SCENE 5
Late 1880s, a training camp for army volunteers. Soldiers are drilling and marching center-stage, while their generals look on from the side.

SOLDIERS
OBEDIENCE, DUTY, INGREDIENTS FOR SUCCESS.
RISE THROUGH THE RANKS UPON YOUR OWN MERIT.
OBEDIENCE, DUTY, THIS IS THE JUNKER LEGACY,
A LEGACY OF GREATNESS THAT WE NOW INHERIT.

OBEDIENCE, DUTY, ALLEGIANCE TO THE KAISER,
ORDERS CARRIED OUT, AND LOYALTIES REWARDED.
OBEDIENCE, DUTY, SERVICE TO THE FATHERLAND,
DEFENDING OUR NATION AS THOSE WHO CAME BEFORE DID.

DRILL SERGEANT
Attention!
(The soldiers stand at attention. The drill sergeant walks up and down the line of soldiers.)

FOR OUR YOUNG NATION'S UNIFICATION,
THE DEAL WAS SEALED IN PRUSSIAN TRADITION,
ENCIRCLED BY ENEMIES, BAPTISED IN BLOOD,
UNDER THE EYE OF OUR MASTER TACTICIAN.

YES, CHANCELLOR BISMARCK, LEFT HIS MARK, LEFT HIS SPARK,
(Chancellor Bismarck walks in stiffly to survey the scene, and gives a curt nod.)

THE ULTIMATE SOURCE OF OUR GROWING FORCE.
AND THE ESSENTIAL ENGINE FOR OUR ASCENSION,
IS OUR ORGANIZED, DIGNIFIED MILITARY CORE.

NOW YOU HAVE THE HONOR OF SERVING YOUR COUNTRY,
THE SEEDS OF YOUR FUTURE ARE SOWN DRILL BY DRILL,
BY THE TIME YOU ARE DONE WITH YOUR YEAR VOLUNTEERING,
YOU'LL HAVE A PATRIOT'S HEART, AND AN IRON WILL.

GENERAL 1
(The soldiers resuming drilling and marching. The generals speak aside, while the
marching continues more quietly in the background.)

SO NOW KAISER WILHELM ASCENDS TO THE THRONE,
AT BEST A BIT BRASH, AT WORST QUITE UNSTABLE.
BUT IT'S WORTH A MENTION THAT HE PAYS US ATTENTION,
THE ARMY WILL HAVE A PRIME SEAT AT HIS TABLE.

GENERAL 2
A BRAND NEW ERA'S ABOUT TO BEGIN,
BISMARCK'S STAR IS STARTING TO FALL,
WE'LL FINALLY BE ABLE TO GET A WORD IN,
ONCE KAISER WILHELM IS FIRMLY INSTALLED.

(Turning towards the soldiers.)
LONG LIVE THE KAISER, OUR LEADER AND COMMANDER!
LONG LIVE GERMANY, AND LONG LIVE HER DEFENDERS!

SOLDIERS
(Answering the general’s exclamation, as Kaiser Wilhelm struts into the scene.)
LONG LIVE THE KAISER, OUR LEADER AND COMMANDER!
LONG LIVE GERMANY, AND LONG LIVE HER DEFENDERS!

KAISER WILHELM II
IT’S TIME FOR RENEWAL, AND I’M SURE THAT YOU WILL
AGREE NOW’S THE MOMENT TO CHANGE THE OLD GUARD.
WE BOTH FEEL STRONGLY ‘BOUT HOW THINGS SHOULD GO ON HERE,
OH, BISMARCK, I HOPE YOU WON’T TAKE THIS TOO HARD.

I FEEL THAT OUR NATION IS BECOMING SOFT,
THE FIRES THAT MOLDED US ARE GROWING COLD.
IF WE WANT TO ADAPT WE NEED A YOUTHFUL NEW CAPTAIN,
YOU SHONE IN YOUR TIME, BUT YOUR ACT’S GETTING OLD.

(Kaiser Wilhelm II bodily thrusts Bismarck off the stage.)
SO PACK UP YOUR THINGS, YOUR TENURE IS DONE,
I HAVE PLANS I’D LIKE TO START PUTTING IN PLACE.
THIS KAISER’S A PILOT, NOT A FIGUREHEAD,
GERMANS, YOUR LEADERSHIP HAS A NEW FACE!

I’M A MODERN MONARCH, WITH MODERN IDEAS,
A TRUE MAN OF ACTION, JUST ASK ANYONE.
I HAVE ASPIRATIONS TO TAKE OUR GREAT NATION
AND FINALLY WIN IT A PLACE IN THE SUN.

IN DREAMS I’M INSPIRED TO BUILD AN EMPIRE,
A SMATTERING OF COLONIES AND OVERSEAS FORTS.
I HAVE GRAND DESIGNS FOR A NAVAL ARMADA,
DOZENS OF WARSHIPS PROTECTING OUR PORTS,

(Kaiser Wilhelm II holds up ship designs, then puts his arms around the generals.)
WHY HAVE AN ARMY IF IT’S NOT BEING USED?
I’M QUITE A BIG FAN OF REALPOLITIK.
LET’S PROVE OURSELVES AMONG EUROPE’S GREAT POWERS!
LET’S MAKE OUR NEIGHBORS LISTEN UP WHEN WE SPEAK!

(The Kaiser exits the stage, and the generals give each other smug, sidelong glances.)

SOLDIERS
LONG LIVE THE KAISER, OUR LEADER AND COMMANDER!
LONG LIVE GERMANY, AND LONG LIVE HER DEFENDERS!
LONG LIVE THE KAISER, OUR LEADER AND COMMANDER!
LONG LIVE GERMANY, AND LONG LIVE HER DEFENDERS!

(Fritz Haber stumbles in energetically, with his luggage in tow.)

FRITZ HABER
REPORTING FOR DUTY, SIR! LONG LIVE GERMANY!
I'M READY FOR ANYTHING. WHAT IS MY POST?

SECRETARY
WILKOMMEN TO THE UNIT, MEIN JUNG VOLUNTEER,
WE NEED MORE LADS LIKE YOU, YOU'RE MORE EAGER THAN MOST.
MEMORIZE THESE RULES AND REGULATIONS,
HERE’S YOUR ASSIGNMENT AND UNIFORM TOO,
WORK HARD, STAY IN LINE AND OBEY YOUR SUPERIORS,
THAT’S ALL YOUR COUNTRY’S EXPECTING OF YOU.

FRITZ HABER
THANK YOU FOR THE ADVICE, I'LL KEEP THAT IN MIND,
THERE’S SO MUCH TO LEARN – I’M A COMPLETE NOVICE, SIR.

SECRETARY
HA! I LIKE YOUR ATTITUDE. KEEP UP THE ENERGY.
JUST WORK HARD AND YOU’LL SOON BE AN OFFICER!

FRITZ HABER
I LIKE THE SOUND OF WHAT I HEAR,
IT SEEMS LIKE HERE I COULD SUCCEED,
WHERE MEN ARE NOT JUDGED BY THEIR PAST,
BUT RATHER BY THEIR WORDS AND DEEDS.
I LIKE THE WAY THE ARMY WORKS,
A NOBLE LADDER TO PRESTIGE.
WHERE I CAN PROVE MYSELF A MAN,
AND RESPECT SEEMS WITHIN MY REACH.

SOLDIERS
OBEYDENCE, DUTY, INGREDIENTS FOR SUCCESS.
RISE THROUGH THE RANKS UPON YOUR OWN MERIT,
OBEYDENCE, DUTY, THIS IS THE JUNKER LEGACY,
A LEGACY OF GREATNESS THAT WE NOW INHERIT.

(Fritz Haber steps into line with the others, and they all sing as they march off the stage.)

OBEYDENCE, DUTY, ALLEGIANCE TO THE KAISER,
ORDERS CARRIED OUT, AND LOYALTIES REWARDED,
OBEYDENCE, DUTY, SERVICE TO THE FATHERLAND,
DEFENDING OUR NATION AS THOSE WHO CAME BEFORE DID.