

C247816

S E C R E T

GERMAN MANPOWER POSITION, 1 APRIL 1944

References: a. C.I.C. 35/1
b. J.I.C. Memo for Info. No. 57

Report by the German Manpower Subcommittee

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

1. To estimate the German manpower situation on 1 April 1944 and its implications with respect to German military capabilities during 1944.

FACTS BEARING ON THE PROBLEM

2. The particular estimates on which our conclusions are based are contained in the Appendix and Annexes. In brief they indicate that:

a. Between 1 October 1943 and 1 April 1944 the German armed forces suffered permanent losses amounting to some 884,000 men, bringing total permanent losses since 1 September 1939 to 5,679,000. The bulk of these losses have been borne by the classes aged 17 to 37.

b. The table of organization requirements of the German Army have been reduced to 7,459,000, including 5,176,000 fully-fit men aged 17 to 37. The over-all reduction since 1 October amounts to only 61,000, but the reduction in requirements for fully-fit young men amounts to 184,000.

c. Despite losses, the actual strength of the German Army has increased over the winter, the normal recruiting season, to about 7,185,000 on 1 April. This strength is only 274,000 short of over-all table of organization requirements, but, through the use of foreigners and of less fit and overage Germans, it conceals a deficit of about 1,320,000 below T/O requirements for fully-fit Germans aged 17 to 37.

d. Substantially all available combat-fit German manpower has already been inducted into the armed forces. Future losses must be replaced with less fit and overage Germans or with foreigners.