CONTEMPTUATIONS OF MAJOR GENERAL PARKER'S SUPERIORS

30. General Malin Craig, Chief of Staff of the Army, (Continued)

December 11, 1935, you returned to the United States via the Suez Canal, arriving in this country February 25, 1936, and assuming command of the 1st Division, Fort Hamilton, New York, to March 25, 1936, during which period you temporarily commanded the Second Corps Area, Governors Island, New York, from March 1 to 28, 1936. You were then ordered to Fort Sam Houston, Texas, commanding the Eighth Corps Area to the date of your retirement.

The records of the War Department show that you are a graduate of:
- Cavalry School, Saumur, France - 1904
- French War College - 1921
- General Staff School - 1923
- Army War College - 1924

The records also show that the Honorary Degree of Doctor of Laws was conferred upon you by:
- University of South Carolina - 1927;

You were awarded the following decorations by the United States:
- The Distinguished Service Medal, with citation reading: 'For exceptionally meritorious and distinguished services. He commanded, with marked distinction, the 18th United States Infantry. Later, as brigade commander, he exhibited qualities of rare leadership, superb courage, and unusual initiative. Finally he commanded the 1st Division in the Argonne Offensive in the autumn of 1918, where he showed himself to be a skilled leader of marked ability.'
- The Silver Star Medal, with Oak Leaf Cluster, with the following citations: 'For distinguished conduct in advancing rapidly and capturing and holding, promptly and surely all objectives assigned to it (18th Infantry) while sustaining heavy losses during the advance from July 16-22, 1918, inclusive.'
- For distinguished leadership, courage and skill in commanding the First Infantry Brigade during the attack West of the Meuse from October 1-11, 1918. General Parker executed all orders with dash and loyalty and was constantly taking measures to overcome the enemy's resistance, to conserve his command and to reach his objectives.'

In addition thereto, you were awarded the following foreign decorations:
- Order of Military Merit (Cuba)
- Commander of the Legion of Honor (France)
- Croix de Guerre with three Palms (France)
- Commander of the Order of the Crown (Belgium)
- Chancellor, Order of Polonia Restituta, with Diploma (Poland)
- Order of the Crown of Italy (Grand Cross)
- Order of the Liberator (Knight) (Venezuela)
- Order of St. Olav (Commander, 1st Class) (Norway)

You were awarded the insignia in gold of the George Washington Distinguished Service Order by the Chicago George Washington Bicentennial Commission for outstanding meritorious service rendered...
MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHIEF OF STAFF:

Subject: The Italo-Ethiopian Controversy.

Political.

Dr. John Hathaway Spencer, 28 year old American, has been appointed as an assistant to Mr. Colson, the financial adviser to the Ethiopian Government. Dr. Spencer will act in political matters.

Four British destroyers have arrived at Piraeus, port of the City of Athens, Greece. Three British destroyers are at Poros Island in the Gulf of Aegina, across the Gulf from Athens. Since the beginning of this controversy the British have sent destroyers on visits to Greek waters and no particular significance is attached to this visit of destroyers.

Economic.

Sanctionist nations have been retaliated upon by Italy in the form of cancellation of Italian contracts held by foreign opera singers.

An oil pipe line 46 miles long and having a capacity of 1,000 tons of crude oil per day has been completed between Italian leased oil wells near Beret with the seaport of Valona, Albania. The first tanker left Valona for Italy with 4,152 tons of crude oil on January 7, 1936.

Military.

The official Italian war communiqué for January 7 stated "Nothing to report on the Eritrean and Somaliland fronts."

A regular army division of Alpine troops has departed from Naples in two contingents of 4,000 and 2,500. It is expected that these troops will be better able to stand the high altitude of
Ethiopia than the Italian troops now in the area and that these Alpine troops will be better trained to meet existing mountain warfare conditions.

F. H. LINCOLN,
Colonel, General Staff,
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-3.
MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHIEF OF STAFF:

Subject: The Italo-Ethiopian Controversy.

Political.

The British Government in Malta issued deportation orders on January 9 against six Italians, on charges of engaging in activities prejudicial to the interests and safety of the fortress.

A news despatch from Rome states that the police guard at the American Embassy and Consulate was strengthened on January 9 to eight men instead of the two usually on duty. The action taken was declared to be precautionary.

From Belgrade it is reported that a large number of Italians, estimated at 2,000, has migrated to Yugoslavia, to escape Italian military service. Two hundred additional refugees are said to have crossed into Germany recently. The total number of German speaking refugees from Italian Tyrol who have migrated to Germany in the past six months numbers about 1,200.

A communiqué issued in Rome denied the reports of a mutiny among Alpine troops and attacked the Reuters news agency. The communiqué included the following sentence, "The continued putting into circulation of falsehoods dishonors this British news agency and is not calculated to improve the atmosphere between our nations."

Military.

The German Red Cross announced its intention to dispatch to Ethiopia a large supply of medicines, ambulances, tents and bandages.

Heavy rains with low ceiling over all of Ethiopia have immobilized the Italian land and air forces.

F. H. LINCOLN,
Colonel, General Staff,
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2.
SUMMARY OF MILITARY SITUATION, JANUARY 9TH

General. The halting of offensive operations in Ethiopia pending the attempt to end the campaign by the so-called Hoare-Laval deal has had serious consequences in the military campaign, as the defensive attitude on both fronts was so apparent that the Ethiopians have seized the initiative. The consequent small successes which resulted will make them much more difficult to handle when the Italians again attempt to resume operations.

Northern Front. The position of Marshal Badoglio here has suffered considerably from an assumption of the defensive. The attack of the garrison at Mai Tinchet with the practical wiping out of about a battalion there was followed by similar attacks on the Askari columns operating in the Tembien, with further successes. The result has been a withdrawal from the Tembien region and from the extended line on the Takazzi River in order to shorten the lines and strengthen outlying detachments. Any offensive now directed at Amba Alagi will be severely harassed from both the Tembien and Saloa districts.

Southern Front. The situation of General Graziani, which was characterized previously by a lack of reinforcements in men and material, has been improved by the addition to his force of the Tevero Fascist Division, but his military position is not as favorable due to the approach of large columns of Ethiopian troops on his left flank and consequent spreading of his force over a wide front. The report that Graziani will receive further reinforcements in men does not seem reasonable due to the extreme difficulty of supplying large forces over the long line from Mogadiscio and the unfavorable prospect for a drive into Ethiopia from the south.

Italy. The reported orders for African service to the Alpine troops is very probably aimed at getting forces of doubtful loyalty out of the country. While this is in line with previous details to Africa, if concurrent reports on disaffection are true, the policy is becoming increasingly difficult to follow.

Conclusions. The African situation of the Italians from a military standpoint is now at its lowest point and can only be remedied by a determined aggressive offensive that will involve not only good generalship but first class work on the part of the troops.
The ability of the Italians to penetrate to Addis Ababa prior to the summer rains is practically nil and if the campaign here is to be used as a factor in the political situation it would indicate that Mussolini will either quit his venture in some way or fight the League within the next two months.

A. D. S.
MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHIEF OF STAFF:

Subject: The Italo-Ethiopian Controversy.

Political

The reports of Italian air bombardment of Red Cross units in Ethiopia have resulted in universal condemnation of Italian action. The harmful effect on Italy of an antagonistic public opinion throughout the world has greatly outweighed any possible benefits from a military point of view that could accrue to Italian arms in Ethiopia.

While antagonizing the world at large, these bombings have resulted in a passive hostility in Sweden and the registering of a formal protest by the Egyptian Government. To date, reports allege the Italian bombing of three Red Cross units: one Swedish and two Egyptian. Official denial of these reports by Rome, are published but not featured by the press.

The Washington Post of January 11 states that Italian language newspapers and an organization known as the "Friends of Italy in America," have started a campaign of propaganda in the United States.

Identical protests to be forwarded to the State Department are being circulated. The protest reads:

"I protest against American association with League of Nations sanctions activities. I protest against statements of members of the present Administration in Washington showing cooperation with the schemes of the British Government as regards sanctions and embargoes. I protest against our Government meddling with European sanctions and embargo policies."

Military

There is no change in the military situation in Ethiopia.

F. H. LINCOLN,
Colonel, General Staff,
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2.
MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHIEF OF STAFF:

Subject: The Italo-Ethiopian Controversy.

Economic.

The London Daily Telegraph of December 27, 1935, reports a $25,000,000 increase in the gold holdings of the Bank of France, the gold coming mostly from Italy. This is another instance of Italy's vanishing gold reserves. The Bank of Italy suspended publication of the amount of its gold reserves on October 20, 1935, and since that date no reliable figure on Italy's gold holdings has been made public.

In Egypt, the construction of 50 miles of railroad, extending the rails westward on the Alexandria-Fuka line, to Matruh, is going on at a rapid pace. This line parallels the coast toward the Libyan border and the extension is estimated to cost the Egyptian Government about $900,000.

Military.

The "Little Rains" or January rainy season in Ethiopia began unusually early this year. This rainy season normally lasts from six to eight weeks. In May or June the rains begin again and last until October.

With only a few weeks between rainy seasons remaining for his campaign it is doubtful whether General Bodaglio, the Italian commander in East Africa, will be able to hold any Ethiopian territory south of Adowa.

Thirty-five hundred Italian troops on two steamers sailed from Naples for East Africa on January 12, 1936.

F. H. LINCOLN,
Colonel, General Staff,
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2.
MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHIEF OF STAFF:

Subject: The Italo-Ethiopian Controversy.

Political.

Although Mussolini has been quoted as promising: (1) that he would not withdraw from the League of Nations even if oil sanctions are invoked and, (2) that he would not attack Great Britain; the British continue precautionary measures for the protection of vital areas in the Mediterranean.

The British Admiralty announced that the Home Fleet is to arrive at Arosa Bay, Spain, on January 17 for five days' maneuvers. The fleet will then leave for Gibraltar so as to arrive there on January 24. Units of the fleet will remain in the vicinity of Gibraltar indefinitely.

Military.

Major Norman E. Fiske, Assistant U. S. Military Attache in Rome, is to leave soon for East Africa. Attaches from Austria, Hungary and Japan will also be authorized to visit the Italian front.

Marshal Badoglio reported on January 13 to Rome that air patrols had reconnoitered the Danakil area and were active over the remaining Eritrean front.

F. H. LINCOLN,
Colonel, General Staff,
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2.
MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHIEF OF STAFF:

Subject: The Italo-Ethiopian Controversy.

Political.

The publication of unemployment statistics has been suspended by the Italian authorities. (Notification in British Ministry of Labor Gazette, December 1935.)

The Italian official Gazette on January 13, 1936, provides for an extra appropriation of 640,000,000 lire ($51,392,000) to cover military expenses in East Africa.

A British warship squadron consisting of the battleships Nelson and Rodney, aircraft carrier Furious, cruiser Cairo, and 15 destroyers left England January 14 for the vicinity of Gibraltar. Fleet units withdrawn from the Mediterranean to Home stations include the battle cruiser Hood, battleship Ramillies, and cruisers Orion and Neptune.

Economic.

Mr. Walter Runciman, President of the British Board of Trade, is reported by the International News Service to have stated that Italian oil supplies were now sufficient to last through the next seven months.

Military.

Of the 105 newspaper correspondents formerly at Addis Ababa there remain only 14 news writers and 3 photographers. There are 6 correspondents at Dessie. A number of correspondents formerly at Harar have left that city, many having returned to their homes. In all there remain only about 25 correspondents out of the large number who rushed to Ethiopia in October 1935.
Rain is reported over the north of Ethiopia, with clearing sky in the southern area, permitting air reconnaissance.

F. H. LINCOLN,
Colonel, General Staff,
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2.
MEMORANDUM FOR:

THE SECRETARY OF WAR

January 15, 1936.

I have your letter of January thirteenth in regard to additional aircraft. I fully realize the shortage caused by failure of appropriations prior to 1933. Also, I realize that the amount provided in the budget will not serve much more than a replacement program for planes of great age which must be immediately scrapped.

However, I wish you and the Chief of Staff would consider the situation from two angles. First, the addition of nearly five hundred new planes a year for several years will definitely increase the total number towards the objective, though the increase will be slower than that proposed by the Army. For instance, the immediate scrapping of old planes will materially decrease as soon as we get rid of those purchased prior to 1933. The new planes since that date can continue on the active list for some years to come. Second, the amount of increased appropriations for the Army and Navy have mounted each year during the past three years to such an extent that it is wise, from the point of view of the national finances, and, incidentally, from the point of view of public opinion, for me to recommend additional increases over those contained in the budget.

In regard to aircraft, however, it is essential, in my judgment, that more complete plans be laid for increased production in the event of war and also that the private manufacturer be speeded up on actual contract construction. I recognize the necessary delay incident to testing of the new types — in other words, the trial planes. When the production order is given, however, it takes far too long to get deliveries. Much can be accomplished by demanding quicker delivery.

F. D. R.
The President,

The White House.

Dear Mr. President,

Since my return from the Orient I have found a tremendous interest on the part of the press, the public and members of Congress concerning the state of aircraft in the Army Air Corps. Furthermore, my visit to the Philippines afforded me an opportunity to confirm my understanding of the situation. I therefore desire to place before you certain facts which I feel should be in your possession in any future consideration of this very important matter which may be occasioned by any action of the Congress.

You are aware of the many investigations relative to military aviation which have taken place in the past. You will recall that the Aircraft Act of 1926, enacted as a result of several comprehensive investigations, provided for a strength of eighteen hundred (1800) airplanes in the Army Air Corps. This figure was raised to twenty-three hundred twenty (2320) by both the Drum and Baker Boards and substantiated as a reasonable and desirable figure by your recent Federal Aviation Commission.

Despite the thoroughly considered and carefully drawn conclusions of the above listed authorities on the needs of national defense the Army Air Corps is not within several hundred airplanes of the lower figure of eighteen hundred (1800) and has no prospect of arriving at this figure on the basis of appropriations as made in past years or contemplated under budget figures as approved for the fiscal year 1937.

I wish to make it clear that the present shortage of airplanes is not due to conditions of recent origin but to failure of the Congress to provide adequate funds over a period of years prior to 1933. The Chief of the Air Corps regularly recommended the appropriation of adequate funds for replacement and maintenance of aircraft. Funds were not forthcoming in nearly the amounts necessary with the result
that a most drastic situation occurred in the period from 1934 to 1936. The initiation of the Five-Year Air Corps Program pursuant to the Act of Congress of July 1, 1932, with an ultimate objective of eighteen hundred (1800) airplanes, provided a constructive basis for meeting the needs of the Air Corps and had it been pursued consistently would undoubtedly have resulted in proper equipment for the Army Air Corps. But inadequate funds were not forthcoming and the Air Corps is consequently not approximately four years behind its program of new aircraft as contemplated under that Five-Year Program. This fact, coupled with abnormal losses necessitated by the obsolescence and consumption of airplanes continued in service beyond their normal, useful operating life, has magnified the critical situation to a degree requiring extreme action if the present unsatisfactory situation with respect to the equipment of the Army Air Corps and the General Headquarters Air Force is to be corrected or to be prevented from becoming worse.

The remedy is the provision of adequate funds to make up the deficiency of aircraft, thereby placing the Air Corps in a position where only funds for annual replacement will have to be considered thereafter. By recommendation, which is contained in my Chief of Staff, is that provision be made for the procurement of eight hundred (800) airplanes per year for a period of three years. Such a plan will not only permit of the orderly and efficient utilizing of the Army Air Corps but, what is more significant from the point of view of economy, will permit the procurement of such quantities as to reduce very sharply the unit cost over their it will be on the basis of procuring airplanes in appreciably smaller quantities.

The program submitted by the War Department to the Bureau of the Budget was based upon the above outlined plan and required for the fiscal year 1937 the appropriation of about one hundred eight million dollars ($108,000,000) for the Army Air Corps. In examining this figure it should be taken into account the fact that only a part of it would actually be devoted to the procurement of airplanes, as the total covers the needs of the Army Air Corps, including maintenance of planes in service and of flying fields, flying instruction, experimental, research and laboratory work and all other expenditures incidental to aviation. Limiting figures received from the Bureau of the Budget and necessary, a revision of this program and it is not anticipated that only approximately four hundred fifty-seven (457) airplanes can be procured under this latter program. The number of airplanes will barely replace
losses for that year and, whereas this would be adequate were the
Air Corps at full strength, it permits of no alleviation of the
critical condition now existing as to shortages.

You will be pleased to know that such new aircraft as
are now being procured show marked improvements in speed and
other performance characteristics and that the competitive pro-
curement procedure now in operation is effectively fostering such
improvements as well as speeding up the delivery of aircraft to
the Army Air Corps.

Respectfully yours,

GEO. H. DERN
Secretary of War.
MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHIEF OF STAFF:

Subject: The Italo-Ethiopian Controversy.

Political.

The political news of the day consists wholly of rumors. Among these are the following:

The British Cabinet is said to have instructed its Foreign Secretary, Mr. Eden, to sound out the opinion of other nations, at the January 20 meeting of the League of Nations Council, on the sanctions question and not to take any determined stand for an oil sanction at this time.

At Geneva it is rumored that an effort will be made to avoid the question of oil sanctions by appointing a League Commission to study the Italo-Ethiopian dispute on Ethiopian territory. This would delay a definite decision on further sanctions for at least a month.

From Paris it is reported that the French are negotiating with Great Britain for a loan of four billion francs. This loan, if made, is assumed will be applied to the French extraordinary military budget of about six and one half billion francs, all of which is to be covered by a loan.

Military.

Fighting has occurred on the southern front in the vicinity of Dolo with both sides claiming a victory.

The Australian Red Cross has announced its willingness to send a complete unit, with four doctors and ten orderlies, to Ethiopia and is prepared to send funds and Red Cross equipment to the Italians.

Funds for a second British Red Cross unit have been raised in England by public subscription.

F. H. LINCOLN,
Colonel, General Staff,
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2.
MEMORANDUM FOR

Miss M. A. LeHand, Secretary to the President.

I have shown this to the Secretary, and return all papers herewith.

H. L. Roosevelt

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library

O: CLASSIFIED
DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)

Date: 2-17-54

Signature: [Signature]
January 15, 1936.

MEMORANDUM FOR
THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE NAVY

I hope the President talked with you about this this morning. At any rate, he told me to put it in an envelope and send it to you.

M. A. Le Hand
PRIVATE SECRETARY
MEMORANDUM for the Secretary of War:

SUBJECT: Future policy of the United States regarding retention of naval bases in the Philippines after independence.

Since my return to Washington I have heard considerable discussion of the above subject. The views that I have heard expressed are generally in favor of an early announcement of our intentions regarding the retention of naval bases after independence. I am accordingly attaching hereto for ready reference a copy of a memorandum of this Bureau, dated February 2, 1934, which, it will be noted, records a summary of the results of a conference relative to the above subject which was held in the Office of the Secretary of War at the time the enactment of Philippine independence legislation was under consideration. The office notation thereon shows the action taken by you at that time.

The Independence Act (Sec. 19(b)) permits two years after independence "for the adjustment and settlement of all questions relating to Naval Reservations and fueling stations of the United States in the Philippine Islands and pending such adjustments and settlement the matter of Naval Reservations and fueling stations shall remain in its present status." This leaves the matter in a state of uncertainty as to what course the United States may elect to follow after independence. The nature of any announcement to be made and the time of making it are not matters with which this Bureau is particularly concerned.

Although matters relating to defense measures in the Philippine Islands are not the direct concern of this Bureau, in view of the fact that I was present at the conference referred to above, I am taking the liberty of adding a brief statement of my views relative to the protection of our national interests in the Philippine Islands after independence is established.

It must be recognized that there are always possibilities of clashes in the Western Pacific in which we might become involved so long as we have sovereign interests there. However, when these sovereign interests are terminated there would appear to be no earthly reason for the United States ever to become involved in a major war in the Western Pacific. This statement is, of course, based on the assumption that no nation of sound mind would allow itself to become engaged in a serious war that does not involve protection of vital interests. Certainly the United States will have no vital interests in the Western Pacific after withdrawal of sovereignty from the Philippine Islands.
Of course we will continue to have important trade interests there with all oriental countries, including the Philippines, but there would appear to be no greater need to retain naval bases in the Philippine Islands because of trade interests than to have similar bases in the Mediterranean or other areas in which we have trade interests. We will continue under the competitive conditions of world trade to secure such share of the oriental trade as may be possible between nations in friendly relations with each other.

Upon withdrawal of United States sovereignty from the Philippines in 1946, it would seem to be matter of wise policy to withdraw entirely to the Hawaiian defense line. In the event this course should be decided upon, it is believed our defense plans ought to be based upon the defense of this line with no major movements beyond it contemplated. This would not exclude plans for extending operations beyond that line as supplemental to its defense, but would exclude any major movements. The development of plans to meet this strategic arrangement would be in accord with a policy of national defense based upon the protection of our vital interests and not designed for military aggression into distant parts of the world where non-vital interests only are involved.

Section 11 of the Independence Act requests the President "at the earliest practicable date, to enter into negotiations with foreign powers with a view to the conclusion of a treaty for the perpetual neutralization of the Philippine Islands***. Should this government decide to take action in accordance with this provision of the law, an early declaration as to the intentions of the United States regarding the retention of naval bases in the Islands after independence would appear to be appropriate.

1 Incl:
Copy memo.
MEMORANDUM for the Secretary of War:

SUBJECT: Future policy of the United States regarding retention of naval bases in the Philippines after independence.

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Charles F. Cox,
Chief of Bureau.

1 Inc1:
Copy memo.

DECLASSED
DOD D1R. 52000.9 (9/27/58)
Date- 2-17-57
Signature- Curl L. Speir
MEMORANDUM for the Secretary of War:

SUBJECT: Hawes-Cutting Act - provisions relative to military and other reservations.

The following is a brief summary of the results of the conference held in your office on the afternoon of February 1, 1934, on the above subject, at which there were present, the Secretary of War, the Acting Secretary of the Navy, the Chief of Staff, the Chief of Naval Operations and the Chief of the Bureau of Insular Affairs.

Both the representatives of the War Department and of the Navy Department expressed the following views to which all agreed relative to the provisions of the Act as to military and other reservations (Sections 5 and 10).

1. That if and when complete independence becomes effective in the Philippine Islands, the United States military and naval forces should be entirely withdrawn therefrom and that military and other reservations should be abandoned.

2. That insofar as the War and Navy Departments are concerned, there would be no objection to the elimination of these provisions from the Act.

The belief was expressed that such omission would really improve the Act by removing one of the objectionable features. It was stated that neither the War nor Navy Departments had anything to do with writing these provisions into the Act. The view was expressed that the provision was written in by Senator Hawes to quiet international discussion of our proposed withdrawal from the Islands and that should this feature be now removed, international discussion of the question might be expected.

The Joint Board on different occasions, over a period of several years, has gone on record as opposed to independence, such action being considered detrimental to the best interests of the United States.

The Chief of Naval Operations pointed out in connection with the prospective independence of the Philippine Islands and consequent withdrawal of United States forces from that area that it might be necessary to restate our policy relative to trade in the western Pacific. This, of course, is a matter that would have to be considered by the State Department.
On April 10, 1930, before the passage of the Hawes-Cutting Act, the Joint Board made the following recommendations:

a. That the Philippine Islands should remain in status quo.

b. In case independence is granted to the Philippine Islands it should be entirely; we should not retain military and naval reservations and assume obligations to guarantee sovereignty of the Philippine Islands.

c. In case of complete independence, at the termination of a fixed time period to be devoted to the adjustment of relations between the two countries, there should not be any decrease in the Army or Navy strength until the termination of this time period and the recognition of the Philippine Islands as an independent country.

[Signature]
Chief of Bureau.

The Secretary of War stated verbally, the essential decisions noted in this document; the two marked paragraphs were read to the President. (See memo. attached, dated Feb. 2, 1934).
MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHIEF OF STAFF:

Subject: The Italo-Ethiopian Controversy.

Political.

The League of Nations Council meets in Geneva to-day (Jan. 20, 1936). One of the problems to be discussed is the Italo-Ethiopian controversy, but the probable line of action to be adopted by the League has not been made public.

It was announced in Rome that

"Italy has remained in the League (despite penalties) because she desires to adhere to the principle of collective security and to foster European peace. She is eager to continue her contributions through collaboration for peace.

"Our program in East Africa is absolutely necessary, since our colonies are constantly threatened and menaced. The matter is entirely colonial. Once the security of our colonies is established Italy will devote her full energies in increased measure to advancing European peace."

Economic.

A radio news despatch from Milan, Italy, to the New York Herald Tribune states that the League of Nations economic boycott has struck a heavy blow at Italian industry. Roughly 60 to 70 per cent of Italy's foreign markets are lost and production has been reduced to about 60 per cent of normal. Internal consumption is decreasing and the cost of living has increased from 10 to 15 per cent, with wages remaining stationary.

Even under these adverse conditions it is estimated that Italy can continue to withstand the strain imposed by the present sanctions for a period of 12 to 18 months.
Military.

There is no change in the military situation in Ethiopia. An Italian communique of January 18 stated that the Ethiopian dead around Dolo totaled 5,000. In Rome the Dolo fight of last week was described as "a great victory, but not a decisive battle of the war." From Addis Ababa it is reported that the Italian statement of Ethiopian casualties is greatly exaggerated.

F. H. LINCOLN,
Colonel, General Staff,
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2.
MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHIEF OF STAFF:

Subject: The Italo-Ethiopian Controversy.

Political.

Through a memorandum from Great Britain the League of Nations on January 22 disclosed details of a mutual assistance pact by the terms of which Great Britain, France, Turkey, Greece and Yugoslavia agree to fight together to resist any attack by Italy as a consequence of sanctions against her. It was also stated that the other members of the Little Entente (Czechoslovakia and Rumania) approve Yugoslavia's participation in the mutual assistance pact and will stand behind her. Special interest was attached to the reply of France regarding the mutual assistance agreement. The French declared that "their support of Great Britain is assured fully and in advance" in the event of an attack on Britain by Italy because of British collaboration in international action undertaken by the League. France also informed the League that her arrangements with Italy do not go beyond the score of common obligations publicly assumed by all members of the League. It was stated authoritatively that Spain was not invited to participate in the pact.

Military.

Two steamships departed from Naples on January 22 and January 23, carrying a total of 2,500 troops to East Africa.

North.

The Italians are active again in the Tembien area. This is regarded as the forerunner of a renewed Italian advance in this area in the near future.

South.

The Italians report the capture of Neghelli, a town about 230 miles west of Dolo on the River Dawa, on January 20, or eight days
after the start of the offensive in this area. The advance has therefore averaged about 30 miles per day. The Italian units involved are reported to be armored fighting vehicles (light tanks and armored cars) followed by motorized infantry. The Italians claim that the rapidity of their advance is proof that all opposition to this advance has been crushed.

Countering the Italian reports are despatches from Addis Ababa to the effect that the Ethiopian Commander Ras Demitew, with about 25,000 men, has withdrawn northeast of Neghelli into the rougher foothills where armored fighting vehicles will have greater difficulty in advancing against him.

This advance by the Italians has been of political value in Rome where it has been heralded as a great victory. From a military point of view it appears to be of doubtful value to the Italians for it will require a large part of General Graziani's force of 70,000 men to hold this area of little strategic value and will therefore interfere with a future advance on Harar.

F. H. LINCOLN,
Colonel, General Staff,
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2.
January 24, 1936.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHIEF OF STAFF:

Subject: The Italo-Ethiopian Controversy.

Economic.

On January 22, 1936, the League of Nations Council Committee of eighteen, appointed in the fall of 1935 to deal with sanctions, met to consider oil sanctions against Italy. This committee adopted a resolution calling for certain League states to appoint experts to serve on a committee to examine the possibilities involved in an oil embargo. The experts are to be from those states that produce oil or who control the means of transporting oil. While League member states do not control oil production, they have a large percentage of the oil transportation facilities. In 1934 world tonnage in tankers of 1,000 tons and upwards totaled 8,668,000 gross tons owned as follows:

- Britain: 2,212,000
- United States: 2,480,000
- Norway: 1,507,000
- All others: 2,149,000
- Total: 8,668,000

A news despatch from Geneva dated January 22 stated:

"The transportation phase of the question was regarded as particularly important because Great Britain and Scandinavian countries own most of the tankers which carry oil to Italy and her colonies. Thus if the League prohibited transportation of oil to Italy, it was felt it might be impossible for Italy to obtain sufficient tankers to fill her requirements even if the United States failed to restrict exports."

Representatives of the Italian Government are reported to be in the market for a number of oil tankers, either Scandinavian or American.
Military.

North.
There have been clashes between Italian and Ethiopian troops northwest of Makale. Details are lacking.

South.
No further military action is reported in the Dolo area.
General Graziani is consolidating his position along the River Dawa.

F. H. LINCOLN,
Colonel, General Staff,
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2.
January 25, 1936.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHIEF OF STAFF:

Subject: The Italo-Ethiopian Controversy.

Political.

British arrangements for aid from France, Greece, Turkey, Yugoslavia, Czechoslovakia, and Rumania if League of Nations sanctions should lead to war brought a formal protest from Italy on January 24. The Italian memorandum was addressed to all sanctionist and non-sanctionist members of the League of Nations and was a reply to a memorandum presented by the British Foreign Secretary, Anthony Eden, to the sanctions committee of 18 on January 22. In his protest Premier Mussolini argues that the concentration of the British fleet in the Mediterranean Sea and the military negotiations Britain has carried on with various Mediterranean States are not only arbitrary acts, contrary to the letter and spirit of the League of Nations covenant, but also useless and dangerous. Mussolini contends that the sending of the British fleet to the Mediterranean was a step for which Britain must accept undivided responsibility. Britain, it is argued, is not a power directly interested in the Italo-Ethiopian conflict and she took her first military measures before the beginning of hostilities in East Africa and before sanctions were even discussed - in other words before Italy was declared an aggressor. As to the Italian protest, a press correspondent from Rome states "it hammered one issue to a point - Italy's insistence that if a Mediterranean war should come, it would not be a League war, but a British war against Italy."

Military.

One thousand four hundred and twenty-five Blackshirt troops sailed from Naples for Africa on January 24. Ships carrying 11,200 Italian troops passed through the Suez Canal in the week ended January 24.

A dispatch from Nairobi, Kenya Colony (British), announced that
380 Italian native troops had crossed the Kenya border and been interned.

North.
Dispatches from Rome report an important Italian victory in the Tembien area where fighting occurred on January 21, 22 and 23. No details have been made public from official Italian sources. Newspaper accounts in Rome, however, claim the Ethiopians suffered heavy losses, placing the Ethiopian dead at 8,000. On their side, the Ethiopians claim to have killed or captured 3,000 Italians. Both reports are probably exaggerated.

South.
Italian planes bombed Sasa Baneh with one plane forced down by engine trouble. The four occupants of the plane have been taken as prisoners. The Ethiopians claim also that the Italians lost a plane in the Dolo area. Fighting in this area has subsided. Ras Desta Demtu, the Ethiopian Commander in the Dolo area, has not communicated with Addis Ababa for two days. This fact lends support to the Italian claims that Ras Demtu's modern radio set has been captured in the Italian advance on Neghelli.

F. H. LINCOLN,
Colonel, General Staff,
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2.
January 27, 1936.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHIEF OF STAFF:

Subject: The Italo-Ethiopian Controversy.

Political and Economic.

There are no developments in the political situation.

The Committee of "experts" appointed by the League Council to examine the oil sanctions question, is expected to meet in Geneva on February 3.

Military.

North.

As a result of last week's fighting both Italian and Ethiopian capitals were celebrating a victory.

In Rome, reports of the action on the northern front were lacking in essential details and the location of the Italian line was not stated. The Italians report a loss of 800 Italians and 5,000 Ethiopians in the series of engagements.

South.

General Graziana has extended his advance beyond Neghelli, with Allata as a probable objective. Allata is approximately 180 miles from Addis Ababa and lies well back in the mountains. Ras Desta Demtu has withdrawn to Wadara approximately 50 miles northwest of Neghelli where he is ordered to make a stand against the Italian advance. Reports indicate that Ras Demtu's forces have been dispersed and no immediate opposition to Graziana's force is anticipated.

Rain and rugged terrain will continue to work for the Ethiopians.

F. H. LINCOLN,
Colonel, General Staff,
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2.
MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHIEF OF STAFF:

Subject: The Italo-Ethiopian Controversy.

Political.

Mr. Cornelius Van H. Engert, First Secretary and Consul General for the United States at Addis Ababa, has been promoted to the rank of Minister Resident.

Economic.

After two months of economic boycott due to international sanctions and after three months' war in Ethiopia, a fair estimate of many phases of the Italian situation can be made. This estimate is quoted from a recent report by an observer in Rome:

"Even without an embargo on oil, coal, iron, and cotton the gradual strangling of Italy's trade and the enormous expense of the stupendous undertaking to subjugate Abyssinia will surely and certainly bring Italy to a point where she must abandon the undertaking or make the best of what peace proposals may later be offered her. . . . Determined as Mussolini has been - and still appears to be - to carry through the Abyssinian project to a finish, it is believed he had not properly estimated the difficulties to be encountered at home or in Abyssinia. Contacts with press representatives just returned to Rome after 24 days with the Italian forces in Eritrea lead to the belief that the half has never been told of the difficulties of terrain, organization, supply and climate to be encountered in Abyssinia, to say nothing of the harassing guerrilla tactics recently begun by the Abyssinians. Difficult it may be for the iron-jawed Dictator to say..."
'enough', but this he eventually must do by later accepting peace terms not to his liking - unless he elects to perish and try to pull Europe down with him in the crash."

**Military.**

There are no new developments in the military situation. On the Northern Front the position of the Italian line is still obscure.

On the Southern Front Graziani's troops have advanced to Neghelli and any further advance will lengthen his line of communications, now over 180 miles in length, and will place his mechanized vehicles in terrain disadvantageous to this type of equipment.

**Lt. H. LINCOLN,**
Colonel, General Staff,
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2.

*For the Adj of S, G-2*
MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHIEF OF STAFF:

Subject: The Italo-Ethiopian Controversy.

Political.

Italy is still awaiting answers to its protest of January 24 against the mutual assistance pact agreed to by Britain, France, Greece, Turkey and Yugoslavia. On January 28 there were rumors in Rome of a possible Italo-German pact to offset the five-power understanding. On that day Premier Mussolini conferred with the German Ambassador to Italy but there was no official announcement concerning the possibility of a treaty.

Military.

North.

Skirmishes are reported by Marshal Badoglio but details are lacking.

A newspaper correspondent, who has been on a three weeks' tour in Eritrea and northern Ethiopia, returned to Rome with some rather unfavorable impressions of the war on the northern front. He reported that sanitary conditions in Massawa are inadequate, that warehousing facilities are nonexistent, and that hotel accommodations are entirely lacking.

While en route to Adowa from Asmara he noted a number of 75-mm. guns and 105-mm. howitzers returning to Asmara. Pack artillery remained at the front as the only suitable artillery for that type of country.

South.

In General Graziani's advance on Neghelli, the Italians claim to have captured five Swedish Red Cross trucks containing cases of ammunition. The Swedes disclaim any knowledge of or responsibility for these trucks which they say were abandoned some time ago.

F. H. LINCOLN,
Colonel, General Staff,
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2.
MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHIEF OF STAFF:

Subject: The Italo-Ethiopian Controversy.

Military:

North:

A military correspondent in Eritrea was greatly impressed with the communications difficulties. Communication between Massawa and Adowa depends on one road and this road has been badly cut up by heavy travel. Just east of Assama the road is particularly bad. Cut out of the side of a mountain, there are straight drops of 1000 feet, the road is narrow and passing is difficult. Heavy traffic has ground the road surface to powder and the shoulders of the road give way under heavy trucks. Accidents are frequent. Often several trucks, their drivers blinded by the dust, have followed each other over the bank. The same is true of the newly constructed roads from Assama to the front. In one stretch of road, thirty-one miles long, there are scores of hairpin turns.

A New York Times correspondent in Eritrea describes the Italian position at Makale in these words: "Every inch of the ground in a great area south of Makale is covered by machine guns, 70's, 75's, 77's and 105's. The mark of the High Commissioner's genius for artillery organization is visible throughout this network of forts, redoubts, pill boxes and breast works."

South:

There is no change in the situation on the southern front.

F. H. Lincoln
Colonel, General Staff
Assistant Chief of Staff G-2.
January 31, 1936.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHIEF OF STAFF:

Subject: The Italo-Ethiopian Controversy.

Political.

On January 30 the Egyptian Government which is not a League member received a note from Italy protesting against the application by Egypt of League of Nations sanctions. The Italian note reserved the right to demand indemnity for material damage suffered by Italian subjects under the imposition of sanctions.

The Government of Turkey has replied to an inquiry received from the Italian Government regarding Turkey's adherence to a mutual assistance pact recently agreed to by Great Britain, France, Turkey, Greece and Yugoslavia. The reply to Italy pledges Turkish loyalty to a Turko-Italian treaty of friendship signed in 1928 but points out that Turkey's admission to membership in the League of Nations subsequent to the signing of that treaty subordinated to the League Government all previous private agreements.

Military.

After four months of war in Ethiopia Mussolini informed his cabinet that 50,000 more civil workers would be sent to East Africa. They will improve Italian lines of communication so that roads will be useable even during the heaviest rains. Barracks and shelters are also to be constructed to house Italian troops during the long rainy season from June to October.

North.

The situation remains unchanged.

South.

General Graziani's troops which entered Wadara earlier in
the week have withdrawn to Neghelli. There is some doubt as to
the safety of the Italian line of communications which stretches
back to Dolo and is subject to attack by small groups of Ethiopians
still in the area over which the Italian columns advanced. There
is also a possibility of the Italian column getting bogged down if
it remains until the rainy season is further advanced.

F. H. LINCOLN,
Colonel, General Staff,
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2.
February 1, 1936.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHIEF OF STAFF:

Subject: The Italo-Ethiopian Controversy.

Political.

A telegram to the Secretary General of the League from the Ethiopian Minister of Foreign Affairs on December 23, 1935, stated that his Government "categorically denies the lies spread in the Italian press and declarations of the Italian Government relative to the use by the Ethiopian forces of dum-dum bullets." The telegram pointed out that Ethiopia does not manufacture munitions and that Ethiopia must have an export license from the country of origin of munitions.

(Reports from various sources describing the many kinds and calibers of weapons and ammunition in the hands of Ethiopian warriors, lend color to the charge that dum-dum bullets are used. They do not imply that such bullets are issued to troops by the Ethiopian Government.)

Economic.

Transits through the Suez Canal in 1935 were greater than in any year during the past six. Figures are reported as follows for 1935 and 1934 (London Daily Herald):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>1935</th>
<th>1934</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No. of vessels</td>
<td>5,992</td>
<td>5,663</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Receipts (francs)</td>
<td>887,820,000</td>
<td>856,410,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(in dollars at 6.6 cents)</td>
<td>58,596,120</td>
<td>56,523,060</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The increase in 1935 is attributed to the Italian traffic. Eleven Italian transports carrying 15,695 men passed through the Suez Canal to East Africa in the week ending January 30.
Military.

Mr. Rene Drouillet, a reserve officer in the French Air Corps, has been appointed by the Ethiopian Government as a technical adviser to the Emperor and Commander of the Ethiopian Air Force.

Italian cargo vessels passing through the Suez last week included one loaded with airplanes and one carrying 4,000 tons of fresh water.

The military situation is unchanged. Italian bombing planes were reported to be active south of Makale and in the vicinity of Gondar on the northern front. In the south, towns in the Sidamo province in which Graziani is operating have been bombed. An Ethiopian communique reports the death of about 500 civilians and 2,000 cattle as a result of recent air raids.

F. H. LINCOLN,
Colonel, General Staff,
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2.
MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHIEF OF STAFF:

Subject: The Italo-Ethiopian Controversy.

Political.

An Associated Press dispatch from Rome, dated February 1, 1936, gives the estimated cost to Italy of the East African war as $89,000,000 a month.

A correspondent of the London Morning Post, writing from Munich, describes a large camp of South Tyrolean fugitives. The camp is about 20 miles from Munich and contains at this time about 110 young refugees. Since the beginning of the Ethiopian war the number of Italian refugees who have passed through this camp totals 1,500 men.

Economic.

A committee of experts is scheduled to meet at Geneva to-day (February 3, 1936) for the purpose of examining into and reporting upon the desirability of applying oil sanctions. The League has not divulged the names of the countries which are represented on this committee.

Military.

Two Italian ships sailed from Naples on February 2, 1936 carrying 3,043 troops and 47 trucks.

Prince Hubertus von Lohenstein of Germany is a passenger, en route to East Africa as a military observer.

The military situation in Ethiopia is unchanged.

C. Burnett,
Colonel, General Staff,
Acting A. C. of S., G-2.
MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHIEF OF STAFF:

Subject: The Italo-Ethiopian Controversy.

Political.

The 12 countries represented on the committee of experts appointed by the League of Nations to study the oil question in relation to sanctions are, Great Britain, France, Russia, Iraq, Iran (Persia), Mexico, the Netherlands, Norway, Peru, Rumania, Sweden, and Venezuela.

The League secretariat furnished the committee with the following figures:

World oil production
- United States: 206,000,000 tons
- Other non-sanctionist countries: 88,000,000 tons
- Negligible

1934 World Tanker gross tonnage
- United States: 8,440,000 gross tons
- Great Britain: 2,409,000 tons
- Norway: 2,440,000 tons
- Italy: 1,500,000 tons
- Germany: 309,000 tons
- France: 240,000 tons
- Japan: 121,000 tons
- Italy: 110,000 tons

In tanker tonnage under construction Germany leads the world with 150,000 tons. There was no evidence submitted to the committee to indicate that Japan has started a tanker construction program. The committee was informed that Italy's tankers meet two-thirds of the Italian need for this type of transportation.

(Note: Japan has five large fast tankers (22 knots) under construction.)

Military.

North.

Marshal Badoglio in a communique reported "There is nothing
South.
Reports from Addis Ababa state that the Italian force in the Sidamo Province had withdrawn to Neghelli.

The Italian communiqué states that the systematic occupation of the territory northwest of Dolo continues, aided by the active cooperation of local Ethiopian chieftains.

[Signature]

Capt. Burnett,
Colonel, General Staff,
Acting A. C. of S., G-2.
MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHIEF OF STAFF:

Subject: The Italo-Ethiopian Controversy.

Political.

A "white paper" was issued to the British Parliament when it assembled on February 4, 1936. This paper was issued by the British Government and discloses officially the fact that France has pledged herself to aid Great Britain by military, air and naval assistance should Italy attack Great Britain.

The British Foreign Secretary, Mr. Eden, told Parliament that an exchange of views between Great Britain, France, Greece, Turkey, Yugoslavia, Rumania, Spain and Czechoslovakia regarding mutual military aid in case of attack "revealed a complete identity of views."

Military.

No new developments in the military situation have been reported.

FAY W. BRABSON,
Colonel, General Staff,
Acting A. C. of S., G-2.
February 8, 1936.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHIEF OF STAFF:

Subject: The Italo-Ethiopian Controversy.

Economic.

With gasoline selling at $1.15 a gallon, it is estimated that fully half of all motor cars in Italy are now in storage. The Government, in order to reduce motor traffic to a minimum, has offered to exchange one taxicab license for three official permits to operate horse-drawn cabs.

Rumors of the intention of the Italian Government to levy a special tax on capital, to defray the expenses of the East African campaign, were denied in Rome on February 7.

Military.

North.

Marshal Badoglio's communique states that there is "nothing new on either front."

South.

General Wehih Pasha, former Turkish officer who is now the military adviser to the Ethiopians in the Harar area, is reported to be on route to the Dolo area to assist in repelling the activities of General Graziani in Bale Province. Bale Province lies to the north of Dolo.

FAY W. BRABSON,
Colonel, General Staff,
Acting Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2.
February 7, 1936.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHIEF OF STAFF:

Subject: The Italo-Ethiopian Controversy.

Political.

In a note dated February 6, 1936, to the League of Nations, Great Britain denied Italian charges that Great Britain had supplied ducked bullets to Ethiopia. The Italian charges were described as "reckless and unsubstantiated."

The Italian claim that a quantity of ammunition was found in Swedish Red Cross trucks captured on the Dolo front, was refuted on February 6 in an affidavit by a member of the unofficial Belgium Military Mission in Ethiopia.

Military.

The Italian communique states that there is nothing to report on either front.

A news report from Asmara states that military observers, including Major Norman E. Fiske, U. S. Army, have made an observation trip to the Makale front.

The rumor which was current a few days ago to the effect that Marshal Badoglio would be relieved of the East African command, has again been denied in Rome.

FAY W. BRABSON,
Colonel, General Staff,
Acting Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2.
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

CONFIDENTIAL

February 10, 1936.

MEMORANDUM FOR
THE SECRETARY OF WAR

Will you speak to me
about this?

F. D. R.
Hyde Park, N. Y.,
September 19, 1935.

Dear Douglas:—

As soon as I get back from my trip I will take up with the Senate and House people the question of a Joint Resolution and see if it is not possible to put the appointment through and cure the difficulty of Revised Statutes 1222 and 1223. There is not the slightest embarrassment on my part and I am inclined to hope that there will be little or no trouble on the Hill. In any event, I will let you know what the prospects are.

Keep me in touch with things after you get out to the Philippines.

Good luck in your new task — the work will be most interesting.

Always sincerely,

General Douglas MacArthur,
Chief of Staff,
War Department,
Washington, D. C.
WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF STAFF
WASHINGTON, D. C.

September 9, 1935.

Dear Mr. President:

In the course of my delightful visit at Hyde Park you suggested that I examine the law to determine whether or not there exists any bar to my acceptance, while on the active list of the Army, of an appointment as High Commissioner to the Philippine Islands. I have been somewhat dismayed and nonplussed to find legal prohibitions which are specific in their terms. Revised Statute 1222 provides:

"No officer of the Army on the active list shall hold any civil office, whether by election or appointment, and every such officer who accepts or exercises the functions of a civil office shall thereby cease to be an officer of the Army, and his commission shall be thereby vacated."

And Revised Statute 1223:

"Any officer of the Army who accepts or holds any appointment in the Foreign Service of the Government shall be considered as having resigned his place in the Army, and it shall be filled as a vacancy."

It is obvious that special legislation would be required before I could become High Commissioner. In this situation I cannot escape the feeling, inspired possibly by the unequivocal language of the
Congressional Acts referred to, even though they are antiquated and were undoubtedly enacted to block certain individuals in days gone by, that the procurement of necessary legislation might prove an embarrassment for you. To become even a passive factor in such a development would cause me the most acute concern. I feel deeply that at this critical time no avoidable contingency, regardless of its importance, should be permitted to arise that politically or in any other way might adversely affect you and your future work. Your final decision must be based solely upon considerations of your own and, therefore, the Country's welfare.

The purpose of this note is to assure you that if you should decide, after consideration of the above factors, to abandon either now or in the future your purpose of making the appointment, great as would be my natural disappointment, I will conform instantly to the revised plan. Such a decision will not lessen in the slightest degree the sense of personal distinction and gratification I have derived from your consideration of me for this important post, - the knowledge of which consideration I shall, of course, continue to hold in strictest confidence. Whether serving as High Commissioner or Military Adviser while in the Philippines, it will be my single purpose to sustain and advance your views and policies and carry out your instructions.

Your letter to Roy Howard was a ten-strike.

Respectfully and faithfully,

The President,
Hyde Park, New York.
MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHIEF OF STAFF:

Subject: The Italo-Ethiopian Controversy.

Political.

The London Sunday Observer on February 9, 1936, published an interview of Mussolini with Sir Arnold Wilson, a member of the British Parliament. Mussolini is quoted as saying that the British "have turned a colonial war into what may yet be a world wide disaster." In referring to the proposed Hoare-Laval peace plan Mussolini was quoted as saying:

"I had already drafted a cautious formula of acceptance as a basis of negotiation . . . when the news came that you gentlemen in London who had praised Sir Samuel Hoare so highly in September had dismissed him in ignominy on December 19."

Mussolini told Sir Arnold Wilson that trade with Italy would not revert into the old channels once sanctions had stopped.

Military.

North.

The Italians continue to strengthen their positions along the northern front. Air raids on Dessye are reported.

Two Italian ships with 1,884 men and 500 tons of war material sailed on February 9 from Naples for East Africa.

Mr. Linton Wells, press correspondent of the New York Herald Tribune at Djibouti, reports that information brought to Djibouti from the northern front by travellers does not corroborate Italian claims of victory but indicates the decided discouragement of Fascist troops that these travellers encountered in Eritrea.

Considerable quantities of war materials are reported as passing through Djibouti, and through the two British ports of Zeila and Berbera for the Ethiopians.
South.
There were no reports from the southern front over the week-end.

F. H. LINCOLN,
Colonel, General Staff,
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2.
February 11, 1936.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHIEF OF STAFF:

Subject: The Italo-Ethiopian Controversy.

Political.

Sir Anthony Eden, British Foreign Secretary, in answer to a question in the House of Commons stated that Great Britain had twice called the attention of the Italian Government to the untruthfulness of radio broadcasts from Rome announcing that British officers are commanding Ethiopian troops.

High ranking British Army and Naval officials are in conference at Malta. Officials include Admiral Sir William Fisher, Commander of the Mediterranean Fleet, Sir Dudley Pound, his Chief of Staff, Vice Admiral Sir Roger Backhouse, Admiral Sir Frederick Dreyer, en route home from the China station, and the next Chief of the Imperial General Staff, General Sir Cyril Deverell.

Military.

Marshal Badoglio reported to Rome that "there is nothing new on either front."

Emperor Haile Selassie has returned to Addis Ababa from Dessye. During his stay in Dessye, where he has his field headquarters, the Italians have made numerous attempts to bomb the Emperor out of his stronghold.

The Italian Army's complete casualty list as released to Italian newspapers shows that from January 1, 1935, to January 31, 1936, there were 814 white Italian soldiers who died from wounds or illness. Of these 427 were killed in action, 366 died of disease or in accidents, 4 died as result of wounds and 17 are reported as missing. The January, 1936, casualties are listed as 24 officers, 24...
noncommissioned officers, 30 regular army soldiers and 250 Fascist Militia, all killed on the Eritrean Front.

F. H. LINCOLN,
Colonel, General Staff,
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2.
MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHIEF OF STAFF:

Subject: The Italo-Ethiopian Controversy.

Political.

The Ethiopian Government has ordered the release of two missionaries, an American, Harold Street, and a Canadian, John Trewin, who are reported to be held prisoners in Chencha, about 250 miles southwest of Addis Ababa. They are in the custody of an overzealous local chieftain who had ordered the men to leave their missionary station under the terms of a government order that foreigners should not remain in a war danger zone.

News despatches from Rome state that the Italian Government is preparing a memorandum for the League of Nations containing precise information on the work alleged to be performed by the British as advisers, agents, and armament salesmen to Ethiopia. These agents will be described as officers in the British Army.

The Italian press blames Great Britain for the January losses of Italian soldiers, charging Great Britain to be the leader in supplying Ethiopia with arms and ammunition.

Military.

North.

The Emperor, Haile Selassie, was reported to be in Addis Ababa on Monday. Since then he is reported at various places in the Dessye area. These reports are apparently for the purpose of concealing his exact whereabouts.

Acting on rumors that the Emperor was located in one of several towns north of Dessye, the Italian bombardment aircraft have been dropping bombs on these towns since Sunday.

Addis Ababa claims that Ras Seyoum has succeeded in cutting
the Adowa-Makale road. Small bands of Ethiopians have probably penetrated to the road and are operating in the areas not covered by Italian outposts.

South.
It is rumored that General Graziani will start another advance on Harar in the near future.

F. H. LINCOLN,
Colonel, General Staff,
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2.
MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHIEF OF STAFF:

Subject: The Italo-Ethiopian Controversy.

Political.

While having no direct bearing on the Italo-Ethiopian situation, it is noteworthy, as a part of the present line-up of world powers, that Italy and probably Germany are to recognize Manchoukuo. According to reports from Mukden, the Italians will reopen the Italian Consulate General in Mukden, in the near future.

Mr. Anthony Eden, British Foreign Secretary, announced to Parliament this week that Great Britain had no present intention of recognizing Manchoukuo.

The Defense Budget of Italy for the Air Force for the next fiscal year beginning July 1, 1936, carries an estimated sum of $79,232,000, an increase of 14 per cent. This sum does not include the estimated cost of the air arm in East Africa.

Military.

Mr. J. H. Thomas, Secretary for Colonies in the British Government, confirmed previous reports of Italian desertions in the Dolo area in a report to the House of Commons. He stated that 380 Italian native troops had deserted the Italian Army in Ethiopia from January 15 to 22, 1936, taking refuge in Kenya Colony.

Ethiopia, on February 12, protested to Paris against refusal of the French to permit shipment of arms over the Djibuti-Addis Ababa railroad.

This is the first indication of a direct refusal to ship arms over the railroad into Ethiopia. If true, this action by the French relieves the Italians of the necessity to stop shipments by cutting
the railroad. Several Italian attempts to reach the railroad have failed to date.

The usual communiqué from Marshal Badoglio and released in Rome does not appear in the press reports of February 13. From Addis Ababa announcement is made of bombing south of Makale and skirmishes on the Southern Front.

F. H. LINCOLN,
Colonel, General Staff,
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2.
MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHIEF OF STAFF:

Subject: The Italo-Ethiopian Controversy.

Economic.

The League of Nations Committee of experts has completed its report on the world oil situation and the possible application of an oil sanction against Italy. Nothing definite has been done to inaugurate an oil sanction and the present consensus of opinion is that no oil embargo will be applied.

The London correspondent to the New York Times cabled on February 13:

"The report of the League of Nations experts that an oil embargo against Italy would be effective only if supplies from the United States were cut off, coming from Geneva simultaneously with a report from Washington that the proposed neutrality law is dead, brings back to European powers, not excepting Great Britain, their favorite old bogey of non-cooperation by America. . . ."

Military.

On the northern front the Italians have started an offensive, according to vague rumors. There have been no reports from Asmara for two days. Previous reports over a period of several weeks, from Marshal Badoglio, have merely stated that there was nothing to report.

(An Italian advance south of Makale is doubted, until the Tembien area to the west is cleared of Ethiopian warriors.)

South.

There is no change in the situation.

F. H. LINCOLN,
Colonel, General Staff,
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2.
February 15, 1936.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHIEF OF STAFF:

Subject: The Italo-Ethiopian Controversy.

Military.

North.

The situation is unchanged.

South.

An Italian outpost of 60 Dubat troops in the town of Curale, 50 miles southeast of Sasa Baneh, has been wiped out by an Ethiopian force according to reports from Addis Ababa and confirmed in a report from Rome. The presence of Italian troops in this area was not known and indicates that Italian detachments have been pushed out from the general line Wal Wal - Gabredarre. A strong Ethiopian force at Imi continues as a threat to the Italian left flank along the Gabredarre (near Gorashai) - Sasa Baneh route of advance.

In the Dolo area the Italians report two skirmishes, one at Bulbu about 50 miles southwest of Neghelli and one at Ballei about 50 miles due north of Dolo.

F. H. Lincoln,
Colonel, General Staff,
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2.
February 17, 1936.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHIEF OF STAFF:

Subject: The Italo-Ethiopian Controversy.

Military.

On February 15 Marshal Badoglio sent the following despatch to Rome:

"On the Eritrean Front there is intensive activity by patrols south of Makale. On the Somaliland Front the situation is unchanged."

This despatch is the first in several days prior to February 15, and during that period it develops that Marshal Badoglio was conducting an active offensive on the Northern Front. Reports of February 16 from Eritrea indicate an extension of the Italian line to the west and south. As near as can be judged at this time, the Italian front lines now run from Antalo, about 18 miles south of Makale, northwest to a point about 30 miles west of Makale. From this point the line recedes to join the original line north of Makale. A considerable salient has thus been created in the Témbien area.

Reports of casualties are only estimates and probably exaggerated. Italian figures are: Ethiopian dead, 5,000; wounded 15,000. Italian dead, 500; wounded 1,000. All Italian troops taking part in the advance were white, the Askaris being held in reserve during this action.

The Ethiopian side of the story has not yet been published. Marshal Badoglio is alleged to have told newspaper correspondents that probably the Emperor Haile Selassie was now in his cave writing communiques of a great victory.

In this advance, the Italians have extended their lines 18
miles to the south of Makale and created a salient in the Tembien. Their lines, as now advanced, appear to offer added opportunities for guerrilla bands of Ethiopians, using the tactics they have employed in the past.

F. H. LINCOLN,
Colonel, General Staff,
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2.
MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHIEF OF STAFF:

Subject: The Italo-Ethiopian Controversy.

Political.

In reply to Italy's protest against the Mediterranean mutual assistance agreement between Great Britain, France, Greece, Yugoslavia, Turkey, Rumania and Czechoslovakia, the British Government stated that it "does not feel any useful purpose would be served by prolonging correspondence on the subject."

A special appropriation of £7,811,100 ($39,055,500) has been passed by Parliament to cover the British military expenditures made in connection with the Italo-Ethiopian controversy.

Mr. Anthony Eden, British Foreign Secretary, told the House of Commons on February 17, 1936, that it would be inappropriate for Great Britain to approach the United States on the subject of an oil sanction against Italy.

Military.

The Italian troops are consolidating their new positions south and west of Makale.

A United Press dispatch from Rome states that the Italian Military Command has decided to suspend all military operations in Ethiopia from April 15 to September 15, during the rainy season. However, an important advance both on the North and South fronts is expected prior to April 15, according to the dispatch.

F. H. LINCOLN,
Colonel, General Staff,
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2.
MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHIEF OF STAFF:

Subject: The Italo-Ethiopian Controversy.

Political.

The Earl of Stanhope, Undersecretary for Foreign Affairs, disclosed to the British House of Lords the reason for moving the English Fleet from Malta to the Eastern Mediterranean. He said: "We were being threatened by Italy" and "We recognized that to leave the fleet in Malta (only 60 miles from Sicily at its nearest point) would have been extraordinarily unwise."

Military.

North.

Rome is celebrating a great victory as a result of the recent advance in Ethiopia, although the details of the battle have not been fully reported.

From Addis Ababa a despatch states "Italian claims to a major victory south of Makale were officially denied to-day (Feb. 17)."

South.

Addis Ababa reports a clash in the Bale area between an Italian column and Ethiopian forces. The location of this skirmish is given as about 200 miles northwest of Dolo. The report is unconfirmed.

[Signature]

Executive Officer, G-2.

G. BURNETT,
Colonel, General Staff,
Acting A. C. of S., G-2.
MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHIEF OF STAFF:

Subject: The Italo-Ethiopian Controversy.

Political.

The British Foreign Secretary, Mr. Anthony Eden, was asked in the House of Commons "Is there any truth in the rumor that the United States Government is taking steps to secure the cessation of hostilities in Ethiopia, by negotiation and arbitration?" Mr. Eden replied, "I'm afraid I have not heard of the rumor." Mr. Eden added that neither the British nor French Government was making any peace move.

Military.

Reports from East Africa are very sketchy.

In the north, Marshal Badoglio's forces are moving to cut off Ethiopian troops in the Tembien region, where according to reports from Rome, the Ethiopian leaders Ras Kassa and Ras Seyoum still have about 40,000 warriors assembled.

It is further reported that the Italian Commander is also pushing south toward Amba Alagi (25 miles south of Antalo) in order to prevent any dangerous enemy concentration from forming.

These moves taken in connection with the official report of Italian casualties in the recent fighting, indicate that perhaps the "victory" was not as great as at first reported. While the Italian advance and occupation of new territory to a depth of 18 miles south of Makale is not doubted, the seriousness of the fighting and complete route of the Ethiopian forces is still an open question.

The Italian casualties as reported in Rome are 12 officers and 122 white soldiers and 62 native soldiers killed, with 24 officers, 499 white and 88 natives wounded.

The loss of one bombing plane in this period of fighting is acknowledged.

No reports on the fight have been issued in Addis Ababa.
In the south, the bombing of the town of Magalo, at the headwaters of the Web Gastro, is announced.

C. BURNETT,
Colonel, General Staff,
Acting Assistant Chief of Staff, J-2.
February 21, 1936.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHIEF OF STAFF:

Subject: The Italo-Ethiopian Controversy.

Political.

The Italian newspaper, Giornale d'Italia, published on February 19, 1936, a British secret report on Ethiopia. This report, called the "Maffey Report" was prepared for the British Foreign Office in the spring of 1935 by an interdepartmental committee headed by Sir John Maffey, permanent undersecretary in the Colonial Office.

The manner in which a copy of this report was obtained by the Italians has not been divulged. The report was never officially communicated to the Italian Government and the inference is that it could be obtained only by theft. An investigation to determine the place of leakage is to be made, but no sensational proceedings under the official Secrets Act are contemplated.

The Maffey report is a factual report dealing with Ethiopia, and concluded that Great Britain had no outstanding interests in Ethiopia.

Military.

Marshal Badoglio reported for February 20 that "The First Army Corps has renewed its advance southward. The Air Corps gives no respite to the enemy. There is nothing in particular on the Somaliland front."

F. H. LINCOLN,
Colonel, General Staff,
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2.
February 24, 1936.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHIEF OF STAFF:

Subject: The Italo-Ethiopian Controversy.

Political.

The Sanctions Committee of the League of Nations is expected to meet on March 2, at which time the question of additional sanctions, including an oil sanction, will be discussed.

Military.

In the North, Italian forces have advanced slightly, according to weekend reports from East Africa.

The Ethiopians deny that a great battle was fought in the North. They claim that in the fighting of February 12 to 17, their losses were 147 killed and 268 wounded, occasioned during a strategic withdrawal.

There is no news from the Southern Front.

F. H. LINCOLN,
Colonel, General Staff,
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2.
MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHIEF OF STAFF:

Subject: The Italo-Ethiopian Controversy.

Political.

In his maiden speech before the House of Commons, the Foreign Secretary, Mr. Anthony Eden, discussed several phases of the present Italo-Ethiopian controversy. He stated that "oil is a sanction like any other and must be judged by the same criterion - whether its imposition will help stop the war."

The question of an oil sanction is to come before the League of Nations again on Monday, March 2, and Mr. Eden's speech gives the impression that Great Britain favors the application of an oil sanction.

Military.

Marshal Badoglio's communique states "Nothing special except intense road building activity occurred on the Eritrean front. Reconnaissance operations were carried out in the Ogaden sector of the Somaliland front. Intense aviation activity was carried on in the open Gestro River section."

The Ethiopians claim that small Ethiopian forces have penetrated the Italian lines in the vicinity of Aksum, inflicting casualties on the Italians and capturing 30 tanks and a number of machine guns. This report is unconfirmed.

F. H. LINCOLN,
Colonel, General Staff,
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2.
MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHIEF OF STAFF:

Subject: The Italo-Ethiopian Controversy.

Political.

The focus of political thought has shifted from the Eastern Mediterranean to Central Europe. The rearmament of Germany, the realignment of the European powers and the shift in economic intercourse through the effect of League of Nations sanctions, have occupied European political thought to such an extent that the Italo-Ethiopian situation is now only incidental to the broader aspects of European politics.

The Italo-Ethiopian situation is the forerunner of present political jockeying in Europe. Countering the opposition of the League of Nations and the additional alliance of Great Britain with France, Yugoslavia, Greece, Turkey, Rumania and Czechoslovakia, Italy has turned away from her former allies, Great Britain and France, and is now angling for a five power alliance to include Italy, Germany, Poland, Austria and Hungary.

It is not believed that Italy is desirous of forming an alliance with Germany and Mussolini's present moves along this line are probably part of his game of bluff. However, he may be forced into such an alliance if League of Nations pressure is increased by other measures, for example an oil embargo.

Military.

About 5,800 Italian soldiers and workmen sailed for East Africa on February 25. These forces sailed from Naples in four ships.

Marshal Badoglio issued the following communique: "There is intense patrol activity on the Eritrean front. Aviation bombed enemy groups south of Mount Alaji and in Tembien. On the Somaliland front the situation is unchanged."

C. H. LINCOLN,
Colonel, General Staff,
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2.
MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHIEF OF STAFF:

Subject: The Italo-Ethiopian Controversy.

Political.

The Italian Ambassador to Great Britain, Dino Grandi, told Mr. Anthony Eden, the British Foreign Secretary, that only the reversal of the League of Nations Sanctions policy will make it possible for Italy to sign a naval agreement.

Military.

North.
No change.

South.
Reports from Marshal Badoglio, confirmed by despatches from Addis Ababa, indicate the engagement of opposing forces on the Southern Front. Marshal Badoglio's report states:

"On the Somaliland front one of our motorized columns leaving Neghelli, deflected to reconnoiter on the edge of Sidamo territory, driving back groups of armed Ethiopians who attempted resistance in the forests between Wadara and Socora. (About 50 miles north of Neghelli.)

"On the Webbe Gestro intense activity prevailed for our patrols.

"Somaliland aviation bombarded military encampments of Ethiopians at Ghigner, destroying defense works. Another squadron, leaving the new air base at Neghelli, made a reconnaissance flight above Irga Alem, capital Sidamo.

"On the Eritrean front there is nothing notable to report."

(Ghigner is 220 miles north of Dolo at the headwaters of the Webbe Gestro.)

F. H. LINCOLN,
Colonel, General Staff,
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2.
MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHIEF OF STAFF:

Subject: The Italo-Ethiopian Controversy.

Political.

Emperor Haille Selassie issued a statement which included the following:

"Such peace discussions as may be taking place in Europe are without the participation of Ethiopia and thus far there have been no proposals put forward which could be honorably accepted by Ethiopia. The fact that the Italians have penetrated Ethiopian territory is causing us no concern, as they have not occupied any important military positions, and their advance has increased their lines of communication and offers greater opportunities for guerrilla tactics against them."

At the same time Dr. Azaj Martin, Ethiopian Minister to London, issued an appeal to the people of Great Britain for public donations to purchase arms and ammunition for the Ethiopian Army. This method of raising money is necessary, he stated, because "we find ourselves confronted with an embargo against raising a public loan in the city."

Military.

North.

For several days the Italian people have been anxiously awaiting news from Eritrea, that Mount Alaji had been captured. The advance of Italian forces to the south and the occupation of Mount Alaji without opposition of the Ethiopians was announced on February 28. As this is the site of a bitter defeat for the Italians in 1895, the capture of this area is of political value in Rome.

Reports of fighting in the Tembien area are unconfirmed.
South.
No news is reported from this area.

F. H. LINCOLN,
Colonel, General Staff,
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2.
MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHIEF OF STAFF:

Subject: The Italo-Ethiopian Controversy.

Political.

The League of Nations Committee on Sanctions will meet today (March 2) to consider the further application of sanctions against Italy, including an oil sanction. Observers in Geneva are divided as to the probable action to be taken by this committee but the opinion leans to a belief that an oil sanction will not be imposed at this time.

Peace with Ethiopia is suggested in despatches from Rome and probably reflects the earnest desire of Mussolini to end a bad situation. Grounds for a peace are based on reports of great victories for the Italian forces in north Ethiopia. The extent of these victories, as reported by Italian sources, is still questionable and is believed to be greatly exaggerated for political effect in Rome.

The position taken by the Ethiopian Emperor remains unaltered, so far as known. His position is that there can be no peace until the Italian forces have withdrawn from the Ethiopian territory.

The Foreign Editor of Paris "Soir" in a report from Rome on March 1, states that it is not Mussolini's intention in the next year to continue the same military effort if between now and then he can conclude a reasonable peace with the Emperor of Ethiopia, arrived at between themselves and not imposed from the outside.

Military.

 Marshal Badoglio's communiqué of February 29 states:

"The situation of the armed forces of Ras Kassa and Ras Seyoum, caught in a vise by our troops, is becoming hour by hour ever more critical.

"While troops of the First Army Corps reached Mount Alaji, troops of the Third Army Corps and those
of the Eritrean Army Corps attacked from the north and south the forces of Ras Kassa. Since dawn yesterday (Feb. 28) a big battle has been raging."

A later communiqué issued as the League of Nations meets to consider sanctions, states that the Ethiopians in the Tembien area have been destroyed or captured in the greatest Italian victory obtained up to this time.

Reports from Addis Ababa ignored the reported fighting on the northern front, but acknowledged the occupation of Mount Alaji by Italian troops.

On the southern front, a report from Addis Ababa states that the Italian force based on Neghelli has advanced north through Wadara and is approaching the foothills, now defended by Ras Demtu.

Col. H. LINCOLN,
Colonel, General Staff,
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2.
MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHIEF OF STAFF:

Subject: The Italo-Ethiopian Controversy.

Political.

The League Committee of 18, which is handling the sanctions question for the League, has postponed action on the oil sanction for 48 hours. In the interim the Committee of 13 of the League (the League Council, less Italy) will examine the possibilities of obtaining a peace acceptable to the belligerents.

Mussolini insists on direct negotiations with Haile Selassie; he also demands more liberal terms than those of the Hoare-Laval plan.

Mr. Eden, British Foreign Secretary, adhering to his position on oil sanctions, as stated to Parliament on February 24, again on March 2 in Geneva, thus sets forth his position: "His Majesty's Government are in favor of the imposition of an oil embargo by members of the League, and are prepared to join in the swift application of such a sanction if the principal supplying and transporting states, who are members of the League of Nations, are prepared to do likewise."

Military.

North.

Definite news of action on the Northern Front is lacking. Reports indicate that a battle is still in progress at Abbi Addi, in the Tembien area where Ethiopian forces under Ras Seyoum are making a determined stand.

An Italian column of 5,000 troops is said to be advancing on Gondar in the Lake Tana area.

South.

Daggah Bur has been bombed by Italian aerial forces. This may be an indication of Italian intentions to make another advance in this sector as heavy air bombardment in the past has often been the forerunner of an advance by ground troops.

F. H. LINCOLN,
Colonel, General Staff,
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2.
March 4, 1936.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHIEF OF STAFF:

Subject: The Italo-Ethiopian Controversy.

Political.

At Geneva the following resolution proposed by the French Foreign Minister, M. Flandin, was adopted on March 3.

"The Committee of Thirteen, acting in virtue of the mandate given it by the Council in its resolution of December 10, addresses to both belligerents an urgent appeal for the immediate opening of negotiations in the framework of the League of Nations and in the spirit of the covenant with the view to a prompt cessation of hostilities and a definitive restoration of peace.

"The Committee of Thirteen will meet March 10 to take cognizance of the replies from the two governments."

It was announced that the Committee of 10, which arranges sanctions, will meet to-day (March 4) to make technical preparations for applying an oil sanction and a tanker embargo.

Italy is given a week to answer, under M. Flandin's resolution, instead of the 48 hours proposed previously.

Military.

There is no communiqué from Marshal Badoglio for March 3.

From Addis Ababa comes official denial of Italian victory in the north. Emperor Haile Selassie explained that recent fighting in the Tumbien was not as severe as reported by the Italians, that his losses were not heavy, and that his leaders in this area had made an orderly withdrawal in keeping with his plan of operations.

F. H. LINCOLN,
Colonel, General Staff,
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2.
MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHIEF OF STAFF:

Subject: The Italo-Ethiopian Controversy.

Political.

There are no new developments in the political situation.

Military.

The location of the Italian lines in Northern Ethiopia cannot be determined from data reported. Unofficial statements from General Badoglio's Field Headquarters claim that 20,000 to 30,000 Ethiopians were killed or wounded in the recent fighting and that the northern area of Ethiopia to Mount Alaji and the Tak-kaze River is "virtually cleared of enemies and the Italians now feel the world must realize that their conquest of Ethiopia cannot be prevented."

An Associated Press despatch from Asmara, dated March 4, states that the Italians are still three days' march from the Tak-kaze River, although organized opposition in the region has finally been routed.

F. H. LINCOLN,
Colonel, General Staff,
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2.
March 6, 1936.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHIEF OF STAFF:

Subject: The Italo-Ethiopian Controversy.

Political.

The League of Nations peace appeal has been accepted by Ethiopia. The Italian reply has been deferred to Saturday, March 7.

The "Manchester Guardian" of England published on March 4, the Italian Government's secret instructions to Italian newspaper editors covering the period, January 2 to February 15. Extracts follow:

"Do not express contempt for the Ethiopian Army, and never speak of the movements of either the Italian or Ethiopian troops."

"It has been decided that an embargo on oil is not to be spoken of.

"Take no notice of the neutrality bill or of the attitude of the United States toward oil sanctions."

"In news from London and Paris, avoid any allusion which might seem unpleasant for Germany."

"Cut down despatches from abroad."

Military.

North.

Marshal Badoglio issued a communiqué on March 5 as follows:

"The troops of the Second Army Corps reached the Takkaze River this morning and are pursuing the fleeing enemy."

In yesterday's despatch from Asmara it was stated that Italian troops were still three days' march from the Takkaze River. The issuance of contradictory reports has been a feature of Italian communiques from the beginning of the war.
Italian planes bombed a British Hospital unit on the northern front according to reports from Addis Ababa. The Ethiopian Government has protested to Geneva.

South.
No reports have been issued on activities in the south.

F. H. LINCOLN,
Colonel, General Staff,
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2.
MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHIEF OF STAFF:

Subject: The Italo-Ethiopian Controversy.

Political.

Great Britain instructed the Ambassador to Rome, Sir Eric Drummond, to protest strongly against the alleged bombing of a British Red Cross unit in Ethiopia.

Military.

An Italian trimotor bomber plane flew over Addis Ababa on March 6. The pilot was General Ferruccio Ranzo, commander of the Italian air forces on the southern front. The natives were badly frightened although no bombs were dropped on the city. This is probably the forerunner of a bombing expedition against Addis Ababa in the near future.

Italian troops are extending their lines south and west of Makala. Reports from Rome state that the Italian line has been pushed to the south of Mount Alaji while "mopping up continues in the Scire district," southwest of Adowa, on the Takkase River.

F. H. LINCOLN,
Colonel, General Staff,
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2.
MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHIEF OF STAFF:

Subject: The Italo-Ethiopian Controversy.

Political.

The League of Nations troubles resulting from the Italo-Ethiopian controversy are now overshadowed by the difficulties arising from Germany's latest move to the Rhine. The League will take up consideration of the Rhineland problem on Friday, March 13.

Mussolini is reported to have offered assistance to France under the Locarno Treaty, provided the League of Nations does not impose oil or additional sanctions on Italy. Knowledge of, or collusion in Hitler's movement of troops to the Rhine, on the part of Mussolini, is denied in Rome.

Military.

Mussolini ordered on March 8, the suspension of military activities in Ethiopia paralleling his acceptance, in principle, of the League of Nations appeal for peace negotiations between Italy and Ethiopia.

Ras Mulugheta, Ethiopian Minister of War and leader of the Ethiopian Army facing the Italians south of Makale, died of pneumonia, it was announced from Addis Ababa.

Two troopships carrying 41 officers and 481 men left Naples for East Africa on March 8.

F. H. LINCOLN,
Colonel, General Staff,
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2.
MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHIEF OF STAFF:

Subject: The Italo-Ethiopian Controversy.

Political.

The League of Nations Committee of 13 is scheduled to meet to-day (March 10) for the purpose of considering the replies of Italy and Ethiopia to the appeal for peace addressed to them by the League.

The British Government directed the Ambassador to Rome to protest the second bombing of an English Red Cross unit at Quoram. A report of an alleged third bombing had not been received in London.

Military.

The order to suspend hostilities in East Africa was short lived and Italian troops have resumed their task of clearing the Tembien area after a twenty-four hour pause.

In his war communiqué, Number 150, Marshal Badoglio listed the losses in the second battle of the Tembien at 391 killed, 1,047 wounded and 35 missing. The killed included 19 officers. Enemy (Ethiopian) losses are reported to total more than 15,000 dead and wounded.

Fear of air raids is causing uneasiness among the residents of Addis Ababa. After many of the inhabitants had fled to the hills, several houses were robbed, and thirteen looters have been executed.

F. H. LINCOLN,
Colonel, General Staff,
Assistant Chief of Staff, 9-3.
March 11, 1936.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHIEF OF STAFF:

Subject: The Italo-Ethiopian Controversy.

Political.

The League of Nations Council (Committee of 13) which was scheduled to meet on March 10 to consider the replies of Italy and Ethiopia regarding a peace settlement, has indefinitely postponed the date of meeting.

Military.

Italian patrols are active on the northern front. Bombardment of villages near Gonder and around Quarem is reported. There are no reports from the southern front.

F. H. LINCOLN,
Colonel, General Staff,
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2.
MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHIEF OF STAFF:

Subject: The Italo-Ethiopian Controversy.

Political.

Italy, although undergoing League punishment through sanctions, will strongly oppose the imposition of sanctions on Germany, at the meeting of the League of Nations Council to be held Saturday in London. Mussolini hopes to secure the removal of all sanctions against Italy in return for his support of collective security in the German crisis.

Military.

Italy continues to forward supplies and men to East Africa. On March 11, 1936, the steamship Principessa Maria sailed from Naples with 1,480 officers and men. At the same time the aircraft carrier Miraglia departed with 40 bombardment planes.

There are no changes reported in the military situation in Ethiopia.

F. H. LINCOLN,
Colonel, General Staff,
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2.
MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHIEF OF STAFF:

Subject: The Italo-Ethiopian Controversy.

**Military.**

News from the East African war zone is negligible. On March 9 the authorities in Rome announced that the operation in Ethiopia would continue without being influenced by the European political situation.

**North.**

No reports have been received from the northern front.

**South.**

Five thousand Fiat military trucks, each capable of transporting 30 men, arrived at Mogadiscio on March 7 and departed at once for the Ogaden front.

Indications point to a major Italian offensive on Harar in the near future, with the purpose of dispersing the Ethiopian forces covering Jijiga-Harar and the railroad at Diredawa.

F. H. LINCOLN,
Colonel, General Staff,
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2.
MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHIEF OF STAFF:

Subject: The Italo-Ethiopian Controversy.

Political.

Italy is anxiously awaiting the outcome of negotiations between Great Britain and France regarding British support for the French on the continent and the upholding of the Locarno Treaty. Should political coercive action be taken against Germany, the sanctions principle will be strengthened, thus adding to Italy's present difficulties.

Military.

North.

Reports from Rome indicate an advance of Marshal Badoglio's forces over a wide front. One corps is reported pushing south along the Sudan border. The other three corps now on the northern front are gradually extending their lines south of the Takkaze River and Mount Alaji.

There is no indication of opposition from the Ethiopians.

South.

No change in the situation.

Italian air observation is reported over the area from Neghelli to Addis Ababa.

F. H. LINCOLN,
Colonel, General Staff,
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2.
March 16, 1936.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHIEF OF STAFF:

Subject: The Italo-Ethiopian Controversy.

Political.

European diplomats, meeting in London in an attempt to find a solution to the problem raised by recent German action, may attempt to clear up the Italo-Ethiopian controversy. This is of minor importance in comparison with their present difficulties but a settlement between Italy and Ethiopia would clear the atmosphere in regard to Italy's position in the newly developed European situation.

There are no representatives in London from Ethiopia, and any consideration by the League Council in London of Ethiopian affairs, will be carried on without the consent of Ethiopia.

Military.

Italy is expected to continue to push forward her military forces in Ethiopia. Her domination of territory will aid her demands when peace proposals are again considered.

There is no change in the local military situation.

C. H. LINCOLN,
Colonel, General Staff,
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2.
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

MEMORANDUM FOR
THE CHIEF OF OPERATIONS

April 20, 1936.

Will you please read enclosed in regard to the Philippine situation and speak with me about it?

F. D. R.