

The Schlieffen Plan, 1905

This map shows the planned invasion of France developed by Count Alfred von Schlieffen, the chief of the German general staff. From several points along the border, German troops would sweep through Belgium into northeastern France and destroy the French armies at Paris. Schlieffen emphasized the need for a strong right wing of the German army, advancing as far west as possible. "When you march into France, let the last man on the right brush the [English] Channel with his sleeve." The plan was abandoned, however, by the circumstances of the war.

