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**Papers and Minutes  
of Meetings of Principal  
World War II  
Allied Military Conferences  
1941-1945**



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PAPERS AND MINUTES OF MEETINGS OF PRINCIPAL  
WORLD WAR II ALLIED MILITARY CONFERENCES  
1941-1945

On the 4 rolls of this microfilm publication are reproduced 10 volumes containing minutes, reports, maps, charts, messages, and other documentation of nine Allied military conferences held between 1941 and 1945 primarily to enable the American and British military staffs to coordinate their war plans. A list of the conferences, giving their code names, locations, dates, and principal participants, follows these introductory remarks. These conference volumes, containing summarized transcripts of the proceedings with accompanying reports and exhibits, were published by the Office of the Combined Chiefs of Staff. The copies of the volumes reproduced in this microfilm publication are those of Chief of Staff George C. Marshall and are part of the Records of the War Department General and Special Staffs, Record Group 165.

Creation of the Combined and Joint Chiefs of Staff

The Combined Chiefs of Staff (CCS) had its inception in the final report of the British-American military staff talks held between January and March 1941. The basic idea behind this prewar planning was to allow the U.S. and the U.K. military commands to coordinate the formulation and execution of overall strategic plans and policies governing the conduct of the war. After the United States entered the war, this arrangement was applied to plans undertaken jointly. For plans undertaken separately, it was decided that first the general policy would be agreed upon, and then the two nations would concur on the extent of collaboration needed to execute the plans.

The CCS framework was set up at the ARCADIA Conference (December 1941-January 1942) in a memorandum entitled "Post-Arcadia Collaboration," which defined the CCS and provided for the formation of the Combined Staff Planners and the Combined Secretariat. It charged the CCS with recommending a broad program of wartime requirements, drawing up general directives for policies governing weapons distribution, and settling priorities for overseas military movement.

"Post-Arcadia Collaboration" further stated that the word "Joint" would be applied to the interservice collaboration of one nation, thus authorizing by implication both the British and the United States Joint Chiefs of Staff and joint committees. These joint committees were parallel in structure to the combined committees set up by the CCS and included each nation's members of the combined committees. CCS committees included the Combined Secretariat, Combined Staff Planners, the Munitions Assignments Board, the Combined Intelligence Committee, the Combined Military Transportation Committee, the Combined Meteorological Committee, and the

Combined Communications Board. There were U.S. and British joint committees for each of the combined committees and two additional U.S. committees: the Joint Committee of New Weapons and Equipment and the Joint Psychological Warfare Committee, which included the Office of Strategic Services.

#### General Contents and Distribution of the Volumes

Each volume contains lists of the names and titles of those present at each meeting, a summarized transcript of statements made by participants, a number of papers or exhibits presented at the meetings along with the decisions and reports agreed to by the two staffs, and a list or index of subjects discussed. The indexes have been filmed at the beginning of the volumes. The summarized transcripts of statements include minutes of CCS meetings, minutes of plenary sessions, and minutes of United States JCS meetings at Casablanca. The "papers" consist of CCS numbered papers considered at one or more CCS meeting or plenary session, and unnumbered papers that were informally considered by the CCS during the conference period. Some volumes also contain messages, communications of the commanders of various areas, and reports of British and U.S. joint committees.

Except for 20 copies of the minutes and papers of ARCADIA distributed by the Secretary of the War Department General Staff, the Secretariat of the CCS produced and distributed all of the conference volumes beginning with POST-ARCADIA. Those receiving volumes included the President of the United States, the British Prime Minister, American and British members of the CCS, the Deputy Chief of Staff, the Director of the Office of Naval Intelligence, the Secretary of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the Secretary of the Joint Strategic Survey Committee, the Secretary of the Joint Staff Planners, and other top military officials.

At the time of publication, the volumes were classified as "secret" or "top secret." United States JCS Regrading Memo 52-73, October 3, 1973, declassified these volumes.

#### Contents of the Individual Conference Volumes

1. *Proceedings of the American-British Joint Chiefs of Staff Conferences [ARCADIA] Held in Washington, D.C. on Twelve Occasions Between December 24, 1941, and January 14, 1942.* (Washington: Office of the Combined Chiefs of Staff, 1942). 263 p. Topics discussed during the conferences included the relief of British troops in Northern Ireland and Iceland, the invasion of Africa, priorities for U.S. and U.K. overseas expeditions in the Atlantic Ocean, supporting measures for the Southwest Pacific, tasks for the Joint Planning Committee, the defense of island bases between Hawaii and Australia, and collaboration after ARCADIA. Documents in the volume bear both a British serial number (W.W.) and an American serial number (ABC 4/). Among the exhibits and conference papers are studies and proposals made by the U.S. and

British Chiefs of Staff. One report, a directive to the Supreme Commander in the ABDA Area (roughly defined as the general region of Burma-Malaya-Netherlands East Indies and the Philippines), was approved by President Franklin D. Roosevelt and Prime Minister Winston S. Churchill, while the others were accepted or approved by either the Joint United States and British Planning Committees or the Joint United States and British Chiefs of Staff.

2. *Minutes of Meetings of the Combined Chiefs of Staff: POST-ARCADIA.* (Washington: Office of the Combined Chiefs of Staff, 1942). xiv, 157 p. POST-ARCADIA consisted of CCS meetings 1-20 held between January 23 and May 19, 1942, at which were considered the possibility of a German offensive against England, military requirements for the various theaters, employment of the U.S. Army and Navy Air Forces against Japan, and support of Chiang Kai-Shek. Some of these first CCS meetings were attended by members of Allied and Commonwealth countries when the concerns of their countries were discussed.

3. *Casablanca Conference [SYMBOL] January 1943: Papers and Minutes of Meetings.* (Washington: Office of the Combined Chiefs of Staff, 1943). viii, 324 p. Among the topics discussed were the general strategic policy for 1943, assistance to Russia and Turkey, and Operation HUSKY. The CCS numbered papers in the volume deal primarily with North African and European aspects of the war, but the discussions of the participants cover the Pacific and China theaters as well. This conference is sometimes referred to as "Anfa," the name of the hotel at which the conference took place.

4. *Casablanca Conference [SYMBOL], January 1943: Joint Chiefs of Staff Minutes of Meetings.* (Washington: Office of the Combined Chiefs of Staff, 1943). vi, 71 p. This volume contains the minutes of U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff meetings 50-59 held between January 13 and 16, 1943, and two additional JCS meetings on January 15 and 16, 1943, presided over by President Roosevelt and attended by Harry Hopkins and W. Averell Harriman. At these meetings the JCS discussed the synthetic rubber program, the assignment of heavy bombers to China, U.S. aid to Russia, and strategic considerations governing the conduct of the war in 1943.

5. *TRIDENT Conference, May 1943: Papers and Minutes of Meetings.* (Washington: Office of the Combined Chiefs of Staff, 1943). vi, 518 p. This volume includes minutes of six meetings held at the White House between May 12 and 25, 1943, presided over by Roosevelt and Churchill; CCS meetings 83-96 held between May 13 and 25, 1943; and three meetings at Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower's villa in Algiers, May 29-June 3, 1943. Topics include propaganda and subversive activities, expansion of the capacity of the air route to China, rearming of the French in North Africa, and operations in the China-Burma Theater.

6. *QUADRANT Conference, August 1943: Papers and Minutes of Meetings.* (Washington: Office of the Combined Chiefs of Staff, 1943). vi, 520 p. This volume contains the minutes of two meetings presided over by Roosevelt and Churchill held at The Citadel, Quebec, on August 19 and 23, 1943, and CCS meetings 106-116 held at the Chateau Frontenac, Quebec, August 14-24, 1943. Among the topics discussed were Operation OVERLORD, operations in the Pacific in general and the China-Burma-India Theater in particular. Included in the papers and exhibits are the conference agenda; a series of papers dealing with the problems of equipping the Allies, liberation forces, and friendly neutrals; and messages to Marshal Josef V. Stalin and Generalissimo Chiang Kai-Shek informing them of decisions made at the Conference.

7. *SEXTANT Conference, November-December 1943: Papers and Minutes of Meetings, SEXTANT and EUREKA Conferences.* (Washington: Office of the Combined Chiefs of Staff, 1943). ix, 584 p. SEXTANT consisted of five plenary meetings at Cairo attended by Roosevelt, Churchill, and Chiang Kai-Shek held between November 23 and December 6, 1943; and CCS meetings 127-138 held in Cairo between November 22 and December 7, 1943. EUREKA, held at Tehran, consisted of three plenary meetings attended by Roosevelt, Churchill, and Stalin, November 28-30, 1943, and a single military meeting of Adm. William D. Leahy, Gen. George C. Marshall, Gen. Sir Alan Brooke, Air Chief Marshal Sir Charles F. A. Portal, and Marshal Kliment Y. Voroshiloff on November 29, 1943. Among the topics discussed were Operation OVERLORD, aid to the Balkan partisans, and the possibility of the entry of Turkey into the war. Papers and exhibits published in conjunction with the minutes include charts relating to German and Allied aircraft production and operation, maps depicting the status and deployment of antisubmarine aircraft, and a summary of the overall plan for the defeat of Japan.

8. *OCTAGON Conference, September 1944: Papers and Minutes of Meetings. OCTAGON Conference: Minutes of Combined Chiefs of Staff Meetings in London, June 1944.* (Washington: Office of the Combined Chiefs of Staff, 1944). ix, 282 p. The London phase of the Conference consisted of CCS meetings 162-166 held from June 10 to 15, 1944. The other section of OCTAGON, held at Quebec between September 12 and 16, 1944, consisted of CCS meetings 172-176 and two plenary meetings presided over by Roosevelt and Churchill. The participants discussed the combined intelligence report on the situation in Europe, future operations in the Mediterranean, general progress of operations in the Pacific, and the planning date for the end of the war against Japan. In addition to CCS papers discussing the allocation of occupation zones in Germany and the progress of the war against Japan, there are a number of messages to the CCS from the Supreme Commander, Allied Expeditionary Force, the Supreme Allied Commander, Mediterranean, and the Supreme Allied Commander, Southeast Asia, giving the progress of operations in their respective theaters of operations and their future intentions.

9. *ARGONAUT Conference, January-February 1945: Papers and Minutes of Meetings.* (Washington: Office of the Combined Chiefs of Staff, 1945). ix, 336 p. ARGONAUT consisted of (1) CCS meetings 182-188 at Malta and Yalta held from January 30 to February 9, 1945; (2) two tripartite meetings of the CCS and the U.S.S.R. Chiefs of Staff, February 5 and 6, at Yalta; (3) two plenary meetings of Roosevelt and Churchill aboard the U.S.S. *Quincy* held at Malta on February 2, 1945, and at Yalta on February 9, 1945; and (4) a tripartite plenary meeting of Roosevelt, Churchill, and Stalin held at Yalta on February 4, 1945. The participants discussed German flying bomb and rocket attacks, Allied strategy in the Mediterranean, the entry of Russia into the war against Japan, and operations on the western front. Conference papers published in this volume deal with cargo shipping, the supply of petroleum, equipment, and overall Allied strategy. A few messages produced for reference purposes are scattered throughout the papers.

10. *TERMINAL Conference, July 1945: Papers and Minutes of Meetings.* (Washington: Office of the Combined Chiefs of Staff, 1945). xi, 358 p. The sessions of TERMINAL held at Babelsburg, Germany, represented in this volume consist of CCS meetings 193-200 held from July 16 to 24, 1945, and a tripartite meeting of the CCS and the U.S.S.R. Chiefs of Staff, July 26, 1945. Among the topics discussed were general operations in the war against Japan, Army Air Forces operations against Japan, information for Russians concerning the Pacific war, operations to increase the movement of supplies into China, and U.S.-U.S.S.R. zones of naval and air operations in the Sea of Japan. Conference papers published in the volume relate to staff conversations with Portugal; extensive reviews of basic Allied objectives, strategy, and politics; and CCS staff machinery after the war. Although the conference was in session until August 2, the documentation in the volume ends with the plenary session of July 26.

#### Related Records

Related records in the National Archives of the United States include United States JCS and CCS records found in the records of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff, and the American-British Conversations found in Records of the War Department General and Special Staffs, Record Group 165. Parts of the volumes on this microfilm publication dealing with topics of general military and political interest have been published in the Department of State's *Foreign Relations of the United States* for the years 1941-45.

Jarritus B. Wolfinger wrote these introductory remarks.

INTERNATIONAL ALLIED MILITARY CONFERENCES, WORLD WAR II

<u>Code Name</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Principal Participants</u>
ARCADIA	Washington	Dec. 24, 1941- Jan. 14, 1942	British-U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff
POST-ARCADIA	Washington	Jan. 23-May 19, 1942	Combined Chiefs of Staff
SYMBOL	Casablanca	Jan. 14-23, 1943	President Franklin D. Roosevelt Prime Minister Winston S. Churchill Combined Chiefs of Staff
	Casablanca	Jan. 13-16, 1943	President Roosevelt U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff
TRIDENT	Washington	May 12-25, 1943	President Roosevelt Prime Minister Churchill Combined Chiefs of Staff
	Algiers	May 29-June 3, 1943	Prime Minister Churchill Gen. George C. Marshall Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower Gen. Walter B. Smith Combined Chiefs of Staff
QUADRANT	Quebec	Aug. 14-24, 1943	President Roosevelt Prime Minister Churchill Combined Chiefs of Staff
SEXTANT	Cairo	Nov. 22-Dec. 7, 1943	President Roosevelt Prime Minister Churchill Generalissimo Chiang Kai-Shek Combined Chiefs of Staff



<u>Code Name</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Principal Participants</u>
EUREKA	Tehran	Nov. 28-30, 1943	President Roosevelt Prime Minister Churchill Marshal Josef V. Stalin Adm. William D. Leahy General Marshall Gen. Sir Alan Brooke Air Chief Marshal Charles F. A. Portal Marshal Kliment Y. Voroshiloff
OCTAGON	London	June 10-15, 1944	Combined Chiefs of Staff
	Quebec	Sept. 12-16, 1944	President Roosevelt Prime Minister Churchill Combined Chiefs of Staff
ARGONAUT	Malta and Yalta	Jan. 30-Feb. 9, 1945	President Roosevelt Prime Minister Churchill Marshal Stalin Combined Chiefs of Staff U.S.S.R. Chiefs of Staff
TERMINAL	Babelsburg (Potsdam), Ger.	July 16-26, 1945	President Harry S. Truman Prime Minister Churchill Combined Chiefs of Staff U.S.S.R. Chiefs of Staff

## CONTENTS

<u>Roll</u>	<u>Conference Volumes</u>	<u>Dates</u>
1	ARCADIA	Dec. 24, 1941-Jan. 14, 1942
	POST-ARCADIA	Jan. 23-May 19, 1942
	SYMBOL (Vol. 1)	Jan. 14-23, 1943
	SYMBOL (Vol. 2)	Jan. 13-16, 1943
2	TRIDENT	May 12-June 3, 1943
	QUADRANT	Aug. 14-24, 1943
3	SEXTANT/EUREKA	Nov. 22-Dec. 7, 1943
	OCTAGON	June 10-Sept. 16, 1944
4	ARGONAUT	Jan. 30-Feb. 9, 1945
	TERMINAL	July 16-26, 1945