

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, p.m.

Persons and organizations implicated, and subjects

1. JODL
 - a. Mobilization of the armed forces
 - (1) Document C-000339 (1)
 - (2) Document C-000340, C-000341 (1-2)
 - (3) Document C-000342 (2)
 - (4) Document C-000343 (3-4)
 - (5) Document C-000344 (4)
 - (6) Document C-000345 (5)
 - b. "Plan Green"
 - (1) Document C-000348, C-000349 (6)
 - (2) Document C-000350, C-000313, and C-000318 (7)
 - (3) Document C-000351, C-000355 (7-8)
 - (4) Document C-000356, C-000357 (8)
 - (5) Document C-000358 (9)
 - (6) Document C-000359, C-000360 (9)
 - c. Mobilization of Civilian Agencies
 - (1) Instructions to Munition makers (12, 13)
 - (2) Industrial and economic mobilization (13)
 - (3) Orders to all ministries (14)
 - d. Industrial Mobilization Plans (15)
 - e. Preparation against Czechoslovakia (16)
 - f. Political pressure on England and France (16)
 - g. Reich Defense Committee (17)
 - h. Document C-000361 (17)

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MOBILIZATION OF THE ARMED FORCES

Jodl identifies document C-000339 dated Nuremberg, 10 September 1938. It was worked out by him in another section than Zeitzler's. The signature thereon is that of Colonel Hofmann, liaison officer between the OKW and the Reich Labor Service (p.1).

Identifies the late Col. Hofmann's signature on documents C-000340 and C-000341 dated Berlin, 14 September 1938, and states that he saw it before it was transmitted to Keitel. (p.1 and 2).

Assumes he also saw document C-000342, dated Berlin 16 September 1938, since it bears the initial "L" (Landesverteidigung - National Defense). As Chief of the National Defense Section, he saw all documents bearing that initial, unless he happened to be away. Initials and signature on the document are Zeitzler's. Document also bears Schmudt's initials. (p.3) Recognizes his signature on document C-000343 dated Berlin 16 September 1938. (p.3 and 4)

Is unable to identify telegram C-000344 dated 18 September but knows Lt. Col. Doebling, mentioned therein, who was attached to the Party Leader of the Sudeten Germans, Henlein.

Doebling was somewhere in Berghof. (p.4)

Identifies initials on documents C-000345 as those of von Below. Did not see document itself. Adds they were kept in the Adjutant's Department in Berghof. The document is a teletype message from the Army General Staff to the Adjutant of the Fuehrer at Berghof and indicates the dates, number and nature of divisions to be attached to the different armies in the case foreseen by document "Green" (p.5)

Believes he saw documents C-000348 and C-000349 which cover the names of the Supreme Commanders and their Chiefs of Staff for the case provided for by the plan "Green". (p.6)

Identifies document C-000350, dated 20 September 1938, as a complement to previously identified documents C-000313 to C-00318, constituting the timetable prepared by the OKW in connection with Plan Green. (p.7)

Is unable to identify definitely documents C-000351 and C-000355, dated Berlin, 21 September 1938. Says only Keitel could identify them but believes they originated with the General Staff. (p.7 and 8)

Recognizes Schmudt's initials and handwriting on document C-000356 and C-000357 but asserts he never saw the document itself. (p.8)

Admits having seen document C-000358 dated Berlin, 27 September 1938, which originated with his section "L". Signature thereon is Keitel's; initials are those of Schmudt. "This was the mobilization order for five divisions stationed in the west, without any public announcement. That is, such divisions which had been assigned for the West Wall, for the Western Front". Those divisions were destined to protect the rear against France on the western side for the operation of Plan Green (p.9)

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Asserts that he has seen documents C-000359 and C-000360 dated 27 September 1938 signed by Keitel, informing Hess and Himmler "that the Fuehrer had ordered certain measures of mobilization and that the different sections of the Party, while not having been publicly informed of such a mobilization, should cooperate and not create any difficulties." (p.9)

This cooperation between army and party was to manifest itself in that "certain equipment of a military nature possessed by the various sections of the party, was to be handed over to the Army". (p.107 Jodl does not know which party leaders were informed of these plans. among those certainly informed he names Goering, Raeder and all competent agencies of the 3 branches of the Wehrmacht. (p.10 and 11)

Doenitz would probably not have been informed as he was only a U-Boat Commander at that time. (p.11)

MOBILIZATION OF CIVILIAN AGENCIES

Questioned whether he issued orders that munition makers be given instructions as to their participation in any forth-coming campaign, he reveals, in addition to the Operational Section and the Organization Section which collaborated with the Labor Office, the SR,SS, etc., the existence of a third section of the Landesverteidigung, the "Secretary of the Reich Defense Section". (p.11)

In this section "mobilization books" were worked out by the top civilian agencies of the Reich. These books are characterized as mobilization plans in which certain measures are listed under code numbers. this enabled the OKW to order individual measures taken by simply referring to the code. (p.12)

Says that these books were worked out in conjunction with special staffs of each ministry, naming as involved, Frick, Ohnesorge, Dorpmueller, Schacht, Goering that Speer and Rosenberg were involved, while being dubious as to whether Ribbentrop or von Neurath represented the Foreign Ministry at that time. All Ministers worked on these books, each for his respective ministry. Says none of the mobilization measures except insignificant ones like transportation, were put into force, yet all plans were ready to be carried out upon OKW order (pp.12,13).

Reveals that plans for industrial and economic mobilization were transmitted to OKW after being drawn up by the Ministry of Economics and by General Thomas (p.13).

Reveals that for industrial conversion of armament, there was a separate plan about which he knows nothing (p.14).

Admits that OKW reviewed mobilization books and in case of mobilization, respective ministries were ordered to put into force measures after the OKW had "welded together" such measures as could be put into practice without causing the public to notice them. (p.14)

Admits having had in his possession "industrial mobilization plans". Evades question as to knowledge regarding "standby", plant capacity, and denies knowledge of armament operation in general (p.15)

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Volunteers opinion that preparations against Czechoslovakia were made to exert political pressure and to impress Britain and France. (p.16)

Says civilian ministers were kept up to date as to mobilization by talks with their respective representatives in the Reich Defense Committee; but that civilian Ministers were never informed of military plans such as Plan Green, nor were they told that war against a certain country was impending. No such allegedly "purely technical" conferences took place in September (p.17).

Admits that in case of Plan Green, certain mobilization instructions were given to civilian ministers. (p.17)

Shown photostatic copy of document C-000361, dated 26 September 1938, he admits that the contents were known to the OKW. Admits that a number of divisions of those maneuvering near Czech border were ordered to advance more closely to Czechoslovakia. Has no comment to make upon being confronted with an order to the effect that those units had to be "ready to begin action against Czechoslovakia on 30 September". (p.17)

Identifies Schmundt's initials and handwritten passage stating that "General Keitel was informed of the order concerning the movement of the units into departure positions."