

III. CONCLUSION

A. C. of S. G-4 () In 5/13/41 Out 5/10/41

11/ Harry J. Malony
 HARRY J. MALONY,
 Brigadier General,
 Acting Assistant Chief of Staff.

Incls

AG 800.12 (2-19-41) w/3 incls. and 2 incls. (as listed on 3d Incl.)

Memo, 4-29-41, to ACofS, WPD from C/AC.

MAY 21 1941

Approved

By order of the Secretary of War

H. C. MOORE,
 Deputy Chief of Staff.
 (Sgd) W. T. SEXTON
 by W. T. SEXTON,

Maj. G. S. C. AMI. Sec. W. D. G. S.

NOTE—Deputy Chief of Staff W. T. S.

EXHIBIT NO. 57

MAY 19, 1941.

CONFERENCE IN THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF WAR, MAY 19, 1941

Present:

The Secretary of War—Mr. Stimson,
 The Under Secretary of War—Judge Patterson,
 The Assistant Secretary of War—Mr. McCloy,
 The Assistant Secretary of War for Air—Mr. Lovett,
 The Chief of Staff—General Marshall,
 The Deputy Chiefs of Staff—General Bryden; General Moore; General Arnold,
 The Secretary, General Staff—Colonel Ward.

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Subject: Martinique.

General MARSHALL: In the light of statements made in the Sunday papers with reference to Dakar and Martinique, I had the plans checked immediately. The plan provides for 2,800 Marines, with the necessary landing equipment to make the initial landing, followed by the 1st Division. The Marines have the necessary landing equipment for their troops. They will be opposed by 4,000 to 5,000, 50% effective, troops. About 50 officers of the Martinique garrison will fight, including the Admiral. The G-3 of the force is very pro-American. The French cruiser in Martinique is a first class cruiser ship with a top speed of 40 knots.

The Secretary of War asked whether she was in good condition, and was informed that she was.

General Marshall indicated that it would take about ten days for the Navy to get boats for the 1st Division. He further indicated that it was primarily a Naval mission, but that Army Air should participate, both for the help it could give and the experience it would gain. He indicated that the B-18's in Puerto Rico would be staged at St. Croix. Puerto Rico is almost 400 miles from Martinique.

General Marshall then indicated that there were now in the United States 14 B-17's of the most modern type which he thought should not be sent out of the country in view of the current situation. These had been withheld from the Hawaiian Department contingent.

The Secretary of War asked if this would affect the impregnability of Hawaii.

General Marshall said that it would not. He further said that we need some B-17's (but not of the most modern type) in Panama, and that he is recommending that 9 be sent there. This matter is under consideration.

General ARNOLD. There are now available 50 B-17's without leak-proof tanks and without armor.

General MARSHALL. High bombing is possible in the Caribbean area, due to weather conditions, and these ships without leak-proof tanks could be effectively used there.