

General

It will be seen from the index that five 1:100,000 series are involved. All, except for the Italian series, G.S.G.S. 4164, have been prepared in a generally uniform Army/Air style, having been re-drawn from existing maps.

With a few minor and unimportant exceptions, all series, as well as all sheets of series, join up exactly with each other without overlaps. Detail along all mutual sheet edges has been checked to ensure uniformity across sheets.

Maps of this scale are primarily required for use by armoured forces but the scale is ideal for many other military needs, each sheet covering a large area and providing, for most types of country, sufficient detail for users to be able to locate themselves fairly precisely. For M.T. the detailed road information given is of value. The fact that the style of the various series is largely homogeneous is again of value.

G.S.G.S. 4249, FRANCE, 1:100,000 (See sample on page 12)

The method of preparation of this series varies. In the north and south-east, where good 1:25,000 maps have been prepared with the use of air photographs, this series has been based on boiled-down versions of such 1:25,000's: in areas (mostly in the east of France) where sheets of the good modern French 1:50,000 series exist this 1:100,000 series has been based on it: for all other areas the series has been taken from sheets of the French 1:80,000 series. (Each sheet carries a note describing the material used.) This 1:80,000 series has, in fact, been the basis of the vast majority of sheets of G.S.G.S. 4249, and it is on the 1:80,000 sheet lines that the sheets of this 1:100,000 series are based (six 1:80,000 quarter sheets making up one 1:100,000 sheet).

The French 1: 80,000 series was originally prepared during last century and has been revised intermittently since: dates of basic 1: 80,000 sheets used vary considerably.

Relief on these French 1: 80,000 sheets is shown by black hachuring, supplemented by fairly numerous spot heights (see sample of G.S.G.S. 4040B on page 19): it is from these hachures that the contours on G.S.G.S. 4249 have, for most areas, been prepared. Hence, while relief on G.S.G.S. 4249 in general is correctly shown, great reliance should not be placed on precise details of contouring where sheets are based only on 1: 80,000 material. It should be noted that an unlayered edition of sheets of this series is also being produced.

Except in areas where sheets show that air photo. revision has been incorporated or that modern 1:50,000 sheets have been used, little reliance should be placed on precise shapes of woods.

Roads have all been revised and classified on the same general width basis as for other larger and smaller scale series, the Michelin 1: 200,000 series being used as the yard stick. Modern railway information has also been incorporated.

The block of sheets comprised by the vertical rows of sheets 7L-7R, 8K-8R, 9J-9S, 10J-10S, 11J-11S, 12J-12Q, 13J-13Q, 14J-14R (see index on page 11), covering the south and centre of France are being prepared by the Army Map Service, Washington. Such sheets carry the additional identification number AMS M661: in other respects they are almost exactly similar to sheets prepared in this country.

Sheets available to date are shown on the index on page 11 marked with a solid triangle in the bottom left corner. Work on all remaining sheets is in hand and they should be published shortly.

G.S.G.S. 4336, N.E. FRANCE AND BELGIUM, 1:100,000 (See sample on page 14)

Like several other series in this area, this map is derived from a last war series, itself compiled from French 1:80,000 and from Belgian 1:40,000 sheets. In general, the old series has been revised from air photo. revision made to G.S.G.S. 1:25,000 and 1:50,000 series in the same area, and from more modern French and Belgian material incorporated into these same larger scale G.S.G.S. series. In particular, railways and roads have been revised and the latter sorted into the standard French and Belgian width categories.

The series is on the whole clear and legible and should generally be found to be sound and satisfactory, though tending to be rather generalised.

All sheets of the series are available (as shown by the solid triangles on the index) in the full Army/Air style of the sample.

G.S.G.S. 2541, HOLLAND, 1:100,000 (See sample at top of page 15)

The present series is a third edition. The series was prepared initially during the last war from Dutch 1:50,000 sheets and only covered the south-west and centre of Holland; at the beginning of this war it was revised from more modern Dutch 1:50,000 and 1:25,000 material. In its present state the series, with its extension north of two sheets, incorporates revision from air photographs and from all available Dutch material.

Roads and railways have been revised and reclassified, the former into width categories which agree with those used on G.S.G.S. 4042 in this area.

Its vast amount of topographical detail, such as dykes, etc., makes Holland a difficult country to show cartographically, but on the whole, this series appears to have succeeded quite well.

Sheets shown on the index on page 11 with filled-in corners are available at the present: remaining sheets are in hand and will be published within the next month or so.

G.S.G.S. 4416, GERMANY, 1:100,000 (See sample at foot of page 15)

This series has been redrawn, principally from the German original 1:100,000 series. These German maps extend just west of the frontier and where they end Dutch 1:50,000, Belgian 1:40,000 and French (modern) 1:50,000 material has been used.

The German original sheets, which are black only, show relief by hachures: contouring on G.S.G.S. 4416 in Germany has, therefore, to be taken from the German 1:25,000 series.

Rather patchy pieces of air cover have been available for various western sheets of the series. Outside areas of air cover the date of the original material used gives the value of the sheet: each sheet carries a diagram showing dates of material and extent of air cover used, if any.

Roads and railways have been revised, and, in the case of roads, classified on the same width basis as G.S.G.S. 4346.

The style of the series corresponds very closely with that of G.S.G.S. 4249 (France 1: 100,000) and both series tend to be of similar value and merit.

Few sheets only of this series are now available (these are marked up as for other series on the index on page 11); all sheets are in hand and will be published within the next few months.

G.S.G.S. 4164, ITALY, 1:100,000

This series has already been fully described in the equivalent volume to this on G.S.G.S. maps of Italy. It is the only series in the area not prepared in Army/Air style but, for all that, is quite a good, clear map.

SPAIN

It should be noted that, except in the Gibraltar and Barcelona areas, no G.S.G.S. 1:100,000 series of Spain exists or is in course of preparation.