1940.

Visit War Academy in Berlin..

Morning: Attend classes conducted by Doerr and Reinhard.--

Luncheon with the instructors. Afternoon:
Attend class by Hax.
Afterwards address to the officer participants.
Short conference with the instructors.

1700 - 1830 Conference with Schniewind (Naval Operations Staff):

- a) Personnel difficulties make it impossible to meet our wishes for Liaison Officers.
- b) Review of the entire war situation. Our views are largely in agreement.
- c) War in the Atlantic very effective; SS Scheer in Southern Atlantic, SS Hipper in Northern Atlantic. Numerous auxiliary cruisers also in Asiatic waters and in the South Sea.
- d) Two new capital ships (Bismarck) will be commissioned in April and May. England has nothing to match them. In addition two heavy cruisers are going to be returned to active service; as a result, Britain's situation will become increasingly difficult beginning next May at the latest.
- e) Plans for the submarine campaign call for construction of 18 - 20 submarines each month next year, starting about June. It is still uncertain whether this goal can be reached.
- f) Constant improvement in mine warfare by new types. Accoustic mines.

2200 General Bogatsch: Report on activation of new short-range reconnaissance Staffeln. 20 new Staffeln will be added to the existing 36: 20 for Armd. Divs., 10 for mot. Corps, one for Cav. Div., two for Mountain Corps, 23 for Inf. Corps. bringing the total to 56.

Those earmarked for special missions are not included in the activation plan, viz.:

Four for Attila
Two for Romania
Eight for Macedonia
Five for Armd. Div. in Africa.

Timetable: Organizational preparations run until 15 January; activation to 15 March; assignment to Ground Force Hqs to 15 May.

Distributed at present in three Groups: AGps. A, D (strongest with 15 Staffeln), and B.

Training with Tenth Armd. Div.-- Retraining on Focke-Wulf planes.-- Night flight training at Prieg.*

Material: Plane strength just sufficient. By May, each Staffel will have 7 or 8 planes. Truck situation.

General Gercke reports on phone:

- a) Fuel supply of East Prussia. Reich Marshal intervenes. Everything else will have to wait, including Askania.
- b) Shipping priorities: Coal to Italy, coal to Russia, coal supply for the Eastern program.
- c) Distribution difficulties in East Prussia. Relief by seaborne shipments.

12 December 1940

von Ziehlberg: Next War Academy class will have roll of 110. -- agenda for the C of S Conference.-- Current matters.

OQu IV: Oestermann**-- Conferences held by Warlimont in Paris. Release of colonial experts***
Fuel question. Existing orders are to be modified as not to apply to North Africa. Syria reassuring statements for the benefit of Turkey.

German Military Mission to visit Russian armaments industry. Article for the American Press: "Campaign Experiences with Cavalry and Tanks".--

Japan apparently willing to renounce her Sakhalin concession (condition for the Tripartite Pact).

Chief Op. Sec:

- a) Start of troop movements to Romania: Four Eng. Bns., five Bridge Construction Bns.,

two Construction Pns. additional to the two already provided.

- b) Reconnaissance Team Bulgaria:
Vienna, 13 December, Bucharest. Will enter Bulgaria across Danube.
Cross-country motor vehicles will be provided by us. Camouflaged as automobile sales outfit.
- c) Corps Arty. Commanders for XXXX and XIV Corps.
- d) Activation of Army Hq 17? Working Staff Mackensen in Vienna as of 21 December.
- e) 1941 program for border fortifications in East. Target for 1940 will not be reached.
Inquiry about targets for 1941.-- Reply: East Prussia, light permanent fortifications, rest field fortifications.

- Gen Qu:
- a) Baentsch (with Hanstein): Organization of Romanian supply base for "Marita". Supply services during the operation.
 - b) Build-up of supply basis for Eastern Campaign: Send more stocks to dumps in the East.-- Road construction questions.
 - c) Preparations for "Attila".
 - d) Negro PW's will be concentrated in Southern France.

General Mueller: Court-Martial questions.-- Review of the points to be discussed with the Army Cs of S.

- Heusinger:
- a) Operation "Felix" cancelled.
 - b) Order to Army Hq 17 to take over troops of Twelfth Army by 1 January.
 - c) Preparations for the C of S Conference.

von Stuelpnagel: (on phone):

- a) Pétain will visit Paris to attend the re-burial of the Duke of Reichstadt (5 December). This journey has no bearing on the decision regarding transfer of the French Government.

- b) Conference Fuehrer/Duce.
- c) Italians suddenly are very accommodating about French military wishes in North Africa. Raeder will go to Italy to look after Naval operations there.
- d) Conference Huntzinger/Warlimont. New proposals indicate French intention to start operations against De Gaulle in Africa by spring.
- e) Laval conferences, which originally were not to take place till after Christmas, will be held now.
- f) Udet's promise that the targets of the aircraft production program will be reached, was based on utilization of the entire French armaments industry, including plants in the unoccupied zone. We have not got so far yet.

- Gercke: a) How will Goering's demands for East Prussia affect the "Otto" program? (at least two weeks).*
- Jodl states that even four weeks would not matter.
- b) Road construction: Plans of the Transportation Chief must be coordinated with plans of the Armies. Conference!
 - c) "Fritz": OKW will issue a new directive.

13 December 1940.

Conference with Cs of S of Army Groups and Armies.

Morning: Conference on Eastern operation held by Paulus.

Noon: Luncheon.

Afternoon: Military political situation. — Reports by Op. Sec., Org. Sec. Konrad, Loyke, Eng. Sec. Central Branch.

14 December 1940

Conclusion of the Conference with Cs of S of Army Groups and Armies.

Reports by Chief Air Officer, Chief of Transportation, Chief Signal Officer, Foreign Armies West, Foreign Armies East.

1300 Buschenhagen:

- a) Report on situation in Norway: Political structure; finances; Quisling. Executive Power for all practical purposes, is exercised by the Military Hqs; formally it is in the hands of Terboven. We have very big debts in Norway (several billion Kroner).
- b) Build-up against Russia:
 - 1.) In the northernmost sector $1\frac{1}{2}$ Mt. Divs. (Part of the other Mt. Div. must remain for border protection duty). From Central Norway: two Inf. Divs. plus one SS Brigade mot., with some additions. That makes something more than four Divisions.
 - 2.) The Swedes can concentrate north of the Gulf of Bothnia: Three Divs. (Douglas).
 - 3.) It would take our Divisions at least six weeks to become operationally effective.

OQu IV : Change Laval/Flandin.

- Heusinger:
- a) Romania: Training Staff I --- Training Staff II.
 - b) "Marita".
 - c) A Corps for XXX Corps.
 - d) Maps for Romania: Map center attached to Military Mission.

1800 ‡ see ObdH at his home:

Concise report on the decisions and orders issued during the past eight days (especially "Attila", "Marita"). ObdH is tense, evidently tired out by the Eastern tour and hard-pressed for time because of the impending family celebration (his son's engagement).

As a result our conversation is somewhat on edge at times. No technical objections. Overall impression in the East: Housing fair.-- Trainings in arrears, because troops were resting until a short while ago.-- Morale good, troops eager to go. Requests from the East mainly concern allocation of labor.

15 December 1940. (Sunday, Berlin)

von Toppelskirch: Petain has assumed now also the Vice-presidency.-- Abetz goes to Vichy. Demands that Laval be taken back into the Government. Landin acceptable as Foreign Minister, Peyrouton rejected as Minister of the Interior. Laval in protective custody.-- Brinon was arrested, but later released. Abetz demands that General de Laurencie resign.

Speidel (Paris):

Anxieties about "Attila".-- Transfer of the remains of Duke of Reichstadt to Paris passed without incident. The gesture had no echo in the French public.-- Weygand will be recalled to France.

Extract from Huntziger's report on intentions against England:

- 1.) Wants additional reinforcements of veteran colonial soldiers.
- 2.) Thinks that attacks against the British are possible at the following points:
 - a) Kano (Nigeria), by air.
 - b) Bathurst, by direct assault.
 - c) Freetown (of particular importance for Britain!). Plan will be submitted. Preparations completed by the end of February. (By that time SS Provence will also be ready).
 - d) Gibraltar.

- 3.) Complains about petty and contradictory demands by the Italians.
- 4.) Britain has informed France that action against De Gaulle "almost inevitably" must lead to a conflict. France, however, would reconquer her colonies even at the cost of a war with Britain.
- 5.) He wants a German statement disclaiming any intention to take French colonial possessions. That would take the wind out of De Gaulle's sails.
De Gaulle "Agent of Britain" to protect the British route to Egypt.

16 December 1940 (Monday, Berlin,
later in day,
Zossen).

Finnish General Talvela with Attaché Horn:

Outlines the political situation in his country.--
Finland threatened by Communist propaganda.

Summary of the military situation: Åland - Petsamo-
- Salla; no long-range guns and planes.

Sweden's attitude depends on that of Germany.
Sweden can make available five Divs. to aid
Finland.

Personal union Sweden - Finland: we are
asked to help.

I want to know how much time would be needed
to make quiet preparations for an offensive
to the Southeast.*

General Schickfuss: wants a different assignment
for himself and Mittelberger.

1230 - 1430, von Ziehlberg: --- Current Gen. Staff
personnel matters.

Heusinger: a) GHq troops for "Attila".
b) Army Hq 17 to replace Army Hq 12;
Kluge will temporarily take von
Bock's place.

- c) Alerting of first echelon of "Marita" Divs.
- d) Third Armd. Div. will be transferred to the area of 50th Div. (Posen)

von Rabenau brings me Part II of Seeckt's "Aus meinem Leben" * with personal dedication.

Conference with ObdH: General situation.-- Policy toward France.-- "Attila". -- "Marita". Authority of the Army Hqs in the East with respect to the Commanders of Mil. Districts. Eastern studies prepared by Army Cs of S.

Wagner, von Altenstadt:

- a) Questions of Military Administration in connection with "Attila".
- b) Questions of Military Administration in connection with "Marita". (Build-up in Romania.)
- c) Review of Eastern questions.

von Stuelpnagel, Armistice Commission (on phone):

Pétain's letter to the Fuehrer stating that Laval is unpopular, his methods questionable. Great excitement at the Berghof. Abetz has left for Vichy: We are ready to work with you, but Laval must be taken back into the Government, in one form or the other. If this demand is not met, we are through with the policy of collaboration.

Huntziger, on his own accord, officially assured von Stuelpnagel that no change is intended in the plans for a collaboration between France and Germany. He also wants us to realize that one of the reasons for Laval's downfall was the fact that as a result of our own vacillating attitude. Laval was unable to show any tangible results.

17 December 1940.

Buhle: a) Current matters.

- b) "Marita": 125 rubber-tired and 75 regular mountain carts for 50th, 164th, 72nd and 73rd Divs. (First echelon "Marita".)
100 MG carts, with horses.
100 pair skis.*
20 cross-country passenger cars.
- c) A T Cos. (Inf.) of Eleventh and Twelfth Drafts will get Chenillettes** (700 of the existing 1,200.)
- d) Activation of short-range reconnaissance Staffeln. We help out with motor transport (450 trucks, etc.)
- e) Trucks for Italy cancelled.
- f) Administrative control of 22nd Div. Judicial authority? (No!)***. Motorization? (No!)
- g) By next March 50 Bridge Columns B will be on hand for new Eng. Bns. (Div. troops) and Armd. Corps (Corps troops) Exchange in AGp. C (First Draft).

Keitel: Personnel Div.:

- a) Waldmann resigns, (hospital, Munich).
- b) Question of the "Chief Army Surgeon".
- c) Raschik. Function will be abolished.
- d) E-Officers will be taken over in several stages: First troops, then staffs; assignments till the end of the war (Fuehrer directive).
- e) Conferment of titular officer ranks will be stopped. (Fuehrer directive).
No order in writing.

- Gercke:
- a) Complaints of the Armistice Commission.
 - b) Work on the Iron bridge must be discontinued.
 - c) Railway troops for Romania. (Some troops for the main supply lines with first echelon; attached to Training Div.)
 - d) Strengthening of bridges in Romania and Bulgaria.
 - e) Ships for Danube crossings (120 barges and 10 towing vessels).
 - f) During November 1940: 300 troop trains plus 15,000 carloads, daily.

1400 to 1800 Map exercise (East) in Gen Qu's office. (Worked out for zone of action of Fourth Army; theoretical considerations.)

von Etzdorf:

- a) The Laval affair is viewed by Foreign Office as a dangerous embarrassing incident.
- b) Turkey-Bulgaria: Talks on issuance of declaration of non-aggression and withdrawal of troops from both sides of frontier.
- c) Italy: Rumors about Ciano's resignation denied. "Il Duce is still strong enough to be able to afford Ciano." Rift between Army and political command: The situation in Cyrenaica is really not the fault of the political command.
- d) Friendship Pact Yugoslavia-Hungary.
- e) Ill feeling as a result of tardy presentation of credentials by the new Russian Ambassador.
- f) Orientation on talks with Talvela, orientation on plans in the East.

Heusinger: a) Captured enemy tanks are ready for action in Paris.
b) Armored trains for "Attila"?
c) Eastern questions: Armored trains.-- 32% of Russian armaments industry in the Ukraine; 28% (especially aircraft industry) in the Moscow-Gorki area; 16% in the Leningrad area; remainder in the Ural and the Far East.

18 December 1940.

Radke: Current matters, which have already been ruled on by ObdH.

Wagner, Gen Qu : Reports from Paris:

Laurencie supplanted by Brinon.
Laval, Minister of the Interior, on condition that he can clear himself of the charge that he was planning a coup d'état.
Directorate: Darlan, Huntziger, Laval, Flandin.
Additional confirmation that Huntziger's statements on the preparations for the war against England were made with the full approval of the Cabinet.

Gehlen: Request by the Armed Forces Plenipotentiary in Romania to notify the Romanian Government without delay on forthcoming troop arrivals.

von Stuelpnagel (on phone):

- a) Confirms reports about Laval. The accusations against Laval evidently refer to attempts to squeeze out Pétain.
- b) Ribbentrop not yet satisfied. He wants every means of pressure applied until Laval is again in the saddle; (no French Minister is allowed to go to Paris).
- c) At the moment Laval has taken over Laurencie's job in Paris (as Liaison to Abetz). Final composition of French Cabinet still uncertain.
- d) Fuehrer now has doubts whether he still needs France. He is always thinking of making peace with England at the expense of France.
- e) In the Armistice Commission everything is at a standstill. No progress in the question of the Demarcation Line.
- f) Darlan, straightforward, honest old tar, has much influence on Pétain. No politician.
- g) Reich Marshal's demands to France (stock majority of the entire aircraft industry).

Gercke: a) Communications problems in the East and road construction. Uniform regulation necessary. Report on conference in Posen.
b) "Marita". Maximum railroad schedule necessary when our shipments start. OKW has made no preparations for that. (Romanians to be informed through diplomatic channels.)

19 December 1940.

Hemmerich: Military Geographical Institute.
Organization of surveying service.--
Subordination of the War Maps and Surveying
Section. Business procedure.

Heusinger, Buhle, Stiff:

- a) Program for replacement of the Western Divisions and assembly in the East. Of the Furlough Divs., a few will be called up before 1 February, 1941, the majority only later.
Railroad schedules are kept extremely low as a precaution. At the start of the movement 12 trains; later 24 trains, eventually 36 trains. More cannot be expected from the railroads today. Of course, such a slow assembly affords all sorts of opportunities to the enemy.
- b) All responsibility for road construction will be placed in the hands of the Chief of Transportation. Problem! Would facilitate concentration of effort in any given area and promote uniformity.
- c) Border Defense Position Tilsit - Memel; Fortress Memel.
Noon: Luncheon with the Officers of the Quartermaster Service, who have come to a Conference in Gen Qu's Office.

Buhle:

- a) OGDH wants to have granting of leaves to France stopped.
- b) Five Light Road Construction Bns. from the Reich Labor Service will be formed by 1 April, 1941, each Bn. with three Companies.
- c) "Lightweight," guns, i.e. recoilless guns, for tanks and for Mountain Artillery.
- d) 35,000 men in our Furlough Divisions are armaments workers.
- e) Map depots. Trucks for Army map depots, not for home map depots. The Army map depots will become part of the supply depots and will be moved as far forward as possible.
- f) Recall of men on furlough (armaments workers): Second echelon of "Marita" necessary early in January, unless further preparations for "Marita" are expressly cancelled.

- von Thoma:
- a) Bernhard truck: three-axle truck for road transport of medium tanks.
 - b) Troubles in production of 5 cm AT guns-- will be ironed out.
 - c) 4.7. cm Skoda AT gun -- activation of a sixth Bn.
 - d) Report on Armd. Divs., physical condition and lack of material (rubber, snow cleats).

Evening: Christmas celebration at Central Branch.

20 December 1940.

- von Ziehlberg:
- a) Complaint about paymaster Hoffmann and Canteen girls.*
 - b) Reorganization of OKH.
 - c) 22 April 1941 -- 75th birthday of von Seeckt.
 - d) Current reassignments.

- Radke:
- a) Hesse's** relation to ObdH. This personal propaganda and promotion department of ObdH is having an increasingly disruptive effect on cooperation in the OKH.
 - b) Leaves to France must be stopped. Formulation of the order, however, must give due consideration to the fact that it is the German soldier who conquered France, and consequently is entitled to at least the treatment accorded to Party people.
 - c) Propaganda maps on "the victorious campaign" of the individual Divisions are contrary to our orders on war reporting.

- Heusinger:
- a) Current minor questions.
 - b) Timetable "Marita". We have five days' delay so far. First echelon will start on 5 January; will cross Danube not before 30 January, and Greek frontier on 6 March.
 - c) Housing problems in connection with assembly in the East.

- OQu IV:
- a) Yugoslavia.
 - b) Pétain's letter to the Fuehrer.
 - c) Nogués in Vichy, reported to have brought material against Weygand.

1630 , Conference in ObdH's office (with Heusinger):

- a) "Marita" (Mackensen's assembly map). (Time-tables, ships for bridge constructions),
- b) Recall of Furlough Divisions. Assembly in the East.
- c) Allocation of staging areas and preparation of quarters for build-up in the East.
- d) 22nd Div. put under control of ObdL.

Gen. Fellgiebel:

- a) Linking with our lines requested by the French.
- b) Plenipotentiary Signal Officer Sofia will later be attached to Hist.
- c) Current questions of signal communications (also material).

21 December 1940.

Gericke: Technical developments:

- a) Light Z bridge.* Can be extended to 52.5 m. Not enough for rivers. Difficulties with pier foundations not yet solved.
- b) Experiments on re-spiking of railroad trucks to standard gauge are making good progress.
- c) One mot. En. can re-lay 25 km of intact track a day.

Gen Qu: (with Baentsch and Wagner):**

- a) Administrative orders for the execution and preparation of "Marita".
- b) (with Gericke;) Standardization of road construction program in the East. Creation of a central control agency for the utilization of railroads by Armed Forces, civilian economy, etc.
- c) Current supply questions:
Rubber blocks and tracks give no trouble at the moment. -- Report to OKW on truck situation, replacements and stockpiling of tires. -- Other current questions.

Radke; Current matters of his section.

A telegram is received from von Rintelen stating that four Italian Divisions are encircled at Bardia; this means that the Italian Tenth Army is virtually wiped out. Only two to three Italian Divisions are left. Distress calls for German tanks!

In Albania there is greatest concern for the southern wing, in view of Greek regrouping from the right to the left wing.

22 December 1940. (Sunday, at Berlin).

Nothing of importance. Work at home. Visit by the Leyherrs.*

23 December 1940.

Communication from Etzdorf:

At the moment Pétain does not see his way to receive Laval back into his Cabinet.

The projected Directorate would accordingly consist of three persons only: Huntziger, Darlan, Flandin.

The Foreign Minister claims to have learned from a secret source that Pétain had remarked he would hold out until he could be sure, whether Germany was genuinely willing to continue the policy of cooperation.

Conference with Fromm (0930 to 1130):

Supply situation: Horses are available in sufficient numbers; new age-class still unallocated.

Steel quota for the Army has been drastically reduced. Present production figures can be kept up till beginning or middle of March, then will drop.

T N T is mainly used for the Air Force. A portion of Arty. projectile production must be stocked as empty shells.

Non-ferrous metals: Stocks seized in occupied territories will carry us to about the end of 1941.

Rubber: Difficult. New Buna factories. Absorbs steel.

Food: Reasonably assured for 1941, but not beyond that. "We'll swindle ourselves through 1941".

Manpower situation: Fuehrer order: All personnel measures must be subordinated to the operational requirements of Air Force and Navy. No drafting of armament workers before 30 June. Dates for recall of men on furlough, 1 February and 1 April; Furlough Divisions as of 1 February. Men furloughed to industry must be left at their jobs until 31 March. OKW must be notified four weeks in advance of any plans for earlier recall of men. Org. Sec. The age group which normally would be called up in fall, will be called up already next spring.

GHq troops: Negotiations between Org. Sec. and General Army Office are still in progress.

Field Replacement Bns.: Claims he has not got the men to form any; perhaps set up Field Recruit Depots.

What Chief of Army Equipment* seems to be aiming at is an arrangement whereby 15% would be attached to field units. Org. Sec.

Peacetime organization of OKH: Would like to have my draft plan soon. Recommendation regarding Inspector of Training also desired.** -- Central Branch.

Personnel matters: Haschik, Ulex, Mittermeier, Haseloff, Koehler, Olbricht wants Kuehne (older than Reinhard).

ObdH's decision: Koehler and Reinhard for BdE.

Traffic Control Detachments: In peacetime that was the function of the National Socialist Motor Corps. Now it has been taken over by the Police. The Police must get their motor transport from us, whereas the National Socialist Motor Corps had their own. Danger that new Police units are formed. Chief of Transportation.

Italy wants raw materials and arms for 10 Divs. (Captured enemy weapons).

Replacement units from Mil. District VIII*** not yet in Alsace. Not before Christmas. Op. Sec.

von Stuelpnagel (Armistice Commission): Frenchmen describe Laval crisis as a purely internal affair. There are probably also some political reasons behind that. Laval played with the idea of increasing his personal power. Pétain's visit to Paris for the re-burial ceremony was to furnish the stage. Abetz all of a sudden asserts that Laval is representative of the French public-sentiment and that opposition comes only from certain circles. (This is incorrect!) For that reason we ought to bring strong influence to bear on the internal affairs of France. Police force for Laval.

Heusinger: a) Greiffenberg in Vienna.
 b) OKW apparently wants List to act in an entirely official capacity in Romania.
 c) Reconnaissance Team Bulgaria. Zeitzler will return to Vienna on 28 or 29 December.
 d) Two out of 15 German steamers cancelled; 13 German Steamers in Italy (Genoa).

von Ziehlberg: Current Gen. Staff personnel matters.

von Thoma:

- a) Scanty information on Russian tanks. Inferior to ours in armor and speed. Maximum thickness of armor 30 mm.
 4.5 cm Ehrhard gun penetrates our tanks at range of 300 m; effective range 500 m; safe at over 800 m. Optical sights very bad; dim, limited range of vision. Radio control equipment bad.
- b) Total of captured enemy tanks: 4,930, including ammunition carriers. 20th Regiment will get captured enemy tanks (are now at Gin*). The entire number will have been taken over by the end of January. French driving instructors. Driving classes in progress all the time. Another Regiment will be activated in February.
- c) Spare parts depot: German spare parts depot in Paris;
French in Gin.
East: Magdeburg.
Southeast: New depot to Romania. Location undecided.
- d) 4.7 cm AT gun on Renault: 35 instead of our tank I chassis (800 units).

24 December 1940.

Gercke: Transportation situation in Romania. The maximum railroad schedule provides for 52 trains.* German freight trains are included. The Romanians are left with one train daily on each line for civilian economy needs. That sounds very little, but the essential needs of the population are assured. The weather situation is a gravely dubious factor (abnormally heavy snowstorms, which may jeopardize maintenance of the maximum railroad schedule!), as is the possible adverse effect of restrictions on the morale of the population (which may affect Antonescu's political position at home!)

Col. Ochsner:

- 1.) Returns with good impression from inspection tour in the East. Training on heavy howitzer M** completed by Christmas.
- 2.) As for January, new rocket projectors (range 6,000 m instead of 3,000).
- 3.) Organizational difficulties due to fact that Rocket Projector Troops have grown to ten times their peace-time strength.
- 4.) Gas Defense School Rembertow and Kurow** (the former could serve as model).
- 5.) Gas Defense Equipment Parks at Warsaw and Cracow (the former excellent).
- 6.) Training questions. (Issue of a training manual on inspection procedures in Gas Defense Service)

General Paulus:

- a) Report on Tank Training Division. (Good performance; mediocre instructors).
- b) Ten Armd. Divs. had 10% operational losses due to tire and truck failure. On an average 10% in repair. (Average of unserviceable vehicles is 20%).
- c) Turn over all business to him before going on leave. #

- OQu IV:
- a) Insane-Italian demands for arms.
 - b) von Rintelen's report; criticizes Il Duce.
 - c) Just's situation report from Romania.
Difficulties between Movement and Party*
 - d) Uthmann's**report.
 - e) Situation report from Slovakia.

- Buhle:
- a) Replacements in Field Replacement Bns. must be supplied out of the February draft of recruits. Here is where General Army Office fell down on the job!
 - b) Alleged Fuehrer order specifying materiel (including captured enemy materiel) for 10 Divs. turned over to Italy.
 - c) Demonstration on firing from personnel carriers was successful. (Hoepfner).
Still a question whether ammunition can be carried.
 - d) We shall not be able to complete truck exchange program, it will probably be necessary to equip third Draft Divisions (from the East) and four Divisions of the Seventh Draft with French trucks.

Gehlen: Transportation difficulties in Romania.
Maximum railroad schedule impracticable according to Antonescu.
Conference of the Transportation departments on 27 Dec. Outcome will determine whether shipments must be delayed.
Such a measure may have far-reaching consequences for the entire course of operation "Marita", as well as grave repercussions on "Barbarossa".

25 December 1940 to 15 January 1941 away on leave.

16 January 1941.

OQu I: Fuehrer conference 8 and 9 January at the Berghof:

Appraisal of the situation based on industrial capacities. The British are trying unconvincingly to show a good industrial picture. Germany is the biggest industrial nation of the world.

European situation: Norway is now safe. English demonstration, however, not unlikely.

West: France: Only danger from the air. Occupied Zone peace-minded. -- Some circles in the Unoccupied Zone are dreaming of a possible change. Definitely hostile elements in the Colonies. There is a difference in the attitude toward us and toward Italy! Weygand is a German-hater. Laval's overthrow engineered by him! France as a whole observes a wait and see attitude. "We are no longer bound by any obligations toward France."

Spain must be written off as a potential ally.

Russia is making demands, which did not occur to them before: Finland -- Balkans -- Mariampol.

Balkans: Romania is on our side (Antonescu in Obersalzberg, 15 Jan., 1941.)

Hungary makes no difficulties.

Yugoslavia leaves everything open.

Bulgaria very cautious. King intelligent, but very cautious! Does not want to risk the dynasty.

Specific points: What is Britain's war aim? Britain wants to dominate the Continent. To achieve this she would have to defeat us on the Continent. This means that I must be so strong on the Continent that this aim will never be attained.

British hopes: U.S. -- Russia.
We cannot knock out England with a landing operation (Air Force, Navy). Accordingly our position on the Continent must be so consolidated by 1941 that we may with confidence face continued war with England (and U.S.).
(Eden is advocate of collaboration with Russia.)

Russia: Stalin: Intelligent and shrewd; his demands will become bigger and bigger. German victory incompatible with Russian ideology.
Decision: Russia must be smashed as soon as possible. The British might easily have 40 Divisions within two years. This might induce Russia to side with Britain and U.S.

Japan: ready for serious cooperation. By tackling the Russian problem, we give Japan a free hand against Britain in the East.

Decision: Force a radical settlement of the Continental issue as soon as possible.

Russian Armaments: Obsolete materiel; what is new, is copied from foreign nations. Command mechanical! Lack intellectual caliber.

Operations:

The war in Africa need not bother us very much. Even as it is, the Military situation is still better than a year ago, but we must not risk the internal collapse of Italy. Italy must be saved from that. It will be necessary to send some help. Reverses are due to lack of modern materiel in Africa (AT guns).

Decision: A force must be sent embracing the lacking arms. We must shake them out of their tank scare! Protection! (The force must combine mobility with a certain amount of offensive strength.)

Libya: Difficulties about armored Ren. cars. As soon as possible. (Will not be ready before 10 February.)

Albania: A Corps for the left wing. Question still pending. First Mt. Div. ready as of 20 January. Fourth Mt. Div. ready as of 10 Feb.

"Marita": One Arm. Div. on the ground on 26 Jan. Then order will be given to cross over to Bulgaria.

1200 to 1430 Conference with ObdH:

- 1.) Review of the general situation.
- 2.) ObdH's conference with Falkenhorst. He has been directed to submit report on:
 - a) Coastal Btrys. on Norwegian coast.
 - b) Strategic points in the coastal defense system and their Artillery.
 - c) What can he man with his own troops if he gets more materiel?
 - d) Petsamo - Murmansk. (Mosquito nuisance in May).
He must draw up an operational plan for a joint Finnish-German thrust Lake Ladoga/Lake Onega. (Neutralization of Hangoe.)
 - e) Supply problems in this operation. Establish dumps in the Rovanjemi area. (Proposes three months. Order: one month.)
 - f) Can the Mt. Div. be relieved and another Div. take its place in Norway?
 - g) Question of Command in a Finnish-German war against Russia. Ruling by High Command in Norway.

- OQu I: a) Regulations concerning financial operations in Romania. The German soldier must not be able to spend any money. For economic reasons it is impossible to give soldiers more than a decade's pay; * balance will be credited. Parallel order has not yet been issued for Demonstration Div. Purchases made by troops must be paid in cash.
- b) Hq at Predeal. **
- c) Long-range reconnaissance: ObdH allocates four long-range reconnaissance Staffeln to the Army Groups and OKH, and nine to Armies and Armd. Groups; total 13.
- d) Organic Ground Forces AAA Bns: Total 40. Specialists yet to be trained. Impractical before fall, Crews from GHq. Artillery.
- e) Mt. Div. in Norway. Org. Sec. Op. Sec.
- f) Cut out six Divs. in West in favor of "Barbarossa". Op.

Op. Sec.: "Seeloewe": Improvement projects and planning in OKH will be suspended.

"Attila": Fifth Inf. Div., will replace First Mt. Div. -- Assignment of Naval experts to the Ground Forces also if gliders are used against Toulon-Marseille!

If number of Divs. is increased, 15 Western Divs. must be left mobile.

"Marita": Extraordinary contingencies discussed with ObdH (Russian invasion, ***, etc.)

Mediterranean: Tripoli harbor has facilities for unloading four ships in four days (six German, six Italian vessels). Durazzo, at most three ships at a time (including Italian vessels). Shipping Second Mt. Div. by sea will take at least 40 days. Unloaded middle of March!!
Valona wholly uncertain.

Barbarossa: Work on assembly orders in progress.

von Ziehlberg: Current Gen. Staff personnel matters.

17 January 1941.

von Bernuth: a) Training Manuals.

- b) Restriction of fuel consumption to 2.5 quotas per month. (Adjustments in individual cases!)
- c) von Priesen's theories. Test firing under Ott.*
- d) Current minor matters of his Section.

Toussaint: Report on Yugoslavia.

Rintelen: Report on Albania and Libya.

- OQu IV:
- a) Intensification of reconnaissance effort in Russia and the Near East.
 - b) Heinrichs,** late January or early February.
 - c) Current matters.

Org. Sec.: Organization of the peacetime Army. --
 Organization of Fifth light Division (Libya). --
 Motor transport for them. Replacement for Schell?
 Norway: Four Divisions! Condition -- replacement.
 Disbanding of the special Engineer organization for "Seelowe".
 Various other current matters.

- Op. Sec.:
- a) Coast protection for Constanza.
 - b) List authorized to open negotiations with Bulgaria.

Evening: Lecture on the effects of military events on German war economy, given by Ministerial Director Sarnow as part of the Gen Staff Training Program. (Gen Qu Officers' Club)

18 January 1941.

von Altenstadt:

- a) Reorganization of Military Administration France. Elimination of intermediate level.
- b) Transfer of Jews and Poles in Poland (at least 569,000 as of 1 February 1941***).
- c) Guard Bns. in Belgium enough for needs. (Have 10, 3 of them for "Marita".)

- Wagner:
- a) Training Course for Army Supply Officers.
 - b) Gen Qu manpower requirements for "Marita".
 - c) Additional 20,000 required in order to reach 15,000 strength estimated for Eastern operation. 10,000 have been promised by General Army Office.

- d) Roads are a matter concerning not only the Army Supply Chiefs.
- e) Fuel allocation (2.7 quotas).

von Etzdorf: Orientation on the political situation.
Interesting points:

- 1.) Conversations on Spain and Gibraltar are coming up again. This means that operation "Felix" may one of these days become again acute.
- 2.) The Foreign Office is talking about the possibility that Russia may react to our march into Bulgaria by attacking Finland.
- 3.) Visit of the Japanese Foreign Minister: Apparently the question of Indochina and the Dutch East Indies is going to come up for discussion. If we want Japan to take an active part on our side we must throw the Dutch East Indies to them. For my person I consider such a decision justified, for we have no means for holding that territory and only would complicate our policy in Holland if we attempted to keep these possessions a part of the Dutch State.--
- 4.) France: Cooperation at the moment improving and more promising for the future.

Radke: a) Tondok case (in Government-General). (Frictions with Gienanth, Capt. Krull.)
b) Army Chaplains.-- Liaison Officers.
c) Rosenberg in charge of ideological indoctrination!

General Brand: a) Coast protection Norway.
b) Campaign lessons in Artillery.
c) New Inventions in the field of artillery surveying.

von Ziehlberg: Presentation of books on the birthday of Frederick the Great.*
Current personnel matters.

19 January 1941.

Work on assembly order for "Barbarossa".

Doering assassinated in Bucharest.**

20 January 1941.

Bogatsch: Short-range Rcn Staffeln obtained by dividing existing organizations:

"Marita"	8
Kuebler	1
Funck	1
Earmarked for "Attila"	3
Romanian Mission	2
	<u>15</u>

Long-range Rcn Staffeln:

*"Attila"	1
*Long-range Arty	2
*Not yet transferred by Air Force (Come by end of month)	5
Still in VIII Air Corps	<u>2</u>
	10 plus 4 new Staffeln to be formed (in 4I) from organizations marked*.

Night flying: Nine separate Ketten* (Do 17).
Training at Brieg.

Directed radio network (telephone). Arty?

Konrad reports and asks for orientation on "Attila."

Heusinger: a) Discussion of assembly order for "Barbarossa."
b) Crossing on frozen Danube.
Minister Benzer** for Hq Twelfth Army.
c) Navy: special squadrons for "Attila" (Marseille).

Paulus: (Preliminary orientation): Funck*** as soon as possible. 10 February #. Supplies in advance.

Albania: No transport. For the present it is intended to send only a smaller unit (Eglseer# #,) without med.Arty. Is to be readied; final decision early in March. Lanz and Kuebler will remain on their present assignments ("Felix").-- No decision yet!

"Marita": Diplomatic steps by Russia.-- Check back before starting bridge construction## #. Defense preparations for Constanza.

Shipping Kuebler to Albania would take 30 days.--
Funck to Lybia, 45 days.

Evening: Farewell party for von Tippielskirch.*

21 January 1941.

Fellgiebel:

- a) Report by Chief Army Signal Off. on signal communications for the Air Force. Air Force needs for its program additional 8,470 tons of raw materials. (This could perhaps be managed). Also needs 4,950 motor vehicles of all kind. (When we are 6,000 short in the Signal Corps)! Manpower requirements: Three to four Signal Regiments.
- b) Signal network along Coast in the West must be simplified!
- c) Italian cryptographic system.
- d) Signal Corps is 6000 motor vehicles short of authorized strength.
- e) Various current matters (Romania, peacetime organization, etc.)

Gercke:

- a) Traffic volume of the State Railroads (at present they have still over 125,000 French cars). Three-hundred military trains a day.
- b) Effects of extension of railroad operations to the East ("Barbarossa").
- c) "Otto" construction program on the whole satisfactory. Construction material is procured in the country.
- d) Railroad assembly plan for "Barbarossa" can be met. Curtailments elsewhere in the last three weeks to ensure maximum railroad timetable for military needs is under study.
- e) First echelon "Marita" is running as scheduled. Increase in civilian freight volume from 6 to 9 possible only after first echelon has run off.

Special order will be for the forthcoming.

- f) Italy (Libya): 12 trains are going to Naples via Brenner, daily (Could be increased to 18 daily).
Navy in Naples cannot handle more than six trains a day (!) which makes it 45 days; 110 trains are required.*
- g) The Bulgarians are asking for military bridge equipment or construction materials to extend their railroad lines (in connection with "Marita").
- h) Unsatisfactory progress in development of sectional bridge-building equipment for railroads.
- i) Sad condition of the Spanish railroads (70% of cars are half-rotten).
- k) Armored trains against Russia.

Evening: Report of internal disturbances in Bucharest and throughout Romania.
Military Mission Romania has been instructed to hold aloof from all internal disputes, but support Antonescu with force of arms if necessary (on request!)

22 January 1941.

Buhle:

- a) Flatbed trailers: Prime mover and trailer 22.5 m. weight 32 tons (without prime mover) or 50 tons (with prime mover).
(Bridges 20 tons possible**.)
- b) Truck exchange program. Furlough Divs. will get captured materiel. "Marita" Divs. and 13 more Divs. can be replenished with standard trucks from the Furlough Divs. (18).
- c) Field Replacement Bns.
- d) 3.7 cm 4.7 cm Czech and French, 5cm AT guns in Inf. AT and Div. AT Cos.
- e) Furloughs for farmwork in the Reich from February to middle of April (15 February to 20 April).

Conference with Cbdt (1200 - 1430):

- a) Review of situation in the theaters of operations.
- b) Brief report on planning data for the assembly orders for "Barbarossa".
- c) Preparations for the conference with the CGs of the Army Groups on 30 January.
- d) Future position of the "Army Chief Surgeon".
- e) Gercke*.

OQu IV: a) Oil deposits and their importance for the European economy. Baku.
 b) Rokitno** marshes.
 c) 93 Russian interpreters from Field Army.-- 150 from Repl. Army.
 Inspectorate 7 alone needs 400 interpreters**
 d) Submits report on Japan.

Gen Qu: a) Strength requirements in the East. Nine Divs. for Rear Area by using three Divs. of the Third Draft.
 b) Supply districts, supply sectors as jump-off basis for "Barbarossa" #
 c) Rehabilitation of Columns.
 d) Command and employment of Light Columns.

23 January 1941.

- Op. Sec. 1.) Map exercise of AGps. A, B, and C.
- 2.) Preparatory program for "Barbarossa". Tactics.
- 3.) Romania: Ferry at Giurgiu will be ready end of Feb.; six trains daily. Bridge at Cernavoda: Not usable for crossing of troops. Could perhaps be used in "Barbarossa".
 New directive on stopping all preparations on the Danube (OKW). List will get one Co. of Regiment Brandenburg ## (300 men).
 ###
- 4.) Transport preparation for "Sonnenblume"
- 5.) Present status and possibilities of revival of "Felix".
- 6.) Exchange of Divs. in West for Furlough Divs. and shifting of Western Divs. to the East has started.
- 7.) Preparations for Conference of ObdH with the CGs of Army Gps.

24 January 1941.

1000 : On the occasion of the birthday of Frederick the Great, I present copies of the book "The picture of Frederick the Great" to Officers of my Staff. Present: von Lossberg, von Mellenthin, Radke, Soltmann, Gehlen, von Kahlden, von Dethleffsen, Dettner, Meichsner, Hansen, von Natzmer, Lassmann.

1030 : Conference with ObdH: "Marita". List's report on Gen. Staff conference has arrived. Bulgaria ~~affirm~~ willing, but timid.

All of a sudden List will need only two days to construct bridges. AAA defense for bridges will be ready by 7 February. Bulgarians must reinforce their border guard through concealed mobilization.

We can then start off early in February, when we have the Armad. Divs. in the Dobrudsha and some AAA in Sofia etc. (which must yet be put across the Danube). At the same time we can start building the bridges, so that the forces which depend on them can follow up beginning 7 February.

Recommendation to this effect to the Fuehrer, emphasizing that early action in this theater would relieve pressure in North Africa.

1000 Bulgarians want to join the Tripartite Pact only after we have marched in.

Capt. Loyke: (Navy) Atlantic forces: SS Hipper in Brest; Scharnhorst and Gneisenau put to sea day before yesterday.

Submarines: As of April, the number of craft in the operational area will be doubled (12); twice that number in three to four months. End of Sept., 100 submarines. Mediterranean.-- Baltic ("Barbarossa").

Op. Sec: Discussion of List's report.-- Report to OKW.-- Reply to List.--

Gehlen: Boundaries in "Barbarossa".-- Follow-up of reserves.

Paulus: We discuss details, including Liaison Officers and transport control organization for the East.

von Ziehlberg: Current personnel questions.-- Unpleasant occurrences at GHq.

25 January 1941.

1000 ; The new Officers report on assignment to GHq after graduation from the Gen. Staff Tng. Course.

von Etzdorf: Conference Fuehrer/Il Duce. Il Duce just sat by "with a bland smile".
Spain: Fuehrer wanted to get Il Duce to make use of his "Latin" connections.
Russia: "Bulgaria and the Straits belong to Russia's security zone."

Op. Sec: a) Fuehrer's instructions for Constanza.
b) First measures in the accelerated program for Libya.

Radke: Current matters of the Political Liaison Section.

26 January 1941.

Work in Berlin on allocation of GHq troops for "Barbarossa". Instructions for traffic control, thorough traffic, etc.
Funk sends a report, stating that the forces allocated for Libya are insufficient.

27 January 1941.

1000 : (Tirpitzufer): Reception for the Generals of the Japanese Study Mission.

1200 Phone talk with ObdH on report by Funck/Rintelen. We cannot send to Libya anything more than originally planned, both because time is short and because we cannot cut any further into resources for "Barbarossa". For the time being the initiated measures must suffice.

1230 Bogatsch: Assignments of Air Rcn in "Barbarossa":

Long-range Rcn Staffeln Night Ketten*

South: Armd. Gp. 1 : 1)		
Army Hq. 12 : 1)	4	4
AGp. Hq : 2)		

Center: Armd. Gp. 2 1)		
Armd. Gp. 3 1)		
AGp. Hq 2)	4	3

North: Armd. Gp. 4 1)		
Army Hq 18 1)	3	2
AGp. Hq 1)		

ObdH

2

13. If another Long-range Rcn Staffel becomes available, it must go to South.

Close-range Rcn Staffeln:

Norway: 1

Armd. Divs.: 20

Mot. Corps: 10

In GHq Reserve for Mt. Corps: 1

For frontline Corps Hqs

in AGp. South 9

Center 8

North 6

55

plus

1 Staf-

fel in Libya

Total: 56

Gen Qu: a) Conference with Hanstein in Vienna (25 Jan.)
 b) Preparation for Conference on 28 January.
 c) Organization in the West and freeing of officers for Supply Services in the East (Toppe, Maehndrich, Weinknecht, Rauser, etc.)

OQuI :

- a) Review of the situation in Syria and estimate of time-required for possible developments on the friendly and the hostile side. Speed up our troop shipments?
- b) Conference of OQu I with Jodl on coordination of timetable for "Marita" and Libya, and for "Felix" and "Barbarossa". (Conference held in the morning).

Koestring:*

- a) 600,000 -- 800,000 boys from workers' families in trade, railroad and industrial schools. (Beginning at age of 14). Cadet Corps similar. Four years' practical work. Strengthening of authority (in Army and Industry).
- b) Operational questions.-- Russian supply potential.
- c) Finland -- Petsamo.
- d) Iran.

Roessing:**

- a) Food and economic difficulties in Finland; famine; rising prices.
- b) Petsamo.
- c) Uncertainty in Finnish political circles about Germany's attitude.

Bruckmann***

- a) Question of Air defense when we march in. Dispatch an air defense formation in advance as Training Troops.
- b) Question of additional supplies from Bulgarian stocks.
- c) Mobilization and build-up of Border Guard would now take three weeks, instead of the 17 days, previously stated.
- d) Preparations for tele-communications, road construction, railroads, supply services.
- e) As an anti-sabotage measure a special German unit has already arrived. "H"

Gen. Brand:

- a) Eight Btrys. (materiel) and two personnel units for Norway.

- b) Distribution to troops of literature on campaign lessons.
- c) An "Advanced Artillery School" will be organized with courses for instructors, Regtl. Cos and Special Mission Officers.

Baentsch: a) Material for Conference on 28 January. (Trucks, Transport Clms., tires, fuel).
 b) Supply of ammunition for Romania. At start of operations, middle of February, Inf. will have only one issue, Armor, two issues.

28 January 1941.

1030 Conference with Fromm, Thomas, Hannecken, Leeb (Ord.) von Seydel (Air Force) etc. on preparations for "Barbarossa":

Transport Clms: Our requests for additional 21,000 tons will probably be met from French Army materiel (which goes into the civilian economy, where it will free German materiel for us) and from Switzerland. Details by Gotsche before middle of February.

Trucks as previously. Decision probably before middle of February.

Spare parts: Situation improved. In general, spare parts will be on hand in time, and supply of tank spare parts will be assured, provided they are upgraded from S to SS in the priority scale. Even so, Fromm thinks that he can get everything ready in time.

Tires: Very serious; -- all leads for obtaining more from the civilian economy are being followed up. Question of rubber capping! By the end of February our reserves will be exhausted. After that our only hope will be the 12,000 tons expected from Indochina and the blockade runners from South America. Another 25,000 tons have been bought from the French; right now the Japanese won't let them out of the country. No positive figures can be stated beyond April. Beginning with May we will be wholly dependent on the uncertain imports. All has been staked on overseas shipments.

Substitute steel tires only practicable on trucks under three tons. For passenger-cars we can use the tires of laid-up civilian cars. (Would give us a supply for three months.)

Fuel situation: Serious. Gasoline assured for the first three months of the operation; on the whole no cause for anxiety. Beginning with April, our requirements will increase.

Diesel oil assured for one month only. Cut in quotas for the building trade and the rest of the civilian sector and for the occupied countries will yield a small reserve of 200,000 tons for the next six months.

We can assume that our requirements for the build-up and two months of operations will be covered. Ample storage facilities will be made available.

1300 Conference with ObdH:

- a) "Marita": List's latest reports give a new picture. In view of the risk involved, the tendency to postpone the start of the operation is increasing noticeably. Sending of AAA by way of Yugoslavia is urged. Proposal to OKW: we should start operations on 15 February. We must accept the risk. Turkey can be given reassurances.
- b) "Barbarossa": Purpose is not clear. We do not hit the British that way. Our economic potential will now be substantially improved. Risk in the West must not be underestimated. It is possible that Italy might collapse after the loss of her Colonies, and we get a Southern front in Spain, Italy and Greece. If we are then tied up in Russia, a bad situation will be made worse.
- c) Abetz' report: (Saw ObdH yesterday) Fuehrer has made up his mind that he does not want Laval in the French Government. He is to stay in Paris for possible use as a rival for Pétain. The policy of cooperation is at the moment held in abeyance. Fuehrer wants to notify Pétain to this effect and fall back on the Armistice terms. Also wants to keep Laval, in reserve for a future French Government, in case Weygand goes over to the British and De Gaulle.

Darlan is the "Dauphin" now. He is certainly not pro-British, and moreover is flattered by his present role.

He must be supported. For this reason we won't raise too many objections about leaves to the occupied Zone for French sailors returning from England.. (It is interesting to note that out of 18,000 French sailors in England, only 600 stayed.

1700 Heusinger - Stieff:

- a) Allocation of GHq troops in operation "Barbarossa".
- b) Allocation and activation of AAA units for the Ground Forces.
- c) Over-all survey of the European situation in relation to German strategy. Risks of operation "Barbarossa".

Ott (Chief Inf. Off.) :

- a) Training Manuals and amendments.
- b) Results of the Briesen exercise.*
- c) Organizational questions.

von Bernuth: a) Report from Holland. Political movements, Economic situation. Troops and their training.
b) Report on Briesen exercise.

29 January 1941.

OOu I: Preparations for the CG Conference on 30 January. Instructions and requests for Konrad.

Op. Sec. (Heusinger, Gehlen, von Natzmer): Draft plan for "Barbarossa" transport. (Very good work.)

Conference with ObdH:

- a) "Barbarossa": Assembly order, allocation of GHq troops, transport plan. Are accepted by ObdH without any changes.
- b) West: We must not have less than 37 Divs!
- c) General military policy: Possible political developments and risks of the Eastern operation:
 - 1.) Our entire Inf. strength will be engaged at a time when Britain will have increasing forces available for assignment anywhere.

- 2.) Economic risk.
- 3.) Possible political developments in France, Spain, Italy and Greece; role of Turkey.
- d) Conference with AGp CGs on 30 January.
- e) Position of the Liaison Officer at Reich Marshal Hq.

Buhle: a) AAA Btrys transferred from Air Force to the Ground Forces (30).

- b) Replacement situation.
- c) Armd. Bn. for Norway from forces for "Alpenveilchen"* (3 Cos.) Early in March.
- d) Discussion on organizational questions presented in the progress report of the Chief Artillery Officer.
- e) Truck exchange program.
- f) Flatbed trailers.
- g) Measures for mobilization of trucks in France.
- h) Armament of Inf. in the Div. mot. (one or two MG per squad).
- i) Construction Bns. After allocations to railroads, bridge construction and supply services, Chief Eng. Officer will have 100 Bns. left.
- k) Organization of road-building service.
- l) Fourth Mt. Div. for "Alpenveilchen". Trains must be readied.

Heusinger: a) Issue of orders for "Sonnenblume".

- b) Fuehrer does not want to give SS Adolf Hitler for "Marita"; wants to leave mot. units in France as a means of pressure. If List needs additional forces for the march into Bulgaria, we must help ourselves by substituting Sixteenth Armd. Div. for SS Adolf Hitler. We must also turn to use the motor transport no longer needed for SS Adolf Hitler, for supply and for Air Force.

30 January 1941.

- 0930 Presentation of decorations at Zeppelin.
- 1200 (Berlin) Konrad: Report on outcome of his Conference with Reich Marshal. It will be necessary to assign a General; Konrad now understands that himself. He wants redesignation to "Chief Ground Forces Officer at Air Force Hq." Then his old request for early briefing.
- 1300 Luncheon with General Heinrichs, Chief of Finnish Gen. Staff.
- 1440 Presentation of war decorations in Berlin. (OQu V Staff).
- 1500 Welcome address for the incoming new Gen. Staff Officers.
- 1630 Conference with General Heinrichs: Army, in war strength, on the border on ninth day. Mobilization will be quiet, but cannot go unnoticed. Thrust on both sides of Lake Ladoga; five Divs. south, three Divs. north of Lake Ladoga.
- 1930 Evening with the new Gen. Staff Officers in the Officers' Mess of the War Academy.

Overnight in Berlin.

- 0930 Presentation of decorations at Zeppelin.
- 1200 (Berlin) Konrad: Report on outcome of his Conference with Reich Marshal. It will be necessary to assign a General; Konrad now understands that himself. He wants redesignation to "Chief Ground Forces Officer at Air Force Hq." Then his old request for early briefing.
- 1000 Conference on the situation in Libya, at ObdH's home.
- 1030 - 1300 Conference with the AGr. CGs, same place.
- 1630 First showing of the film "Victory in the West".
- 2130 Return to Zeppelin.

Pistorius on Funck's report from Tripolitania.

Gehlen: Talk on new OKW directive concerning "Marita" (a wild jumble!)

0930 Presentation of decorations at Zeppelin.

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Overnight in Berlin.

1 February 1941.

Buschenhagen:

- a) Relief of the Mt. Corps. If completely by sea, will take two months. (Cannot be done!)
Combined sea and land transport: three months.
Transport not available.
With transportation available now movement will take five months. But we have to get the Mt. troops.
- b) SS Brigade (which ObdH did not want), Buschenhagen does not want to do without.
Advance force to protect assembly at Kemi-jaervi will take seven days, if they start from Trondhjem.
- c) Supplies; ammunition, and rations for one month.
- d) Army Hq holds that four Divisions are insufficient for defense of coast (Spitzbergen! Russians and British).
Units, that can be freed: Dietl, with $1\frac{1}{2}$ Divs; two Divs. from Southern Norway; SS Brigade.
- e) Murmansk: 500 Russian fishing craft assembled (30 men each, = 15,000).
- f) Russian preventive attack?
Second Mt. Div. "Renntier". Must be automatically released! (Fuehrer order)
- g) Time required by the forces in Southern Norway. Four weeks to get ready for operations (not counting time needed to cross Sweden).
(XXXVI Corps Hq reduced).

1230 - 1430 Fuehrer conference. (ObdH, Funck):

Tripolitania: Funck's inspection report. Rather slight opinion of the Italian determination and capabilities to resist. Can be remedied by sending a unit with real striking power, capable of smashing the British mot. elements (which undoubtedly are weakened by their long advance).

Whether or not we would be able to get such a unit to Tripolitania depends on whether it is possible to slow the British advance in North Africa. Fuehrer directs that this question be clarified by obtaining pertinent information:

- a) By inquiries in Italy.

- b) By studying the capabilities of our Air Force against British Armor and sea communications from its base in Tripolitania. Troop shipments of Funck's Division will be stopped, supply shipments can for the time being proceed to Naples.

Heusinger: Outcome of Fuehrer Conference (Troop shipments will be stopped; Armd. Divs. must be checked for possible use in Tripolitania). Result of the Conference for "Marita", with Jodl.
Preparation of Fuehrer report on "Barbarossa".

Radke: Case Claer/Stefani.
Impending conference of ObdH with the Deputy of the Fuehrer.

2 February 1941. (Sunday, Berlin).

Afternoon back at Cossen, work on report to Fuehrer.

3 February 1941.

1215 - 1800 Presentation of report on "Barbarossa"
to Fuehrer.

- a) Mission -- Balance of strength -- Build-up. Political demands on our neighbors. Transfer of forces from West to East and its consequences in the political, economic and military fields. Final line-up of forces at the start of Eastern operation.
- b) Review of the situation in Libya and in the Mediterranean (together with Jeschonneck): Air Force effort to slow the British advance in Libya. -- Malta. -- Commitment of Fifth light Div., reinforced by Armor, to enable it to carry out its offensive mission.
- c) Air Force demands concerning signal communications are discussed. Their demand for eight-wire overhead line* is physically impossible to meet.

1800 - 1900 Conference with ObdH on the outcome of the preceding conference:

- a) Breith (with Hauser) - Fifth Lt. Div.
Rommel (with new Chief of Staff) -- "Commander of the German Ground Forces in Libya".*
- b) Give Fifth Lt. Div. another Armd. Regt. and one Artillery Bn., but one AT Bn. less.
Troop shipments to Naples can be resumed.

Conference with Gehlen: Missions for Romania.

Ziehlberg: Current personnel matters.

Gen Qu: Assembly in the East. -- Deplorable antagonism within Military Administration. -- Training of Supply specialists for Gen. Staff.

Evening: Leave for Saint Germain. (0100)

4 February 1941.

En route to St. Germain.

- Buhle:
- a) Future organization of reconnaissance in Inf. Divs. -- Cycle Bn., Cav. formations.
 - b) Questions of armament and organization of Infantry. Comments on the proposal of BdE Arms Commission.
 - c) Utilization of motor vehicles in Holland.
 - d) Directive for Chief of Army Library.
 - e) Demands submitted by Falkenhorst for the equipment of Inf. Divs. and Div. Supply Services.
 - f) Demands submitted by von Salmuth for bridging equipment for Armd. Divs. cannot be fulfilled.

- Heusinger:
- a) Report of AGp. B on allocation of accommodations.
 - b) Operational exercise AGp.A.
 - c) Movement of GHq reserves.

Evening and night in train to St. Germain.

5 February 1941. (at Hq AGp.A,
St. Germain).

Discussion of operation in the Ukraine viewed as an operational study, with Gen. von Sodenstern in charge. Very well thought out; good discussion. It shows the difficulty of accomplishing an enveloping operation west of the Dniepr, with the northern wing alone, particularly in view of the possibility that this wing might be threatened or at least slowed in its advance by enemy attacking from the Pripet area. The plan of the initial attack, which provided also for an eastward advance of a sizeable group in the Northern Carpathians, south of Lwow, eventually led to a bunching in the center (direction Tarnopol), which then had to be broken up again. A contributory factor was the fact that the forces coming from the Bukowina advanced hard to the north instead of eastnortheast.

Afternoon: Conference with Military Administration Paris on the local situation. Afterwards conference with the Chiefs of Staff taking part in the operations of AGp. South, on operational plans and the truck situation. (Buhle).

6 February 1941.

Return from St. Germain.

Interrupt journey at Saarbruecken (report by Rohr). Inspect the sector of the Division which carried out the main thrust when First Army broke through the Maginot Line in direction of Dieuze.

7 February 1941.

Conference with Rommel in ObdH's office: Orientation on ObdH's view of the situation. Main task is to see to it that Graziani will not retreat on Tripoli without a fight. Form a staff.--

Before taking the plane, he should give us a picture of the ideas he had formed on the subject. Report again from Rome before taking off for Africa.-- Finally he is to report on arriving in Africa.

Conference with ObdH: Filling up of Third Armd. Div.

Norway -- Coastal Artillery.

Finland: Assignment of SS to Falkenhorst.

Bogatsch: Proposal on AA defense. Make an estimate of requirements. Instructions on traffic control. COs of roving army police patrols must not be burdened with this job.

General Paulus: "Sonnenblume": Order of battle of Fifth Light Div.--Formation of Staff for Rommel.-- Signal Bn.-- ready to strike in Africa by end of March.

von Leeb's report to ObdH. Armor should be assembled for attack in the German strip east of Memel.

Plenipotentiary-General for transport movements in the East.

Gen. Leeb: Departments for Military Technology at Universities. (Memorandum). Officers, on temporary duty at Universities.

Pennants for automobiles.*

Spare parts situation. The Divs. are reported to be short in supply.

von Ziehlberg: Current Gen. Staff personnel matters.

Gercke: a) Transport difficulties in Hungary and Romania.-- Again 30 locomotives to Hungary. Second echelon now will not start before 11 March.

b) Difficulties in assembly for "Barbarossa": Air Force demands 1,000 trains in the last transport echelon. Train schedule: 12 trains daily 15/16 March. 24 trains daily until 10 April. Starting 10 April we need the maximum railroad schedule. Will be set in operation when we cross the Greek frontier. Withholding of leaves. 48 trains daily as of 10 April. Probably we shall not be able to complete assembly on original plan.

- c) Preparations of measures for the event of a French railroad strike. First take out German personnel and have them stand by; a 10 day alert period will be needed.

8 February 1941.

Buerker: Traffic control.-- Instead of using the Officers of roving military police patrols in the Army Rear areas, the already existing traffic control organization will have to be somewhat expanded.

- Buhle: a) Traffic Control Staff for the Army in the East.
- b) 8.8 cm AAA on SPM for "Barbarossa"--Reintroduction of First Co., Light AT Regt.
- c) Equipment with hand carts: Four Lt. Divs. and 24 combat Divs. by 1 May. Afternoon about 5 - 6 more Divs. by 15 May. Fourth Mt. Brigade/ No date given - Ed. / This will leave for Norway 250 instead of the requested 450. (Right!)
- d) Polish peasant carts: procure 15,000, with horses and drivers from Poland. This gives about three carts per unit. Report by beginning of April, then distribution.

Bogatsch:

- a) Estimated AAA requirements for "Barbarossa": 52 mixed, 28 light AAA Bns. ObdL now has a total of 58 mixed and 24 light AAA Bns. In "Marita" alone 7 mixed and 6 light AAA Bns. To this must be added newly activated Reserve Bns. (slight mobility) as of 1 March.
- b) Long-range Rcn Staffeln will be activated in time.
- c) Replacement of observation planes difficult. Strength of Staffeln at the start of operations 7 - 8 planes (instead of 9 plus 3, = 12).
- d) Air Force Tactical Circular No. 33: Rapid fire method.

- Brand: a) Allocation of Polish or German hv. How. for Norwegian coast defense. (Polish hv. How. fires one round every two minutes.)
- b) Very good results in test firing on dug-in Russian tanks.
- c) Corps Artillery Commanders must leave now for the Corps Hqs with which they will work. 21 are with their Corps now; 8 are with Army Groups, 13 will join their organizations later. 15 are OKH Reserve. Orders re reassignment of Corps Artillery Commanders will be issued.
- d) Manual for Artillery of Armd. Commands (Provisional directives).
- e) Conduct of fire and method of applying fire in areas without good maps.

OQu I: Preliminary consultation for conference with the Bulgarians. Question of Supreme Command. Reinforcements for Turkish border.

Op. Sec., Org. Sec., Gen Qu: Norway -- Falkenhorst's requests. Total Supply Column requirements for proposed forces: 2,000 tons (excluding Div. Clms.) Army Hq. Norway thinks it can furnish 500 out of own resources.

"Sonnenblume": Four (instead of originally two) MT Bns. = 1,440 tons. Additional 720 tons needed for mobile warfare, i.e. twelve 60-ton truck columns, in two additional Bns.

Op. Sec: a) Field Hospital, Tire detachment; two 30-ton truck columns; advance party of Fifth Lt. Div.; Unloading Organization Tripoli left 8 Feb., 0830.

b) Field Repl. Bn. for Fifth Lt. Div.

c) Transport situation "Marita".

d) Projected general map maneuver Guderian.-- List of participants.

e) Assembly:

GHq Troops	1,000 trains
Air Force	1,000 trains
Rear Services	300 trains
Supply	<u>700 trains</u>

Total 3,000 trains

plus Div. transports.

Must be divided in three groups.

- f) Work on orders for the change-over from West to East.

9 February 1941 (Sunday, Berlin).

Attend to correspondence.

1600-1800 OQu I: We discuss the Bulgarian demands.

1900 Dr. Kloenne.

10 February 1941.

Gen. von Mittelberger reports on:

- a) Possibilities of a Turkish operation in the direction of Plovdiv.* He holds that the Turks could attack on a 10 Div. front north of the Maritsa river, and on a 5 Div. front south of the river. Their advance would have to be covered by a deep echelon on the right flank. The movements must follow mountain paths throughout. Since their supply service uses mainly pack-animals, the Turkish Divs. would find the terrain no obstacle. But both the higher and the intermediate command echelons probably would not measure up to the task. Moreover, supply would prove a major difficulty in any operations over larger distances.
- b) Turkish defense capabilities in Thrace in the face of a German-Bulgarian attack: The fortified camp of Kirk-Kilisse commands the road to Istanbul which the main thrust would have to follow. It is supplemented by border fortifications in the north, and strong fortifications round Edirne, facing west. Farther to the rear the existence of a position has been established west of the Chataldsha position, the line Mydia - Eregli. Then comes the Chataldsha position, which lies very close to the Bosphorus. Landing possibilities on the Black Sea coast exist near Mydia, on the Aegean Coast east of Eregli.

- c) An operation against Turkey in Thrace should be conducted with armored forces along the Istanbul road, and must aim at splitting the front in order to prevent a retreat of the Turkish forces to the Bosporus. An armor spearhead breaking through to Istanbul would find sufficient shipping to cross over to the eastern shore in the initial confusion. For a crossing of the Sea of Marmara to the Bandirma railhead, the few vessels in the small ports would be insufficient.
- d) Operation through Anatolia:
Must follow two main roads and main railroads and accordingly would be very slow. Unless Turkish morale suffers a complete collapse, we must expect tough resistance also by isolated groups. Difficulties presented by the Taurus Mountains. South of it we must get across another important obstacle before we reach the better developed communications network leading to Syria.
- e) Ammunition is one of the main problems of the Turks.

OQu IV: Computation of British strength.

Rintelen reports: No crisis in Albania, but it will take a long time before everything is straightened out. A German High Command of the Italo-German forces must be established: difficulties of such an arrangement.--
 Il Duce's directive on operations in Libya conform with the Fuehrer's demands.--
 Japan and the possibilities of her joining in the war against England.--
 Spain, Gibraltar.--
 Position of the Attachés and other current questions.

OQu IV: Chief Op. Sec:

- a) With Naval Liaison Officer: Protection of our convoys to Libya appears to be inadequate.
- b) With Liaison Officer of the Transp. Chief: Insertion of GHq troops, Air Force and supply shipment in the First and Third echelon ordered as of 14 February.
- c) Assembly area and unloading facilities for GHq Reserves.
- d) Tasks of Hq AGp.D in the West in the event of an Eastern operation.
- e) Russian operational capabilities.

Paulus: (on phone); Bulgarian demand for full mobilization. Decision must be taken soon.

Schniewind: (on phone): Protection of our convoys to Libya. We ask him to get arrangements under the way through Liaison Officer Rome.

- Buhle:
- a) Condition of newly activated Divs. of AGp. Leeb on the whole quite satisfactory.
 - b) Activation of three Corps Hq and seven Security Divs. for the East from three Reserve Divs., for Gen Qu.
 - c) Replacement Bn. for Fifth Light Div. for Libya.
 - d) Activation of LIV Corps Hq out of Armed Forces Mission in Romania (Mansen). Dispatch Mobilization orders.
 - e) Comment on inspection report of the Signal Troops Commission.

- Radke:
- a) Claer/Stefani Alleged comment on differences of opinion among the Generals of the Fuehrer (in a talk in April).
 - b) ObdH/Deputy of the Fuehrer.-- Showdown over complaints by soldiers through Party.-- Church attendance.
 - c) Ban on dancing in occupied territories.

- Paulus:
- a) New recommendation on command set-up in Bulgaria and on Bulgarian mobilization. Discussion on procedure.
 - b) Progress of road-building in the East. Report by von Salmuth.--

11 February 1941.

Meeting with OQu I, Op. Sec., OQu IV, Transp. Chief.

Fellgiebel:

- a) The Reich Marshal has allocated 15,000 tons of copper for Air Force Signal Communications without consulting anyone.
- b) Italian cryptographic service.-- The Italians have as yet no cryptographic specialists for Greek. Have to be trained by us.

- c) If Libya is to be reinforced with an Armd. Regt., we must also send a Signal Co. (Radio Co.).
- d) Signal units in "Marita" and effect of their assignment on "Barbarossa".

- Gen Qu:
- a) Question whether political reports from Paris should be prepared by Ic, AGp. D* or Military Administration.
 - b) Economic situation in Romania. No reserve stocks built up yet.--Fuel storage depots still under construction. Canister situation difficult.
 - c) Balkans supply problems.
 - d) Setting up of Military Administration for "Barbarossa".

Arendts: Talk on conditions in Military Government France. Recommendation to remedy duplication in Administrative and Military Organizations by merging them under a joint Chief and to appoint economists and administrators as "advisers" for special fields.

Paulus: The question of Bulgarian mobilization is again thrown into confusion by interference of OKW.

- Buerker:
- a) Special pointers on training for the East.
 - b) Traffic control regulation.-- Activation of movement control staffs at Army Hqs.

12 February 1941.

0930 Morning conference -- Also transport questions.

Ruedt von Collnberg reports as Chief of Army Libraries. Talk on program for periodical literature.

- OQu V:
- a) Report on Eighth Army in Poland.*
 - b) Dispute with Ministry of the Interior over Vienna Archives.
 - c) OKW plans for writing the history of this war.
 - d) Various current matters.

Heusinger - Gehlen - Stieff:

- a) Gehlen reports on observations on tour in Romania. Important points: 1st wants deployment of his forces completed, before the start of operations, which, if possible, should not come off before 28 February.

List would like the Bulgarians to mobilize before his jump-off.

Romanian Army cannot be looked upon as an Army at all.

Our troops have supply difficulties due to foreign currency restrictions.*

- b) Hauffe must be informed as soon as possible of our stipulations to the Romanian Army and on requirements for "Barbarossa". At the moment nothing has to be done as regards List.
- c) Difficulties with Russian maps. Especially the tactical maps (1 : 100,000) are very poor. Lower echelons must be warned on how Staff work will be affected by such bad maps.

Luncheon with Mittelberger.

Lt. Gen. Dihm reports as Field Supply Chief.**

OQu IV: a) Schildknecht reports on Koestring's study on Iran and Russian operational capabilities. Koestring holds that fourteen Inf. Divs., seven Cav. Divs. and four mot.-mcz. Brigades, could be committed on that front, partly east of Caspian Sea.

- b) Miscellaneous: Materiel deliveries to Hungary, temporary assignments of Swiss Officers, etc.

Lt. Col. Goth (OQu 17): Report on supply situation in his Army. Difficulties resulting from departure of Twelfth Army are gradually being straightened out.

von Ziehlberg: Current Gen. Staff questions.-- Reassignments.-- Wish to elevate the status of the Ia in the Division.***

13 February 1941.

Morning conference: No important news; shipments are running normal.

Col. Streich: promoted to General and appointed Commander of Fifth Lt. Div., reports for his briefing. I stress the offensive and urgent character of his mission.

Ochsner: a) Gas Schools and Gas Defense Depots in the West are good. Training too mechanical.

- b) Production of Chemical Mortar -- 40 will be delayed.
End of March: two Bns.
End of April: two Bns.
End of May: two Bns.
End of June: two Bns.
A new Do Regt.* could be formed, but would necessitate drawing on existing Chemical Mortar Bns.
- c) Training on Hv. Chemical Mortar will be completed by 22 February.

Matzky: Diplomatic developments; British Minister will leave Romania on 15 February, because Romania no longer has status of a neutral.
Bulgaria wants to give her promise to join the Tripartite Pact at present only in the form of a secret agreement; announcement after we have marched in.
Turkish-Bulgarian pact of non-aggression is making no headway.

Position of the Military Attaché and of the Liaison Officer after entry of List's troops in Bulgaria must be clarified.

Points to be cleared up about status of the Propaganda Company.

Buhle: a) Request for guard forces in Romania.--
Release one Regtl. Hq. and three Bns.!

- b) Twelve to fifteen Occupation Brigs. could now be activated by reducing the Replacement Army (now 600,000): Ten could be formed from Replacement Army, remainder from Regional Defense units (20 Bns.).
- c) Shifting of Div. trains to the rear in charge of Ib** (Separate instructions for mot. and non-mot. Divs.)
- d) 301st Armd. Bn. (captured tanks) ready for Norway in early March.

Conference with ObdH: I inform him on latest developments here; he gives me impressions from his tour in France.

Gen. Jacob (with Heusinger): we discuss Eng. equipment for the impending tasks in "Barbarossa."

Bridging equipment will on the whole meet all requirements through the Dniepr - Dvina crossings. SS ferries* will have to be moved into the river mouths from the Baltic Sea and the Black Sea. Must be prepared organizationally and by special training! Additional Bridge Cms. must be requested from BdE. Eng. Bns. and Road Constr. Bns. will be sufficient if placed strategically. Plan of disposition must be checked by the Armies before start of operations.

14 February 1941.

Morning conference: Shipments are running normal. Intention: Begin bridge-building and march into the Dobrudsha on 21 Feb.; cross Danube on 24 Feb.

Altenstadt: Police requirements for "Barbarossa"; activation of new units and transfers from the West.

Wagner: OKW draft on Executive Power in "Barbarossa". Organize Military Government Russia!--- Current matters.

von Schell returns. Report on truck, rubber and fuel situation. Trucks will probably be freed in the number demanded by us. Rubber: From Indochina and Japan we can expect about 7,000 tons by spring, enough to cover three months' requirements. New indigenous rubber plant.--- Fuel shortage apparently worse on paper than in fact. Must see how things develop.

Buhle-Koerner: Leaves will be reduced to maximum of two weeks' starting 27 February for transport reasons. Shortly before Easter it will be necessary to ban all leave traffic, because leave trains must be cancelled after introduction of the maximum railroad schedule. The start of the maximum railroad schedule must be so timed as not to interfere with our plans ("Marita") and strike the public just in the last days before Easter. (That means about 4, 5, or 7 April.)

Heusinger:

- a) Aid for Finnish operations for seizure of Hangoe and closure of the White Sea Canal.

The only thing we can do for the Finns is sending heavy Arty (heavy howitzer). We would have to ship them at an early date, so that the Finnish crews could be trained. OKW will have to decide whether this is politically feasible. Support for the attack on Hangoe will be mainly an Air Force mission i.e., keeping enemy planes away from the Finnish artillery (Heinrich's request). Air Force would have to operate from bases on the Aaland Islands, which in turn calls for German occupation of these islands.

- b) The White Sea Canal is exclusively a job for Air Force or Lahousen's organization.

von Bernuth: Training courses for Divisional Commanders in Armd. Gp. 3
Map maneuver for junior Gen. Staff Officers.
Traffic control regulations.

15 February 1941.

Morning conference: Second convoy* has safely arrived in Tripoli.

Col. Gen. Haase reports as C in C Fifteenth Army.

Gen. -rum reports out and introduces his successor.

Heusinger: a) Instructions to List on action to be taken in the event of Turkish hostility.
b) Preparation for conference with Hauffe (Tuesday).
c) Instructions to Army Hq 12 on reporting after crossing of Danube.

OQu IV: Franco - Caudillo. /Sic-Ea/

- a) Convinced that the Axis will win the war.
- b) Demands: Economic and military aid, precise definition of "legitimate interests".
- c) Il Duce: The only possible course is to "keep Spain in the political line-up of the Axis".

Japanese Foreign Minister will be here middle of March.

Conference with ObdH on operation "Marita". Interrelation between Greece and Turkey.

16 February 1941. (Sunday, Berlin).

Work at home: Offensive against Turkey.-- British capabilities.-- France after transfer of troops to the East.-- Norway.

17 February 1941.

Berlin

Presentation of Military Attachés. China: General Kwei. Brazil: Lt. Col. Holl. Romania: Col. Gheorghe.

von Haase reports. Commander of Berlin Garrison, promoted to rank of Maj. Gen.

Count Luckner: Farewell presents for Attachés.

Ritter von Wurmb: Personal matters.

Return to Zeppelin.

von Etzdorf:

- a) Conference with Yugoslavs in Obersalzberg. Fuehrer is pressing the Yugoslavs to join the Tripartite Pact, but they defer all decisions to the Prince Regent. They are not interested in annexation of Saloniki. Make a counterproposal: Yugoslav - Bulgarian - Turkish block against any foreign landing attempt. Are ready to act as mediators in the Italo-Greek conflict. Fuehrer refers them to Rome; thinks that the proposal might be accepted.
- b) Fuehrer's remark about Russia: He is stunned by the reports on the Russian Air Force. A conflict is inevitable. Once England is finished, he would not be able to rouse the German people to a fight against Russia; consequently Russia would have to be disposed of first.

Heusinger: a) "Marita" will be delayed by weather difficulties of the Air Force. Build-up of supplies for Air Force operations from Bulgaria cannot be completed before 2 March.

b) Bridge-building can start within two days; preparations have been made.

c) Suggestion: Highway* not before 28 February, then Danube crossing on 2 March.

Konrad presents digest of his reports to the Reich Marshal: Future economic problems, structure of the Army, assembly of the Army, cooperation Army/Air Force. Report on tanks and demonstration before the Reich Marshal.

General Jaehnicke reports en route. Review of preparedness preparations in France. Would like to get a Division.

Radke: a) Claer/Stefani affair (Schidlausky, Oberkriegsverwaltungsrat**).
b) Listening to foreign radio.-- Repeat notice on prohibition.
c) Points at issue with Deputy of the Fuehrer: Church attendance.-- Complaint procedure.
d) Soldiers' Clubs in Norway.-- Supervision.

Heusinger (with Gehlen): Draft plan of attack against Turkey.

Alternative a) Immediate execution, with limitation of objectives in Greece.

Alternative b) Execution after attainment of extended objective Saloniki.

Wagner: (Gen Qu): Depots near the frontier in the sector of Fourth Army. Protest of the CG Fourth Army. Fuehrer ruling on Transport Cms. conforms to our specifications. Interference by State Secretary Stuckart in the administrative functions of Military Administration France. Transportation difficulties affecting food supply and economic activities in the occupied West.

18 February 1941.

Buhle: a) Lightweight guns; 10.5 cm, 8,000 m -- available 70 Krupp, 70 Rheinmetall, for Airborne Division;

one Battery for Bicycle Company of Cav.Div.

- b) Armored personnel carrier with rocket launcher rack on trailer.-- Six in each Eng. Co. of Armd. Divs.
- c) AP Ammunition for Armd. Commands: 5 cm AP 40 shell penetrates 120 mm. (plan is to include 10% in ammunition issue).
Hollow charge projectiles very effective!
- d) Renault chassis with 4.7 Czech gun: 90 ordered for delivery by May for GHq AT units.
Renault prime mover for 21 cm heavy How.: 250 available, after reconditioning.
- e) Extension of range of Lt. Fd. How. and med. Fd. How. by muzzle brakes.
- f) Med. Inf. gun cannot be used on Tank II (confined space!) New vehicles in four months; mass production in one year.
- g) New 28 ton bridge-launcher. Its superstructure can be subdivided into three truck loads; moves at speed of Tank III! Every car 10m. Four will be completed; assigned to Third Armd. Div.
- h) Request by Fifth Light Div.; we must help out.
- i) Reich Labor Service Bns. for the East.

von Ziehlberg: Current Gen. Staff reassignments.

Hauffe, Grolmann, Heusinger, Gehlen are my luncheon guests.

Kinzel: a) Russian language courses for NCO's.
b) Air reconnaissance units will not have finished their missions by 1 March.
c) Pripet Marshes.

19 February 1941.

Morning conference: Situation.-- Transport questions.--
Proposal by Grolmann.

Chief Personnel Div.: Officers' situation.-- Awarding of decorations.-- Awarding of Gen. Staff uniform for Ib officers of the home Mil. Districts.

Promotions and titular promotions.-- Reassignments in West and East.

Gen. Brand: New method of Arty. air observation.--
Artillery production program 41/42 (17 cm guns, 21 cm guns, M 1*).
Artillery strength on the Atlantic Coast. After completion of the transfers to the East, GHq Artillery on the coast will be two Bns. less.
Artillery for Black Sea Coast: GHq Artillery will be ready by end of February, Navy by middle of March.

Prolonged talk with ObdH concerning operational capabilities against Turkey. British capabilities next spring and summer.-- Current matters.

Noon. Luncheon with Stuehnagel (Army Hq 17), von Thoma, Mueller, Radke.

Gercke: Necessary extensions of road network in Hungary, Slovakia. Progress of work in Poland satisfactory.-- Coal supplies for the State Railroads have reached the lowest level compatible with operation.-- Passenger traffic will be curtailed.--
15,000 trains needed for the entire build-up; in addition, 96 trains daily for current supplies. (excluding Libya and "Marita");
160,000 railroad cars.
Eight trains of empties required. Eight different types of trains.
Assembly plan, Transport echelons III and IV.
Preparations for railroad extensions behind the "Barbarossa" front. One line in each Army Gp. In all, six possible.

20 February 1941.

Morning conference: Recapitulation of the individual points of Ground Forces cooperation with Abwehr*; Navy and Air Force.
"German Africa Corps"-- Plans must be made for another full Armd. Div.

Paulus, Heusinger, Grolmann, Gehlen: Discussion of the individual drafts for operations of the Army Gps. in "Barbarossa".

AGp. South: Sound. Our conference has produced excellent results.

AGp. Center: Not a happy solution. Launching of armor on the two wings without Inf. must result in dangerous gaps. The proposed moves, moreover, would lead to a battle at Bialystok, instead of at Vilna, where we want it.

AGp. North: On the whole, good. More Inf. apart from Army Gp. Reserves must and can be packed in behind the Armd. Corps.

Gen. Jodl: Alarmist report on bridge construction on the Danube received from Bruckmann.

- Buhle:
- a) Results of work during winter: Third, Seventh, Thirteenth and Fourteenth Drafts fairly satisfactory.
 - b) An Armd. Bn. can be activated from Armd. Demonstration Bn. for "Barbarossa" (early May).
 - c) Fifteen Occupation Brigs. from Replacement Army: two Regts., six Bns., of four Rifle Cos. each, one Artillery Bn., Seven Brigs. are needed for Mil. Districts VIII, XX, XXI and I, and for the Protectorate. Ready as of 1 June. 400,000 men in the Reich for loss replacements in East.
 - d) Establishment of a Section: Chief Armored Troops Officer.*
 - e) Bridge columns: If we are to get 8 to 10 new Bridge Clms. each month, they will have to be given a higher priority.

Col. Homlok (Hungarian Attaché) relates impressions of the Hungarian Attaché in London, who came home to report.

Telling effects of our air attacks, production drop 30%, but not yet decisive. Effect of our Navy: Can be felt, but also not yet decisive. Effect on morale considerable at the end of November, renewed stiffening since that time. Strength in the homeland, 30 Divs. as of end of January; 5,000- 6,000 planes. De Gaulle's position is no longer taken seriously in England.

Major Forster, Ia, Military Government** reports briefly on situation in the Government-General.

General Wagner (Gen Qu): Fuel situation confused and difficult.-- Supply questions Libya.-- Transportation requirements.-- Setting up of supply dumps in the East preceeding satisfactorily.

----- concluded 20 February 1941. -----

