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OFFICE OF U. S. CHIEF OF COUNSEL  
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INTERROGATION DIVISION SUMMARY

Interrogation of JODL, Alfred

By: Colonel J. H. Amen, 17 August 1945, Nuremberg, a.m.

PERSONS IMPLICATED AND SUBJECTS

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THE INTERROGATION WAS BASED ON QUESTIONS POSED BY THE  
BRITISH WAR OFFICE.

Functions of the OKW

In early part of war headquarters were in railroad car. Meetings were attended by Keitel as Chief with his Adjutant, Jodl with a general officer, Major Doyle, and Adjutants of leader. Authority came from Hitler as Supreme Commander. (p.1-3)

Influences of conferences on Hitler's decisions

Hitler made all decisions without outside influence. Goebbels had strong influence on psychological warfare but no influence on operations (p.5).

Relationship with Keitel

Jodl had known Keitel since 1932. They were in close relationship. Jodl was Chief of Staff of the Army subordinated to Keitel as "practically" Secretary of War. (p.6-7)

Organization of the OKW

The Planning and Intelligence Sections contained officers from the Army, Navy, and Air Force. They were under Jodl's command and had no functions in their own branches. When Fuehrer took over command of army,

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the Fuehrer and the General Staff of OKH were leading the East front. The General Staff was responsible for all other theaters of war. (p.8-9)

#### Intelligence Organization in OKW

Intelligence Section was later called Amt Abwehr-Ausland under command of Keitel. Section 1: Secret Reports; Section 2: Sabotage; Section 3: Counter Intelligence. (p.1-3)

Details of General Staff were marked out by the General Staff of the Air Force (p.5). Because there was no overhead organization for the three branches, Army, Navy, and Airforce, Jodl in 1943 created the Section I-C, which compiled for his use information received by the three different sections (p.6). Admiral Canaris in charge of the whole Abwehr was arrested as a consequence of the push of 20 July (p.7). Jodl gave book of operational orders to British Secretary of War (p.8-11).

#### Planning of Major Projects (Invasion of Norway 1940)

All operational problems and preparations were made by Jodl's staff on Hitler's instructions (p.10). Detail work was done by the Staffs of Army, Airforce, and Navy (p.11). General Quartermaster of Army or Airforce worked out supply.

#### Organization of Munitions Production as Related to OKW

General Spier was Secretary of Munitions (p.11). Hitler gave orders to Keitel on munitions productions; a monthly chart was prepared containing all details (p.12).

#### Details of Planning against France and England

Campaign decided upon during fall 1939. Plan was to break through to the coast and split the British and French Armies into two parts without any thought to invade England (p.14-16).

#### Reasons for Transfer of Attention to Russia

Decision to attack Russia was made 17 or 18 June 1941. Preparations started December 1940. Decisive factor was concentration of enormous numbers of troops on the Russian side of the demarcation line (p.17). Fuehrer was afraid of a Russian occupation of Rumania on account of the oil which was needed to carry on the war (p.18). Russia assured new Yugoslavian Government of their assistance (p.18).

#### DETAILS OF OTHER CAMPAIGNS

- (1) Tripoli: After Graziani received a beating in December 1940, Rommel was sent with troops to Tripoli to help the Italians (p.19)

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- (2) Greece: Mussolini's attack on Greece was a complete surprise to the Germans (p.20)
- (3) Russia: Aim at Stalingrad was to take all oil from Russians (p.21)
- (4) Malta: No attempt to capture Malta was made because the Fuehrer had lost confidence in the Italian Navy (p.22)
- (5) Cyprus: The Germans did not consider invading Cyprus
- (6) Iraq: Germans participated in conflict, as oil fields of Iraq were the life blood of England. Political action was complete surprise and Germans were not prepared (p.22)
- (7) Tunisia: Was reinforced because it could not be evacuated (p.23)
- (8) Italy: German Forces were reinforced when signs showed Italy was ready to quit (p.24)
- (9) Balkans: Greece was evacuated when Rumania and Bulgaria went over to Russia.
- (10) France: Battle of France was fought south of Seine and Battle of Germany west of Rhine because every military retreat has not only a military, but also a psychological importance, and the Fuehrer was insisting that no inch of soil should be given up (p.25). Ardennes Offensive was a desperate step to try to defeat the "English combination" and then take Antwerp.
- (11) Budapest: It was necessary to fight there in order to save as much oil as possible (p.26)
- (12) Redoubt in southern Germany: Preparations were made when it was obvious that Germany was going to be split in two (p.26)
- (13) Submarine Warfare: Saw in U-boat warfare the only means to do something real substantial against the Anglo-Saxon war ideas (p.27)
- (14) Courland: Troops were left there because they had at least three times as many Russians pinned down (p.27)

Memorandum: War Lost

Jodl believed war was lost in winter 1941-1942. Wrote a memorandum in March or April 1944 - "that the war was lost when the defense of the Rhine didn't succeed" (p.29).