

1 : 25,000 SERIES

G.S.G.S. 4414, GERMANY, 1 : 25,000 (See sample below).

The index above shows the general position of 1 : 25,000 map coverage in the area, and also indicates how the series to the west join up with the main German 1 : 25,000 series. The sheet lines of G.S.G.S. 4414 are shown by Appendix VIII, at the back of this book.

The series covers a small area of eastern Holland. In this area sheets are being redrawn by the Army Map Service, Washington, and are being revised from air photographs and all other available information. The style of these sheets is different from that of sheets in Germany, and corresponds with that of G.S.G.S. 4427—Holland, 1 : 25,000 (which is described in "Notes on G.S.G.S. Maps of France, Belgium, and Holland").

Except for this small extension into Holland, and for other still smaller extensions into Luxembourg, Belgium, and France, the series is entirely based on the German 1 : 25,000 sheets. These have been reproduced direct, except that the German grid has been deleted from originals carrying it (it can still be seen by white lines crossing the map), and replaced by the British grid. The restricted marginal space of the map does not permit of either the reference or the glossary being comprehensive, and the German glossary at Appendix II of this book and the Glossary of Conventional Signs at Appendix I should be consulted.

Most of the German 1 : 25,000 originals are themselves monochrome, but even in the cases of coloured originals the G.S.G.S. series is for the moment being produced in "all-black" form—a form in which sheets remain quite legible. (Future editions of sheets may be printed in brown, with roads overprinted in red, and water in blue.) Sheets have been designed for printing in the field by American or British Survey Units.

No revision is being incorporated into sheets at this stage : revision will probably be undertaken to specific sheets as occasion demands, and possibly carried out in the field. The accuracy of the basic maps now being reproduced varies with the dates of the German originals copied ; this information is provided at the bottom right-hand corner of each sheet in the usual way. In a series of so many sheets as this, an average date has little meaning, but a typical date, especially for sheets in the west, is 1930.

Details of the German 1 : 25,000 original maps are given in Part 2. Originally each main German State was responsible for the upkeep of its own 1 : 25,000 series, each having its own variations in style. The area covered by the Prussian State series (Messtischblätter) was far greater than that of any other state series, and in 1937 the other states started to bring their series into line with this one, to produce a uniform series, known as "Topographische Karte, 1 : 25,000". The Bavarian 1 : 25,000 series, however, is mostly published on different sheet-lines from the Prussian series, and only covers about half of Bavaria. The whole of Bavaria is covered by a 1 : 50,000 series, most sheets of which show relief only by hachures. It is intended to reproduce the whole of this 1 : 50,000 Bavarian series* as it stands (as G.S.G.S. 4492) ; such Bavarian 1 : 25,000 sheets as exist will probably also be reproduced as part of G.S.G.S. 4414 with the Bavarian sheet-line system either retained or converted to the normal (Prussian) system. The Bavarian 1 : 50,000 sheets are shown on Appendix VIII. In view of these complications, the general area of the Bavarian series has been marked on the index.

The G.S.G.S. series is being produced from west to east, and since about 3,000 sheets will be involved to cover Germany as far east as Berlin, it is obvious that sheets in the eastern part of the area indicated are somewhat hypothetical. Large blocks of sheets in the west and centre of the country are now available, and further sheets are being published at the rate of about fifty sheets a week.

No 1 : 25,000 series are in hand in any other parts of the area. Material exists for the simple reproduction of a 1 : 25,000 series of Denmark (by copying the Danish 1 : 20,000 sheets). Some sheets of an Austrian original 1 : 25,000 series, as well as partial Czechoslovak and Polish 1 : 25,000 series, are also available for direct reproduction should they be required. Details of these local series are given in Part 2.

* The statement on page 16 that no other G.S.G.S. 1 : 50,000 series is in preparation in this area should be corrected accordingly.



Extract from G.S.G.S. 4414, sheet 2425