

Intention of the Ob.d.H. + and orders.Intention of the Ob.d.H.

The object of the operation is to destroy the Polish Armed Forces. High policy demands that the war should be begun by heavy surprise blows in order to achieve quick results. The intention of the Ob.d.H. is to prevent a regular mobilisation and concentration of the Polish Army by a surprise invasion of Polish territory and to destroy the mass of the Polish Army which is to be expected to be west of the Vistula - Narev line. This is to be achieved by a concentric attack from Silesia on one side and Pomerania - East Prussia on the other side. The possible influence from Galicia against this operation must be eliminated. The main idea of the destruction of the Polish Army west of the Vistula - Narev Line with the elimination of the possible influence from Galicia remains unchanged even if advanced preparedness for defence on the part of the Polish Army, caused by previous political tension, should have to be taken into consideration. In such a case it may be a question of not making the first attack mainly with mechanised and motorised forces but of waiting for the arrival of stronger, non-motorised units. The Ob.d.H. will then give the correspondingly later time for the crossing of the frontier. The endeavour to obtain a quick success will be maintained.

The Army Group Commands and the Army Commands will make their preparations based on surprise of the enemy. There will be alterations necessary if surprise should have to be abandoned; these will have to be developed simply and quickly on the same basis; they are to be prepared mentally to such an extent, that in case of an order from ob.d.H. they can be carried out quickly

signed Brauchitsch

* Translator's Note: Commander-in-Chief of the Army.