

Rey

Released in
Prosecution Div.
Initials

Testimony of ALFRED JODL, taken
at Nurnberg, Germany, on 31 August
1945, from 1430 hours to 1515 hours,
by Lt. Col. THOMAS S. HINKEL, 13D,
OUSCC. Official Interpreter: H. E.
Mankiewicz. Reporter: Tec 4 R. R.
Kerry, 39167596.

After the interpreter was duly sworn, the following inter-
rogation was made by Lt. Col. Thomas S. Hinkel:

Q Will you state your name?

A Jodl.

Q You have heretofore been interrogated?

A Yes.

Q And at that time you were sworn?

A Yes.

Q You understand that you are still under oath and you
have promised to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing
but the truth, so help you God?

A Yes.

Q I have before me five sheets of legal-sized paper writ-
ten on both sides, which purports to be in your handwriting. I
ask you if these sheets of paper are material that you have
presented to me for inclusion in our record.

A They contain the contents of the questions put before
me on the 28th of August.

Q You identify these sheets as being written in your own
handwriting?

A I have written them myself.

Q And you would like to have them included with the
statements that you made on the 28th of August of this year?

A Yes, they are to be considered exactly as verbal.

Q You swear the statements contained in these handwritten sheets are true and correct to the best of your knowledge and belief?

A Yes, I consider them exactly as given under oath, the same as my verbal declarations.

Q They shall be included with and made part of your statements of that day.

A Yes.

Q Would you care to give a brief summary for the record of the contents of these papers that you have given me?

A There are three points: first, collection of the general sentiments of the Officers Corps in the years 1937 and 1938; then about the general staff preparations and preparations of the Wehrmacht for mobilization and marching into war, especially in the case of "Green"; and a short declaration about my conception of obedience.

Q You will remember that yesterday afternoon we were discussing the invasions made by the German armies of various countries?

A Yes.

Q Have you any further statements you would like to make at this time in addition to or in supplement of the statements you made at that time?

A Yes, I remember one more incident. I put it yesterday as doubtful that the English had entered Greece before we entered Jugoslavia and Greek territory. I recall that the English

as a matter of fact had landed previously, that is, during our mobilization and before the beginning of our operations because we had already encountered English troops a few days after our mobilization in the district north of Salonika. That is all I have as a supplement.

Q Do you recall in June 1938 receiving an outline of a plan regarding Czechoslovakia? This plan purportedly originated with General Keitel.

A The sketches which were shown to me yesterday of the plans--is it something that has already been shown to me or is it something new?

Q This is something new. The plans which have been shown to you were dated May 1938 and August 1938. This is dated June 1938.

A That will concern the theme, namely Operation Green, which had been prepared at that time.

Q I am sorry I do not have available at this moment a German translation, that is, the English translation of the German document which I have before me. However, that German document will be secured shortly, and I shall ask you then more in detail concerning it. At this moment I would like to ask you in connection with these Plans Green, which were prepared during the year 1938 whether or not a provision was made for the occupation of Memel in the eventuality that a conflict occurred between Poland and Lithuania.

A As far as I remember, there was a provision that in the case of any trouble between Poland and Lithuania which was acute,

the intention existed to occupy Memel--only for that case.

Q What was the reason for this intention?

A The reason was probably that Memel is a German town.

Q It was not, however, under German sovereignty at that time, was it?

A No.

Q And so the intention existed to take advantage of a Polish-Lithuanian conflict in order to obtain Memel.

A Yes, as far as I know, that was the intention.

Q Who informed you of this intention?

A All these intentions originated from the Reichs Chancellery, and I should think that I was informed by Keitel.

Q The conflict between Poland and Lithuania did not occur, however; so any intention to occupy Memel at that time did not bear fruit?

A No, that was only for the case of war-like intervention between Poland and Lithuania so that we would take the German interests in Memel into our protection. Finally it was worked in agreement with Lithuania.

Q Is it not a fact--

A I want to call your attention to the fact, so that there are no misunderstandings, that all what had been prepared militarily does not prove under any circumstances the absolute intention that that should be carried out, but this was a military preparation for a situation which Germany had at that time to take into consideration, the same preparations as made by any state in Europe.

Q Is it not a fact that it was the intention of the Fuehrer not to put into effect any of the several plans "Green" that were drawn up unless he was sure that France would not interfere on the side of Czechoslovakia?

A We were assured that in no case would he execute his plans as long as there was a danger that another big power would intervene.

Q Well, that is in effect in agreement with my statement, which was the plan would not be put into effect if another power would intervene.

A Yes, I must surely assume that for we were always told as a warning that the Fuehrer would avoid anything which might lead to such a conflict.

Q Now, with reference to the armament requirement of the German Army, who drew up the long-term and annual programs therefor?

A For that time, more likely General Thomas.

Q Did you not participate personally in the formulation of these programs?

A No.

Q Is it not a fact that the heads of the Army, Navy, and Air Forces would make up their requirements and submit them to you, and that you thereafter would take them up with the Fuehrer?

A That is correct; the individual parties of army, navy, and air forces had their task of how far they had to get on with their preparation--they put their claims before the Fuehrer.

Q Through you?

A No, they didn't go over me or through me. I had nothing to do with the arms preparation.

Q Did you ever attend any conferences with the Fuehrer where armaments were discussed?

A In any case before the outbreak of war, I never participated in the consultations with the Fuehrer.

Q How about after the war broke out?

A Of course, hundreds of times I participated with the Fuehrer.

Q Is it not a fact that after the Fuehrer had approved the armament program after the war began, the orders pertaining thereto were issued by you?

A No, I have never discussed with the Fuehrer the armament program even after the outbreak of war. It was absolutely outside my duties.

Q It is your statement that you did not issue orders in the name of the Fuehrer with respect to the armament after the war began?

A No, it could only be that such requirement was passed on by me if Keitel was not available in the manner that I was only a letter carrier.

Q Well, have you any further statements to make on the matters we have just been discussing?

A No, the organization of the preparation of armament would surely be the same with us as in America because the General Staff would not deal with those questions.

Q Well, that will conclude our meeting for this afternoon.

Thereupon at 1515 o'clock, 31 August 1945, the interrogation was concluded.