

BRITISH MILITARY PLANNING FOR THE DEFENCE
OF GERMANY, 1945–50

STUDIES IN MILITARY AND STRATEGIC HISTORY

General Editor: Michael Dockrill, Reader in War Studies, King's College, London

British Military Planning for the Defence of Germany 1945–50

Paul Cornish

Research Fellow

International Security Programme

Royal Institute of International Affairs

London



in association with
Palgrave Macmillan



First published in Great Britain 1996 by
MACMILLAN PRESS LTD
 Houndmills, Basingstoke, Hampshire RG21 6XS
 and London
 Companies and representatives
 throughout the world

A catalogue record for this book is available
 from the British Library.

ISBN 978-1-349-24339-6 ISBN 978-1-349-24337-2 (eBook)
 DOI 10.1007/978-1-349-24337-2



First published in the United States of America 1996 by
ST. MARTIN'S PRESS, INC.,
 Scholarly and Reference Division,
 175 Fifth Avenue,
 New York, N.Y. 10010

ISBN 978-0-312-12960-6

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data
 Cornish, Paul.

British military planning for the defence of Germany, 1945-50 /
 Paul Cornish.

p. cm. — (Studies in military and strategic history)

Includes bibliographical references and index.

ISBN 978-0-312-12960-6 (cloth)

1. Great Britain—Armed Forces— Germany (West). 2. Military
 planning—Great Britain. I. Title. II. Series.

UA649.32.G3C67 1996

943.087'5—dc20

95-37739
 CIP

© Paul Cornish 1996

Softcover reprint of the hardcover 1st edition 1996

All rights reserved. No reproduction, copy or transmission of
 this publication may be made without written permission.

No paragraph of this publication may be reproduced, copied or
 transmitted save with written permission or in accordance with
 the provisions of the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988,
 or under the terms of any licence permitting limited copying
 issued by the Copyright Licensing Agency, 90 Tottenham Court
 Road, London W1P 9HE.

Any person who does any unauthorised act in relation to this
 publication may be liable to criminal prosecution and civil
 claims for damages.

10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1
 05 04 03 02 01 00 99 98 97 96

For my parents

Contents

<i>Acknowledgements</i>	viii
<i>A Note on Sources</i>	ix
<i>Glossary</i>	x
<i>Introduction</i>	1
1 Threat Perceptions, 1945 -50	7
2 The Defence Budget, 1945 -50	33
3 The 'No War Rule'	71
4 Fragile Logic: Strategic Plans, 1945 -47	86
5 Consolidation of the Cold War: Strategic Plans, 1947 -48	104
6 Token Forces: Strategic Plans, 1949 -50	130
<i>Conclusion</i>	164
<i>Appendix: Civil and Military Officials</i>	170
<i>Notes and References</i>	172
<i>Bibliography</i>	190
<i>Index</i>	207

Acknowledgements

I am indebted to several people for the time, advice and encouragement they have given at various stages of this project, including Dr Anne Deighton, Dr Saki Dockrill, Mr Eric Grove, Dr Hugh Macdonald, Dr David Reynolds, Professor Hew Strachan, Dr Philip Towle and Professor John Young. Any errors of fact or judgement are, of course, entirely mine. I am grateful for the assistance provided by archivists and librarians at the National Army Museum, the Imperial War Museum, Churchill College Cambridge, Cambridge University Library, the Foreign and Commonwealth Office Library, and the Public Record Office, Kew. Crown copyright material in the PRO is reproduced by permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office. Production of the final manuscript could not have been achieved without the help of Nick Redman and my brothers, Anthony Cornish and Martin Cornish. Special thanks are due to Fiona Cornish, my wife.

A Note on Sources

This book makes use of the usual mix of secondary works, published papers and documents, and unpublished government documents held in the Public Record Office. In the course of researching this book, a number of previously retained government papers were released on the author's request to the PRO, in accordance with the June 1992 'open government' initiative. Papers relating to the work of the Joint Intelligence Committee were not released, but a selection of some thirty Chiefs of Staff and Joint Planning Staff papers were made accessible and are listed separately in the bibliography.

Glossary

ACC	Allied Control Council
AOC-in-C	Air Officer Commander-in-Chief
BAFO	British Air Forces of Occupation
BAOR	British Army of the Rhine
BTO	Brussels Treaty Organisation
CAS	Chief of the Air Staff
CCG (BE)	Control Commission, Germany (British Element)
CFM	Council of Foreign Ministers (5 Power)
C(I)GS	Chief of the (Imperial) General Staff
C-in-C	Commander-in-Chief
CNS(FSL)	Chief of the Naval Staff (First Sea Lord)
COS	Chiefs of Staff Committee
DMO	Director of Military Operations
DRPC	Defence Research Policy Committee
ERP	European Recovery Plan/Programme
FARELF	Far East Land Forces
FDP	Future Defence Policy (DO (47) 44)
FGA	Fighter Ground Attack
FO	Foreign Office
GOC-in-C	General Officer Commander-in-Chief
HMG	His Majesty's Government
HQ	Headquarters
IDC	Imperial Defence College
ISR	Imperial Strategic Reserve
JCS	Joint Chiefs of Staff (US)
JIC	Joint Intelligence Committee
JPS	Joint Planning Staff
JSM	Joint Staff Mission (Washington Embassy)
LOC	Line(s) of Communication
MCFP	Military Committee of the Five Powers
MELF	Middle East Land Forces
MoD	Ministry of Defence
MoS	Ministry of Supply
MSA	Main Supply Area
MTDP	Medium Term Defence Plan (NATO)
NATO	North Atlantic Treaty Organisation
NS	National Service

OEEC	Organisation for European Economic Co-operation
PHP	Post-Hostilities Planning Sub-Committee
PHPS	Post-Hostilities Planning Staff
PUS	Permanent Under-Secretary
SHAEF	Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe
SLOC	Sea Lines of Communication
TA	Territorial Army
(2)TAF	(Second) Tactical Air Force (successor to BAFO)
VCAS	Vice Chief of the Air Staff
VCIGS	Vice Chief of the Imperial General Staff
VCNS	Vice Chief of the Naval Staff
WU(C-in-C)	Western Union (Commanders-in-Chief Committee)
WUCOS	Western Union Chiefs of Staff Committee
WUDO	Western Union Defence Organisation