

# Nazi Records Show Only Bad Weather Held Up Invasion Of Low Countries

By DANIEL DE LUCE  
 NUERNBERG, Dec. 7 (AP)—Hitler's armies were poised for the invasion of the low countries and France Nov. 7, 1939, but the attack was postponed week by week for six months because of bad weather, official German records disclosed at the war crimes trial here today.

While the rest of the world spoke sarcastically of "a phony war," the German military machine was ready and "waiting only for favorable weather," according to records introduced before the international military tribunal.

British prosecutors turned most of their evidence against the German military and naval leaders among the 20 top-ranking Hitlerites accused of war crimes, pointing out their part in plans for the crushing invasion while Hitler deceitfully told Holland, Belgium and Luxembourg that he had no plans to attack them.

The fifth column conquest of Norway and Denmark was only a prelude to the invasion a month later of the low countries, the evidence showed.

**Screen Attack**  
 Prosecutors introduced German naval orders revealing that German warships and camouflaged troop transports carried British flags and signals to screen the attack on Norway and Denmark.

Hitler signed his directive for attack "as soon as possible" on the low countries on Oct. 9,

1939—five weeks after the invasion of Poland. It was disclosed. On Nov. 7, the German armies were massed along the border for the attack on Belgium, Holland and Luxembourg, other high command orders showed.

The actual attack did not start until May 10, 1940, because of successive spells of bad weather that might have interfered with operations of the air force and the mechanized units of the German army, according to the score of military top-secrets made public in the courtroom for the first time.

**Plans Found**  
 Another surprise was the disclosure by the prosecution that a large portion of the German air force's plans for parachute troop operations during the low-land's invasion fell into allied hands on Jan. 10, 1940—just four months before the Nazis ac-

tually jumped off. The plans were found in a German plane which crashed in Belgium.

More evidence of Hitler's treachery was entered into the record when Assistant British Prosecutor G. D. Roberts recalled German "assurances" on Oct. 6, 1939, that Hitler would respect the neutrality of Belgium and Holland. Four days later he signed the directive for war against them "as soon as possible."

Roberts castigated the military and naval leaders on trial—Reichsmarshal Hermann Goering, Field Marshal Keitel, Col. Gen. Alfred Jodl, German army chief of staff and Grand Admiral Karl Doenitz and Karl Raeder, German navy leaders.

**"Intuition"**  
 The role that Hitler's much-vaunted "intuition" played in directing army operations was

shown in excerpts from Jodl's diary in which he described the fuehrer as wrestling with the problem of whether to invade the low countries before the lightning grab for Denmark and Norway. At one time, it was disclosed, Hitler actually ordered the Norwegian-Danish invasion to begin after the low countries invasion but the plan was later reversed.

Hitler finally decided, Jodl's diary disclosed, on a "swift entry into Norway" and then argued with Field Marshal Keitel against further delay in the invasion of the low countries.

Turning to Germany's invasion of Yugoslavia and Greece on April 6, 1941, British prosecutors submitted captured documents and secret speeches by Hitler showing the attack on the two countries delayed for four weeks his invasion of Russia—which began June 22, 1941. Some military experts say they believe these four weeks meant the difference between victory and defeat in the Russian campaign.

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## Toastmasters Hold Program

The Klamath Falls Toastmasters club had their weekly dinner and meeting at the Willard hotel Wednesday evening. The program consisted of 27 minutes of table topics. Jack McGuire was topic master for the evening. They were conducted in the form of debate. Topics used were "Should We Continue Lend-

Friday, Dec. 7, 1945

HERALD AND NEWS—TWELVE

Lease to the Chinese Nationalists or Communists."  
 The toastmaster for the evening was Lt. Wilbur Charter of the Marine Barracks, whose program consisted of two 10-minute speeches given by Gene Oldham and H. C. Moore. Four 5-minute speeches were presented by Joe Seikel, Joe Hicks, Vince Clapp and Garry Robertson.

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**DIES**  
 WASHINGTON, Dec. 7 (AP)—Mrs. Charles Evans Hughes, wife of the retired chief justice, died last night after an illness lasting several weeks. She was 81. Mr. and Mrs. Hughes were married in 1888. Her death came a day after their 57th anniversary.

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Romanoff Caviar	Baked Beans
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