

Washington, D.C., September 7, 1943

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Brig. Gen. John R. Deane,  
Joint Secretariat,  
Combined Chiefs of Staff,  
Washington, D.C.

DECLASSIFIED BY:  
JCS DECLASSIFICATION BRANCH  
DATE 17 April 73

Dear General Deane:

With further reference to the memorandum on  
The Forces and Secret Military Organization of  
Poland as a factor in General Allied European Plan-  
ning /C.C.S. - 267/, there are transmitted herewith:

1. A detailed Order of Battle of German Formations in Poland based on data of March and April, 1943 with amendments based on data of July 1, 1943.
2. Report on the Polish Secret Army for the period ending April, 1943.

Very truly yours,

*L. Mitkiewicz*  
L. Mitkiewicz  
Colonel

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Encl.

As stated.



Let not records become  
lost. Federal State of War

A. The Situation in Occupied Poland  
/for the period: January to April 1943/

I. The Attitude of the German Authorities towards Poland

The German policy of extermination aimed against Poles and Jews, has gradually become more severe.

The German plan of action aims in particular at:

1. exploiting local manpower, to the greatest possible degree, to satisfy the war needs of the Reich, by means of:
  - a. mobilizing and forcing into the German Army Poles inhabiting the western parts of the country. /including men of the class of 1900/;
  - b. drafting labour in the remaining parts of the country, and deporting it to the Reich and to the east.
2. fighting and liquidating all signs of organized underground resistance in Poland by applying the most severe reprisals. The reprisals are based on the principle of common responsibility /mass executions, burning of villages etc./;
3. germanizing Polish territories by a system of mass deportations /and executions in case of resistance/

During the first four months of 1943, the Germans, <sup>capitalizing</sup> on the anti-Polish attitude of Soviet Russia, began an intensive <sup>human</sup> campaign aimed at turning popular Polish feeling against Soviet Russia. They hoped, by this means, to achieve real collaboration, particularly <sup>particular -</sup> collaboration of a political nature.

This campaign was backed by several acts of the occupying Authorities, such as:

- a. an effort to create a Polish Protectorate - similar to the Czech Protectorate - and organize a Polish legion.
- b. the promise of normalizing the situation in the country.
- c. the promise of treating Polish workers deported to the Reich <sup>Reich</sup> on an equal footing with German workers /the same rations/.

The matter of the "graves of Katyn" was one of the means which German propaganda intended to use in furthering this plan.

As an answer to this measure, the people of Poland endorsed completely the decisions of the Polish government in London, and refused all offers of collaboration.

## II. The German terror in Poland. Statistical data.

### 1. Concentration camps in Poland.

a. Oświęcim - Over 640,000 people have perished in this camp from the moment of its creation until the end of 1942. According to the latest reports, prisoners still living number about 40,000.

b. Majdanek - About 27,000 people are interned in this camp.

### 2. Deportations.

Mass deportations, combined in many cases with executions, have lately taken place:

a. in the Province of Lublin

b. In the Province of Białystok (40,000 people have been deported from the town of Białystok).

c. In the town of Radom, from which the whole population has been deported, and, of late, in Lithuania.

### 3. Jewish ghettos in Poland

The ghettos in Kobryn, Luniniec and Brześć have been completely liquidated.

The ghettos in Warsaw, Baranowice, Mołodeczno and the towns of Galicia and Volhynia have been partly liquidated.

## B. Military work and military organization.

### I. Military organization.

One of the recent moves of the Polish Secret Army was to develop the organization of the military network especially in the eastern and western areas.

The organization H.Q. Staffs is being completed by the addition of new personnel. At the same time secret tactical exercises are being organized for junior commanders.

### II. Military work of centralization.

A program of organization and centralization is being carried out, for the purpose of incorporating into the ranks of the Polish Secret Army all the semi-military organizations, which have so far taken no part in the activities of the army.

### III. Military education.

The first course of an Infantry Officers' Candidate School was completed in June, 1942. There were 150 groups of students. One group generally numbers 4 to 5 students.

In July new groups of Infantry Officers' Candidates began on a new course. The first course of a school for Non-Commissioned Officers started at the same time.

Large-scale military training for youth of both sexes was started. Girls learn nursing and liaison work in special centers.

A second school for automobile drivers was opened in the middle of 1942. The training received by students of the first school proved satisfactory.

### IV. Production of explosives.

Two types of hand grenades are produced in some localities (hand grenades with delayed, and immediate action fuse).

### V. Publications of a military nature.

Instructions in the use of German infantry and artillery equipment have been published. Other publications contain the description and instructions in the use of German panzer, engineering, and signal equipments.

Several publications of a military nature are appearing in Poland, such as:

"Information Bulletin" which appears weekly in 24,000 copies, bi-weekly in 8,000 copies, monthly in 11,000 and 8,000 copies.

"Press Agency", a weekly containing a review of current events. It is distributed to all underground publications, the number of which exceeds 100.

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**C. Sabotage, diversion and retaliation activities in Poland.**  
**(for the period March 1, 1942 to April 1, 1943)**

I. The above activities are carried out by guerilla groups and sabotage detachments of the Polish Secret Army. Regular army units destined for other tasks, take no part in those activities.

**II. General aims and objects of the sabotage activities.**

1. Disorganizing German military transports.
2. Lowering the production of German war material.
3. Sabotage and destruction of German agricultural production.
4. Disorganizing German occupation administration in Poland.
5. Lowering the morale of the German army and the German population by means of:
  - a. subversive propaganda
  - b. acts of retaliation

**III. Area of activity:** Poland, the Third Reich, and the western parts of the U.S.S.R. behind the German lines.

**IV. Results:**

The reports and statistical data given below are fragmentary and cannot constitute a complete picture of the results of the activities described, for the following reasons:

- a. Limited technical means of communications at the disposal of our organization within the country. Fear of overburdening the communications network inside Poland, and between Poland and London.
- b. Difficulties of transit to and from Eastern Poland and strict control of all traffic between the Third Reich, Western and Central Poland.

**1. Sabotage activities**  
**(for the period: the year of 1942 to May, 1943).**

**a. Railways**

Damaged locomotives .....	2,085
Damaged cars .....	7,007
Burned cars .....	157
Railway transports set on fire .....	142
Damaged armament transports .....	227
Interruptions in the schedule of westbound rail traffic .....	152
Interruptions in telephone and telegraph communications in the railway system .....	144

## b. Production of war material

- In the "Avia" plant in Warsaw 1,532 sets of bomb racks were defectively manufactured (not fit for use).
- In the powder plant "Pionki" the amount of rejected defectively manufactured explosives equaled a month's output.
- In the Oberhütte Stahl Gliwice the production of anti-tank shells was stopped, due to inadequate penetration.
- At the foundry "Pokoń" the production of steel fell to 30% of the former output, as a result of sabotage activities.
- In the "Ostrowiec" plant in Warsaw the production of locomotives fell to 30% of the former output.

Open hearth furnaces put out of action ..... 2  
Oil well blocked ..... 7

The following material was damaged in several plants:

lathes ..... 363  
motors ..... 76  
transmission belts ..... 901  
miscellaneous machines ..... 342  
trolleys ..... 14  
textile raw materials ..... 12,772 kg.  
miscellaneous instruments ..... 242  
automats ..... 104  
The wear and tear of instruments was  
increased and caused the loss of ..... 17,568 man-hour

The following equipment was damaged in mines:

tubes ..... 645 m.  
current conducting rails ..... 25 m.  
trolleys ..... 1,251  
pumps ..... 11  
dynamoes ..... 2

The following miscellaneous material was destroyed:

rubber pontoons ..... 25  
zinc alloy ..... 18 tons  
iron ..... 108 tons  
steel ..... 102 tons  
special materials ..... 897 kg.  
tools ..... 344 kg.

gasoline .....	21,155 kg.
lubricants .....	
timber for production of aircraft	
propellers .....	470 tons
finished propellers .....	686
rubber .....	40 tons
mechanical tools .....	28 tons
parts of heavy machine guns defectively manufactured .....	600

Between February and April 1943 the following material was destroyed:

gasoline .....	3,300 litres
alcohol .....	40,000 litres
oil .....	300 litres
gas mixture .....	200 cu. meters
substitute cotton .....	450,000 lbs.

#### c. Miscellaneous

The following have been burned down:

barracks .....	1
aviation depots .....	1
army garages .....	2
army workshops .....	1
quartermaster stores .....	3
motor cars destroyed .....	301
railway bridges destroyed .....	9

#### 2. Self-defense activities

(for the period January to April 1943).

Nine armed attacks against German prisons have been made with the aim of liberating soldiers of our Secret Army or members of subversive organizations.

successful attacks .....	7
unsuccessful attacks .....	2

In all about two hundred men have been set free.

Besides the attacks mentioned above, the following were carried out in April 1943:

an attack against a German prison near Cracow, in which 120 prisoners were set free,

an attack against a German police garrison in the town of Wysokie Mazowieckie, in which imprisoned soldiers of the Polish Secret Army were liberated.

As a result of our retaliation activities, the Germans began, on November 2, 1943, a mass man-hunt in the above-mentioned localities with the intent of trapping civilian population and our partisan groups.

A special Polish detachment (300 soldiers) was sent into action, engaged the Germans in the vicinity of Lasowice and prevented the man-hunt.

On November 4, 1943 the following German reinforcements left Lublin: 5 infantry companies, an S.S. battalion and armored cars.

Our detachments stopped the fight and went into hiding in the forests.

Our losses: 24 dead, a few wounded, 360 captured.  
The enemy's losses: over 40 dead.



3. Activities of retaliation  
(for the period January to April 1943)

a. the following were liquidated:

	<u>January</u>	<u>February</u>	<u>March</u>	<u>April</u>
Gestapo agents	50	18	27	
x Germans - in combat				
x and by hidden means	100	20		
members of the de- portation committee			18	
b. poison has been ad- ministered		in 189 cases	in 132 cases	in 105 cases
✓ Typhoid fever microbes and typhoid fever lice		in a few hundred cases		
poisoned parcels to Germany			57	20

c. Besides the above-mentioned cases, the following Ger-  
man officers were liquidated in April 1943:

Gen. Krüger - Chief of the Police Department and of the  
S.S. and assistant of Governor Frank.

On April 16, 1943 - Kurt, Head of National Social  
Security.

On April 8, 1943 - Hoffman, Head of the Warsaw  
Labor Board.

On April 13, 1943 - Dietz, Hoffman's assistant.  
" " " " together with Dietz - 27 Gestapo  
agents.

d. A series of personal threats against Germans has been  
started, and liquidation resorted to.

Results highly satisfactory.

e. As an answer to the deportations which took place in  
the county of Zamosz (November 26 to November 28, 1942) acts  
of retaliation were carried out during December and January  
1943.

Results:

The village of Cieszyn, freshly settled by German  
colonists, was burned down. (Sixty-four families of German  
settlers and eight S.S. men perished).

Several other settlements, destined for German  
colonists were also burned down.