

OFFICE OF U. S. CHIEF OF COUNSEL
FOR THE PROSECUTION OF AXIS CRIMINALITY

INTERROGATION DIVISION SUMMARY

Interrogation of JODL, Alfred

By: Lt. Colonel Hinkel, 8 September 1945, a.m.

Persons and organizations implicated, and subjects

1. JODL

a. "Plan Green"

- (1) Document C-000265, C-000266, and C-000267 (2)
- (2) Document C-000268 (3)
- (3) Document C-000269, C-000270, and C-000276 (4)
- (4) Telegram bearing Serial No. C-000284 (5)
- (5) Document C-000286 (6)
- (6) Document C-000285 (6)
- (7) Document C-000287, C-000288, and C-000295 (8)
- (8) Document C-000296, C-000297 (11)
- (9) Document C-000298, C-000301, and C-000303 (12)
- (10) Document C-000304, C-000318 (12, 13)
- (11) Document C-000319, C-000322, C-000323, and C-000325 (15)
- (12) Document C-000326, C-000329, C-000330, C-000338 (16)

b. Deadline for attack (18)

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PLAN GREEN

Jodl identifies documents C-000265, C-000266, and C-000267, dated 16 May, as drafts of telegrams exchanged between the Fuehrer's Adjutant, Schmundt and a Colonel Zeitzler pertaining to Plan Green. (Page 2).

Denies having seen document C-000268, which is a telegram from Zeitzler to Hitler, dated 17 May, but has no doubts as to its authenticity. Knows no particulars on that subject. Schmundt sent hundreds of queries to Jodl's organization when the Fuehrer was away since "all the documents were with us and not with him." (3).

Identifies document C-000269, dated 20 May 1939, as well as the plan attached thereto. (C-000270 to C-000276). The plan constitutes the draft of the new directive to which the letter refers. Does not know whether these directives were actually signed. Identifies Keitel's handwriting and initials on the documents (4).

Does not recall how far he collaborated in the plan, but asserts that the matter is known to him (5).

Confronted with a telegram bearing Serial Number C-000284 Jodl does not recall having seen it; assumes it was sent by Schmundt in Berchtesgaden, to Naval Adjutant von Puttkammer, in Berlin, who was to transmit it to Keitel and Brauchitsch (5)

Identifies handwritten document C-000286 as notes jotted down by Schmundt in regard to action to be taken in case "the negotiations in Munich would give no results or if Czechoslovakia would not accept any decisions made there." (p.6)

Identifies telegram C-000285 as a telegraphic verbal code message sent by Schmundt presumably in the second half of September 1938. This message was not intended for Jodl (p.6)

Says that Czech mobilization had already been made throughout 1937 (p.7)

Admits having seen document C-000287 dated "Berlin, 30 May 1938" signed by Zeitzler, as well as attachment bearing Serial Number C-000288 to C-000295. It is the definite framing up of the Fuehrer's directives to Plan Green. The Plan was issued on 30 May and was to be enforced on 1 October (p.3)

Admits that this plan informed him, as well as others who read it (Brauchitsch, Raeder, Goering, Zeitzler, Captain Deyhle and possibly other collaborators of Zeitzler's) that Hitler intended military action against Czechoslovakia "at some time" (p.9 and 10).

At that time hardly anyone except the aforementioned persons had access to the plan. Later, Gensler's organization received certain excerpts. It was obvious to Jodl that the conditions in Czechoslovakia had to be changed. Personally, he preferred a peaceful solution but after completion of the military preparations, he had no objection to the use of force.

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"One cannot ask of a soldier to be a pacifist. It is up to the political leadership to choose militarily, the political moment for action". (11)."

Identifies Documents C-000296 and C-000297, dated 9 June, 1938, as having been prepared by his section and recognizes Zeitzler's initials thereon. (11).

Identifies Documents C-000298 and C-000303. Recognizes Schmundt's signature and Zeitzler's initials on C-000301. (p.12) Identifies the series of documents bearing the numbers from C-000304 through C-000318, dated "Berlin, 18 June 1938" as having been prepared by his section. Admits that action against Czechoslovakia was contemplated, providing England and France would not intervene. (p.12)

In these directives, the march on Czechoslovakia and operations against the West were worked out. There were general directions for all three branches of the Wehrmacht. "The main idea was to work out a plan which we would call "Grenzschärung", according to which the frontiers were to be guarded by feeble forces, whereas the bulk of the army was to be in the middle."

Charts on documents C-000303 to C-000318 inclusive, constitute a timetable for the preparations, taken into consideration. The timetable for Plan Green (p.13) identifies documents C-000319 and C-000322, dated 12 July 1938 and 22 July 1938, as communications from Zeitzler to Schmundt regarding modifications in the autumn maneuvers. Recognizes Zeitzler's signature thereon. Identifies documents bearing serial numbers C-000323 to C-000325 dated 24 August 1938. Recognizes his own initials. Handwritten note by Schmundt indicates that the Fuehrer had seen it (p.15)

Does not recall seeing documents C-000326 through C-000329. They were notes by Schmundt made at a discussion between Hitler, Brauchitsch, Keitel and Schmundt at Berghof on 3 September 1938. Does not remember having been informed of this conference. Admits that this document shows that action against Czechoslovakia had to be prepared for the end of September. Has never seen handwritten documents C-000330 and C-000338. These were notes made by Schmundt at conferences in Nuremberg on 9 and 10 September. Does not recall whether he was informed of the substance of these conferences, but remembers that the conception of the Fuehrer regarding the strength of the armies to be opposed to Czechoslovakia, were different to those held by the military (p.16)

Maintains that Czechoslovakia action was not intended; that preparations for the action from a military point of view are always necessary as "everything prepared by the Army serves for or to war whether it does happen or not." (p.17)

Jodl was asked with reference to the Munich Pact: "So there was no need to put the plan (for action against Czechoslovakia) into effect? A. No, it was not necessary. There was quite a normal political solution. It was only carried out insofar as our forces were prepared to occupy the territory within 5 days." (p.17 and 18). "If England and France had expressed their intention not to intervene in that case, certainly military action would have been carried out."

Admits that in such a case, the 1st of October would have been the deadline and that preparations to this effect had been made (p.18).