Collection Summary

Title: World War II military intelligence map collection: Declassified maps from the American, British, and German militaries
Span Dates: 1931-1945
Call No.: G3201.S7 coll .G7
Creator: Great Britain. Inter-Service Topographical Department.
Extent: maps : some colored ; various sizes ; 282 items
Language: Collection material in English and German.
Location: Geography & Map Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.
Summary: Maps and textual documents used by the Americans, British, and Germans during World War II to plan military operations between 1931 and 1945. All material is desclassified.

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

Organizations
Great Britain. Inter-service Topographical Department.
Great Britain. War Office. General Staff. Geographical Section.
United States. Army Map Service.

Subjects
World War, 1939-1945--Maps.

Form/Genre
Maps.

Administrative Information

Provenance
The collection was donated by the National Imagery Mapping Agency that is now known as the Geospatial Intelligence Agency. German-language materials were seized by victorious Allied forces during and after World War II.

Processing History
The collection was inventoried by G&M volunteer Herb Gilder; In 2014, Ryan Moore arranged and described the materials.

Copyright Status
The status of copyright of the collection is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

Access and Restrictions
The collection is open to research. Researchers are advised to contact the Geography & Map Reading Room prior to visiting. Many collections are stored off-site and advance notice is needed to retrieve these items for research use.

Preferred Citation
Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container number, World War II military intelligence map collection: Declassified maps from the American, British, and German militaries, Geography & Map Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.
Scope and Content Note

The collection consists primarily of maps and terrain analysis for the purpose of military operations. The maps were created between 1931 and 1944.

Arrangement of the Collection

There are three series arranged by country of origin. The folders are stored together in bankers boxes. The intellectual and physical arrangement was imposed by the G&M Division.

- Series I, British Military Intelligence Maps
- Series II, American Military Intelligence Maps
- Series III, German Military Intelligence Maps
Description of Series

Container       Series

British Military Intelligence Maps by Geographical Section, General Staff (GSGS) of the War Office and Inter-Service Topographical Department
The series contains 183 items organized alphabetically by country. Most maps are accompanied by supporting text. European and Asian theaters of operation are represented.

American Military Intelligence Maps by Army Map Service
The series contains 11 items organized alphabetically by country. Most maps are accompanied by supporting text. The materials are a mixture of translated Russian and German documents, as well as a number of gazetteers for islands in the Pacific.

German Military Intelligence Maps from the Generalstab des Heeres, Abteilung fuer Kriegskarten und Vermessungswesen (IV. Mil-Geo).
The series contains 88 items organized alphabetically by country. Most maps are accompanied by supporting text. The materials are in German. Maps of the Western European, African, and Russian fronts are represented.
### Container List

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<td><strong>British Military Intelligence Maps by Geographical Section, General Staff (GSGS) of the War Office and Inter-Service Topographical Department</strong></td>
<td>Geographical Section, General Staff (GSGS, also known as MI 4) operated under the Director of Military Operations and Intelligence. Its role was to supply maps to the British forces, collect data on foreign survey networks, provide training, and prepare survey data for British Expeditionary Force mobilization. GSGS was organized into small sections, each of which specialized in maps of a particular region. The War Office Map Library, which was also part of MI 4, acquired maps and cartographic intelligence data. Senior staff members were usually Royal Engineer officers with surveying qualifications, although there were a few Royal Artillery or infantry officers. The rest of the staff were civil technical assistants and clerks, together with some other Royal Engineer ranks. The Inter-Services Topographical Department (ISTD) was formed following the nearly disastrous British invasion of Norway (April 9 - May 9, 1940). Prior to that time, the Army and Royal Navy had different intelligence units that were independent of each other. The ISTD was established at Manchester College, Oxford. Working together with members of each arm and the Allies, this unit was able to bring together zero-elevation aerial photography, which is photography taken as close to the wave tops as possible, in order to bring the views of the beach landscape, which were then made into continuous horizontal strip photographs. These files were marked with military targets such as bridges, marshalling yards and the like, and new photos and intelligence were used to update obsolete maps. From these new maps, and from older maps, magazine illustrations, and old family photographs taken on holiday collected from the public, new maps were produced for the planning staffs and operations forces. The series contains 183 items organized alphabetically by country. Most maps are accompanied by supporting text. European and Asian theaters of operation are represented.</td>
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<td>I.S.T.D. List of Reports Issued-Copy No. 33 &amp; 39 September 30, 1944</td>
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<td><strong>ITEM 2</strong></td>
<td>Notes on G.S.G.S. maps of the Balkans July 1944</td>
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<td><strong>ITEM 5</strong></td>
<td>Notes on G.S.G.S. maps of Italy, Sardinia, and Corsica May 1943</td>
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<td><strong>ITEM 6</strong></td>
<td>I.S.I.S. Special Reports on the Netherlands and Belgium, the port and town of Amsterdam (port of Zaandam) January 1944</td>
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| ITEM 9    | I.S.I.S. Railways of Denmark and Schleswig-Holstein (Plans) May 1944  
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Two copies; one is incomplete |
| ITEM 10   | The Port of Copenhagen September 1944  
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| ITEM 11   | Denmark Intelligence Report July 1943  
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| ITEM 12   | I.S.I.S. Report on France Volume 1- Northeast France December 1942  
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| ITEM 13   | I.S.I.S. Report on France Volume 3- Brittany February 1943  
250+ pages including photographs |
| ITEM 13   | I.S.I.S. Report on France Volume 2- Normandy West of the Seine January 1943  
250+ pages including photographs |
| ITEM 14   | I.S.I.S. Report on France Volume 4- Mediterranean France October 1943  
8 pages  
Incomplete |
| ITEM 15   | I.S.T.D. Report on the Ports and Towns of La Pallice and La Rochelle September 1942  
30+ pages including photographs  
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| ITEM 18   | The Port and Town of Strasbourg June 1944  
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| ITEM 20   | I.S.T.D. Report on the Railways of Brittany December 1943  
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| ITEM 22   | I.S.T.D. Special Report on the Railways of the Paris Area through and avoiding routes December 1943  
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| ITEM 24   | I.S.T.D. Special Report on French Railways Eastern Region (including Alsace-Lorraine and Luxembourg) April 1943  
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| ITEM 25   | I.S.T.D. Special Report on the River Rhone (from Lyons to the mouth) November 1943  
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ITEM 29 | Special Report on Middle Danube Area Railways May 1944 350+ pages including photographs
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ITEM 31 | Middle Danube Area Waterways June 1944 91 pages
ITEM 32 | Special Report on Certain Railways of North-West Germany with Approaches from Antwerp and Rotterdam January 1944 131 pages including maps
ITEM 33 | Special Report on Certain Railways of South-West Germany January 1944 145 pages including maps
ITEM 34 | Railways of South-West Germany Dated January 1944 with lines in the Area and Connecting lines from Western Austria & Italy July 1944 250 pages Amendments to I.S.D/C/317
ITEM 35 | Plans and Photographs [South-West Germany] July 1944 2 pages
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ITEM 37 | Railways of South-West Germany Schedule of Tunnels (for Lines described in I.S.T.D/C/317 and C/317A) February 1945 70+ pages including diagrams
ITEM 38 | Special Report on Hamburg Port, Public Utilities, Oil Storage and Shipbuilding March 1944 100+ pages including photographs & diagrams
ITEM 39 | Special Report on the Port of Kiel March 1944 75+ pages including photographs & diagrams
ITEM 40 | The Town of Kiel (with amendments to C/344) July 1944 25 pages including photographs
ITEM 41 | The Ports of Bremerhaven and Bremen May 1944 50+ pages including photographs
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| 115   | Special Report Northern Norway March 12, 1943  
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| 118   | [Norway] Special Report The Kristiansand South Area October 20, 1943  
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| 119   | [Norway] Special Report Bergen Port and Town November 1, 1943  
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<td>I.S.I.S. Report on British Borneo (Sarawak, Brunei, Labuan, British North Borneo) Ports and Towns December 1944 90 pages including photographs</td>
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<td>I.S.I.S. Report on British Borneo Sarawak, Brunei, Labuan, British North Borneo - Waterways November 1944 105 pages including photographs</td>
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<td>ITEM 160</td>
<td>I.S.I.S. Report on Indo-China Southern Indo-China: Geology, Topography, and Climate June 1945 300+ pages including photos</td>
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<td>ITEM 160</td>
<td>Gazetteer of Place Names in Southeast Asia-(Chinese-English &amp; English-Chinese) 76 pages Reference Volume</td>
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<td>Indo-China Guide to the Navigation of the Rivers of Tonkin September 1945 190 pages including maps</td>
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<td>I.S.I.S. Report on Northern Sumatra Vol. Part III (B) Roads and Part IV (D) Towns November 1944 45 pages including photographs</td>
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<td>I.S.I.S. Report on Northern Sumatra Part I (B) Topography Photographs March 1945 60 pages including photographs</td>
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<td>ITEM 166</td>
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<td>I.S.I.S. Report on Northern Sumatra Volume 3 Part V (A) Coast August 1944 45 pages including photographs and maps</td>
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<td>I.S.I.S. Report on the Island of Amboina-Coast [Indonesia] September 1944 10 pages including photographs</td>
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<td>ITEM 170</td>
<td>I.S.I.S. Report on Kra Isthmus Peninsular Burma and Peninsular Siam Roads of Peninsular Siam May 1945 200 pages including photographs and maps</td>
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<td>ITEM 171</td>
<td>ISTD Routes in Burma Routes 'L' December 15, 1944 357 pages</td>
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<td>ITEM 172</td>
<td>Military Topography of the Tropical Far East May 1945 110 pages including photographs</td>
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<td>ITEM 173</td>
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<td>ITEM 174</td>
<td>[Far East] Part III (cont) Communications (B) Roads May 1945 400 pages</td>
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<td>ITEM 175</td>
<td>I.S.I.S. Report on Thailand July 1942 150 pages One complete volume and 2 empty folders</td>
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- 400+ pages including maps and photos
- Re-editing and compiling on II/22/1943, Sheet series 41723

**ITEM 177**  Preliminary Pilotage Handbook for Coastal Navigation, Vol 3, Vis, the coast from Makarska to the Albanian border, So. of Hvar Channel 1939
- 250+ pages including maps and photos
- Re-editing and compiling on II/22/1943, Sheet series 41722

**ITEM 187**  Glossary of Vernacular Terms used on Survey of India Maps 1931
- 14 pages
- Published by Order of Brigadier R. H. Thomas, D.S.O, Surveyor General of India

**ITEM 188**  Soil Stabilisation, With Special Reference to the Construction of Bases of Roads and Airfields
- July 1945
- 24 pages
- Reference volume

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### American Military Intelligence Maps by Army Map Service

The Army Map Service of the US Army Corps of Engineers was the premier map-making agency of the US Department of Defense, which prior to 1949, it was known as the Department of War. From 1941 to 1968, the major task of the Army Map Service was the compilation, publication, and distribution of military topographic maps and related products required by the Armed Forces of the United States.

Between 1941 and 1945, the Army Map Service prepared 40,000 maps of all types, covering 400,000 square miles of the earth’s surface. More than 500 million copies were produced during the war. The North African Campaign alone required 1,000 different maps with a total of 10 million copies. The Normandy invasion required 3,000 different maps with a total of 70 million copies. Similar commitments were filled for the Pacific and Far East operations.

The series contains 11 items organized alphabetically by country. Most maps are accompanied by supporting text. The materials are a mixture of translated Russian and German documents, as well as a number of gazetteers for islands in the Pacific.

**ITEM 178**  Military geographic study of European Russia, Ukraine, with Moldavia Republic and Crimea
- 1947
- 35 pages
- English translation of German publication of May 15, 1941, pages 103-123

**ITEM 179**  Military - Geographic Information on the European Part of the USSR, Northern Caucasus
- Germany 1942 April 1968
- 6 pages
- English translation of German publication of 1942, pages 54-58

**ITEM 179**  Military geographic study of European Russia, General View
- 1946
- 123 pages
- English translation of German publication of May 15, 1941, pages 83-154

**ITEM 179**  Caucasia - List of Place Names (Translation from German)
- 1941
- 180 pages

**ITEM 180**  Military geographic study of European Russia, The Caucasus, (including the Rostov Oblast' and the Kalmuk ASSR)
- 1946
- 22 pages
- English translation of German publication of October 1., 1941, pages 83-154

**ITEM 181**  Molukkas (Moluccas) (or Spice) Islands [Listing of all islands]
- Publication No. 567750 July 2, 1943
- 25 pages

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**World War II military intelligence map collection: Declassified maps from the American, British, and German militaries**
### Gazetteer for Sila (Soela) Islands
Publication No. 567751 October 26, 1943
10 pages

### Gazetteer for Ambelau and Boeru (Buru) Islands
Publication No. 567752 October 26, 1943
8 pages

### Gazetteer for Aru (Aroe, Araroe, Arrow)
Publication No. 567753 October 26, 1943
15 pages

### Gazetteer for Island of Ceram
Publication No. 567754 October 26, 1943
17 pages

### Gazetteer (NO.9) Java
Publication No. 567755 May 1944
133 pages

### German Military Intelligence Maps
from the Generalstab des Heeres, Abteilung fuer Kriegskarten und Vermessungswesen (IV. Mil-Geo).

The military geographic unit comprised Group IV of the Military Mapping and Survey agency of the German Army. Working from a large central office in Berlin and in satellite offices in occupied territories, mapmakers supported the work of military planners. The mapping units were tasked with producing handbooks and maps of occupied territories and areas where the Germans intended to invade. As the Germans adopted a defensive posture, handbooks, and maps were made of French and Italian coast regions, where the Germans anticipated they would have to repel Allied landings. The unit reached its peak output in 1943 with some 102 volumes that covered 39 areas. Some 240 specialty maps were produced, as well.

The series contains 88 items organized alphabetically by country. Most maps are accompanied by supporting text. The materials are in German. Maps of the Western European, African, and Russian fronts are represented.

### Planheft Grossbritannien
August 16, 1944
75 pages including maps and charts
Great Britain Planning

### Planheft Grossbritannien
August 1940
50 pages including maps and charts
Great Britain Planning

### Planheft Luxemburg
March 1940
25 pages including maps
Luxemburg Planning

### Planheft Schweiz
March 1944
60 pages including maps
Switzerland Planning

### Planheft Italien Entwurf
August 1943
85 pages including maps
Italy Planning

### Planheft Italien Entwurf
[ August 1944
75 pages including maps
Italy Planning

### Vademecum Italien
August 1943
40 pages including maps
Italy Planning

### Planheft Belgien
January 1944
30 pages including maps
Belgium Planning-1944
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 Four pages including maps  
 Belgium Planning  
 Kanis, Joseph A. |
| 198  | Planheft Niederlande February 1940  
 35 pages including maps  
 Netherlands Planning-1940 |
| 199  | Planheft Niederlande December 1943  
 35 pages including maps  
 Netherlands Planning |
| 200  | Planheft Tschechoslowakei 1937  
 45 pages including maps  
 Czechoslovakia Planning |
| 201  | Planheft Dänemark 1942  
 40 pages including maps  
 Denmark Planning |
| 202  | Planheft Frankreich 1940  
 50 pages including maps  
 France Planning |
| 203  | Planheft Frankreich 1944  
 50 pages including maps  
 France Planning |
| 203  | Anweisung Nord und Ostfrankreich 1940  
 25 pages of maps  
 Instructions for North and East France |
| 204  | Planheft Frankreich und Franzosisch-Nordafrika January 1943  
 75 pages including maps  
 Planning France and French North Africa |
| 205  | Planheft Spanien - Portugal und Straite von Gibraltar 1941  
 45 pages including maps  
 Planning Spain, Portugal, and the Strait of Gibraltar |
| 206  | Planheft Spanien - Portugal und Straite von Gibraltar September 1943  
 45 pages including maps  
 Spain, Portugal, and the Strait of Gibraltar |
| 207  | Planheft Russland January 1941  
 60 pages including maps  
 Planning Russia |
| 208  | Planheft Russland 2.Ausgabe 1942  
 70 pages including maps  
 Planning Russia Second Edition |
| 209  | Transkaukasien Luftgeographisches Einzelheft 1943  
 225 pages including maps and photographs  
 Aerial maps of South Caucasus |
| 210  | Kuesten-Beschreibung der russischen Schwarzmeerkueste 1942  
 110 pages including maps and photographs  
 Description of the Black Sea Coast |
| 211  | Luftgeographische Beschreibung Europaisches Russland 1941  
 100 pages including maps and photographs  
 Aerial reconnaissance of Russia |
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<td>Polnische und russische Kartenwerk 1941 (45 pages including maps) Maps of Poland and Russia</td>
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<td>Anweisung in Osteuropa ehemals Polnischer Raum January 1944 (40 pages including maps and charts) Instructions for Eastern Europe in the area formerly under Polish control</td>
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<td>ITEM 217</td>
<td>Planheft Osteuropa Baltischer Raum June 1944 (60 pages including maps) Planning for Baltic region</td>
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<td>Anweisung in den westlichen Grenzgebieten, Vademecum Westliche Grenzbiete July 1944 (50 pages including maps) Instructions and handbook for Western Front areas</td>
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<td>Überblick West 1942 1942 (65 pages including maps) Overview of Western Front</td>
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<td>Planheft übersicht 1944 1944 (100 pages including maps) Overview of 1944 situation</td>
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<td>ITEM 220</td>
<td>Planheft Suedosteuropa Südllicher Teil August 1943 (169 pages including maps) Planning Southeast Europe</td>
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<td>Vorenwurf zum Planheft Suedosteuropa Nordlicher teil Slowakei, Ungarn, Rumanien August 1943 (80 pages including maps) Planning for Slovakia, Hungary, and Rumania</td>
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<td>Anweisung Vademecum Suedosteuropa Suedlicher Teil 1943 (15 pages including charts) Instructions and handbook for Albania, Bulgaria, Greece, Yugoslavia, and European Turkey</td>
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<td>Planheft übersicht Dit 1940 1940 (60 pages including maps) Planning and overview of Europe</td>
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 60 pages including maps  
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| ITEM 230 | Vademecum Gebrauch der Karten 1:25,000 1940  
30 pages including maps  
Handbook for maps 1:25,000 |
| ITEM 231 | Planheft Africa 1942  
65 pages including maps  
Handbook Africa |
| ITEM 232 | Planheft Vorderasien einschliesslich des 1. und 2. 1942  
45 pages including maps  
Planning Middle East |
| ITEM 233 | Planheft Vorderasien 1941  
45 pages including maps  
Planning Middle East |
| ITEM 234 | Planhefteubersichten Mittelmeergebiet 1941  
30 pages including maps  
Planning Mediterranean area |
| ITEM 235 | Landereise Sammenstellung aller Karten und Mil-Geo-Arbeiten 1943  
140 pages including maps  
Military-geographical collection with maps |
| ITEM 236 | Mil.-Geo. Material Raum December 15, 1943  
25 pages including maps  
Military-geographical materials |
| ITEM 237 | Mil.-Geo. Material Raum Februar 1944  
60 pages including maps  
Military-geographical materials |
| ITEM 238 | Mil.-Geo. Material April - Mai 1944  
60 pages including maps  
Military-geographic materials |
| ITEM 239 | Mil.-Geo. Material Juni 1944  
25 pages including maps  
Military-geographic materials |
| ITEM 240 | Luftgeographisches Einzelheft Mittel- u. Ostrussland 1942  
120 pages including maps and photographs  
Aerial mapping of Central and East Russia |
| ITEM 241 | Luftgeographisches Einzelheft Westturkistan 1942  
95 pages including maps and photographs  
Aerial mapping of Western Turkistan |
| ITEM 242 | Luftgeographisches Einzelheft der russischen Schwarzmeer-und Kaukasuslander 1941  
115 pages including maps and photographs  
Aerial mapping of the Black Sea and Caucasus |
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368 pages locations of the river  
List of all the large and small tributaries of the Oder River |
| ITEM 244 | Europaische Russland Allegemeiner ueberblick Ortschaftsverzeichniss 1941  
70 pages including maps and photographs  
Maps of Western Russia and gazetteer |
| ITEM 245 | Asiatische Russland Allegemeiner ueberblick Ortschaftsverzeichniss 1942  
248 pages including maps and photographs  
Maps of Eastern Russia and gazetteer |
| ITEM 246 | Die Baltischen Landers-Estland, Lettland, Litauen Statdurch 1941  
10 maps  
Description of cities and towns in the Baltics |
| ITEM 246 | Die Baltischen Landers-Estland, Lettland, Litauen Statdurch [1941  
92 pages including maps  
Description of cities and towns in the Baltics |
| ITEM 247 | Entwurf Kasachstan-Turkestan-Bildheft, Ortschaftsverzeichniss, Gewasserbeschreibungen 1942  
405 pages including maps, charts & photographs  
Draft of Kazakstan and Turkey, gazetteer and description of bodies of water |
| ITEM 248 | Gebiet Leningrad 1941  
270 pages including pictures and maps  
Area of Leningrad |
| ITEM 248 | 1:1,000,000 Gebiet Leningrad: Schema der Eisenbahnen und Schifffahrtslinien 1941  
75 X 68 cm.  
Area of Leningrad, trains and shipping lines |
| ITEM 248 | 1:1,000,000 Gebiet Leningrad: Bodenkarten 1941  
62 X 70 cm.  
Area of Leningrad |
| ITEM 248 | 1:1,000,000 Gebiet Leningrad: Strasseneubersicht 1941  
72 X 80 cm  
Area of Leningrad, streets |
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72 X 80 cm  
Area of Leningrad, population density |
| ITEM 248 | 1:1,000,000 Gebiet Leningrad: Uebersicht 1941  
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Area of Leningrad, overview |
| ITEM 249 | 1:1,000,000 Gebiet Leningrad: Verwaltungsgliederung und Nationale Minderheiten 1941  
72 X 80 cm  
Area of Leningrad, administration and nationalities |
| ITEM 249 | 1:15,000 Plan des Leningrader Hafens 1935  
60 X 57 cm.  
Leningrad harbors |
| ITEM 249 | Militargeographische Angaben ueber das Europaische Karelien und Kola 1941  
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Military-geographic description of Russia, Kola, and Karelia |
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           | 225 pages including maps  
           | Military information on Western Russia |
| ITEM 251  | Militargeographische Angaben ueber das Europaische Russland-Ukraine 1941  
           | 500 pages including maps and pictures  
           | Military information on Western Russian and Ukraine |
| ITEM 252  | Militargeographische Angaben ueber das Europaische Russland-Ukraine 1941  
           | 400 pages including maps  
           | Military information on Western Russian and Ukraine |
| ITEM 253  | Militargeographische Angaben ueber das Europaische Russland-Zentral 1941  
           | 300 pages including maps and pictures  
           | Military information on Central Russia |
| ITEM 254  | Mappe H Militargeographische Angaben ueber das Europaische Russland-Moscow 1941  
           | 200 pages including maps and pictures  
           | Military information on Moscow |
| ITEM 255  | Militargeographische Angaben ueber das Europaische Russland-Kaukasien 1942  
           | 200 pages including maps and pictures  
           | Military information on the Caucasus |
| ITEM 256  | Nachtrag Militargeographische Angaben ueber das Europaische Russland-Die Wolgagebiete 1941  
           | One map  
           | Military information on Western Russia and Volga River |
| ITEM 257  | Militargeographische Angaben ueber das Europaische Russland-Die Wolgagebiete 1941  
           | 225 pages including maps and pictures  
           | Military information on Western Russia and Volga River |
| ITEM 258  | Mappe L Militargeographische Angaben ueber das Europaische Russland-Ural-Gebiete 1941  
           | 280 pages including maps and pictures  
           | Military information on the Ural Mountains |
| ITEM 259  | Militargeographische Angaben ueber das Europaische Russland-North Russland 1942  
           | 230 pages including maps and pictures  
           | Military information on Northwest Russia |
| ITEM 260  | Militargeographische uebersicht ueber den Vorderen Orient 1940  
           | 550 pages including maps and pictures  
           | Military information on Asia |
| ITEM 261  | Militargeographische uebersicht ueber von Polen 1939  
           | 120 pages including maps and pictures  
           | Overview of Poland |
| ITEM 262  | Verzeichnis der Nautischen Karten und Bucher fuer die Kriegsmarine 1941  
           | 185 pages  
           | Map catalogue for the German navy |
| ITEM 263  | Fliegende Verbaende January 15, 1946  
           | 60 pages including pictures  
           | English translation covering aeronautical charts |
| ITEM 264  | Militargeographische Angaben ueber die Turkei 1941  
           | 218 pages, including maps, photos, and gazetteer  
           | Military information on Turkey |